GeorgetownJournal of International Affairs

WINTER/SPRING 2008, VOLUME IX, NUMBER 1

Editors' Note

Forum: Charting the Future of Food

3 Indtroduction by Marc J. COHEN

New technologies are forcing rapid globalization of markets, and the agriculture industry has no choice but to adapt. There is, however, a stark disparity between developed and developing nations: researchers in developed nations are embracing a biotech and GMO revolution, while developing nations are struggling to manage unfavorable intellectual property laws and trade barriers. Biofuel production stretches agricultural resources in the North, famine cripples economies in the South, the Green Revolution saves lives in the East, and the WTO rules against governments in the West. Though policy experts participating in the current round of trade negotiations in Doha are attempting to address the challenges facing farmers, the outcome is unclear. This forum aims to explore the fate of our farms in the 21st century.

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The current conditions in Iraq can only be remedied by peaceful partitioning of the country into three separate entities.

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As one of the oldest political actors in the international system, the Catholic Church lends its stabilizing capabilities to become once more an "ethical reservoir" and peace-maker in an age of a declared and believed "clash of civilizations."

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The mistreatment of individuals with mental disabilities is a persistent, global issue that must be remedied through direct legal, practical, and economic measures.

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The United States must act with urgency to lead the international response to the threat of climate change.

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President Sarkozy is setting out to undertake much needed reforms in France, but his success will depend on factors both within and beyond his own control.

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POLITICS&DIPLOMACY AND BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

These two articles on French president Nicolas Sarkozy present analises of his term in office to date from the two view points of their respective sections.

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The Georgetown Journal of International Affairs (ISSN 1526-0054; ISBN 0-9704346-7-7) is published two times a year by the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, 301 Intercultural Center, Washington, DC 20057. Periodicals postage paid at Washington, DC. Annual subscriptions are payable by check or money order. Domestic: \$14.00; foreign: \$22.00; Canada: \$16.00; institutions: \$39.00.

GEORGETOWN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, SUBSCRIPTIONS EDMUND A. WALSH SCHOOL OF FOREIGN SERVICE 301 INTERCULTURAL CENTER WASHINGTON, DC 20057 TELEPHONE (202) 687-1461 FACSIMILE (202) 687-1571 e-mail: gjia@georgetown.edu http://journal.georgetown.edu

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