The past year was one of transition, most notably from one presidential administration to another in the United States. *Foreign Affairs* staked out an early position during the election campaign with wide-ranging articles on upcoming challenges as seen through the eyes of key advisers to the major candidates. Given the Republican victory, the likely policy directions anticipated by contributors Condoleezza Rice and Robert B. Zoellick received constant attention from other media throughout the year.

Immediately following the election, *Foreign Affairs* presented Samuel R. Berger’s recommendations for building on the Clinton foreign policy record. Essays on the challenges awaiting the incoming Bush administration, as well as critiques of its likely preferences, appeared in our pages. *Foreign Affairs* was prescient in several areas, such as military modernization, missile defense, energy needs, transatlantic tensions, and shifts in great power relations.

Military analyst Eliot A. Cohen (November/December 2000) provided an early call for transforming America’s military forces to meet the decidedly different security challenges of the 21st century. Other military needs and forward-positioning issues were raised by former Defense Department official Ashton B. Carter (January/February 2001) and military scholar Michael O’Hanlon (March/April 2001). And Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov (September/October 2000) raised a red flag about antimissile defense efforts, particularly those that would violate the Antiballistic Missile Treaty. Former State Department consultant John Newhouse (July/August 2001) followed with a careful critique of the technical and political hurdles of various missile defense schemes.

On the economic front, *Foreign Affairs* foresaw the energy crisis with an early alert on the need to add nuclear-energy plants from Richard Rhodes and Denis Beller (January/February 2000). Noted conservationists Amory Lovins and Hunter Lovins (July/August 2001) elaborated on the subject by promoting technologically based conservation and efficiency measures, while dismissing oil drilling in Alaska’s Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as an unnecessary component of an energy policy. Economist C. Fred Bergsten (March/April 2001) warned that trade tensions could fuel major disruptions in the transatlantic and transpacific relationships, and journalist David E. Sanger (January/February 2001) made the case for reinvigorating global free-trade negotiations. Mounting differences between the United States and its European allies were flagged by British parliamentarian William Wallace and French analyst Dominique Moïsi (May/June 2001 and July/August 2001). In a companion piece to Wallace’s, former National Security Council staffer Antony Blinken found these differences to be of lesser consequence.

Other significant articles on Europe addressed the European defense initiative (July/August 2000), the rationality of French foreign policy (July/August 2001), and
obstacles to Turkish membership in the European Union (November/December 2000).

Although the Cold War’s end is a decade old, great power relations are still of concern; political scientist Daniel Treisman (November/December 2000) reviewed the reasons for pessimism about Russia’s condition.

However, the focus throughout the year was on China, its Asian neighbors, and its relations with the United States. Topics covered included the importance and the difficulties of U.S. engagement with China (January/February 2001), China’s nuclear weapons program (July/August 2000), its growing cyber-power (March/April 2001), tensions in the Taiwan Strait (July/August 2001), security threats in East Asia (January/February 2001), and expected political initiatives from new Chinese leadership (July/August 2001).

On the latter subject, Foreign Affairs also published secret government documents smuggled out of China by reform elements within the Communist Party who hoped to influence the selection of new leaders scheduled to take place in 2002. Our synopsis of these documents (January/February 2001) revealed behind-the-scenes decision-making at the time of the 1989 student demonstrations in many Chinese cities and in Beijing’s Tiananmen Square. Since publication, other related documents have surfaced, suggesting a continuing effort to influence the upcoming leadership transition.

Ongoing attention was given to troubled states whose difficulties could ignite larger conflicts and destabilize whole regions. Countries covered included Colombia, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, North Korea, Pakistan, Ukraine, Zimbabwe, and South America’s Andean states.

Also addressed during the year were problems attending globalization, peacekeeping, terrorism, U.N. funding, international criminal jurisdiction, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and the spread of technology.

Transitions

As the calendar year began, Gideon Rose assumed the managing editorship of Foreign Affairs, succeeding Fareed Zakaria, who after eight years in the post joined Newsweek as a columnist and editor of its international edition. Prior to his appointment, Rose was an Olin senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations and a part-time senior editor at the magazine. He formerly served on the staff of the National Security Council. His broad knowledge and editing skills have made him a worthy replacement for his talented predecessor.

Initiatives

In December 2000, Foreign Affairs en Español was launched simultaneously in Mexico City, Buenos Aires, Santiago, and Madrid. Published three times a year in cooperation with the prestigious Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de
México (ITAM), the leading private university in Mexico, the Spanish-language edition presents both translated essays from *Foreign Affairs* and articles separately commissioned by its editor, Rafael Fernández de Castro. All of the Spanish-language content is published simultaneously on the Internet at www.foreignaffairs-esp.org. In between issues of the print edition, the website publishes additional original Spanish articles and translations of articles from *Foreign Affairs* that do not appear in the three printed issues.

Circulation of *Foreign Affairs* totals 110,000. A recent study identified a third of our subscribers as holding government or academic positions, with the balance in the private sector. Twenty percent of our readership is international, a figure that has been growing steadily in recent years.

In January 2001, a new version of the magazine’s website—www.foreignaffairs.org—was launched. Visitors, now numbering 50,000 per month and growing, may read selections from the current issue that have been augmented by additional related resources, including *Foreign Affairs* articles and online materials. Among other new features, users will find a powerful new search engine offering access to past articles that will be available on a “pay-per-view” basis, and background briefings on international developments.

James F. Hoge Jr.
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*Foreign Affairs*