



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 7 – October 28, 2010

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Upcoming Election Day Programs

ELECTION DAY – NOVEMBER 2, 2010

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

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Visit To Maryland Polling Places on Election Day to Prince George's and Montgomery Counties - 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

RSVP: Interested media should contact Andy Strike at StrikeAP2@state.gov for further information. Media who RSVP are not guaranteed a place on the tour, but every effort will be made to accommodate all who apply.

BACKGROUND: On Election Day the FPC will provide bus transportation on a first-come basis for foreign media who wish to visit polling places in Maryland to interview voters after they have finished voting and interview Board of Election officials and learn more about how U.S. elections are conducted.

Participants should plan to meet at the FPC on Election Day. The bus will make two trips from the FPC to polling places in Prince George's and Montgomery leaving around 7AM and 10AM. Due to limited seating on the bus media organization are restricted to 2 people per organization and all participants must have an FPC credential. Seating on the bus is first come first served.

The races in question include the Maryland Governor's race [O'Malley vs. Ehrlich], the Maryland Senate race [Mikulski vs. Wargotz], U.S. Congressional elections in the 4th and 8th Districts [Edwards vs. Broadus; Van Hollen vs. Philips], and Maryland Senate and House of Delegates elections in the 18th [Madaleno vs. Osuch; Carr, Gutierrez, Waldstreicher] and 21st Districts [Rosapepe vs. unopposed; Barnes, Frush, Pena-Melnyk, Dibiasio, Papanikolas, Nelson, Walker]. The local districts and candidates may change depending on availability

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AFTERNOON – briefings by election 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 Analyzing Election Results :

- 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 Alyssa Goodson at goodsonam@state.gov or Miriam Rider at riderm2@state.gov or 202-504-6315.

Midterm Elections - Background

- Democrats Retain Edge in Campaign Spending by Michael Luo and Griff Palmer, New York Times, October 26, 2010 – web link: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/27/us/politics/27money.html?ref=politics>
- Foreign Policy and the Midterms: War in Afghanistan by Jayshree Bajoria, Council on Foreign Relations, October 28, 2010 – web link: http://www.cfr.org/publication/23259/foreign_policy_and_the_2010_midterms.html
- Health Care Vote Puts Democrats on Defensive by Kevin Sack, New York Times, October 26, 2010 – web link: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/27/us/politics/27health.html?ref=politics>
- Immigration and the Midterm Elections by Aimee Rawlins, Council on Foreign Relations, October 27, 2010 – web link: http://www.cfr.org/publication/23225/immigration_and_the_midterm_elections.html

- Previewing the Midterm Elections – Brookings Institution web chat with William A. Galston, Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution, October 27, 2010 – web link: http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/1027_midterm_preview_chat.aspx
- Small But Enthusiastic Movement Influencing Midterm Elections by Michelle Austein Brooks, America.gov, October 26, 2010 – web link: <http://www.america.gov/st/usg-english/2010/October/20101026172154ellehcim0.2299311.html>
- The Tea Party and the Midterm Elections – Foreign Press Center Briefing with Kate Zernike, *New York Times* reporter, October 22, 2010 – web link: <http://fpc.state.gov/149720.htm>
- Think Again: And They Call It Democracy by Eric Alterman, Center for American Progress, October 28, 2010 – web link: <http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/10/ta102810.html>

U.S. House

- The Crystal Ball's Final Calls by Larry J. Sabato, Director, University of Virginia Center for Politics, October 28, 2010 – web link: <http://www.centerforpolitics.org/crystalball/articles/ljs2010102801>
- Dems Make Last-Ditch Pennsylvania Pitch by Dan Hirschhorn, Politico, October 27, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/44252.html>
- For Democrats, Losing the House Is Not Inevitable (Just Very Likely) by Nate Silver, FiveThirtyEight, October 27, 2010 – web link: <http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/27/for-democrats-losing-the-house-is-not-inevitable-just-very-likely>
- G.O.P. Now Projected to Gain 53 House Seats by Nate Silver, FiveThirtyEight, October 27, 2010 – web link: <http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/27/choppy-day-in-house-forecast-projected-g-o-p-gains-inch-forward-to-53-seats>
- Republicans Poised to Gain in U.S. House of Representatives by Ralph Dannheisser, America.gov, October 27, 2010 – web link: <http://www.america.gov/st/usg-english/2010/October/20101027130428hplar0.0769617.html>

U.S. Senate

- The Crystal Ball's Final Calls by Larry J. Sabato, Director, University of Virginia Center for Politics, October 28, 2010 – web link:

<http://www.centerforpolitics.org/crystalball/articles/ljs2010102801>

- Harry Reid, Sharron Angle Run in Opposite Directions by Molly Ball, Politico, October 27, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/44282.html>
- Midterm Senate Races Pose Tough Challenges for Incumbents by Bridget Hunter, America.gov, October 27, 2010 – web link: <http://www.america.gov/st/usg-english/2010/October/20101027171000tegridb0.581402.html>
- Thugs, Slugs in Illinois Senate Debate by Ben Smith, Politico, October 27, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/44301.html>
- Tougher Road Ahead for Senate Dems by Shira Toeplitz, Politico, October 28, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/44289.html>

Gubernatorial Races

- The Crystal Ball's Final Calls by Larry J. Sabato, Director, University of Virginia Center for Politics, October 28, 2010 – web link: <http://www.centerforpolitics.org/crystalball/articles/ljs2010102801>
- Gubernatorial Scorecard: GOP 29 Dems 13 Toss-Ups 7 Ind 1, RasmussenReports, October 28, 2010 – web link: http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/elections/election_2010/election_2010_governor_elections/election_2010_gubernatorial_scorecard
- Jerry Brown, Meg Whitman Wrangle Over Negative Ads by Scott Wong, Politico, October 27, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/44213.html>
- The Midterm Gubernatorial Races – Foreign Press Center Briefing with Raymond C. Scheppach, Executive Director, National Governors Association, October 26, 2010 – web link: <http://fpc.state.gov/150031.htm>
- Model Now Has Whitman as Big Underdog in California by Nate Silver, FiveThirtyEight, October 27, 2010 – web link: <http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/27/model-now-has-whitman-as-big-underdog-in-california>

Latest Polls

- 65% Favor Getting Rid of Entire Congress and Starting Over, RasmussenReports, October 28, 2010 – web link: http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/general_politics/october_2010/65_fav_or_getting_rid_of_entire_congress_and_starting_over

- 2010 Election Still Looking More Republican Than in the Past by Lydia Saad, Gallup, October 27, 2010 – web link: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/144053/2010-Electorate-Looking-Republican-Past.aspx>
- Economy Top Issue for Voters; Size of Government May Be More Pivotal by Jeffrey Jones, Gallup, October 26, 2010 – web link: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/144029/Economy-Top-Issue-Voters-Size-Gov-May-Pivotal.aspx>
- Fewer Swing Voters in 2010 Than in Prior Midterm Years by Jeffrey M. Jones, Gallup, October 28, 2010 – web link: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/144065/Fewer-Swing-Voters-2010-Prior-Midterm-Years.aspx>
- Miller [R-Alaska] Falls to Last Place by Shira Toeplitz, October 28, 2010 – web link: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/44312.html>
- Obama Coalition Is Fraying, Poll Finds by Jim Rutenberg and Megan Thee-Brenan, New York Times, October 27, 2010 – web link: http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/28/us/politics/28poll.html?_r=1&ref=politics

Upcoming Events Around Town

WHEN: Monday, November 1, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

WHAT: The George Washington University (GW) Discussion on the eve of the 2010 midterm elections to search for clues to election outcomes in the latest Politico-GW battleground polls. Speakers: Democratic pollster Celinda Lake; Republican pollster Ed Goetz; Jim VandeHei of *Politico*; and Christopher Arterton of GW

WHERE: GW, 805 21st Street NW, Jack Morton Auditorium, First Floor, Washington, DC.

CONTACT: Emily Cain, 202-994-3087, ecain@gwu.edu; web site: www.gwu.edu

NOTE: Media should RSVP to Emily Cain.

WHEN: Tuesday, November 2, 2010 at 11:45 a.m.

WHAT: The Urban Institute Discussion on "Challenges for New Governors: Healing Battered Budgets and Employment Woes." Speakers: Robert Lerman, institute fellow at the Urban Institute; Edward Montgomery, dean of Georgetown Public Policy Institute; New York Lt. Gov. Richard Ravitch; Kim Rueben, senior fellow at the Tax Policy Center; Raymond Scheppach, executive director of the National Governors Association; and Margaret Simms, institute fellow at the Urban Institute

WHERE: Urban Institute, 2100 M Street NW, Washington, DC.

CONTACT: 202-833-7200; web site: <http://www.urban.org>

WHEN: Wednesday, November 3 at 12:00 p.m.

WHAT: American University Experts Analyze the 2010 Midterm Elections. Speakers:

American U. Professors; moderated by James A. Thurber, Director, Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies

WHERE: American U., Kay Spiritual Life Center

CONTACT: Please RSVP to ccps@american.edu or 202-885-3491; web site: www.american.edu

WHEN: Thursday, November 4 at 11:45 a.m.

WHAT: American Enterprise Institute (AEI) Election Watch, Session VI: A Postelection Luncheon. Speakers: Michael Barone, AEI; John C. Fortier, AEI; Henry Olsen, AEI; and Norman J. Ornstein, AEI; moderator: Karlyn Bowman, AEI.

WHERE: AEI, 1150 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC

CONTACT: 202-862-4871 or www.aei.org/event/100322; web site: www.aei.org

WHEN: Friday, November 5 at 10:00 a.m.

WHAT: Brookings Institution Discussion on “What the Midterm Elections Imply for the Next Two Years.” Speakers: Brookings Scholars – Kemal Dervis; Ron Haskins; Amy Liu; and Michael E. O’Hanlon; moderated by Thomas E. Mann.

WHERE: Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue, NW

CONTACT: 202-797-6105; web site: www.brookings.edu

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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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