



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 5 – October 15, 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: 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](mailto: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](mailto: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/?vgnnextoid=293c4c33c7732010VgnVCM1000001a01010aRCRD>

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**ELECTION DAY – NOVEMBER 2, 2010**

The Foreign Press Center is planning a full range of programs to help you cover the elections:

- Morning – visits to polling places in Maryland where important Senate and Gubernatorial races will take place – Contact: Andy Strike at [strikeap2@state.gov](mailto:strikeap2@state.gov)

- Afternoon – briefings by experts who will comment on the New Congress and the Obama administration and a pollster who will provide the latest election results and their effects:
    - 3:00 p.m. Jerry Hagstrom, senior editor with the *National Journal* will brief on “Election Day Landscape – Forces at Play and Possible Outcomes.”
    - 4:14 p.m. John Fortier, research fellow at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) will brief on “The New Congress and the Obama Administration.”
    - 5:30 p.m. John Zogby, pollster, will brief on “Latest Polling Results”
- These speakers will be available for one-on-ones after the briefings.

Contact: For additional information/ RSVP for briefings or one-on-ones, please contact Miriam Rider at [riderm2@state.gov](mailto:riderm2@state.gov) or 202-504-6315.

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**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4 – Briefings providing Election Results Analysis:**

- 9:00 a.m. Professor David Lublin, American University, will provide analysis of election results
- 11:00 a.m. Mike Allen, White House reporter, POLITICO, will provide a White House point of view - how the election will affect the Obama Administration’s agenda.

For additional information/ RSVP for briefings or one-on-ones, please contact Miriam Rider at [riderm2@state.gov](mailto:riderm2@state.gov) or 202-504-6315.

## Midterm Elections - Background

- Great Uncertainty Still Lies Before Us by Mark S. Mellman, *The Hill*, October 12, 2010 – web link: <http://thehill.com/opinion/columnists/mark-mellman/123933-great-uncertainty-still-lies-before-us>
- Midterm Elections Mean Another Battle Over Health Policy by Henry J. Aaron, Brookings Institution Webchat, October 13, 2010 – web link: [http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/1013\\_health\\_policy\\_chat.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/1013_health_policy_chat.aspx)
- Midterms Are a Test for Obama’s Ground Game by Matt Bail, *New York Times*, October 13, 2010 – web link: [http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/14/us/politics/14bai.html?\\_r=1&ref=politics](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/14/us/politics/14bai.html?_r=1&ref=politics)
- Obama on MTV: Can He Recapture a Bit of His 2008 Magic? By Gloria Goodale, *Christian Science Monitor*, October 14, 2010 – web link: <http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Election-2010/Vox-News/2010/1014/Obama-on-MTV-Can-he-recapture-a-bit-of-his-2008-magic>
- The Outlook for November 2<sup>nd</sup> [as of October 14<sup>th</sup>] by Larry J. Sabato, Director, University of Virginia Center for Politics, October 14, 2010 – web link: <http://www.centerforpolitics.org/crystalball/articles/ljs2010101401>

- Rep. Clyburn: Black Vote Could Be ‘Secret Weapon’ for Dems in Midterm by Jordan Fabian, *The Hill*, October 14, 2010 – web link: <http://thehill.com/blogs/blog-briefing-room/news/124271-rep-clyburn-black-vould-could-be-dems-secret-weapon>
- Tea Party Set to Win Enough Races for Wide Influence by Kate Zernike, *New York Times*, October 14, 2010 – web link: [http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/15/us/politics/15teaparty.html?\\_r=1&emc=eta1](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/15/us/politics/15teaparty.html?_r=1&emc=eta1)
- Tim Kaine’s Eight Favorite Tea Party Races by David Catanese, *Politico*, October 14, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43613.html>
- Top Ten Most Expensive Election Contests of 2010 by Richard Dunham, *San Francisco Chronicle*, October 14, 2010 – web link: [http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/blogs/nov05election/detail?entry\\_id=74577](http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/blogs/nov05election/detail?entry_id=74577)
- 23% in Ohio Consider Themselves Tea Party Members, Rasmussen Reports, October 14, 2010 – web link: [http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public\\_content/politics/general\\_state\\_surveys/ohio/23\\_in\\_ohio\\_consider\\_themselves\\_tea\\_party\\_members](http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/general_state_surveys/ohio/23_in_ohio_consider_themselves_tea_party_members)

## U.S. House

- Black Voters May Sway 20 House Races in November by Sonya Ross, *AP*, October 14, 2010 – web link: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gBEi6ovATzJmRxN1zeiSWn67zMRwD9IRKH4G1?docId=D9IRKH4G1>
- The Hill Poll: Republicans Are Ahead in 8 of 10 Open House Districts by Shane D’Aprile and Emily Goodin, *The Hill*, October 13, 2010 – web link: <http://thehill.com/house-polls/thehill-poll-week-2/123965-republicans-are-up-in-8-of-10-open-house-seats>
- House Race Changes by Isaac Wood, University of Virginia Center for Politics, October 14, 2010 – web link: <http://www.centerforpolitics.org/crystalball/articles/itw2010101402>
- Louisiana: A Freshman in Trouble by Campbell Robertson, *New York Times*, October 12, 2010 – web link: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/13/us/politics/13cao.html?ref=politics>
- South Carolina: After 28 Years, a Congressman on the Ropes by Katherine Q. Seelye, *New York Times*, October 12, 2010 – web link: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/13/us/politics/13spratt.html?ref=politics>

## U.S. Senate

- California Senate: Boxer (D), Fiorina (R) Remain Close, Rasmussen Reports, October 14, 2010 – web link: [http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public\\_content/politics/elections/election\\_2010/election\\_2010\\_senate\\_elections/california/election\\_2010\\_california\\_senate](http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/elections/election_2010/election_2010_senate_elections/california/election_2010_california_senate)
- Christine O'Donnell Goes Deep Debating Chris Coons, *Politico*, October 13, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43579.html>
- Democratic Polling Improves in Key Senate Races, Lengthening G.O.P. Takeover Odds by Nate Silver, *FiveThirtyEight*, October 13, 2010 – web link: <http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/13/democratic-polling-improves-in-key-senate-races-lengthening-g-o-p-takeover-odds>
- For Reid, No Shaking Tea Party Challenger by Adam Nagourney and Jim Rutenberg, *New York Times*, October 13, 2010 – web link: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/14/us/politics/14reid.html?ref=politics>
- Harry Reid Pins Hopes on Big Turnout by John Bresnahan & Manu Raju, *Politico*, October 14, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43576.html>
- Quinnipiac: Blumenthal Widens Lead [in Connecticut] by Shira Toeplitz, *Politico*, October 14, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43597.html>
- Third Party Spoiler in West Virginia? By Shira Toeplitz, *Politico*, October 14, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43617.html>

## Gubernatorial Races

- Election 2010: Gubernatorial Scorecard: GOP 27 Dem 15 Toss-Ups 8, Rasmussen Reports, October 14, 2010 – web link: [http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public\\_content/politics/elections/election\\_2010/election\\_2010\\_governor\\_elections/election\\_2010\\_gubernatorial\\_scorecard](http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/elections/election_2010/election_2010_governor_elections/election_2010_gubernatorial_scorecard)
- Florida Governor: Scott (R) Still Slightly Ahead of Sink (D), Rasmussen Reports, October 11, 2010 – web link: [http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public\\_content/politics/elections/election\\_2010/election\\_2010\\_governor\\_elections/florida/election\\_2010\\_florida\\_governor](http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/elections/election_2010/election_2010_governor_elections/florida/election_2010_florida_governor)
- Maryland Governor's Race Spinning Toward Colorful Conclusion by Aaron Davis, *Washington Post*, October 15, 2010 – web link:

[http://voices.washingtonpost.com/annapolis/2010/10/first\\_click\\_marylandmd\\_guvs\\_ra.html](http://voices.washingtonpost.com/annapolis/2010/10/first_click_marylandmd_guvs_ra.html)

- Modest Gains for Democrats in Gubernatorial Races by Nate Silver, *FiveThirtyEight*, October 12, 2010 – web link: <http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/12/modest-gains-for-democrats-in-gubernatorial-forecast>

## Latest Polls

- Americans Still Trust Own Judgment More Than Politicians' by Frank Newport, Gallup, October 14, 2010 – web link: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/143675/Americans-Trust-Own-Judgment-Politicians.aspx>

- Bypassed Cellphones: Biased Polls? By Nate Silver, *FiveThirtyEight*, October 14, 2010 – web link: <http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/14/bypassed-cellphones-biased-polls>

- The Hill Poll: Independents Prefer Cutting the Deficit to Spending on Jobs by Sean J. Miller, *The Hill*, October 14, 2010 – web link: <http://thehill.com/house-polls/thehill-poll-week-2/124161-the-hill-poll-independent-voters-open-to-deficit-message>

- Majorities in U.S. View Government as Too Intrusive and Powerful by Lydia Saad, Gallup, October 13, 2010 – web link: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/143624/Majorities-View-Gov-Intrusive-Powerful.aspx>

- Poll: Voters More Likely to See Dems as Dominated by Extremists by Alexander Bolton, *The Hill*, October 14, 2010 – web link: <http://thehill.com/house-polls/thehill-poll-week-2/124177-the-hill-poll-swing-district-voters-more-likely-to-see-dems-as-dominated-by-extremists->

- Republicans Maintain Strength Among Likely Voters by Frank Newport, Gallup, October 11, 2010 – web link: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/143576/Republicans-Maintain-Strength-Among-Likely-Voters.aspx>

- Voters Believe Overwhelmingly That Politicians Don't Keep Their Promises, and Most Say It's Deliberate, Rasmussen Reports, October 14, 2010 – web link: [http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public\\_content/politics/general\\_politics/october\\_2010/voters\\_believe\\_overwhelmingly\\_that\\_politicians\\_don\\_t\\_keep\\_their\\_promises\\_and\\_most\\_say\\_it\\_s\\_deliberate](http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/general_politics/october_2010/voters_believe_overwhelmingly_that_politicians_don_t_keep_their_promises_and_most_say_it_s_deliberate)

- Voting by Mail in Washington State May Confound Pollsters by Nate Silver, *FiveThirtyEight*, October 13, 2010 – web link: <http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/13/mail-voting-in-washington-state-may-confound-pollsters>

## Upcoming Events Around Town

**Tuesday, October 19, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.**

**WHAT: The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) briefing on "Latino Voters and Candidates in the November 2010 Election."** Speaker: NALEO Educational Fund Executive Director Arturo Vargas  
**WHERE:** National Press Club, 14th and F Streets NW, Holeman Lounge, Washington, D.C.  
**CONTACT:** Patricia Guadalupe, 202-546-2536, [pguadalupe@naleo.org](mailto:pguadalupe@naleo.org)  
**RSVP:** Send an e-mail to [pguadalupe@naleo.org](mailto:pguadalupe@naleo.org)

**Tuesday, October 19, 2010 at 10:30 a.m.**

**WHAT: Voice of America (VOA) Panel Discussion on "U.S. Elections: International Implications."** Speakers: VOA National Correspondent Jim Malone; Allan Lichtman, Professor of History at American University; and Emira Woods, Co-director of Foreign Policy In Focus at the Institute for Policy Studies.  
**WHERE:** VOA, 330 Independence Avenue, SW  
**CONTACT:** RSVP to 202-203-4959 or [askvoa@voanews.com](mailto:askvoa@voanews.com)

**Tuesday, October 19, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.**

**WHAT: The George Washington University discussion on "Implications of the 2010 Midterm Elections."** Speakers: NBC News Chief White House Correspondent Chuck Todd; and political strategists Mark Penn and Karen Hughes  
**WHERE:** GWU, 805 21st Street NW, Jack Morton Auditorium, Washington, D.C.  
**CONTACT:** Emily Cain, 202-994-3087, [eecain@gwu.edu](mailto:eecain@gwu.edu)  
**NOTE:** RSVP: Contact Emily Cain

**Wednesday, October 20, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.**

**WHAT: The University of Maryland's Center for American Politics discussion on "The Tea Party and the 2010 Elections."** Speakers: Rep. Roscoe Bartlett, R-Md.; former Rep. Thomas Davis, R-Va.; former Rep. Charles McMillen, D-Md.; David Keene, chairman of the American Conservative Union; Ronald Faucheux, president of Clarus Research Group; Joseph Weber, capitol hill reporter at the Washington Times; and James Hohmann, national political reporter at Politico  
**WHERE:** University of Maryland University College Conference Center Auditorium, 3501 University Boulevard East, Hyattsville, Md.  
**CONTACT:** Mike Charlebois, 301-314-2736, [mcharleb@capc.umd.edu](mailto:mcharleb@capc.umd.edu)

**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 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Wohlstetter Conference Center

CONTACT: Hampton Foushee at 202-862-5806 or [Hampton.foushee@aei.org](mailto:Hampton.foushee@aei.org); web site:  
[www.aei.org](http://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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Compiled by Miriam Rider, Technical Information Specialist, Foreign Press Centers at 202-504-  
6315 or email: [riderm2@state.gov](mailto:riderm2@state.gov)