



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 6 – October 22, 2010

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Upcoming FPC Briefings & Election Day Programs

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 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/?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

- **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.”

- 4:15 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 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 Point of View from the White House - 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 or 202-504-6315.

Midterm Elections - Background

- Democrats Bank on Early Voting to Bridge Enthusiasm Gap by Shailagh Murray, Washington Post, October 20, 2010 – web link: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/10/19/AR2010101907616.html?hpid=topnews>
- Enthusiasm, Early Voting and the Midterm Election – Brookings Institution Web Chat with Michael P. McDonald, October 20, 2010 – web link: http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/1020_midterm_elections_chat.aspx
- Midterm Elections 2010: Spending Wars by Roya Wolverson, Council on Foreign Relations, October 19, 2010 – web link: http://www.cfr.org/publication/23181/midterm_elections_2010.html
- The Misunderstanding of Momentum by Nate Silver, FiveThirtyEight, October 20, 2010 – web link: <http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/20/the-misunderstanding-of-momentum>
- Obama Tries to Shore Up the Party Base with a Western Campaign Swing by Helene Cooper, New York Times, October 20, 2010 – web link: http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/21/us/politics/21obama.html?_r=1&ref=politics
- Tea Party-Backed Candidates Diverge on Foreign Policy by Scott Conroy, RealClearPolitics, October 21, 2010 – web link: http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2010/10/21/tea_party-backed_candidates_diverge_on_foreign_policy_107669.html
- Tea Party Foreign Policy a Bit Cloudy by Michael D. Shear, New York Times, October 21,

2010 – web link: <http://thecaucus.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/21/tea-party-foreign-policy-a-bit-cloudy/?ref=politic>

U.S. House

- G.O.P. Odds of House Majority Now 3-in-4 by Nate Silver, FiveThirtyEight, October 20, 2010 – web link: <http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/20/g-o-p-odds-of-house-majority-now-3-in-4>
- October Reset – Latest House Crystal Ball Rating by Larry Sabato, University of Virginia Center for Politics, October 21, 2010 – web link: <http://www.centerforpolitics.org/crystalball/articles/ljs2010102001>
- Ten Hottest House Races by Kasie Hunt, Politico, October 20, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43930.html>

U.S. Senate

- Connecticut Republican Linda McMahon Has Given Her Campaign \$41.5 Million This Cycle in Her Quest for U.S. Senate Seat by Jake Sherman, Politico, October 21, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43853.html>
- Every Big Senate Race Just Got Closer by Alexander Burns, Politico, October 20, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43897.html>
- October Reset – Latest Senate Crystal Ball Ratings by Larry Sabato, University of Virginia Center for Politics, October 21, 2010 – web link: <http://www.centerforpolitics.org/crystalball/articles/ljs2010102001>
- Senate Balance of Power: Dems48 GOP 47 Toss-Ups 5, Rasmussen Reports, October 20, 2010 – web link: http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/elections/election_2010/election_2010_senate_elections/election_2010_senate_balance_of_power

Gubernatorial Races

- The Five Closest Gubernatorial Races by David Catanese, Politico, October 19, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/43863.html>

- Governor Scorecard: GOP 28 Dems 13 Toss-Ups 9, Rasmussen Reports, October 20, 2010 – web link: http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/elections/election_2010/election_2010_governor_elections/election_2010_gubernatorial_scorecard
- Gubernatorial Update by Nate Silver, FiveThirtyEight, October 20, 2010 – web link: <http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/20/gubernatorial-forecast-update-can-tancredo-win-in-colorado>
- October Reset – Latest Governors Crystal Ball Ratings by Larry Sabato, University of Virginia Center for Politics, October 21, 2010 – web link: <http://www.centerforpolitics.org/crystalball/articles/ljs2010102001>

Latest Polls

- Bill Clinton's Impact More Positive for Democrats Than Obama's by Frank Newport, Gallup, October 19, 2010 – web link: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/143798/Bill-Clinton-Impact-Positive-Democrats-Obama.aspx>
- GOP Holds Solid Leads in Voter Preferences For Another Week by Lydia Saad, Gallup, October 18, 2010 – web link: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/143777/GOP-Holds-Solid-Leads-Voter-Preferences-Week.aspx>
- Palin's Nod a Plus with Republicans, Minus with Independents by Lyman Morales, Gallup, October 20, 2010 – web link: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/143909/Palin-Nod-Plus-Republicans-Minus-Independents.aspx>
- Poll: 2008 Obama Backers Not Excited to Vote This Year, CBS News, October 19, 2010 – web link: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-503544_162-20020106-503544.html
- U.S. Satisfaction on Pace to Be Lowest in Midterm Election Year by Jeffrey Jones, Gallup, October 19, 2010 – web link: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/143840/Satisfaction-Pace-Lowest-Midterm-Election-Year.aspx>

Upcoming Events Around Town

WHEN: Wednesday, October 27, 2010 at 12:30 p.m.

WHAT: Brookings Institution live web chat on "Previewing the Midterm Elections."

Speaker: William Galston, Senior Fellow, Governance Studies.

WHERE: Online Only

CONTACT: events@brookings.edu; 202-797-6105

RSVP: <https://www.cvent.com/EVENTS/Register/IdentityConfirmation.aspx?e=e686518e-19bd-4170-9fcc-628fbc772797>

NOTE: Submit advance questions to ScoutingReport@brookings.edu

WHEN: Wednesday, October 27, 2010 at 12:30 p.m.

WHAT: Center for American Progress (CAP) discussion on "American Rights and Politics in the Digital Age." Speakers: Rev. Dr. Susan Brooks Thistlethwaite, senior fellow at CAP; and

Jacques Berlinerblau, associate professor and director at the Program for Jewish Civilization at the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University

WHERE: CAP, 1333 H Street NW, 10th Floor, Washington, D.C.

CONTACT: 202-741-6246; <http://www.americanprogress.org>

RSVP: <http://www.americanprogress.org/events/2010/10/eden.html/rsvp>

NOTE: A RSVP is required to attend this event.

WHEN: Wednesday, October 27, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.

WHAT: Heritage Foundation Discussion on the "Tea Party's Impact and Our Crystal Ball." Speakers: n Michael Franc, Vice President, Government Relations, The Heritage Foundation and Reid Wilson, Editor-in-Chief, National Journal's Hotline.

WHERE: Heritage Foundation House Annex (Between 2nd and 3rd Streets, SE), Haller Room, 227 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE

CONTACT: Sarah Mills at Sara.Mills@heritage.org or 202-608-6157; web site:

www.heritage.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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