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determine why, how and when states respond to the issue of human security, whether at home or abroad (Hillebrecht and MacMahon, p. 15).

The state's response in terms of domestic human security is well explained by the contributors in the cases of China, post-Soviet Central Asia, Mexico and Egypt (chapters 2–5). Meanwhile, human security issues could also be a transnational problem that requires state involvement abroad by establishing mutual cooperation and international norms, as discussed in chapters 6 and 8. Furthermore, Forsythe argues in chapter 7 that the intentions of the state to promote its citizens' human security might also abuse the human security of others.

In their desire to emphasise freedom from fear, the authors unfortunately pay scant attention to the root cause of human insecurity. The book even assumes that unrest is rooted solely in sophisticated economic needs such as work-related issues (Wedeman, p. 33) and quality of life (Phelps et al., p. 200), neglecting the role of freedom from want as a basic component of human security.

Both approaches are implemented with the same aim of protecting individual security. Therefore, rather than understanding human security as the struggle between the broad and the narrow approach, it would be better to be more focused on the implementation and effectiveness of human security by providing discussion about appropriate measurements and frameworks for its conceptualisation and implementation.

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DOI: 10.1177/1478929916667018
journals.sagepub.com/home/psrev

The Risk Pivot: Great Powers, International Security, and the Energy Revolution by **Bruce Jones and David Steven**. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution, 2015. 206pp., £13.50 (p/b), ISBN 9780815726043

The co-authors of this book say, 'Our focus is on the geopolitics of energy – that is, what the paramount importance of energy to modern societies means for patterns of global power' (p. 4). However, while they generally remit

many messages, the link between the international energy market and traditional strategic security is poorly perceived in the volume.

The book uses 'Asia' as a too generalised term, when taking only two Asian emerging giants into consideration, and mystifyingly, the writers show their complete dullness in regard to Japan, a resource-poor nation that is dependent on imports for 96% of its primary energy supply. They view the United States as a country that still has the greatest capacity for shaping a stable global order in order to mitigate the risks originating mainly from rapid energy movement into oil-thirsty China and India, but this work lacks any satisfactory analysis as to why and how American oil diplomacy experienced a shameful debacle in the Persian Gulf. As the authors also discuss, some American politicians are attracted by the sense that the US can now 'play dirty', that is, use its energy boom as a strategic weapon to weaken China, marginalise Russia and bolster its allies. Thus, it is natural to fear whether Washington's self-seeking interests could really resist the temptation to exploit such energy for its dangerous 'military adventurism', especially amid rivalries among Northeast Asian powers. As the volume's last sentence reads, 'Energy once again puts the leadership card in American hands. It is time for a debate about whether, when and how the United States should play it' (p. 148). Nonetheless, the authors fail to give any desirable response as to how a 'declining' US will wield its so-called 'unending' influence on an increasingly contentious energy market in the post-American world.

The authors have not come up with any foremost argument. They can also be criticised for their overhyped expectations, contradictory claims and uncertain annotations in addition to such a biased stance. More regrettably, the book is devoid of any theoretical fusion. Regarding 'power', for example, various terms including 'great' (in the sub-title), 'major', 'leading', 'rising' and so on are loosely used throughout the volume, without presenting any clear-cut definition about 'great power' in international relations. This disorderly book's main title seems ambiguous and unreflective at the same time. Besides, there are several factual mistakes in the publication. Finally, it is full of too much descriptive and duplicate con-