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## *Letter from the Editor*



This edition, “China and the World,” represents the first regionally-themed issue in the *Yale Journal of International Affairs*’ 15-year history. The focus of this journal was motivated by our staff’s desire to highlight new and unique perspectives on China’s role in the global order. Since China’s rapprochement with the United States and its initiation of market-based reforms, the country has been on an upward trajectory of economic and diplomatic influence.

However, as Chinese leaders become more assertive about China’s strategic interests and its state-led capitalism model, significant tensions have arisen with countries worldwide. These phenomena alone are more than worthy of academic discussion and analysis, but the past few months have added an additional dramatic factor to the balance of China’s role in the world: the spread of COVID-19.

As the global community navigates this unprecedented challenge, it is more important than ever for us to understand the implications of China’s domestic and foreign policies. I want to thank the authors and our staff for working together to produce pieces that shed light on China’s unique context in this moment in history. By bringing together cutting-edge work on Chinese foreign relations, security, and economic policy from leading graduate students, academics, and policymakers, it is our hope that the articles and op-eds in this issue provide valuable insights to the global community as we navigate this rapidly changing world.

*Veronica Baker*

*Editor-in-Chief, 2019-2020*

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