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ARTICLE ALERT - FEBRUARY 2013

SPOTLIGHT: DEMOCRACY PROMOTION

1. "Can America Be Fixed?"

[Fareed Zakaria](#). *Foreign Affairs*, January/February 2013, 12 pages.

The author, an editor-at-large of *Time*, analyzes the crisis of democracy faced by Western countries, focusing on whether the U.S. political system is capable of making the changes that will ensure continued success in a world of greater global competition and technological change.

2. "Defending Free Speech in the Digital Age"

[Lee C. Bollinger](#). *Foreign Policy*, December 2012, 2 pages.

The author, President of Columbia University, discusses the significance of free-flowing information in a modern global economy and the repercussions of censorship, focusing on how the free expression of diverse opinions can prevent the spread of authoritarianism and can also safeguard the democratic process.

ECONOMICS

3. "The Inequality Challenge"

[Uri Dadush](#) and [Kemal Dervis](#). *Current History*, January 2013, 8 pages.

How does the inequality trend in the United States compare with other countries? The authors examine the trend of rising inequality and identify steps to meet the challenge.

4. "An Enduring Recession?"

[Herbert J. Gans](#). *Challenge*, January/February 2013, 16 pages.

What if the jobs market remains weak for the rest of the decade? And where will the pressure come from to create political programs directed at jobs? The author, the Robert S. Lynd Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Columbia University, discusses the possibility of the enduring Great Recession and its economic, social, and political effects.

5. "It's Economics, Stupid"

[Iqbal Z Quadir](#). *Harvard International Review*, Winter 2013, 6 pages.

The author, the Founder and Director of the Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, discusses the use of mobile phone as a tool for economic advancement and the economic impact of mobile phones on low-income countries.

Note: Full texts of documents are available free of charge in print format for subscribers only.
To subscribe: <http://bangkok.usembassy.gov/serviceform.html>

6. "Currency Manipulation, the US Economy, and the Global Economic Order"

[C. Fred Bergsten](#) and [Joseph E. Gagnon](#). *PIIE Policy Brief 12-25*, December 2012, 25 pages.

The authors examine foreign currency manipulation, the global economic rebalance, and the U.S. role in reducing or eliminating manipulators' intervention. He then offers four new policy measures against manipulators.

ASIA**7. "Obama in Thailand: Charting a New Course for the Alliance?"**

[Catharin Dalpino](#). *Asia Pacific Bulletin No. 188*, December 4, 2012, 2 pages.

What is the purpose of the U.S.-Thai treaty alliance in the 21st century? The author, Sharkey Fellow in the Whitehead School at Seton Hall University, examines the implications of President Barack Obama's trip to Thailand last year.

8. "Asia's New Age of Instability"

[Michael Wesley](#). *National Interest*, November/December 2012, 9 pages.

The author, a non-resident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, discusses the U.S. foreign policy toward Asia from the late 20th century to 2012, with a particular focus on Asia's putative instability.

9. "Is an "ASEAN Community" Achievable?"

Ravichandran Moorthy and Guido Benny. *Asian Survey*, November/December 2012, 24 pages.

The authors examine the establishment of an Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Community and obstacles facing regional integration in Southeast Asia, focusing on how the people in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore view the concept of "community building," and the obstacles this initiative may encounter.

10. "Rich Donors, Poor Countries"

[M. A. Thomas](#). *Policy Review*, October/November 2012, 13 pages.

The author, an associate professor of international development at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at the Johns Hopkins University, discusses foreign aid donations given to developing countries, and why the government policies developed by wealthy nations cannot be replicated in poorer countries.

GLOBAL ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE**11. "Renewable Energy and East Asia's New Developmentalism: Towards a Low Carbon Future?"**

[Christopher M. Dent](#). *Pacific Review*, December 2012, 27 pages.

The author analyzes the promotion and expansion of East Asia's renewable energy sector as part of a new industrial policy paradigm and new developmentalism, and what the study of East Asian policies on promoting renewable energy can tell about the region's broader approach to low carbon development.

12. “Global Warming: Faster Than Expected?”

[John Carey](#). *Scientific American*, November 2012, 6 pages.

The author, a former senior correspondent for *Business Week*, discusses the predicted rate of global warming, which could be affected by global feedback mechanisms such as the alteration of ocean currents due to meltwater, the release of carbon dioxide and methane from permafrost in Alaska and Siberia, and the global loss of ice.

13. “Good Gas Bad Gas”

Marianne Lavelle. *National Geographic*, December 2012, 19 pages.

Is methane the fuel of the future or a climate bomb? The author examines natural gas and global warming, focusing on the potential environmental dangers posed by using hydraulic fracturing to prospect natural gas resources in world.

14. “How We Could Blow the Energy Boom”

[Jeffrey Leonard](#). *Washington Monthly*, November/December 2012, 6 pages.

The author, CEO of the Global Environment Fund, discusses the surplus of natural gas extracted from shale rock in the United States and how it could lead to greater prosperity and a cleaner environment.

15. “A Billion People in the Dark”

[Kevin Bullis](#). *Technology Review*, November/December 2012, 7 pages.

The author discusses electricity generated through solar-powered microgrids in developing countries and how to bring energy services to off-grid communities.

16. “The Avian and Wildlife Costs of Fossil Fuels and Nuclear Power”

[Benjamin K. Sovacool](#). *Journal of Integrative Environmental Sciences*, December 2012, 24 pages.

The author, a visiting associate professor at Vermont Law School, examines the connection between wind energy and natural environment, focusing on the impact of wind compared to nuclear power and fossil-fuelled power systems energy on wildlife, particularly birds.

WORLD POPULATION

17. “Slums: A Catalyst Bed for Poverty Eradication”

Eric Meade. *The Futurist*, September/October 2012, 3 pages.

According to the author, the complexity gap between urban and rural living will widen as cities grow from millions to tens of millions of residents. He forecasts the social conditions of people living in slums in the year 2100, with reference to subjects such as wireless service, educational programs, and water resources.

18. “The Grayest Generation”

[Judith Shulevitz](#). *The New Republic*, December 20, 2012, 6 pages.

The author explores biological and sociological aspects of parenthood and the future well-being of the human race, focusing on the trend toward delaying parenthood and the rise in the number of older parents.

19. “The Dementia Plague”

[Stephen S. Hall](#). *Technology Review*, November/December 2012, 9 pages.

As the world’s population of older people rapidly grows in the coming years, Alzheimer’s and other forms of dementia will become a health-care disaster. The author explores the population aging and health crisis facing the world.

SOCIAL MEDIA**20. “Fake Online Reviews”**

Corilee Christou. *Searcher*, November 2012, 10 pages.

The author discusses the growing number of online reviews and its influence on buying behavior and purchasing decisions of computer users and shoppers, and offers guidelines for identifying bogus reviews.

21. “The Rise of “Great Potential””

Aashika Damodar. *Harvard International Review*, Fall 2012, 5 pages.

The author discusses how powerful combinations of online and offline tactics have helped create sustained youth-led movements against gender-based violence, and attempts to open the parameters of what social media and connective technologies can do for youth and youth activists.

22. “In the Rear-View Mirror but Still On Our Minds”

[Colin Delany](#). *Campaigns & Elections*, November/December 2012, 2 pages.

The author, a founder of Epolitics.com, examines the use of digital media in the 2012 U.S. elections in spreading messages and engaging supporters, and the role played by data-mining and microtargeting techniques in the presidential campaign.

EDUCATION**23. “Can Technology Replace Teachers?”**

[Ian Quillen](#). *Education Digest*, December 2012, 7 pages.

The author discusses the U.S. educational debate over the replacement of teachers with a digital option, such as distance education and videoconferencing, noting the potential impact on educational quality.

24. “Online Educational Delivery Models: A Descriptive View”

[Phil Hill](#). *Educause Review*, November/December 2012, 10 pages.

What does the emerging landscape of educational delivery models look like? The author discusses factors in incorporating new online educational delivery models by universities and offers a descriptive view to capture the growing number of approaches enabled by educational technology.

25. “The Crisis in Higher Education”

[Nicholas Carr](#). *Technology Review*, November/December 2012, 8 pages.

Online versions of college courses are attracting hundreds of thousands of students and millions of dollars in funding. Has technology at last advanced to the point where the revolutionary promise of distance learning can be fulfilled? The author discusses distance learning and revolution in higher education.

LIBRARY TRENDS

26. “As Libraries Go Digital, Sharing of Data Conflicts with Tradition of Privacy”

[Marc Parry](#). *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, November 9, 2012, 5 pages.

The author discusses how technological innovations may affect the library patrons’ rights to privacy, as concerns from scholars have prompted academic librarians to consider if tracking the reading habits of its patrons -- made available due to the advent of electronic books and readers-- through social media websites and the Internet may violate the privacy rights of individuals.

27. “Beyond Traditional Literacy Instruction”

David Cirella. *Computers in Libraries*, December 2012, 4 pages.

The author, a librarian at the West Haven Public Library in Connecticut, discusses the need for account-based literacy training curriculum to ensure that library patrons are equipped to protect their privacy, preserve their data, and have a sense of efficacy in the face of the digital migration of their personal information, communications, and data.