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APR/JUN 2018 VOLUME 10 NO 2

## SPECIAL FEATURE

- 5 Xi Jinping's Building of a New Central Leadership at the 19th Party Congress by *ZHOU Na*

*President Xi Jinping directly led the selection of the candidates for the 19th Central Committee and the 19th Central Commission for Discipline Inspection. Through the 19th Party Congress, he has taken a significant step to place his forces and strengthened his grip on the military.*

- 16 Constitutional Change Allows Xi Jinping to Rule Beyond 2023 by *CHEN Gang and XUE Jianyue*

*The removal of the term limit on the presidency and vice presidency in China's Constitution allows President Xi Jinping to remain in power beyond 2023. Other key changes to the constitution include the establishment of supervisory commissions, incorporation of Xi's ideology, emphasis on Party leadership and the taking of an oath of allegiance to the Constitution when state functionaries assume office.*

- 29 China's New Guiding Ideology: The Unfolding of the Xi Jinping Era by *Lance L P GORE*

*China's new guiding ideology of "Xi Jinping Thought of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era" offers a blueprint for development to mid-21st century. Xi is in a position to demand loyalty, enforce strict discipline and fight the centrifugal forces within the Party.*

- 40 19th Party Congress and People's Liberation Army's Leadership Reshuffle by *LI Nan*

*Among others, the aims of appointing new Central Military Commission members and chiefs of People's Liberation Army services and theatres is to ensure political loyalty by appointing people Xi Jinping knows well and trusts personally and promote functional and technical expertise-based professionalism.*

- 53 China's Parliamentary Sessions 2018: New Cabinet with State Organs Revamped by *CHEN Juan and Ryan HO*

*In March 2018, Xi Jinping and Li Keqiang resumed their posts as Chinese president and premier, respectively. Wang Qishan, Li Zhanshu and Wang Yang became the respective vice president, National People's Congress chairman and Chinese Political People's Consultative Conference chairman. This parliamentary session revamped the state organs. The restructuring eliminated six ministries, two ministry-level agencies and seven vice-ministry level institutions at the cabinet level.*

## ESSAYS

- 65 China's Recent Deleveraging: A Panacea for Its Financial Ills by Sarah CHAN

*The Chinese authorities' recent deleveraging efforts have produced some results with interbank lending growth declining and corporate debt-to-gross domestic product ratio stabilising. However, policymakers will have to address structural weaknesses in the financial system through institutional reforms.*

- 79 World Class 2.0: China's Major Initiative in Higher Education by ZHAO Litao

*As Xi Jinping's most important initiative in higher education, the "Double World-Class" project is expected to advance Chinese universities in major international league tables. While the best Chinese universities aspire to equal the world's best, deeper changes are needed in the governing of universities, allocating of research funding and fostering of conducive research environment.*

- 91 China's Reactive and Proactive Taiwan Policies by QI Dongtao

*China's Taiwan Policy had witnessed significant changes at the 19th Party Congress, from promoting reunification through political negotiations to opposing independence with the strongest determination and via all necessary means. While China's Taiwan policy in the economic and social realms may be proactive and has achieved significant progress, it has been frustrated in the political field by external and internal factors.*

- 100 Taiwan's Integration with Southeast Asia in the New Asian Context by HUYNH Tam Sang

*Taiwan-ASEAN relations in the new Asian context are boosted by Taiwan's interests in Southeast Asia, the rise of China in the South China Sea and Taiwan's democratic middle-power status. The time is seemingly ripe for Taiwan to deepen its integration with Southeast Asia. It could take steps to develop Taiwan-ASEAN strategic partnership by promoting more contributions to accommodate the "New Southbound Policy" and its interests in Southeast Asia.*

- 109 Non-Traditional Security Issues across Vietnam and China Land Borders by CUONG Nguyen Xuan and HOA Nguyen Thi Phuong

*Apart from cultural and social similarities, the sharing of thousands of kilometres of a borderline with many international and national border gates, among others have led to Vietnam-China and non-traditional security problems. These problems, arising and accumulating in the development process, are worsening. These issues which have become complicated, uncontrollable and posed threats to the socioeconomic security of border regions of the two countries, especially Vietnam, require increasingly urgent solutions.*