- East Asia deserves much attention as the world shifts from a U.S-centric uni-polar system to a new multi-polar system in which China is emerging as great power.
- Regional dynamics in East Asia will not only influence the future of Asian nations but also produce global consequences in areas ranging from finance and economic growth to security and environmental sustainability.

East Asia

 Regionalism in this matter, is the intensifying political, economic and cultural processes of cooperation among states and non-state actors in particular geographic regions

- There is no formal regional institution "Organization gap"
- Overlapping regional communities in East Asia (ASEAN + 3, East Asia Summit, ASEAN Regional Forum, APEC)

Why is there not an EU-NAFTAequivalent in this region?

- Shifting the World order
- China has surpassed Japan as the second largest economy of the world, then will seek strategic cooperation with its neighboring
- East Asia will be the largest source of demand growth and investment capital
- Huge impact on global climate change, pollution and resource depletion

What IR relevance?

Map of Mongolia





- Full name: Mongolia
- Population: 2.8 million (UN, 2012)
- Capital: Ulan Bator
- Area: 1.56 million sq km (603,909 sq miles)
- Major language: Mongolian
- Major religion: Buddhism
- Life expectancy: 65 years (men), 73 years (women) (UN)
- Monetary unit: 1 Togrog (tugrik) = 100 mongos
- Main exports: Copper concentrate, cashmere, textiles, hides
- GNI per capita: US \$2,310 (World Bank, 2011)
- Internet domain: .mn
- International dialling code: +976

Overview...(1)

- Mongolia is a landlocked country dominated by sparsely populated steppe and semidesert
- Mongolia spreads across 1.5 million sq km of the Central Asian plateau/ Northeast Asia but its population is far smaller than the Mongol population of China.
- The country has been one of the world's fastest growing economies in recent times, driven by this foreign direct investment. It reported high growth rates in 2011 and 2012

Overview... (2)

- Born in 1963, Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj was one of the leaders of the peaceful revolution that ended the Communist dictatorship in 1990. He has a degree from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government in the US
- from the Democratic Party, The veteran democracy campaigner has twice served as prime minister and was first elected president in 2009
- the growing role of foreign firms in the mining sector were key campaign issues in the 2013 election
- a "resource nationalist" approach



President: Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj

- Recent discoveries of copper, gold and coal, the era of isolation is rapidly coming to an end. The Gobi is now seeing a flood of geologists, miners, investors and speculators.
- Over the next five to 10 years they are going to produce a world class mining industry that will rival Chile or Brazil



Mongolia Global Mining Scene

- **Economy:** Chinese demand for minerals fuels a mining boom, but many Mongolians live in poverty
- International: Mongolia's mining wealth is attracting attention beyond its Russian and Chinese neighbours
- Mongolia has expanded political and financial ties with the US, Japan and the European Union
- Mongolia adopted the "third neighbor" policy seeking political, economic and cultural connections with partners other than Russia and China, particularly the US, EU, Japan and South Korea. Third neighbor countries are selected according to their potential contribution to Mongolia's economic development and common values.
- Mongolia will demonstrate that small states can be active players and can make a significant contribution to strengthening regional peace and security.

Issues

- the biggest threats to regional security:

 The Northeast Asian region ,where the Cold war legacies still remain, where there is the dilemma of divided states, nuclear issues, and a number of territorial disputes.
- In 1992, Mongolia became the first country in the world to unilaterally proclaim its territory as a nuclear-weapon-free zone, These principles have been reflected not only in Mongolia's foreign policy priorities but in its national legislation
- the Ulaanbaatar Dialogue

- Mongolia is attempting to become an honest facilitator :
 - 1. Mongolia does not have unresolved territorial or border issues with its neighbors.
 - 2. As a relatively small country it does not have its own narrow political agenda. The Mongolian saying that 'a duck is calm when the sea is calm'
 - 3. Mongolia wants to institutionalize its nuclear-weapon-free status

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