The *Journal of Democracy* celebrated its fifteenth anniversary with the publication of its January 2005 issue. Since its inception, the *Journal* has established itself as a leading voice in discussions on the problems and prospects of democracy around the world. The *Journal* explores in depth every aspect of the establishment, consolidation, and maintenance of democracy, including political institutions, parties and elections, civil society, ethnic conflict, economic reform, public opinion, the role of the media, federalism, and constitutionalism. It covers not only practical political matters but also questions of democratic theory and culture.

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In 2005, the *Journal* addressed manifold aspects of postconflict democracy-building (with Francis Fukuyama, Larry Diamond, Larry Goodson, Gerald Knaus and Marcus Cox, Andrew Reynolds, Stephen D. Krasner, and Marc F. Plattner—January); discussed the challenges facing a changing East Asia (with Hahm Chaihark and Sung Ho Kim, Yun-han Chu, Pasuk Phongpaichit and Chris Baker, Muhammad Qodari, Doh Chull Shin and Jason Wells, and Francis Fukuyama, Bjorn Dressel, and Boo-Seung Chang—April); explored key aspects of the new Iraq (with Aided Dawisha, Eric Davis, and Ahmed H. al-Rahim—July); and examined Iran’s peculiar presidential election (with Akbar Ganji, Azar Nafissi, Abbas Milani, Vali Nasr, Ladan Boroumand, Mohsen Sazegara, and Michael McFaul—October).

The issues of 2005 also included Venezuelan democracy under President Hugo Chávez, with articles by Jennifer McCoy and Miriam Kornblith (January); Ukraine’s Orange Revolution, with essays by Taras Kuzio and Lucan A. Way (April); the surprising new wave of democratic breakthroughs in postcommunist countries, in an essay by Michael McFaul (July); and regimes that...
proclaim themselves democratic but whose actions suggest they are anything but, in a contribution by Václav Havel (October).

Selected essays originally published in the *Journal of Democracy* have been collected into a series of books edited by Marc F. Plattner and Larry Diamond, and published by the Johns Hopkins University Press. *Journal of Democracy* books and articles have been used widely in university courses on political science, international affairs, and sociology. The newest volume in the series, *Assessing the Quality of Democracy* (edited by Larry Diamond and Leonardo Morlino), appeared in late 2005. The next volume in the series will address *Electoral Systems and Democracy*, and will appear in 2006. Other *Journal of Democracy* books include:

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- *Consolidating the Third Wave Democracies* (1997) (with Yun-han Chu and Hung-mao Tien)
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