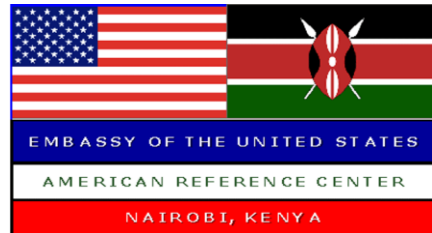




Public Affairs Section  
United States Embassy Nairobi



## INFOALERT JANUARY- MARCH 2010 DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

### **IA112** Goudreau, Jenna. **Where Are The Other Women Leaders?**

Forbes. November 11, 2009 Currently available online at

<http://www.forbes.com/2009/11/13/women-leaders-white-house-project-forbes-woman-power-women-chief-executive.html>

Although most Americans are comfortable with women leaders across industries, women account for only 18 percent of the nation's top leaders and are still only making 78.7 cents to every dollar earned by a man, according to a study released by the White House Project. American women, the report found, are earning the majority of college degrees and make up more than half of middle managers, yet very few are reaching senior management level. The United States, it says, ranks 71st out of 189 countries in terms of women's representation in politics--trailing behind the U.K., Japan and France and Afghanistan, Cuba and Pakistan. The report recommends setting targets and timelines for the number of women needed in top positions, focusing more on powerful women role models in the media, and increasing flexibility in workplace structures.

### **IA113** Downie, Leonard Jr.; Schudson, Michael. **The Reconstruction Of American Journalism** (Columbia Journalism Review, November/December 2009) Currently available online at

[http://www.cjr.org/reconstruction/the\\_reconstruction\\_of\\_american.php](http://www.cjr.org/reconstruction/the_reconstruction_of_american.php)

The authors of this in-depth report ask hard questions about the function of the press and the future of "accountability" journalism as a public service at a time of crisis in news media. They make six recommendations for the support of credible, independent and original news reporting. These include new approaches to public and private financing of news organizations serving the public good; incorporation of new dissemination vehicles while retaining downsized traditional formats; and utilizing volunteer news gatherers alongside professionals. Downie, a vice president and former executive editor of the

Washington Post, and Schudson, a Columbia University journalism professor, call for more leaders across the board "to seize this moment of challenging changes and new beginnings."

**IA114** Russo, Diana. **Is The Foreign News Bureau Part Of The Past?**  
Global Journalist Fall 2009, pp. 9-11

The author, a journalism professor at Clarke College, Dubuque, Iowa, notes that foreign correspondents are now coping with something that was almost impossible to imagine only five years ago: cutbacks. Despite increasing globalization of the economy and issues such as global warming and international terrorism, news outlets continue to shutter foreign bureaus and slash foreign coverage at an alarming rate. Mainstream media is now replacing foreign correspondents with "hot spot" drop-in coverage, and outsourcing to local hires and newswires. The demand for faster information creates a different type of journalism. Former bureau chiefs in Delhi or Cairo who chatted one-on-one with diplomats and other sources now carry laptops in which to access their blogs, tweets and other new media tools. Even network giants like ABC and NBC have shuttered bureau offices. Except for a one-person ABC bureau in Nairobi, there were no more bureaus left in Africa, India or South America. As newspapers deal with budget cuts and layoffs, due largely to declining readers and viewers, the feeling is that readers can turn to the internet for international news.

Stokes, Bruce. **COUNTDOWN TO COPENHAGEN.** National Journal

Stokes says that the negotiations at the climate-change talks in Copenhagen in December promise to be a daunting task. It is estimated that emissions will need to be cut by 50 percent by 2050 in order to hold the temperature rise to 2 degrees Celsius and carbon-dioxide concentrations to 450 parts per million. The industrialized world's goals at the conference will reflect their publics' acknowledgement of the seriousness of the problem -- and in this, the U.S. lags behind the rest of the developed world. The developing nations see binding commitments as not in their national interest, noting that they account for only a fraction of global emissions, and want the developed countries to help pay for clean technology and environmental mitigation. Most countries are reluctant to take action on their own, without seeing that others are doing the same. Stokes says that "the central challenge in Copenhagen may well be finding a way to nurture trust and marry it with ambition . . . Coordinating these activities, striking a balance between accountability and equity, and pursuing the goals with sufficient urgency may prove to be among the most daunting tasks that the global community has ever undertaken." Currently available online at [http://www.nationaljournal.com/njmagazine/cs\\_20091031\\_9295.php](http://www.nationaljournal.com/njmagazine/cs_20091031_9295.php) [PUBS;GWB]

**Full Text:**

October 31, 2009

## ECONOMIC SECURITY AND TRADE

### **LOSING CONTROLS: HOW U.S. EXPORT RESTRICTIONS JEOPARDIZE NATIONAL SECURITY AND HARM COMPETITIVENESS**

Wallerstein, Mitchel  
Foreign Affairs

**Summary:** In today's wired and highly competitive world, export controls cannot longer be effective and sometimes can be counterproductive, says Wallerstein, a former U.S. defense official and now dean of the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. U.S. exports controls, which have become more arcane and ineffective with time, undermine national security by discouraging innovative firms from pursuing dual-use technologies and foreign firms that own advanced technologies from bidding for U.S. defense contracts. Imposing licensing requirements that foreign rivals don't face, weakens competitive positions of U.S. high-tech companies. The business lost due to export controls -- estimated at \$ 9 billion a year -- poses a threat to the strength of key U.S. industries. In many instances, those making technical decisions about whether certain technologies or scientific information should be subject to control lack the necessary training and knowledge. Carefully targeted export restrictions are necessary in regard to rogue or aggressively militarizing states. But policymakers must abandon the notion that the U.S. can engage in technology denial without suffering significant costs to its prosperity and national security, the author says. [ES;AZ]

**Full Text:**

Vol. 88, No. 6, November/December 2009, pp. 11-19

**SEARCHING FOR A MIRACLE: 'NET ENERGY' LIMITS AND THE FATE OF INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY**

Heinberg, Richard

Post Carbon Institute / International Forum on Globalization

**Summary:** Heinberg, Senior Fellow at the Post Carbon Institute, notes in this special report that the world's current energy regime is unsustainable -- "the designers of the global economy sold us visions of never-ending growth and abundance ... but now, limits are everywhere apparent." Conventional fossil and nuclear energy sources are nearing their limits, and their continued use is proving increasingly hazardous to the biosphere. This report analyzes in detail whether any combination of known or alternative energy sources supply society's energy needs up to the year 2100. Heinberg's disturbing conclusion is that "there is no clear practical scenario" by which energy from today's conventional sources can be replaced with energy from alternative sources to maintain industrial society at its present scale. Key among his assertions is that the net energy yield, or Energy Returned On Energy Invested (EROEI) ratio, on alternative energy systems is much lower than on conventional fossil or nuclear sources, which have powered modern development for a century. He is convinced that energy conservation, combined with gradual population decline, must become primary strategies for achieving sustainability. The report concludes that "this is not great news, but denial is worse . . . current assumptions about our energy options are unrealistic. New thinking is mandatory." Available online at

<http://www.postcarbon.org/report/44377-searching-for-a-miracle> [PUBS;GWB]

**Full Text:**

September 2009, 83 pp.

**INTERNATIONAL SECURITY**

**THE STATE OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY**

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Foreign Service Journal

**Summary:** In this special issue, former and present PD practitioners [Joe B. Johnson, William A. Rugh, Michael McClellan, Monica O’Keefe, Elizabeth Corwin, William P. Kiehl, Robert McMahon] discuss the role of public diplomacy since the demise of the United States Information Agency (USIA) in 1999, when it was abolished by Congress, and its information and exchanges functions were transferred to the U.S. Department of State in a new Bureau of Public Diplomacy as a way to bring public diplomacy closer to policy-making. The contributors hope to start a conversation about the direction of public diplomacy in the 21st century. When the Cold War ended in 1989, USIA’s former mission to fight a propaganda battle against the forces of Communist ended and public diplomacy searched for a new, post-Cold war mission. At the advent of the Obama administration, PD confronts new challenges with social networking tools, such as blogs, tweets and Facebook, to apply to the traditional programs of publications, educational and cultural exchanges, and various information programs. In 2008, the major public affairs web pages of the State Department all changed to more participatory and visual styles. For policy, new words like “engagement” and “three-D diplomacy” are replacing the old paradigm and re-cast press and cultural affairs as a truly integral part of diplomacy. Available online at <http://www.foreignservicejournal-digital.com> [PUBS;MJM]

**Full Text:**

vol. 86, no. 10, October 2009, pp. 14-24, 26-36, 38-58

## **AMERICAN GRAND STRATEGY FROM THE COLD WAR’S END TO 9/11**

Suri, Jeremi

ORBIS

**Summary:** Suri, professor of history at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, asserts after the end of the Cold War, American policymakers sought to create a new grand strategy for the United States, but they failed in this endeavor, because of difficult domestic and international circumstances, but also because of conceptual limitations. He pins down the efforts at strategy formulation in the administrations of George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton, and analyzes their shortcomings. The article encourages readers to think about how future strategists might improve upon this legacy with clearer and more disciplined attention to priorities, capabilities, and trade-offs. Making grand strategy in a democracy is not easy, but it is necessary. Suri believes the absence of effective grand strategy in the 1990s contributed to the crises of the early twenty-first century. This article is part of a special series, Debating American Grand Strategy After Major War. Available online at <http://www.sciencedirect.com> [CE;SMA]

**Full Text:**

vol. 53, no. 4, Fall 2009, pp. 611-627

## **US SOCIETY AND VALUES**

**IA110** Mcurtrie, Beth. **Fulbright Program Adapts To Obama Administration’s Priorities.** *Chronicle of Higher Education* Vol. 56, No. 9, October 23, 2009, pp. A29-A32 This and the related articles are currently available online at <http://chronicle.com/article/Fulbright-Program-Adapts-to/48828/>

The Obama Administration is putting its own stamp on the Fulbright Program, the U.S. Government's flagship international exchange. In the lead article, Beth McMurtrie describes the

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

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Chronicle of Higher Education

### **Full Text:**

Vol. 56, No. 13, November 20, 2009

## **JOURNALISM'S FUTURE**

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Chronicle of Higher Education

**Summary:** The Chronicle of Higher Education featured several articles on international students, timing the series to coincide with International Education Week. In the issue's lead story, "Students Flooded into U.S. in 2008," Karin Fischer looks at the Institute of International Education's annual Open Doors Report, which recorded stunning increases in both total annual enrollment of international students at U.S. colleges and universities (8 percent) and in first-time student enrollments (nearly 16 percent). Fischer finds "potentially worrisome," however, the stronger growth in undergraduate than graduate enrollment and the huge increase in Chinese undergraduate enrollment (60 percent). In "Top Destinations for Growing Numbers of Foreign Students", Aisha Labi writes that the U.S., Australia, Canada and Britain face growing competition from traditional sending regions such as Singapore, South Korea and China, which are now trying to improve and expand their own education systems. Beth McMurtrie ("Study-Abroad Programs Diversify as Their Popularity Grows") covers the section of the IIE Open Doors Report devoted to U.S. students studying abroad. There is strong growth in study-abroad programs for U.S. students in such non-traditional areas as China (up 19 percent), India (up 20 percent), South Africa (up 15 percent), Japan (up 14 percent), and Argentina and Costa Rica (both up more than 13 percent). In "The Chinese Are Coming and They Need Help with the Admissions Process", Bruce Hammond urges American institutions to communicate with Chinese parents in their native language and to cultivate relationships with Chinese high schools. [CV;JT]

**Summary:** Chronicle's Review section features several articles on the future of journalism. In "Academe and the Decline of News Media," 18 experts discuss what some lament as the decline of news media and others see as a Renaissance for journalism, although the new opportunities bring with them new responsibilities for the university. In "University-Based Reporting Could Keep Journalism Alive," Michael Schudson and Leonard Downie Jr. argue that, with printing and distribution moved from major barriers to trivial expenses, today's young journalism students are in a position to create something new, vital and as yet impossible to foresee because the pace of change is so rapid. According to Nicholas Lemann ("Journalism Schools Can Push Coverage Beyond Breaking News"), university journalism schools are thriving even as mainstream media are in crisis because many young people see the turmoil as an opportunity to get in on something new, rather than as a threat. Journalism professor Ben Yagoda ("I've Read the News Today, Oh Boy") says neither he "nor anyone else has a clue about how the years ahead will play out" in terms of the fall of print, or the rise of the Web, or the viability of any particular economic model. Yagoda predicts the survival, however, of watchdog journalism, "what-the-people-want stuff" from ranging from opinion pieces to sports and "excellent narrative about

human beings." Other articles into "We Need 'Philosophy of Journalism'" and "Let's Strengthen the Supply Side of Serious Journalism." Online links to the articles can be found at <http://chronicle.com/section/The-Chronicle-Review/41/>. [CV;JT]

**Full Text:**

Vol. 56, No. 12, November 15, 2009

<http://nairobi.usembassy.gov/>