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As tensions between the United States and Iran increase, the question of engagement between the two countries becomes more important than ever. *The Forum* spoke with leading Iran scholar, Professor Vali Nasr, about the possibility of conflict, Iran's role in the Middle East, and the potential for democracy in Iran.

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A NATO for the 21ST Century: Toward a New Strategic Concept 43

NATO will mark its 60th anniversary in 2009, but celebrations are meaningless without a continuing sense of purpose. NATO's ongoing mission in Afghanistan, its efforts to combat terrorism and WMD proliferation, and its humanitarian relief capabilities, among other things, will continue to be critical to the security of its member states and the broader regions within which the Alliance operates. A new Strategic Concept clearly outlining NATO's 21st century roles may be in order.

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U.S. national and international drug control strategies over the last four administrations have been largely unsuccessful and have produced substantial negative consequences, such as the unintended empowerment of organized crime in the United States and transnational criminal organizations. To combat the trend, new approaches to the "war on drugs" are needed. This includes a new consensus on controlling illicit drugs.

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European Union policy, such as the recent REACH initiative on chemicals, has had a discernible "back impact" on the environmental laws and policy of the United States. As the U.S. has deregulated, new EU legislation on the environment, public health, and consumer protection has effectively begun to rewrite U.S. public policy through diplomatic negotiation rather than public debate.

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The summer 2006 conflict between Israel and Lebanon revealed the extent that Hizbollah influences domestic and regional politics. As the political standoff continues in Lebanon, Hizbollah retains notable popular support and boasts organizational and military efficacy that have taken the international community by surprise. What implications does Hizbollah's strength have on U.S. foreign policy in the region—and where does Lebanon fit in the struggle for Middle East peace?

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The Fletcher Forum of World Affairs *aims to provide a broad, interdisciplinary platform for ideas and opinions in international affairs. While we do not expect readers to agree with all of the opinions expressed in these pages, we do hope that readers expect, and value, the publication of divergent and often conflicting viewpoints. This diversity stands behind the very definition of a "forum," i.e. a public meeting place for open discussion.*

Although the editorial board is responsible for the selection of articles, the opinions expressed here are solely those of authors and do not reflect in any way the opinion of The Fletcher Forum or The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Corrections

It is with regret that *The Forum* editors inform readers of an error in Volume 31:1 of *The Fletcher Forum of World Affairs*, published in January 2007. In both the Table of Contents and in Steven Ward's review of Stanley Hoffmann's book *Chaos and Violence*, *The Forum* misspelled the author's last name, using only one "n". We extend our sincere apologies to Professor Hoffmann. We continue to strive to ensure that every issue of *The Forum* maintains the highest editorial standards.

In "The Rise of India and the India-Pakistan Conflict" (Volume 31:1, Winter, 2007) Manjeet S. Perdesi and Sumit Ganguly wrote that Pakistan "embarked" on its nuclear weapons program after India's first nuclear test in 1974 (page 137). Pakistan's nuclear program was in fact initiated under the leadership of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto after Pakistan's defeat in the 1971 war. Pakistan embarked on its nuclear quest to compensate for its conventional military inferiority vis-à-vis India. The Indian nuclear test of 1974 then led the Pakistanis to ramp up their program. The authors regret their error.
