



FOREIGN PRESS CENTER

MIDTERM ELECTIONS MONITOR

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The Foreign Press Center is pleased to share with you this issue of the Midterm Elections Monitor - this resource will keep you informed of new reports, studies and major articles on the upcoming November 2, 2010 elections. The FPC is providing this resource in order to assist you in covering the elections, and the inclusion of any material does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation.

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NUMBER 4 – October 8, 2010

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Upcoming FPC Briefings

In order to facilitate your understanding and coverage of the midterm elections, the Foreign Press Center has arranged the following briefings with experts who will explain, discuss and analyze the congressional and gubernatorial races and important issues in the campaigns:

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WHEN: Tuesday, October 12, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.

BRIEFER: Dr. Fred Beuttler, Deputy House Historian, United States House of Representatives, Office of the Historian

TOPIC: A Retrospective on House Midterm Elections

CONTACT: Alison Mann at mannat@state.gov or 202-504-6362

RSVP to above email or FPC Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/USDoS.FPC>

BIO: <http://historian.house.gov/our-office.php>

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WHEN: Wednesday, October 13, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.

BRIEFER: Alexander Burns, *POLITICO* reporter and political analyst on major television and radio shows

TOPIC: Hot House and Senate Races

CONTACT: Miriam Rider at riderm2@state.gov or 202-504-6315

RSVP to above email or FPC Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/USDoS.FPC>

BIO: <http://www.politico.com/reporters/AlexanderBurns.html>

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WHEN: Thursday, October 21, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.

BRIEFER: Kate Zernike, *New York Times* reporter and author of “Boiling Mad: Inside Tea Party America”

TOPIC: The Tea Party and the 2010 Midterm Elections

CONTACT: Miriam Rider at riderm2@state.gov or 202-504-6315

RSVP to above email or FPC Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/USDoS.FPC>

BIO: <http://us.macmillan.com/author/katezernike>

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WHEN: Tuesday, October 26, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.

BRIEFER: Dr. Raymond C. Scheppach, Executive Director, National Governors Association (NGA)

TOPIC: The Midterm Gubernatorial Races

CONTACT: Nicole Alberico at albericon@state.gov or 202-504-6317

RSVP to above email or FPC Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/USDoS.FPC>

BIO: :

<http://www.nga.org/portal/site/nga/menuitem.5cd31a89efe1f1e122d81fa6501010a0/?vgnextoid=293c4c33c7732010VgnVCM1000001a01010aRCRD>

PLEASE NOTE:

The Foreign Press Center is planning a full range of programs for Midterm Elections Day, November 2, 2010 and days after:

Tuesday, November 2 – morning - tours to visit polls in Maryland where there are important Senate and gubernatorial races.

Tuesday, November 2 – afternoon – briefings with experts on the new Congress and the Obama administration and pollster John Zogby on the latest polls.

Thursday, November 4 – morning – briefings on how the election results will affect the Obama administrations’ agenda.

Upcoming FPC Tours

California: October 24-27

WHAT: FPC Reporting Tour on “California Midterm Elections 2010”

WHEN: Sunday, October 24 - Wednesday, October 27

WHERE: Los Angeles, California

RSVP: Interested media should contact Melissa Waheibi at WaheibiMN@state.gov or Neda Brown at BrownNA2@state.gov for further information by Friday, October 15, 2010. Media who RSVP are not guaranteed a place on the tour, but every effort will be made to accommodate all who apply.

BACKGROUND: The FPC will lead a reporting tour to Los Angeles, California from October 24 - October 27 to cover the California midterm elections. Journalists should arrive in Los Angeles by Sunday, October 24 and plan for departure Wednesday, October 27. Program activities and events will be scheduled on October 25,26.

Possible activities include:

- Interviews with members working on the campaigns.
- Interviews with experts to discuss California demographics and history.
- Visit polling station.
- Interview with the chairman of the South Bay Tea Party.

Participants will be responsible for airfare and hotel costs. The hotel will cost \$123 plus tax each night. The Foreign Press Center will provide ground transportation in Los Angeles on the 25th and 26th.

Florida: October 30-November 3

WHAT: FPC Reporting Tour on “Florida Midterm Elections 2010”

WHEN: Saturday, October 30 - Wednesday, November 3

WHERE: Miami Beach, Florida

RSVP: Interested media should contact Matthew Buffington at BuffingtonMC2@state.gov for further information by Friday, October 15, 2010. Media who RSVP are not guaranteed a place on the tour, but every effort will be made to accommodate all who apply.

BACKGROUND: The FPC will lead a reporting tour to Miami Beach, Florida from October 30 to November 3 to cover the Florida midterm elections. Journalists should arrive in Miami by Saturday, October 30 and plan for departure Wednesday, November 3. Program activities and events will be scheduled on October 31 through November 2.

Possible activities include:

- Interviews with local pollsters about the Senatorial and Congressional races in Florida.
- Interviews with experts to discuss Florida demographics and history.
- Attend political rallies and election day celebration events for the U.S. Senatorial and Congressional races.
- Visit polling stations and interview voters on election day.

Participants will be responsible for airfare and hotel costs. The Foreign Press Center will provide ground transportation in Miami and arrange for discounted hotel rates.

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NOTE: FPC tour to Delaware, October 13-14 is FULL!

- Dems Seize on Foreign Donations to Pounce on U.S. Chamber Backing by Alexander Bolton, *The Hill*, October 7, 2010 – web link: <http://thehill.com/homenews/campaign/123243-dems-seize-on-foreign-contributions-to-pounce-on-chamber-backing>

- Economic Recession Influences U.S. Midterm Election by McKenzie Babb, *America.Gov*, October 6, 2010 – web link: <http://www.america.gov/st/democracyhr-english/2010/October/20101006165908eiznekc0.5842859.html?CP.rss=true>

- Independents Prefer Divided Government and Are Leaning Republican by Emily Goodwin, *The Hill*, October 6, 2010 – web link: <http://thehill.com/house-polls/the-hill-anga-poll-week-1/122845-independents-prefer-divided-government-lean-republican>

- John Boehner: Vote a Referendum on President Obama by Richard E. Cohen, *Politico*, October 8, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43308.html>

- The Midterm Elections – High Stakes for Health Policy by Henry J. Aaron, *The New England Journal of Medicine*, October 6, 2010 – web link: http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/1006_elections_health_policy_aaron.aspx

- Midterm Elections 2010: Driving Forces, Likely Outcomes, Possible Challenges (transcript) – Brookings Institution Discussion with E.J. Dionne; Sarah Binder; Thomas Mann; William Galston; and Michael McDonald – October 4, 2010 – web link: http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/events/2010/1004_midterm_elections/20101004_midterm_elections.pdf

- The Ones That Got Away by Larry Sabato, Director, University of Virginia Center for Politics, October 7, 2010 – web link: <http://www.centerforpolitics.org/crystalball/articles/ljs2010100701>

- Opinions of Obama Will Be on Voters Minds When They Decide on November 2 by Sean J. Miller and Emily Goodwin, *The Hill*, October 6, 2010 – web link: <http://thehill.com/house-polls/the-hill-anga-poll-week-1/122853-feelings-about-obama-make-midterms-a-national-election>

- Overview: Three Different Scenarios for November 2 Outcome by Nathan Gonzalez, *RollCall*, October 4, 2010 – web link: http://www.rollcall.com/features/Election-Preview_October-2010/election/50426-1.html

- Scene-Setter for Midterm Elections – Foreign Press Center Briefing by Thomas Mann, Brookings Institution, October 6, 2010 – web link: <http://fpc.state.gov/148999.htm>

- The Tea Party, the Religious Right, and the American Religious Landscape (video/audio) – Brookings Institution Discussion with E.J. Dionne; William Galston; Robert P. Jones; Karlyn Bowman; Michael Gerson; and Susan Thistlethwaite, October 5, 2010 – web link:

http://www.brookings.edu/events/2010/1005_religion_survey.aspx

- Who Are the Tea Partiers? American Enterprise Institute Video, October 6, 2010 – web link: <http://www.aei.org/aei-website/managed-content/site-pages/election-watch-2010/election-watch-2010.html>

U.S. House

- GOP Leads Widely; Dems in Danger But Race for House Tight by Shane D'Aprile, The Hill, October 6, 2010 – web link: <http://thehill.com/house-polls/the-hill-anga-poll-week-1/122855-gop-leads-widely-dems-in-danger-but-races-tight>

- House Ratings Changes by Isaac Wood, University of Virginia Center for Politics, October 7, 2010 – web link: <http://www.centerforpolitics.org/crystalball/articles/itw2010100702>

- Republicans Target Six Vulnerable Democrats by Alex Isenstadt and John Breshahan, Politico, October 8, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43309.html>

- Top 10 Vulnerable Members, *RollCall*, October 4, 2010 – web link: http://www.rollcall.com/features/Election-Preview_October-2010/election/50427-1.html

U.S. Senate

- Election 2010: Senate Balance of Power, Rasmussen Reports, October 6, 2010 – web link: http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/elections/election_2010/election_2010_senate_elections/election_2010_senate_balance_of_power

- Linda McMahon, Richard Blumenthal Duel in Connecticut by Maggie Haberman, Politico, October 4, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43127.html>

- Polls Show Christine O'Donnell Trailing Chris Coons by Double Digits by Meredith Shiner, *Politico*, October 6, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43207.html>

- Sarah Palin Woes Could Hurt Carly Fiorina by Andy Barr, Politico, October 6, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43203.html>

Gubernatorial Races

- Election 2010: Gubernatorial Scorecard, Rasmussen Reports, October 7, 2010 - http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/elections/election_2010/election_2010_governor_elections/election_2010_gubernatorial_scorecard

- Meg Whitman Spending Hits \$140 Million by Andy Barr, Politico, October 6, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43200.html>

- Shifting Tides in Governors' Races: Brown Now 3-to-1 Favorite by Nate Silver, FiveThirtyEight, October 6, 2010 – web link: <http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/06/shifting-tides-in-governors-races-brown-now-31-favorite>

Latest Polls

- GOP Voters More 'Passionate' About Voting in the Midterm Election by Shane D'Aprile, The Hill, October 7, 2010 – web link: <http://thehill.com/house-polls/the-hill-anga-poll-week-1/123095-republican-voters-more-passionate-about-voting-in-the-midterm-election>

- 'Likely Voter' Gap Favors G.O.P. by 6 Points; Gallup's Model Sees It Bigger by Nate Silver, FiveThirtyEight, October 5, 2010 – web link: <http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/05/likely-voter-gap-favors-g-o-p-by-6-points-gallups-model-sees-it-bigger>

- Party Loyalty Primary Factor n Democratic Vote in 2010 by Jeffrey M. Jones, Gallup, October 6, 2010 – web link: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/143396/Party-Loyalty-Primary-Factor-Democratic-Vote-2010.aspx>

- Views of GOP's Ability to Govern Similar to 1994, 2006 by Jeffrey M. Jones, Gallup, October 7, 2010 – web site: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/143459/Views-GOP-Ability-Govern-Similar-1994-2006.aspx>

Upcoming Events Around Town

Wednesday, October 13, 2010 at 12:15 p.m.

WHAT: The Brookings Institution Discussion on the "November midterm elections, driving forces, likely outcomes and possible consequences." Speakers: Thomas Mann and Norman Ornstein of the American Enterprise Institute

WHERE: Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC.

CONTACT: 202-797-6105, events@brookings.edu; web site: <http://www.brookings.edu>

Thursday, October 14, 2010 at 12:00 p.m.

WHAT: American Heritage Foundation Book Discussion on "Red State Uprising: How to Take Back America." Speaker: Author Erick Erickson.

WHERE: American Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
CONTACT: 202-546-4400; web site: www.heritage.org

Thursday, October 21, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.

WHAT: American Enterprise Institute (AEI) Election Watch, Session V. Speakers: Michael Barone (AEI); John C. Fortier, AEI; Henry Olsen, AEI; Norman J. Ornstein, AEI; moderated by Karlyn Bowman, AEI.

WHERE: AEI, 1150 17th Street, NW, Wohlstetter Conference Center

CONTACT: Hampton Foushee at 202-862-5806 or Hampton.foushee@aei.org; web site: www.aei.org

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NOTE: For additional information on the upcoming elections and FPC programs, go to the FPC Midterm Elections website at: <http://fpc.state.gov/c38476.htm>

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