

Message from the Editor

The Editorial Board of the *Whitehead Journal* is especially proud to release the second issue of this volume, as it focuses on the critical areas of international energy markets and the security of energy supplies. With Russia's manipulation of gas supplies in Georgia and Ukraine, as well as China's willingness to purchase energy resources from security hotspots like Sudan and Iran, a discussion on the future of energy supplies and security is of great importance to the current dialogue of diplomacy and international relations. The influence of energy dependence on US relations with troubled regions like the Middle East has a direct impact on matters of national security and American grand strategy. The various potential solutions to facing the threat of energy vulnerability, such as collective defense and the development of alternative sources, should be of immediate concern to both policymakers and analysts of international affairs.

This issue includes a keynote contribution from the Wallace S. Wilson Fellow in Energy Studies at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy, Amy Myers Jaffe, along with Matthew Chen, on the challenges posed by national oil companies in states such as Venezuela, Russia, and China. We are also fortunate to include the text of a speech delivered by Richard Lugar, United States Senator for Indiana, which addresses the importance of a new approach by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to Europe's energy security. This is followed by a keynote contribution by Thierry Legendre, policy advisor to the NATO secretary general, outlining Europe's perspective on possible solutions to the challenges of energy dependence and vulnerability.

The discussion on US energy vulnerability is continued in a contribution by Michael Coffey, followed by a more general discussion by Peter Droege on the impact of natural resource dependency on the sustainability of the urban environment. The issue also includes additional articles on various other topics of international relations, such as the US response to an Asian regional trade bloc, the psychology of rogue leaders, and the public diplomacy of the United States. We are also pleased to include a section of reviews on a number of books from the field of international affairs.

This issue also features a new "Comment & Response" section. In the Winter/Spring issue of this volume, Jens David Ohlin provided a compelling piece on the imprecise nature of the newly forming field of transitional justice. Within his argument, Dr. Ohlin explored the purpose and value of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and, specifically, the discretionary powers of its prosecutor. His perspective on these matters is ardently disputed by some who claim a greater degree of independence for the ICC than Dr. Ohlin is willing to allow. To further develop the discussion, we have included a comment by John L. Washburn, Convener of the American Non-Governmental Organizations Coalition for the International

Criminal Court, followed by a response from Dr. Ohlin. We hope that you enjoy the debate, particularly as it serves to augment Dr. Ohlin's original contribution.

As this issue concludes the current Editorial Board's volume of the *Journal*, we would like to thank the administration and faculty of the Whitehead School for their unwavering support and encouragement throughout the past year. Chief among the *Journal's* fortunes is the guidance of its faculty advisor, Dr. Philip Moremen, with whom this publication will continue to strive forward.

Jason Brookhyser