Books available for review for

***International Journal on World Peace* (*IJWP* ) May 28, 2021**

(Descriptions of books from websites.)

# *Between Deterrence and Détente: British Ambassador Sir Roger Makins' Perspective on US Foreign Policy in 1953,* Jeffrey LaMonica, 2020.

# The year 1953 represented a pivotal moment in the Cold War and set the course of global affairs for the next sixty-five years. The cessation of hostilities in the Korean War resulted in the creation of two opposing countries separated by a contentious demilitarized zone. This book presents how Great Britain’s Ambassador to the US, Sir Roger Makins, provided the British Foreign Office with weekly summaries of American political and diplomatic affairs throughout 1953. Examining the events of this critical year through the eyes of this British diplomat provides a fresh perspective on the Cold War.

***Building Bridges in Sarajevo: The Plenary Papers from CTEWC 2018,*** edited by Heyer, Keenan, and Vicini, Orbis Books, 2019.

 The Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church (CTEWC) conference held in Sarajevo in July 2018 focused on identifying global challenges, particularly climate and political crises, and summoned theological ethicists around the world to respond to those challenges in effective ways. *Building Bridges in Sarajevo* brings together the plenary addresses from the conference and includes those by Charles Curran, Emmanuel Katongole, Linda Hogan, Antonio Autiero, and Joshua McElwee, among others.

***Censored: Distraction and Diversion inside China's Great Firewall*** by Margaret E. Roberts, Princeton University Press, 2018.

 As authoritarian governments around the world develop sophisticated technologies for controlling information, many observers have predicted that these controls would be ineffective because they are easily thwarted and evaded by savvy Internet users. In *Censored*, Margaret Roberts demonstrates that even censorship that is easy to circumvent can still be enormously effective. Taking advantage of digital data harvested from the Chinese Internet and leaks from China's Propaganda Department, this important book sheds light on how and when censorship influences the Chinese public.

 Roberts finds that much of censorship in China works not by making information impossible to access but by requiring those seeking information to spend extra time and money for access. By inconveniencing users, censorship diverts the attention of citizens and powerfully shapes the spread of information. When Internet users notice blatant censorship, they are willing to compensate for better access.

 But subtler censorship, such as burying search results or introducing distracting information on the web, is more effective because users are less aware of it. Roberts challenges the conventional wisdom that online censorship is undermined when it is incomplete and shows instead how censorship's porous nature is used strategically to divide the public.

 Drawing parallels between censorship in China and the way information is manipulated in the United States and other democracies, Roberts reveals how Internet users are susceptible to control even in the most open societies. Demonstrating how censorship travels across countries and technologies, *Censored* gives an unprecedented view of how governments encroach on the media consumption of citizens.

# *The Crisis of Belonging and Ethnographies of Peacebuilding in Kaduna State, Nigeria: Predicaments of Territorial and Identity Contestations in Kaduna, Nigeria* by Benjamin Maiangwa (Author), Dominic James Aboi (Foreword), Rowman and Littlefield, 2021

# This book explores the contested notions of territory and belonging in Nigeria, most especially among the Fulani and other ethnic groups in Kaduna. The book argues that these controversies center around Indigenous, nomadic, and autochthonous claims of belonging. The author identifies these differing notions of belonging as a major condition of violent conflicts in Kaduna and across various postcolonial societies. The author’s analysis demonstrates how dynamic ideological impetuses for these conflicts underscore broader issues of citizenship rights, nationhood, and local peacebuilding in Nigeria.

***The Guanxi of Relational International Theory*** by Emilian Kavalski, Routledge Focus, 2018.

 This book offers a relational theory of International Relations (IR). To show the ways in which the relationality is foreshadowed in IR conversations it makes the following three points: 1) it recovers a mode of IR theorizing as itinerant translation; 2) it deploys the concept and practices of guanxi (employed here as a heuristic device revealing the infinite capacity of international interactions to create and construct multiple worlds) to uncover the outlines of a relational IR theorizing; and 3) it demonstrates that relational theorizing is at the core of projects for worlding IR. By engaging with the phenomenon of relationality, Emilian Kavalski invokes the complexity of possible worlds and demonstrates new possibilities for powerful ethical-political innovations in IR theorizing. Thus, relational IR theorizing emerges as an optic which both acknowledges the agency of ‘others’ in the context of myriad interpretative intersections of people, powers, and environments (as well as their complex histories, cultures, and agency) and stimulates awareness of the dynamically-intertwined contingencies through which meanings are generated contingently through interactions in communities of practice.

 The book will have a strong appeal to the broad academic readership in Asian Studies, Political Science, Comparative Politics, International Relations theory and students and scholars of non-/post-Western International Relations and non-/post-Western Political Thought.

***Kidnap: Inside the Ransom Business*** by Anja Shortland, Oxford University Press, 2019.

 Kidnap for ransom is a lucrative but tricky business. Millions of people live, travel, and work in areas with significant kidnap risks, yet kidnaps of foreign workers, local VIPs, and tourists are surprisingly rare and the vast majority of abductions are peacefully resolved - often for remarkably low ransoms. In fact, the market for hostages is so well ordered that the crime is insurable. This is a puzzle: ransoming a hostage is the world's most precarious trade.
What would be the "right" price for your loved one - and can you avoid putting others at risk by paying it? What prevents criminals from maltreating hostages? How do you (safely) pay a ransom? And why would kidnappers release a potential future witness after receiving their money?
Kidnap: Inside the Ransom Business uncovers how a group of insurers at Lloyd's of London have solved these thorny problems for their customers. Based on interviews with industry insiders (from both sides), as well as hostage stakeholders, it uncovers an intricate and powerful private governance system ordering transactions between the legal and the criminal economies.

***The Millionaire was a Soviet* Mole** by Harvey Klehr, Encounter Books, 2019.

 By the time he died under mysterious circumstances in Paris in 1979 at the age of sixty, David Karr had reinvented himself numerous times. His remarkable American journey encompassed many different worlds―from Communist newspapers to the Office of War Information, from muckraking columnist to public relations flack, from corporate raider to corporate executive, from moviemaker to hotel executive, from international businessman to Soviet asset. Once denounced on the floor of the Senate by Joseph McCarthy, he became a trusted adviser to Sargent Shriver, Scoop Jackson, and Jerry Brown.

 As a New York businessman Karr orchestrated a series of corporate takeovers, using a variety of unscrupulous tactics. With virtually no business experience, he became CEO of Fairbanks Whitney, a major defense contractor, only to be quickly ousted by outraged stockholders.
 After settling in Paris, he arranged the building of the first Western hotel in Moscow, obtained North American rights to the marketing of the 1980 Moscow Olympics mascot, and won the contract to sell Olympic commemorative coins.
 Karr died suddenly and mysteriously in 1979. The French press exploded with claims he had been murdered, naming the KGB, CIA, Mossad, and Mafia as suspects. A British journalist later accused him of plotting with Aristotle Onassis to assassinate Robert Kennedy on behalf of the PLO.
 With three ex-wives, one widow, five children, an outdated will, and millions of dollars in assets, Karr’s estate took a decade to unravel. Based on extensive archival research and numerous interviews, *The Millionaire Was a Soviet Mole* aims to unravel the perplexing question of whose side he was on during his tumultuous career.

***Modern Greece and the Diaspora Greeks in the United States*** by George Kaloudis, Rowman and Littlefield, 2018.

 This book examines the history and politics of modern Greece from the early nineteenth century to the present and the presence of diaspora Greeks in the United States during the same approximate period. It considers not only the main periods of modern Greek diaspora, but also surveys the main historical and political events in modern Greek history. Furthermore, this book examines the relationship between Greeks in Greece and Greeks in the United States and how this relationship affected developments in Greece and beyond the confines of Greece.

# *More Than the Great Wall: The Northern Frontier and Ming National Security, 1368–1644,* John W. Dardess, 2020.

#  This groundbreaking book provides the first comprehensive analysis of Ming China’s pursuit of national security along its 1,700 miles of northern frontier. Drawing on a wealth of original sources, John Dardess vividly portrays how Ming China’s emperors, officials, and commanders in the field thought, argued, and made decisions in real time as they worked to defend their country. Despite common perceptions of the central role of the so-called Great Wall of China, Dardess convincingly shows that the wall was but a minor piece in a much bigger effort to battle Tatar looting. Dardess immerses readers in the day-to-day world of the Ming as he explores the question of how leaders kept their country safe over the 276 years the dynasty ruled.

***Navigating Turbulent Waters: Greek Politics in the Era of Eleftherios Venizelos*** by George Kaloudis, Lexington Books, 2019.

 This work examines Greek political life and Eleftherios Venizelos from 1910 to 1936. To better understand the Greek political scene and Venizelos’ meteoric rise and ungraceful fall and to provide the necessary context, this book also considers politics on the island of Crete, Venizelos’ birthplace, from the early nineteenth to the early twentieth centuries. This work is not a biography of Eleftherios Venizelos. Instead, Venizelos is the instrument used to shed light into the unsettled waters of Greek politics.

***Non-Governmental Organizations in the Global System Hardcover*** *by George Kaloudis*

Rowman and Littlefield, 2021

Non-state actors are not new, but they have never before reached their present strength. Among the plethora of non-state actors are thousands, if not millions, of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) which play a significant role in the global system and whose role is likely to increase in the future. The proliferation of NGOs is of such scale, scholars refer to it as a global associational revolution. By considering NGOs throughout much of the world, Kaloudis focuses on the reasons for the growth of NGOs particularly since the end of the Cold War, the functions of NGOs, assessment of NGOs, and their place in the global system. The author also shows the ambivalent and often paradoxical role of NGOs, which is reflected in the works of scholars and the actual behavior of NGOs themselves.

# *Realizing Nonviolent Resilience: Neoliberalism, Societal Trauma, and Marginalized Voice, by Jeremy A. Rinker (Editor), Jerry T. Lawler (Editor),* Peter Lang, 2020

# Current neoliberal social and economic realities have had enormous impacts on the abilities of oppressed groups and marginalized communities to realize resistance and innate resiliencies. How does the ubiquity of neoliberal economic forces exacerbate traumatized populations’ helplessness, and, thereby, influence their inability to grapple with their oppressors and engage in fruitful change solutions? This edited volume asks how nonviolent conflict practitioners might intervene to ‘treat’ traumatized, and often marginalized, populations suspended in the predicament of ‘acting in’ and ‘acting out’ their collective traumas. Treating trauma is an integral aspect of successful peacebuilding work. This work aims to explore the role of trauma in peacebuilding and illuminate the ways that neoliberal marginalization impacts trauma-informed peace work.

# *Sources of Holocaust Insight,* John K. Roth, Cascade Books, 2020.

# *Sources of Holocaust Insight* maps the odyssey of an American Christian philosopher who has studied, written, and taught about the Holocaust for more than fifty years. What findings result from John Roth’s journey; what moods pervade it? How have events and experiences, scholars and students, texts and testimonies—especially the questions they raise—affected Roth’s Holocaust studies and guided his efforts to heed the biblical proverb: “Whatever else you get, get insight”?

# More sources than Roth can acknowledge have informed his encounters with the Holocaust. But particular persons—among them Elie Wiesel, Raul Hilberg, Primo Levi, and Albert Camus—loom especially large. Revisiting Roth’s sources of Holocaust insight, this book does so not only to pay tribute to them but also to show how the ethical, philosophical, and religious reverberations of the Holocaust confer and encourage responsibility for human well-being in the twenty-first century. Seeing differently, seeing better—sound learning and teaching about the Holocaust aim for what may be the most important Holocaust insight of all: Take nothing good for granted.

***Stakeholder Democracy: Represented Democracy in a Time of Fear*** by Felix Dodds, Routledge, 2019.

 In the context of sustainable development, this book describes how we are moving from representative to participatory democracy, and how we are now in a "stakeholder democracy," which is working to strengthen represented democracy in a time of fear.

 Since the 1992 Rio Earth Summit the idea of stakeholder democracy has grown, with stakeholders engaged in helping governments and intergovernmental bodies make better decisions, and in helping them to deliver those decisions in partnerships amongst various stakeholders, with and without government. Seen through a multi-stakeholder, sector and level lens, this book describes the history of the development of stakeholder democracy, particularly in the area of sustainable development. The authors draw on more than twenty-five years of experience to review, learn from and make recommendations on how best to engage stakeholders in policy development. The book illustrates successful practical examples of multi-stakeholder partnerships (MSPs) to implement agreements and outline elements of an MSP Charter. This will provide a benchmark for partnerships, enabling those being developed to understand what the necessary quality standards are and to understand what is expected in terms of transparency, accountability, financial reporting, impact and governance.

***Teilhard's Proposition for Peace: Rediscovering the Fire*** by Jean Maalouf. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2018.

 Teilhard de Chardin, called the greatest prophet of this age, intended to write a book called The Book of Peace, though he failed to do so. Instead, he went on sowing the seeds of peace throughout his writings. This book distills and presents the essence of the case Teilhard made for the cause of peace. There is no doubt that Teilhards readers have noticed how difficult his thought can be, and how puzzling it appears at times. This volume navigates the complexity of those labyrinthine roads, inviting the reader to confidently see the basic unity which underlies all that is. When we recognize that we live in the Divine Milieu, where we witness the transforming presence of the divine in human consciousness, we will existentially realize the truth of the principle by which Teilhard wanted us to live.

  ***The Warrior's Book of Virtues: A Field Manual for Living Your Best Life*** by Benas, Bloom, and Bryan, 2019. Time-tested principles for succeeding in life through the understanding and development of character, virtues represent the moral excellence of a person. From discipline to prudence, fortitude to faith, the warrior virtues presented in these pages are guaranteed to transform your life to one of meaning and purpose.
 Uses the battle-tested principles of the United States Marine Corps to help everyone live their best life in easy and practical ways.
 Don’t settle for less, and don’t make excuses for yourself. Become inspired to achieve your full  potential and complete every objective you set. Adapt and overcome.

***A World Free from Nuclear Weapons,*** ed. Drew Christiansen and Calore Sargent, Georgetown University Press, 2020

On November 10, 2017, Pope Francis became the first pontiff in the nuclear era to take a complete stand against nuclear weapons, even as a form of deterrence. At a Vatican conference of leaders in the field of disarmament, he made it clear that the possession of the bomb itself was immoral. *A World Free from Nuclear Weapons* presents the pope's address and original testimony from Nobel Peace Prize laureates, religious leaders, diplomats, and civil society activists.

These luminaries, which include the pope and a Hiroshima survivor, make the moral case against possessing, manufacturing, and deploying nuclear arms. Drew Christiansen, a member of the Holy See delegation to the 2017 United Nations conference that negotiated the Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons, helps readers to understand this conference in its historical context.

*A World Free from Nuclear Weapons* is a critical companion for scholars of modern Catholicism, moral theology, and peace studies, as well as policymakers working on effective disarmament. It shows how the Church's revised position presents an opportunity for global leaders to connect disarmament to larger movements for peace, pointing toward future action.

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