



American Grand Strategy and East Asian Security in the Twenty-First Century

East Asia is richer, more integrated, and more stable than at any time in the past hundred years, while East Asian defense spending is now roughly half of what it was in 1990 and shows no sign of increasing. There is no evidence of any Asian arms race. All countries in the region are seeking diplomatic, not military, solutions with each other. Yet this East Asian reality still runs counter to a largely Western narrative that views China's rise as a threat and the region as increasingly unstable. In this important book, David C. Kang argues that American grand strategy should emphasize diplomatic and economic relations with the region, rather than military-first policies. Using longitudinal and comparative data, statistical analysis, and intensive research in selected East Asian countries, he suggests that East Asia is in sync with the American desire to share burdens and that the region may in fact be more stable than popularly believed.

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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-16723-0 — American Grand Strategy and East Asian Security in the Twenty-First Century

David C. Kang

Frontmatter

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

4843/24, 2nd Floor, Ansari Road, Daryaganj, Delhi – 110002, India

79 Anson Road, #06-04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

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www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781316616406

DOI: 10.1017/9781316711620

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First published 2017

Printed in the United States of America by Sheridan Books, Inc.

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-107-16723-0 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-316-61640-6 Paperback

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For William Hojin Kang

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Acknowledgments

Many scholars read parts of this book, either in chapter form or as I was formulating the ideas through a various set of papers and presentations. I am grateful to all of them for their scholarly generosity and for taking the time and energy to help me improve and hone my thoughts. Thanks to Erin Baggot-Carter, Andrew Bertoli, Richard Bitzinger, Jae-ho Chung, Andrew Coe, Andrew Erickson, Erik Gartzke, Brad Glosserman, Evelyn Goh, Benjamin Graham, Steph Haggard, Chris Hanscom, Joey Huddleston, Pat James, Tom Jamieson, Hildi Kang (a.k.a. “Mom”), Saori Katada, Sean Kay, Scott Kennedy, Daisy Kim, Ellen Kim, Collin Koh Swee Lean, Alex Yu-ting Lin, Jon Lindsay, Dan Lynch, Jonathan Markowitz, Marco Milani, Inyoung Min, Brett Sheehan, Jihyun Shin, Allan Stam, and Andrew Yeo. Thanks also to Andrew Coe, Alexandre Debs, Songying Fang, James Fearon, Erik Gartzke, Colin Krainin, David Lake, Suzie Caldwell Mulesky, David Shambaugh, Jack Snyder, Marc Trachtenberg, Scott Wolford, and Mingmin Yang. Particular thanks to Bridget Coggins and Brent Strathman for their continued insights and feedback, especially on the regressions. Thanks very much to Bob Kelly for reading successive drafts of various chapters in detail. Victor Cha’s feedback was helpful from start to finish, as always. Extra thanks are due to T. J. Pempel and Alice Ba for generously reading the entire manuscript and participating in a manuscript review workshop at the University of Southern California (USC) Korean Studies Institute in November 2016. They provided intensive and extensive comments and were particularly helpful in shaping and sharpening the arguments in this book.

Friends, colleagues, and interlocutors throughout East Asia are far too numerous to mention, but in particular I would like to thank the following people for their help at various stages of this project. In the Philippines, my old friend Frankie Roman was particularly helpful in setting up new meetings, and I thank all the folks at the Asian Institute of Management for their support as well. Thanks also to Herman

Joseph Kraft, Jay Batongbacal, and Tina Clemente at the University of the Philippines, and Charithie Joaquin of the National Defense College, who later made introductions to various military personnel at the Department of National Defense. Renato Cruz de Castro, Aileen Baviera, and Walden Bello were also very insightful, as always, and especially helpful to my RA Xinru Ma when she visited.

In Vietnam, very helpful people are at the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, including Dr. Tran Truong Thuy (director of East Sea Institute, Foundation for East Sea Studies), Dr. Ha Anh Tuan, Dr. Viet Nguyen, Dr. Nguyen Duc Thanh, and Dr. Truong Minh Huy Vu (University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ho Chi Minh City). Dr. Thuy Do provided wonderful feedback on part of the Vietnam chapter and was very helpful in many ways, as well, especially with Xinru.

Parts of this book were presented at the Strategic and Defense Studies Center at the Australian National University; the Asan Institute in Seoul; the annual meetings of the International Studies Association, Atlanta, Georgia, March 18, 2016; the University of Michigan Ford Security Studies Series; the Institute for Korean Studies; the Merzhon Center at Ohio State University; the Korea Society (thanks, Stephen Noerper); the Brookings Institute (thanks, Kathy Moon); the University of California, San Diego (thanks, Steph Haggard); the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island (thanks, Terry Roehrig); and the USC Center for International Studies.

I would also like to gratefully acknowledge generous funding from two equally important agencies. At various times in this very long process, these agencies were critical in providing the financial support that allowed this project to continue, and I am deeply grateful to them for their support of basic research that has important policy implications. This work was centrally supported by Laboratory Program for Korean Studies through the Ministry of Education of Republic of Korea and Korean Studies Promotion Service of the Academy of Korean Studies (AKS-2015-LAB-2250002), which convened a “manuscript review” at the USC Korean Studies Institute to help review the draft of the book, as well as research support.

I am also extremely grateful to the MacArthur Foundation for its support, without which this research could not have begun and been sustained. MacArthur support early on provided a tremendous impetus for this research and allowed me to conduct a wide range of research activities. The MacArthur grant not only supported field

Acknowledgments

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research in Vietnam, the Philippines, China, and Japan, but also made possible a number of meetings and workshops from 2015–2018.

Parts of this book had its genesis in a series of papers that have been written with coauthors in other form with Brad Glosserman, Jiun Bang, Stephanie Kang, and Xinru Ma. Their energy and ideas and far more rigorous thinking have been critical to forming and crafting the argument, and I have tried to make sure they are explicitly noted in the text. Thanks are also due to some outstanding research assistants – Alexis Dale-Huang, Sarah Shear, and Xinru Ma. Amy Dost did some outstanding editing on this book. John Haslam and Lew Bateman were outstanding editors at Cambridge University Press, and I thank them for shepherding this book all along the way.