



**AMERICAN INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER
Ankara, Turkey**

**E-Documents
January 2009**

Presidential Transition

Electronic Journals – all e-journals	IIP Publications – all publications
	<p>U.S. Presidential Transitions</p> <p>We often read or hear about turmoil before, during, or after elections around the world. An important characteristic of democracy in the United States, however, is the regularly recurring peaceful transfer of power from one president to the next. Americans know when the next presidential election will take place – the Tuesday after the first Monday in November every four years. And power will be transferred to the newly elected (or re-elected) president on January 20 of the following year.</p>
<p>Ask America</p> <p>Ask America allow foreign audiences to interact with American citizens on wide range of topics using a chat tool over the Internet. U.S. government and private sector subject experts, academics, journalists, and everyday citizens are brought on as guests to do webchats on USINFO. You may visit the Ask America HomePage to see upcoming ones, and read the transcripts of the previous webchats.</p>	<p>Podcasts</p> <p>http://www.america.gov/multimedia/podcasts.html</p> <p>Audio files and transcripts from America.gov</p>
<p>Videos</p> <p>http://www.america.gov/multimedia/video.html?videoid=1498976413</p> <p>Video files on foreign policy, U.S. politics, American life, democracy, science and health.</p>	<p>Blogs</p> <p>http://blogs.america.gov/</p> <p>Blogs at America.gov offers readers a place to discuss designated topics with experts from the United States and around the world, and to share their comments and reactions with the broader Internet public.</p>

AMERICA.GOV OFFERS:

The new Cabinet, including descriptions of the offices and bios of nominated officials

(<http://uspolitics.america.gov/uspolitics/elections/cabinet.html>)

- A look at how transition is accomplished (<http://www.america.gov/st/elections08-english/2008/November/20081117172134hmnietsua0.4794275.html?CP.rss=true>)
- A review of civil-military relations and the peaceful transfer of power to a new commander-in-chief (<http://www.america.gov/st/usg-english/2008/December/20081218161256abretnuh0.9571344.html?CP.rss=true>)
- A review of the role of the civil service in U.S. government (<http://www.america.gov/st/usg-english/2008/September/20080904173155abretnuh0.9774439.html> and <http://www.america.gov/st/elections08-english/2008/November/20081117172134hmnietsua0.4794275.html?CP.rss=true>)
- Backgrounders on the process of nominating, confirming and training political appointees (<http://www.america.gov/st/usg-english/2009/January/20090108160210hmnietsua0.6366388.html?CP.rss=true>)
- A profile of the 111th Congress, with emphasis on diversity (<http://www.america.gov/st/usg-english/2008/December/20081211155410hmnietsua0.6710932.html?CP.rss=true>, <http://www.america.gov/st/usg-english/2009/January/20090109162816abretnuh0.8450586.html?CP.rss=true>)
- Life after the presidency focusing on how former presidents can continue to play influential roles in world affairs (<http://photos.america.gov/galleries/amgov/30145/transition.html/>)

Specific coverage for Inauguration Day, available at <http://uspolitics.america.gov/uspolitics/government/inauguration.html>

SIGNIFICANT E-DOCUMENTS

BUILDING AN AMERICANIZATION MOVEMENT FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY: A REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES FROM THE TASK FORCE ON NEW AMERICANS. Task Force on New Americans, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. December 18, 2008.

After more than two years of collaboration and initiatives among 20 federal agencies and a variety of stakeholders, the Task Force on New Americans delivers a report, calling for the strengthening of immigrant integration efforts across the United States. The report reaffirms two fundamental ideals about the nature and success of integration in the United States. First, Americans are united by an identity that respects diversity, but one that is defined by the principles of American democracy, our shared history, and the English language. Second, successful citizenship promotion encompasses not only naturalization, but also assimilation.
<http://www.uscis.gov/files/nativedocuments/M-708.pdf> [PDF format, 80 pages].

CHIEF HUMAN CAPITAL OFFICERS COUNCIL'S FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2008 ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS. Chief Human Capital Officers Council. Web posted January 2, 2009.

The annual report is also serving as a transition guide for the incoming Administration.

The FY 08 report provides a full discussion of matters confronting Federal human capital professions in the section titled "Emerging Issues." These include managing the public's expectations of Federal response to highly complex issues; building and sustaining Federal employee leadership; and transforming the Federal human resource (HR) profession to meet changing demands.
<http://www.chcoc.gov/Documents/Attachments/Document49.pdf> [PDF format, 25 pages].

CLOSING SANTA'S SWEATSHOP: HOW TO DELIVER ON OBAMA'S AND CONGRESS' TOY-SAFETY AND FAIR-TRADE PROMISES. Public Citizen. December 2008.

As U.S. toy imports hit record levels, U.S. trade policy and outdated consumer safety protections expose America's children to a flood of unsafe toys, according to the study. It also documents campaign pledges on import safety made by President-elect Obama and new members of Congress. The United States is expected to import \$23 billion in toys in 2008, 90 percent of that from China. Imports this year represent 90 percent of U.S. toys, which is the highest toy import level and share on record. Many nations producing our children's toys have extremely lax safety standards and enforcement. [Note: contains copyrighted material]
<http://www.citizen.org/documents/SantasSweatshop08.pdf> [PDF format, 27 pages].

ENABLING HEALTHCARE REFORM USING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION AND 111TH CONGRESS. Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society. December 17, 2008.

The Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) shows a detailed report outlining specific priorities and recommendations for the Obama Administration and 111th Congress to harness Information Technology's power to reform healthcare and stimulate the U.S. economy. [Note: contains copyrighted material]
<http://www.himss.org/2009calltoaction/HIMSSCallToActionDec2008.pdf> [PDF format, 45 pages].

EXECUTIVE BRANCH REORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT INITIATIVES. Congressional Research Service, RL33441, Library of Congress. Harold C. Relyea. Web posted January 2, 2009.

The report provides a brief overview of recent executive branch reorganization actions and related management initiatives. It reviews the relevant plans and preparations of President-elect Barack Obama as the new Administration transitions to assuming management of the executive branch. Briefly examined, as well, are the organization and the management efforts of the most recent regimes.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL33441.pdf> [PDF format, 23 pages].

GENDER EQUITY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FIRST YEAR OF THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION. National Coalition for Women & Girls in Education. December 2008.

The National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education (NCWGE), a nonprofit organization of approximately 50 groups dedicated to improving educational opportunities for girls and women, describes its mission to the new administration. The Coalition works to enforce Title IX, the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. Title IX affects all areas of education and promotes equity for both girls and boys. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue_advocacy/upload/NCWGERecsforObamaAdminWeb.pdf [PDF format, 2 pages].

MEMO TO THE PRESIDENT: RENEW DIPLOMACY IN THE MIDDLE EAST. Brookings Institute. Martin S. Indyk and Kenneth M. Pollack. January 5, 2009.

The authors show that the new administration will inherit a Middle East in turmoil, roiled by multiple crises that will require the Administration's immediate and prolonged attention. It describes the underlying problems: inappropriate educational systems, underperforming economies, oppressive autocratic governments, and a culture that feels threatened by globalization. They continue that only by helping the region resolve these problems, the United States eliminate the threats it poses to the U.S. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2009/0105_middle_east_memo/0105_middle_east_memo.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

OPENING THE "WINDOW TO A LARGER WORLD" LIBRARIES' ROLE IN CHANGING AMERICA: REPORT TO PRESIDENT-ELECT OBAMA & VICE-PRESIDENT-ELECT BIDEN TRANSITION TEAM. American Library Association. December 17, 2008.

The American Library Association states that as President-elect Obama has stated, libraries are "sanctuaries of learning" that represent "a window to a larger world." During this time of transition for our nation, libraries of all types, public, school, academic, federal and research, are resources the American public and new Administration can use to help people find jobs, support education and lifelong learning, provide access to information and telecommunications services, empower families, and enable civic engagement as well as promote literacy and connect communities. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2008/12/ala-report-to-transition-team1.pdf> [PDF format, 8 pages].

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE INCOMING ADMINISTRATION REGARDING THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE. U.S. Chamber of Commerce. December 22, 2008.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Global Intellectual Property Center (GIPC) releases its U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) recommendations to President-elect Barack Obama,

highlighting needed reforms to modernize the federal agency's patent arm. It offers a blueprint for modernizing and fostering a more efficient patent office. Addressing 11 key areas, it features suggestions to improve the quality of patents, patent examiner retention, the current fee structure, and the office's relationship with the user community, among other reforms.

<http://www.theglobalipcenter.com/NR/ronlyres/e5txnmjhsn5mjbtvazna33y3dimpz5cuxtjgeix4wix3dqpiy5domrryniqsbo6rr7xbe64tcijitq6hxnlt7u3xb/USPTOPatentProjectFINAL.pdf> [PDF format, 34 pages].

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION TRANSITION TASK FORCE. Homeland Security Advisory Council, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. January 2008.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) became our Nation's 15th Cabinet department in January 2003. Twenty-two agencies with different missions, operations and cultures were consolidated and realigned into one organization with its primary mission being that of prevention, preparation for and response to catastrophes affecting our homeland, while facilitating legitimate travel and trade. The ATTF recognizes that several of its recommendations could be aligned into multiple categories. The seven categories include: Threat Awareness, Leadership, Congressional Oversight/Action, Policy, Operations, Succession and Training.

http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/hsac_ATTF_Report.pdf [PDF format, 27 pages].

If you have any questions or want to reach the full text, please contact the American Information Resource Center at 312-4577277.
