

Preface

Yoshiji Nogami

The Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA), founded in 1959, is an independent nonpartisan policy think-tank specializing in foreign affairs and security policy. On top of a wide range of research programs the institute promotes dialogues and joint studies with other institutions and experts at home and abroad, makes foreign policy proposals to the government, and disseminates information on international relations to the public.

JIIA has launched a new English-language journal, *Japan Review*. This initiative is a part of our multi-faceted effort to make available in English researches and arguments, originally presented and only available in Japanese, on issues of relevance to Japan's international relations. It is hoped that rectifying this deficiency of information in English would lead to a more constructive discourse outside Japan on these issues.

Three times a year, *Japan Review* will be presenting diverse views of experts on foreign policy issues confronting Japan.

This inaugural issue will feature the discussions of panelists at the symposium "The History of Asia in the 20th Century—The Origins of Prosperity and Stability" organized by JIIA in March 2017. This symposium took a new look at the history of the 20th century to discern the origins of Asia's current peace and stability. It represented a valuable attempt to add new perspectives on 20th century history.

Future issues of *Japan Review* will continue to provide new perspectives on increasingly complex issues. JIIA believes that *Japan Review* will be an indispensable source of information and ideas for anyone interested in Japan's foreign relations.