

5 Thai Burma Relations International Idea

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Mon Nationalism and Civil War in Burma Ashley South 2003 A major contribution to the literature of Burmese history and politics, this book traces the rich and tragic history of the Mon people of Burma and Thailand, from the pre-colonial era to the present day. This vivid account of ethnic politics and civil war situates the story of Mon nationalism within the 'big picture' of developments in Burma, Thailand and the region. Primarily an empirical study, it also addresses issues of identity and anticipates Burmese politics in the new millennium. A particular feature of the book is its first-hand descriptions of insurgency and displacement, drawn from the author's experiences as an aid worker in the war zone.

Bush and Asia Mark Beeson 2006-09-27 Bringing together a number of recognized international experts, this book considers the impact of changes in American foreign policy on the East Asian region, as well as the evolving nature of American policy itself. Specific case studies consider America's relations with the most important countries of the region, including China, a potential strategic rival, Japan, still the second largest economy in the world, and Indonesia, the world's largest Muslim country. These case studies and others are complemented with more theoretical and thematic considerations of the nature of American hegemony, its historical links to the region, security policy, economic ties, and American attitudes toward emerging East Asian regionalism. Bush and Asia provides a comprehensive introduction to, and analysis of, the Bush administration's relations with what will be the twenty-first century's most dynamic and strategically significant region.

Re-imagining International Relations Barry Buzan 2021-12-09 Aimed at readers interested in constructing a less West-centric, more global discipline of International Relations, this book provides a concise, thorough introduction to the thought and practice of international relations from premodern India, China and the Islamic world, and how it relates to modern IR.

Dictatorship, Disorder and Decline in Myanmar Monique Skidmore 2008-12-01 Mass peaceful protests in Myanmar/Burma in 2007 drew the world's attention to the ongoing problems faced by this country and its oppressed people. In this publication, experts from around the world analyse the reasons for these recent political upheavals, explain how the country's economy, education and health sectors are in perceptible decline, and identify the underlying authoritarian pressures that characterise Myanmar/Burma's military regime.

The Thaksinization of Thailand Duncan McCargo 2005 A major reform package was enacted in Thailand in 1997, coinciding with the promulgation of a new constitution. However, the country's financial problems helped create the conditions for the emergence of the Thai Rak Thai (Thais Love Thai, or TRT) Party under the leadership of Thaksin Shinawatra, a wealthy telecommunications magnate. Since winning a landslide election victory in 2001, Prime Minister Thaksin has exercised an extraordinary degree of personal dominance over the Thai political scene. This book examines the emergence of the TRT; Thaksin's background; his business activities, relationship with the military, use of rhetoric, and wider political economy networks; and the future of Thai politics.

Approaches to World Order Robert W. Cox 1996-03-28 Robert Cox's writings have had a profound influence on recent developments in thinking in world politics and political economy in many countries. This book brings together for the first time his most important essays, grouped around the theme of world order. The volume is divided into sections dealing respectively with theory; with the application of Cox's approach to recent changes in world political economy; and with multilateralism and the problem of global governance. The book also includes a critical review of Cox's work by Timothy Sinclair, and an essay by Cox tracing his own intellectual journey. This volume will be an essential guide to Robert Cox's critical approach to world politics for students and teachers of international relations, international political economy, and international organisation.

Countries and Territories of the World

International Relations and States of Exception Shampa Biswas 2009-12-16 Critically but sympathetically interrogating Italian philosopher Giorgio Agamben's analysis of the logic of sovereign power, this volume draws attention to the multiple zones of exclusion in and through which contemporary international politics constitutes itself. Beginning from the margins and peripheries of world politics, this book emphasises the colonial processes through which contemporary "third world" spaces of exception have been shaped and particular bodies made susceptible to the conditions of "bare life". The authors contend that these bodies inhabit a variety of spaces or "zones of indistinction" that include political detainees, refugees, asylum-seekers, poor migrants, sweatshop workers, and unassimilated indigenous populations. These are the "expendable bodies" that the territorial and market-driven logic of current international relations simultaneously produces, polices and excludes. Focussing on the locally and socio-historically specific ways that sovereign power works, the individual chapters provide the volume with a wide geographical reach. Drawing on diverse approaches, this text constitutes an important intervention in critical international relations, providing grounded theory and sophisticated analyses of how contemporary international relations works through the production of 'exceptions'. Bringing together a range of internationally-renowned scholars, International Relations and States of Exception will be of vital interest to students and scholars of International Relations, Critical Theory and Postcolonial Studies.

International Relations Theory and Regional Transformation T. V. Paul 2012-02-23 A comprehensive treatment of regional transformation, offering insights from different theoretical perspectives and generating a range of policy-relevant ideas.

A Plastic Nation Pavin Chachavalongpong 2005 A Plastic Nation examines the role of Thai nationhood in domestic and international politics. This book is intended for students and professors in the field of Thai nationhood and nationalism, as well as contemporary Thai-Burmese relations. It is also intended for policy practitioners in the government and military.

Bringing Transnational Relations Back In Thomas Risse-Kappen 1995-09-28 Taking a fresh look at the impact of non-state actors on world politics and on the foreign policies of states, this book revives the debate on transnational relations which started in the 1970s. This debate withered away in the face of state-centered approaches, but this book's new approach emphasizes the interaction of states and transnational actors, arguing that domestic structures of the state as well as international institutions mediate the policy influence of transnational actors. Empirical chapters examine the European Economic and Monetary Union, US-Japanese transnational relations, multinational corporations in East Asia, Soviet and Russian security policy, democratization in Eastern Europe, and ivory management in Africa. The book concludes with chapters discussing the theoretical implications of the findings in the empirical studies.

Voting from Abroad Andrew Ellis 2007 A unique assessment for anyone involved in present electoral structures, external voting processes, or debates, this handbook explains and compares worldwide external voting provisions. The guide offers proposals for enabling external voting systems and stopping the disenfranchisement of voters living abroad—topics which have been highlighted in campaigns in Afghanistan, Estonia, Iraq, and Italy.

The Military in Burma/Myanmar David I Steinberg 2021-05-12 The Myanmar military has dominated that complex country for most of the period since independence in 1948. The fourth coup of 1 February 2021 was the latest by the

military to control those aspects of society it deemed essential to its own interests, and its perception of state interests. The military's institutional power was variously maintained by rule by decree, through political parties it founded and controlled, and through constitutional provisions it wrote that could not be amended without its approval. This fourth coup seems a product of personal demands for power between Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Aung San Suu Kyi, and the especially humiliating defeat of the military-backed party at the hands of the National League for Democracy in the November 2020 elections. The violent and bloody suppression of widespread demonstrations continues, compromise seems unlikely, and the previous diarchic governance will not return. Myanmar's political and economic future is endangered and suppression will only result in future outbreaks of political frustration. Interpreting Myanmar Andrew Selth 2020-12-10 Since the abortive 1988 pro-democracy uprising, Myanmar (formerly Burma) has attracted increased attention from a wide range of observers. Yet, despite all the statements, publications and documentary films made about the country over the past 32 years, it is still little known and poorly understood. It remains the subject of many myths, mysteries and misconceptions. Between 2008 and 2019, Andrew Selth clarified and explained contemporary developments in Myanmar on the Lowy Institute's internationally acclaimed blog, The Interpreter. This collection of his 97 articles provides a fascinating and informative record of that critical period, and helps to explain many issues that remain relevant today.

Southeast Asia and the English School of International Relations L. Quayle 2013-01-17 This book examines the interface between the theoretical framework known as the English School and the international and transnational politics of Southeast Asia. The region-theory dialogue it proposes signals productive ways forward for the theory.

Development First, Democracy Later? Anna Lekvall 2014-03-06 This book explores how politics and democracy play out in reality in Africa as the major aid-receiving continent. It points to the seriously challenged political situations found in aid-recipient countries. Moreover, it looks at the Paris Agenda aid modalities from a democracy perspective. It illustrates the on-and-off relationship with democracy concerns in the aid system. In addition, the book points to the challenges of aid, which are too often based on a wrongful assumption that development comes first and democracy only (hopefully) later. The book brings into question the fundamental construction of the aid system and the values that drive it. While making a push for seeing the value of democracy on its own merits, as well as its advantages for development, the book poses some serious questions about the way the aid system is built and argues for substantive changes in the aid landscape. Issues raised are relevant for many discussions -- from China as a development model, to the entire aid system -- and not least for the debate on the post-2015 Millennium Development Goals. This is an outspoken, insiders account. It aspires to be broadly accessible and engaging and to provoke debate on an issue which is still, remarkably, swept under the carpet. The critique is substantiated with facts and research, but also illustrated with situations taken from real life in Africa and international aid discussions.

Burmese Refugees in Thailand United States. Congress. House. Committee on International Relations. Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights 1998

Energy, Governance and Security in Thailand and Myanmar (Burma) Adam Simpson 2016-04-29 Across the world states are seeking out new and secure supplies of energy but this search is manifesting itself most visibly in Asia where rapid industrialisation in states such as China and India is fomenting a frantic scramble for energy resources. Due to entrenched societal inequities and widespread authoritarian governance, however, the pursuit of national energy security through transnational energy projects has resulted in devastating impacts on the human and environmental security of local populations. These effects are particularly evident in both Thailand and Myanmar (Burma), which, located at the crossroads of Asia, are increasingly engaged in the cross-border energy trade. Based on extensive fieldwork and theoretical analysis this ground-breaking book proposes a new critical approach to energy and environmental security and explores the important role that both local and transnational environmental movements are playing, in the absence of effective and democratic governments, in providing 'activist environmental governance' for energy projects throughout the region. By comparing the nature of this activism under two very different political regimes it delivers crucial theoretical insights with both academic and policy implications for the sustainable and equitable development of the South's natural resources.

Political Parties in Conflict-prone Societies Ben Reilly 2008 Well-functioning political parties are essential components of democracy. They organize voters, articulate interests, and craft policy alternatives. They recruit and socialize new candidates for office and set policymaking agendas. They integrate disparate groups and individuals into the democratic process. And they provide the basis for coordinated electoral and legislative activity. But political parties in many developing democracies remain weak and underdeveloped, often based on personal, ethnic, or regional ties rather than on national interests. As more countries determine their leaders through multiparty elections than ever before, many fledgling democracies seek to shape the development of political parties and party systems by regulating the way parties can form, organize, and behave. This volume examines the growing trend toward promoting stable and inclusive political parties through regulation and engineering in conflict-prone young democracies around the world. Regions examined are Southeast Asia, Central and Southeastern Europe, Latin America, the Pacific Islands, and Southern and East Africa.

Global Trends 2040 National Intelligence Council 2021-03 "The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic marks the most significant, singular global disruption since World War II, with health, economic, political, and security implications that will ripple for years to come." -Global Trends 2040 (2021) Global Trends 2040-A More Contested World (2021), released by the US National Intelligence Council, is the latest report in its series of reports starting in 1997 about megatrends and the world's future. This report, strongly influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic, paints a bleak picture of the future and describes a contested, fragmented and turbulent world. It specifically discusses the four main trends that will shape tomorrow's world: - Demographics-by 2040, 1.4 billion people will be added mostly in Africa and South Asia. - Economics-increased government debt and concentrated economic power will escalate problems for the poor and middleclass. - Climate-a hotter world will increase water, food, and health insecurity. - Technology-the emergence of new technologies could both solve and cause problems for human life. Students of trends, policymakers, entrepreneurs, academics, journalists and anyone eager for a glimpse into the next decades, will find this report, with colored graphs, essential reading.

Domestic Constraints on South Korean Foreign Policy Scott A. Snyder 2018-01-01 These essays support the argument that strong and effective presidential leadership is the most important prerequisite for South Korea to sustain and project its influence abroad. That leadership should be attentive to the need for public consensus and should operate within established legislative mechanisms that ensure public accountability. The underlying structures sustaining South Korea's foreign policy formation are generally sound; the bigger challenge is to manage domestic politics in ways that promote public confidence about the direction and accountability of presidential leadership in foreign policy. Personal Identity, National Identity and International Relations William Bloom 1993-03-18 Drawing on Freud, Mead, Erikson, Parsons and Habermas, William Bloom relates mass psychological processes to international relations.

Asian Review 2007

Democracy and Deep-rooted Conflict Mark Anstey 1998 How does one build democracy in the aftermath of a violent, deep-rooted conflict? This handbook shows how to structure negotiations and design democratic institutions which address the real needs and interests of conflicting parties. It provides practical advice for policy-makers and political leaders in post-conflict societies and presents a wealth of options that can be drawn upon to build a sustainable peace. Aimed at those negotiating a peace settlement, this book provides a thorough overview of democratic levers - such as power-sharing formulas, questions of federalism and autonomy, options for electoral reform, when to use truth commissions, transitional justice mechanisms, methods of preserving minority rights, constitutional safeguards and many others. It also analyses actual negotiated settlements from various countries and illustrates the many, often unrecognized, options that negotiators can draw upon when attempting to build or rebuild democracy.

Electoral System Design Andrew Reynolds 2005 Publisher Description

Overcoming Political Exclusion International Idea 2013 This book identifies hurdles preventing marginalised people from taking active part in customary and democratic decision-making. The publication describes how marginalised groups -- including people from religious, ethnic and linguistic minorities; people facing caste-based discrimination; people with disabilities; young people; indigenous peoples; people from remote geographical locations; and people discriminated against on the basis of their sexual orientation -- have worked to overcome barriers to their participation in governance. The publication draws on experience from 38 case studies. Strategies are identified reflecting how marginalised people managed transition from political exclusion to inclusion both in customary and democratic politics. From these strategies lessons are identified that other marginalised groups can consider adopting.

India--Myanmar Relations Rajiv Bhatia 2015-08-11 This book provides a comprehensive evaluation of India's multi-faceted relations with Myanmar. It unravels the mysteries of the complex polity of Myanmar as it undergoes transition through democracy after long military rule. Based on meticulous research and understanding, the volume traces the trajectory of India-Myanmar associations from ancient times to the present day, and offers a fascinating story in the backdrop of the region's geopolitics. An in-depth analysis of 'India-Myanmar-China Triangle' brings out the strategic stakes involved. It will be of great interest to researchers and scholars of international relations, peace and conflict

studies, defence and strategic studies, politics, South and Southeast Asian studies, as well as policy-makers and political think tanks.

Journeys from Exclusion to Inclusion International Idea 2014-03-01 This report identifies critical factors preventing marginalised women's inclusion in customary and democratic decision-making structures. It details specific strategies marginalised women and their supporters have adopted, ranging from direct action strategies in Somaliland to 'soft' advocacy strategies in Cambodia, in overcoming barriers to their participation. The reports ten case studies gather together knowledge and practical experience from around the world and show how women can have an impact on political processes through their participation in politics.

The EU-Thailand Relations Chaiyakorn Kiatpongsan 2011 Een studie over het 'nieuw bilateralisme' aan de hand van de ontwikkeling van de relatie tussen de EU en Thailand.

Reinventing Thailand Pavin Chachavalpongpun 2010 From 2001 to 2006, Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra transformed Thailand's international role from one of obscurity into a kind of regional hegemon. Thaksin's diplomatic ambitions were reflected in his myriad of grandiose foreign policy initiatives, designed to locate Thailand at the forefront of regional politics and reinstall the Thai sphere of influence over weaker neighbouring states. He abolished the traditional bending-with-the-wind foreign policy, revamped the Thai Foreign Ministry, and empowered Thai envoys through the CEO Ambassadors programme. But in this process, Thaksin was accused of exploiting foreign policy to enrich his business empire. Thaksin's reinvention of Thailand as an up-and-coming regional power was therefore tainted by conflicts of interest and the absence of ethical principles in the country's foreign policy.

Social Theory of International Politics Alexander Wendt 1999-10-07 Drawing upon philosophy and social theory, Social Theory of International Politics develops a theory of the international system as a social construction. Alexander Wendt clarifies the central claims of the constructivist approach, presenting a structural and idealist worldview which contrasts with the individualism and materialism which underpins much mainstream international relations theory. He builds a cultural theory of international politics, which takes whether states view each other as enemies, rivals or friends as a fundamental determinant. Wendt characterises these roles as 'cultures of anarchy', described as Hobbesian, Lockean and Kantian respectively. These cultures are shared ideas which help shape state interests and capabilities, and generate tendencies in the international system. The book describes four factors which can drive structural change from one culture to another - interdependence, common fate, homogenization, and self-restraint - and examines the effects of capitalism and democracy in the emergence of a Kantian culture in the West.

Environmentalism and Global International Society Robert Falkner 2021-07-15 Explains how environmentalism became a fundamental norm in international relations and explores the impact of the greening of international society. Myanmar Kyaw Yin Hlaing 2005 After reviewing the historical forces and human agencies which have shaped contemporary Myanmar, this book addresses healthcare and public policy provision, with suggestions as to what potential roles the international community might have in assisting Myanmar's future socioeconomic development.

A Practical Guide to Constitution Building Winluck Wahiu 2011 "A Practical Guide to Constitution Building provides an essential foundation for understanding constitutions and constitution building. Full of world examples of ground-breaking agreements and innovative provisions adopted during processes of constitutional change, the Guide offers a wide range of examples of how constitutions develop and how their development can establish and entrench democratic values. Beyond comparative examples, the Guide contains in-depth analysis of key components of constitutions and the forces of change that shape them. The Guide analyzes the adoption of the substantive elements of a new constitution by looking at forces for the aggregation or dissemination of governmental power, and forces for greater legalization or politicization of governmental power, and examining how these forces influence the content of the constitution. It urges practitioners to look carefully at the forces at play within their individual contexts in order to better understand constitutional dynamics and play a role in shaping a constitution that will put into place a functioning democratic government and foster lasting peace."--

History of International Relations Theory Torbjorn L. Knutsen 1997-06-15 Torbjorn L. Knutsen introduces ideas on international relations expressed by thinkers from the High Middle Ages to the present day and traces the development of four ever-present themes: war, peace, wealth and power. The book counters the view that international relations has no theoretical tradition and shows that scholars, soldiers and statesmen have been speculating about the subject for the last 700 years. Beginning with the roots of the state and the concept of sovereignty in the Middle Ages, the author draws upon the insights of outstanding political thinkers - from Machiavelli and Hobbes to Hegel, Rousseau, and Marx and contemporary thinkers such as Woodrow Wilson, Lenin, Morgenthau and Walt - who profoundly influenced the emergence of a discrete discipline of International Relations in the twentieth century. Fully revised and updated, the final section embraces more recent approaches to the study of international relations, most notably postmodernism and ecologism.

Global Trends 2030 Office of the Director of National Intelligence Council 2017-03-11 This publication covers global megatrends for the next 20 years and how they will affect the United States. This is the fifth installment in the National Intelligence Council's series aimed at providing a framework for thinking about possible futures and their implications. The report is intended to stimulate strategic thinking about the rapid and vast geopolitical changes characterizing the world today and possible global trajectories during the next 15-20 years by identifying critical trends and potential discontinuities. The authors distinguish between megatrends, those factors that will likely occur under any scenario, and game-changers, critical variables whose trajectories are far less certain. NIC 2012-001. Several innovations are included in Global Trends 2030, including: a review of the four previous Global Trends reports, input from academic and other experts around the world, coverage of disruptive technologies, and a chapter on the potential trajectories for the US role in the international system and the possible impact on future international relations. Table of Contents: Introduction 1 Megatrends 6 Individual Empowerment 8 Poverty Reduction 8 An Expanding Global Middle Class 8 Education and the Gender Gap 10 Role of Communications Technologies 11 Improving Health 11 A MORE CONFLICTED IDEOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE 12 Diffusion of Power 15 THE RISE AND FALL OF COUNTRIES: NOT THE SAME OLD STORY 17 THE LIMITS OF HARD POWER IN THE WORLD OF 2030 18 Demographic Patterns 20 Widespread Aging 20 Shrinking Number of Youthful Countries 22 A New Age of Migration 23 The World as Urban 26 Growing Food, Water, and Energy Nexus 30 Food, Water, and Climate 30 A Brighter Energy Outlook 34 Game-Changers 38 The Crisis-Prone Global Economy 40 The Plight of the West 40 Crunch Time Too for the Emerging Powers 43 A Multipolar Global Economy: Inherently More Fragile? 46 The Governance Gap 48 Governance Starts at Home: Risks and Opportunities 48 INCREASED FOCUS ON EQUALITY AND OPENNESS 53 NEW GOVERNMENTAL FORMS 54 A New Regional Order? 55 Global Multilateral Cooperation 55 The Potential for Increased Conflict 59 INTRASTATE CONFLICT: CONTINUED DECLINE 59 Interstate Conflict: Chances Rising 61 Wider Scope of Regional Instability 70 The Middle East: At a Tipping Point 70 South Asia: Shocks on the Horizon 75 East Asia: Multiple Strategic Futures 76 Europe: Transforming Itself 78 Sub-Saharan Africa: Turning a Corner by 2030? 79 Latin America: More Prosperous but Inherently Fragile 81 The Impact of New Technologies 83 Information Technologies 83 AUTOMATION AND MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGIES 87 Resource Technologies 90 Health Technologies 95 The Role of the United States 98 Steady US Role 98 Multiple Potential Scenarios for the United States' Global Role 101 Alternative Worlds 107 Stalled Engines 110 FUSION 116 Gini-out-of-the-Bottle 122 Nonstate World 128 Acknowledgements 134 GT2030 Blog References 137 Audience: Appropriate for anyone, from businesses to banks, government agencies to start-ups, the technology sector to the teaching sector, and more. This publication helps anticipate where the world will be: socially, politically, technologically, and culturally over the next few decades. Keywords: Global Trends 2030 Alternative Worlds, global trends 2030, Global Trends series, National Intelligence Council, global trajectories, global megatrends, geopolitics, geopolitical changes

Militant Buddhism Peter Lehr 2018-12-30 Against the backdrop of the ongoing Rohingya crisis, this book takes a close and detailed look at the rise of militant Buddhism in Sri Lanka, Burma and Thailand, and especially at the issues of 'why' and 'how' around it. We are well aware of Christian fundamentalism, militant Judaism and Islamism Salafism-Jihadism. Extremist and violent Buddhism however features only rarely in book-length studies on religion and political violence. Somehow, the very idea of Buddhist monks as the archetypal 'world renouncers' exhorting frenzied mobs to commit acts of violence against perceived 'enemies of the religion' seems to be outright ludicrous. Recent events in Myanmar/Burma, but also in Thailand and Sri Lanka, however indicate that a militant strand of Theravada Buddhism is on the rise. How can this rise be explained, and what role do monks play in that regard? These are the two broad questions that this book explores.

Back to Old Habits Renaud Egreteau 2018-07-03 This book argues that the Burmese military regime has always favoured an isolationist-type policy that finds its grassroots in Ne Win's autarchic and xenophobic era as well as in Burma's royal traditions, but without being completely cut off from the outside world. This policy approach is well suited to the Burmese authoritarian state which boasts an important strategic position in the region. In the past decade, the politics of "isolationism without isolation" has been skilfully developed by Burma's military elite in order to preserve itself from both internal and external threats. Since the Depayin crackdown in May 2003, every step the Burmese junta has taken indicates that it has been consciously defining both its foreign policy and its internal political agenda according to these isolationist tendencies, as the recent fallbacks that followed the "Saffron Revolution" (September 2007) and the Cyclone Nargis (May 2008) illustrate. Not only does the military regime tend to strategically withdraw itself from the regional scene, by choosing only a few but crucial diplomatic and commercial partners like China, India, Singapore, Russia or Thailand, but it also gradually isolates itself from the rest of the Burmese society, by opting for a strategic and nationalist entrenchment which was perfectly highlighted by the purge of the pragmatic Military

Intelligence Services (2004), the transfer of the capital to Naypyidaw (2005) and the strict control over the transitional process initiated by its own "Road Map towards a disciplined democracy" and undisrupted by the recent crises. Turmoil in Burma David I. Steinberg 2006 Few states in the contemporary world present the complexities that characterize Burma/Myanmar at present. On the one hand, it has been under military rule for some forty-four years at this point, with many traditional factors in operation: an high degree of authoritarianism; the dominance of personalization over institutions; powerful centrism, but with a progressive weakening as the distance from the center lengthens; and the importance of religion as a source of identity. Those who govern Myanmar have given ample indication in recent times of a desire to interact with diverse international bilateral and multilateral operations. Yet Burma/Myanmar nationalism has contained a xenophobic quality emphasized on occasion, a proclivity that is more conducive to isolation than to cooperation. In this context, the movement of the capitol from Rangoon to Pyinmana in the interior, while proclaimed as a move to provide easier access to all parts of Myanmar raises questions. Moreover, as was demonstrated recently, in the face of strong opposition, Myanmar was prepared to give up its scheduled chairmanship of ASEAN rather than to change its domestic political policies. Under the circumstances, it is fortunate to have a highly regarded scholar who has spent many years undertaking in-depth studies of Burma/Myanmar as well as other parts of East Asia, with a history of friendships and research in the region, provide us with an up-to-date analysis. David Steinberg presents a broad picture of the complex scene, commencing with a presentation of key theoretical and historical considerations, and proceeding to an analysis of various specifics relating to the current Burma/Myanmar society and state. His analysis is comprehensive and balanced, taking into account the many complexities and uncertainties of this troubled state. We are indeed fortunate to have this work available. from the Foreword by Robert A. Scalapino

Causation in International Relations Milja Kurki 2008-04-03 World political processes, such as wars and globalisation, are engendered by complex sets of causes and conditions. Although the idea of causation is fundamental to the field of International Relations, what the concept of cause means or entails has remained an unresolved and contested matter. In recent decades ferocious debates have surrounded the idea of causal analysis, some scholars even questioning the legitimacy of applying the notion of cause in the study of International Relations. This book suggests that underlying the debates on causation in the field of International Relations is a set of problematic assumptions (deterministic, mechanistic and empiricist) and that we should reclaim causal analysis from the dominant discourse of causation. Milja Kurki argues that reinterpreting the meaning, aims and methods of social scientific causal analysis opens up multi-causal and methodologically pluralist avenues for future International Relations scholarship.