



AMERICAN INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER Ankara, Turkey

E-Documents January 2011, Issue 4

■ Electronic Journals – all e-journals



■ IIP Books – all publications



■ Ask America

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.

■ Podcasts

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/podcast.html>
Audio files and transcripts from America.gov

■ Videos

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/video.html>

Video files on foreign policy, American life, economy, global challenges, international relations.

■ Videos on Youtube

This channel delivers videos on American life, culture and politics. Produced by the U.S. Department of State for international audiences, the videos illustrate values that underlie U.S. policies and explore interests shared by Americans and people around the world.

<http://www.youtube.com/america.gov>

■ Communities

<http://www.america.gov/communities.html>

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.

Social Networks of America.gov goes where the conversation is. Follow us on your favorite social networking sites.

JOIN AMERICA.GOV ONLINE COMMUNITIES

 **FACEBOOK**

 **TWITTER**

 **YouTube**

 **Flickr**

■ **GOVFRESH** IS A LIVE FEED OF OFFICIAL NEWS FROM U.S. GOVERNMENT TWITTER, YOUTUBE, RSS, FACEBOOK, FLICKR ACCOUNTS AND MORE, **ALL IN ONE PLACE.**

■ Today's Web Picks

Article Alert is a free aggregation and digest service that links readers to interesting and informative periodical literature (magazine and other journal articles) on a variety of topics including (1) American Life, (2) Economy, (3) Global Challenges, and (4) International Relations. We also offer (5) Top Ten Lists and Other Cool Stuff. We hyperlink to the original texts and supply a short "teaser." There's a lot of great reading on the web and not enough time to find it all. We can help!

<http://www.america.gov/publications/article-alert.html>

 **Facebook Page of U.S. Embassy Ankara / You may become a fan and follow posts about media, cultural and educational events sponsored by the US Embassy in Ankara.**

SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS

"Their Future is at Stake:" Attacks on Teachers and Schools in Pakistan's Balochistan Province. Human Rights Watch. December 13, 2010.

The report documents the killing of at least 22 teachers and other education personnel by suspected militants between January 2008 and October 2010. The report, based on interviews with teachers, students, victims' families and friends, and government officials in Balochistan, describes these attacks and their consequences for the quality of education in the province. *[Note: contains copyrighted material].*

<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2010/12/13/their-future-stake> [HTML format, various paging].

La Familia Drug Cartel: Implications for U.S.-Mexican Security. Strategic Studies Institute. George W. Grayson. December 13, 2010.

While claiming to do the "Lord's work," the ruthless leaders of La Familia Michoacana have emerged as the dominant exporter of methamphetamines to the United States, even as they control scores of municipalities in Michoacán and neighboring states, according to the report. <http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=1033> [HTML format with links].

Financial Crisis Primer: Questions and Answers on the Causes of the Financial Crisis. American Enterprise Institute. Bill Thomas. December 15, 2010.

This primer contains preliminary findings and conclusions released by Bill Thomas, Keith Hennessey, Douglas Holtz-Eakin, and Peter J. Wallison, and represents a portion of the findings and conclusions resulting from their work on the FCIC. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. <http://www.aei.org/docLib/FinancialCrisisPrimer.pdf> [PDF format, 13 pages].

Generations 2010. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Kathryn Zickuhr. December 16, 2010.

Millennials, those ages 18-33, remain more likely to access the internet wirelessly with a laptop or mobile phone. In addition, they still clearly surpass their elders online when it comes to many communication- and entertainment-related activities, such as using social network sites and playing games online. However, internet users in Gen X (those ages 34-45) and older cohorts are more likely than Millennials to engage in several online activities, including visiting government websites and getting financial information online. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2010/PIP_Generations_and_Tech10_final.pdf [PDF format, 29 pages].

International Grantmaking Update: A Snapshot of U.S. Foundation Trends. Foundation Center. Steven Lawrence and Reina Mukai. December 13, 2010.

"Contrary to some fears, foundations did not abandon international grantmaking during the economic crisis," said Bradford K. Smith, president of the Foundation Center. "These findings demonstrate their firm commitment to addressing global issues." The slight decrease in international giving in 2009 followed a period of significant growth between 2006 and 2008, as documented in the report, which tracks giving for both overseas recipients and U.S.-based international programs. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. http://foundationcenter.org/gainknowledge/research/pdf/intl_update_2010.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

Leading Through Civilian Power: The First Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review. U.S. Department of State. December 2010.

"How can we do better?...we will build up our civilian power: the combined force of civilians working together across the U.S. government to practice diplomacy, carry out development projects, and prevent and respond to crises. Many different agencies contribute to these efforts today. But their work can be more unified, more focused, and more efficient. The State Department and USAID will take a lead role in making that happen." Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/153108.pdf> [PDF format, 242 pages].

Making Policing More Affordable: Managing Costs and Measuring Value in Policing. National Institute of Justice and Harvard Kennedy School. George Gascon and Todd Foglesong. December 2010.

The authors believe that policing costs will not become more manageable solely through more cost-effective delivery of the same set of services. They suggest a set of strategies to help agencies reduce their costs, but they also suggest strategies that will result in a better return on their investment: managing demand, revaluing policing and re-engineering policing. None of the tactics, by themselves or in combination, is likely to yield a sustainable strategy for paying for policing in the future. But consideration of these strategies should support future conversations about restructuring police services, reorganizing departments, and building new measures of the value of policing that the present financial crisis demands.
<http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/231096.pdf> [PDF format, 20 pages].

Marijuana Use is Rising; Ecstasy Use is Beginning to Rise; and Alcohol Use is Declining Among U.S. Teens. National Institute on Drug Abuse. December 14, 2010.

The proportion of young people using any illicit drug has been rising over the past three years, due largely to increased use of marijuana--the most widely used of all the illicit drugs. The proportion of 8th graders who reported using at least one illicit drug in the prior 12 months (called annual prevalence) rose from 13% in 2007 to 16% in 2010, including a statistically significant increase of 1.6 percentage points this year. Among both 10th and 12th graders annual prevalence has increased by two percentage points since 2007. In 2010, the proportions using any illicit drug during the past year were 16%, 30%, and 38% in grades 8, 10, and 12 respectively. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://monitoringthefuture.org/pressreleases/10drugpr.pdf> [PDF format, 7 pages].

<http://www.monitoringthefuture.org/data/10data.html> Tables [HTML format with links].

Media Law Handbook. International Information Program, U.S. Department of State. December 2010.

What are the privileges and responsibilities of a free press? In *Media Law Handbook*, Professor Jane Kirtley, Silha Professor of Media Ethics and Law at the University of Minnesota, explores how free societies answer this question.

<http://www.america.gov/media/pdf/books/media-law-handbook.pdf#popup> [PDF format, 74 pages].

Obesity and Socioeconomic Status in Children and Adolescents: United States, 2005-2008. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Cynthia L. Ogden et al. December 2010.

In 2007-2008 almost 17% of children and adolescents aged 2-19 years were obese. Childhood obesity often tracks to adulthood and, in the short run, childhood obesity can lead to psychosocial problems and cardiovascular risk factors such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and abnormal glucose tolerance or diabetes. Studies have suggested that obesity is greater in the low income population than in higher income individuals. The data presents the most recent national data on childhood obesity and its association with poverty income ratio (PIR) and education of household head. Results are presented by sex and race and ethnicity.

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db51.pdf> [PDF format, 8 pages].

Ready or Not?: Protecting the Public's Health from Diseases, Disasters, and Bioterrorism. Trust for America's Health. December 14, 2010.

There is an emergency for emergency health preparedness in the U.S. The severe budget cuts by federal, state, and local governments are leaving public health departments understaffed and without the basic capabilities required to respond to crises. State cuts: 33 states and Washington, D.C. cut funding for public health from fiscal year (FY) 2008-2009 to 2009-2010, 18 of these states cut funding for a second year in a row. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP), states have experienced overall budgetary shortfalls of \$425 billion since FY 2009. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://healthyamericans.org/assets/files/TFAH2010ReadyorNot%20FINAL.pdf> [PDF format, 52 pages].

The Role of Transportation in Driving Climate Disruption. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Deborah Gordon. December 16, 2010.

The Earth's rapidly warming temperatures over the past several decades cannot be explained by natural processes alone. The science is conclusive: both man-made and natural factors contribute to climate change. Human activities-- fossil-fuel combustion in transportation and other sectors, urbanization, and deforestation--are increasing the amount of heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere. These record levels of greenhouse gases are shifting the Earth's climate equilibrium, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://carnegieendowment.org/files/transport_climate_disruption.pdf [PDF format, 40 pages].

A Tax Compromise and a WikiLeaks Controversy Capture Social Media. Pew Project for Excellence in Journalism. December 16, 2010.

The online community weighed in heavily on the tax cut deal struck between President Obama and congressional Republicans. In this case, the greatest split came among the liberal commentators themselves who were divided in their assessments of the deal, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.journalism.org/index_report/tax_compromise_and_wikileaks_controversy_capture_social_media [HTML format, various paging].

U.S. Department of Justice Declinations of Indian Country Criminal Matters. U.S. Government Accountability Office. December 13, 2010.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) has reported that crime rates experienced by American Indians are two and a half times higher than those experienced by the general population in the United States. The federal government plays a major role in prosecuting crimes committed in Indian country. For example, unless a federal statute has granted the state jurisdiction, the federal government has exclusive jurisdiction to prosecute non-Indians who commit crimes against Indians in Indian country, while the federal government and tribal governments both have jurisdiction to prosecute Indian offenders who commit crimes in Indian country. Because of such jurisdictional and sentencing limitations, tribal communities rely on the federal government to investigate and prosecute a variety of crimes in Indian country. Members of Congress have raised questions over recent press reports that federal prosecutors have declined to prosecute a significant percentage of Indian country criminal investigations that have been referred to their offices, and Congress asked us to review this issue.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11167r.pdf> [PDF format, 35 pages].

Calls Mount Everywhere for Deportation of Illegal Immigrants. YaleGlobal. Joseph Chamie and Barry Mirkin. December 20, 2010.

Rags-to-riches tales of traders and adventurers who provided skills and innovations during their wanderings are among the more charming parts of world history. But such globalization could go into reverse in the modern era, even in democratic nations, as political parties rile voter anger over rising unemployment and security concerns, and make illegal immigrants a scapegoat for economic crises. The top five nations engaged in deportations: the U.S., South Africa, Mexico, Greece and the U.K.. Political leaders claim to no longer witness the benefits of multiculturalism, and citizens are increasingly impatient with politicians who ignore or delay action. In industrialized nations, immigrant labor is a major factor for reducing costs in farming, construction, low-end manufacturing and food processing, and children and senior care. In their rush to deport illegal workers, politicians and citizens may need to prepare to pay higher prices for these services. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/calls-mount-everywhere-deportation-illegal-immigrants> [HTML format, various paging].

Creating the Demand Curve for Cybersecurity. Atlantic Council. Melissa E. Hathaway. December 16, 2010.

Melissa Hathaway, the former White House official who led President Obama's Cyberspace Policy Review, argues for a new approach to cybersecurity in the absence of additional financial resources and greater Congressional constraints. She calls on the administration to consider a three-pronged strategy using the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, and the Federal Trade Commission to marshal the capabilities of private sector stakeholders to strengthen the integrity of private sector information infrastructure,

enhance protection of vital systems, and to secure online transactions. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/403/121610_ACUS_Hathaway_CyberDemand.pdf
[PDF format, 8 pages].

Africa: U.S. Foreign Assistance Issues. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Ted Dagne. December 9, 2010.

U.S. aid to Africa initially reached a peak in 1985, when global competition with the Soviet Union was at a high point. After the cold war ended, security assistance levels for Africa began to decline. In 1995, at the outset of the 104th Congress, substantial reductions in aid to Africa had been anticipated, as many questioned the importance of Africa to U.S. national security interests in the post-cold war era. As the debate went forward, however, congressional reports and bills emphasized U.S. humanitarian, economic, and other interests in Africa. Aid levels did fall, but gradually began to increase again in FY1997. U.S. assistance to Africa is reaching new highs due to a significant increase in health care sectors under the Global Health and Child Survival (GHCS) program. U.S. aid to Africa nearly quadrupled from \$1.2 billion in FY2006 to \$6.7 billion in FY2010. Moreover, the United States is the leading donor of humanitarian assistance to Africa. Between FY1999 and FY2009, the United States provided over \$10.1 billion to East and Central African countries and an estimated \$2.2 billion to Southern Africa countries.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/153305.pdf> [PDF format, 14 pages].

Implications of Land Policies for Rural-Urban Linkages and Rural Transformation in Ethiopia. International Food Policy Research Institute. Getnet Alemu Zewdu and Mehrah Malek. Web posted December 2010.

Rural-urban linkages (RUL) and rural-urban migration are key components in rural transformation, an important step toward industrial growth. Post-Keynesian development theory has recognized the central role of inter-sectoral linkage between agricultural and nonagricultural activities to bring about agricultural growth and agrarian transformation. Thus, there exists an economic, social and environmental interdependence between urban and rural areas. The solutions to the problems of subsistence agriculture, rural poverty and rural transformation do not lie in policies that promote self-sufficiency of rural communities. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/esswp15.pdf> [PDF format, 32 pages].

Not Just Aid: How Making Government Work Can Transform Africa. Center for Global Development. Tony Blair. December 16, 2010.

Tony Blair discusses building strong African leadership in an essay prepared for a public address hosted by the Center for Global Development on December 16, 2010. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1424675/> [HTML format with links].

Northern Nigeria: Background to Conflict. International Crisis Group. December 20, 2010.

Nigeria's far north is not the hot bed of Islamic extremists some in the West fear, but it needs reinforced community-level peacebuilding, a more subtle security response, and improved management of public resources lest lingering tensions lead to new violence.

[*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/africa/west-africa/nigeria/168%20Northern%20Nigeria%20-%20Background%20to%20Conflict.ashx> [PDF format, 47 pages].

Approaching Korean Unification: What We Learn from Other Cases. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Victor Cha and David Kang. December 17, 2010.

This interim conference report chronicles the progress of the CSIS-University of Southern California joint project on Korean unification. The project's primary purpose is to frame a discussion on the long-term tasks involved in the eventual unification of the Korean Peninsula. The project does this by pairing Korea scholars with various functional experts in areas such as migration, health, energy, environment, and education to promote innovative thinking on a range of topics related to unification. The report outlines the basic concept of the project and highlights the topics of discussion and important conclusions reached at the summation of the first conference (August 20-21, 2010). In light of the experience of this first conference, the report concludes by tracing the substantive and organizational adjustments to be made for the upcoming second and third conferences. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. http://csis.org/files/publication/101217_Cha_ApproachingUnification_WEB.pdf [PDF format, 14 pages].

Toward a Comparison of DNA Profiling and Databases in the United States and England. RAND Corporation. Jeremiah Goulka et al. December 2010.

Many senior U.S. law enforcement officials believe that the English criminal justice system has capitalized more fully on the crime-fighting potential of forensic DNA evidence than the U.S. criminal justice system. They contend that the English system is much faster at testing DNA samples and at uploading the test results into its forensic DNA database and that the English national DNA database provides more database hits that might help law enforcement solve and prevent crimes. The authors make use of the limited available information to undertake comparisons of the two systems, highlighting the limitations of these comparisons. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/technical_reports/2010/RAND_TR918.pdf [PDF format, 34 pages].

Plan A-Minus for Afghanistan. Brookings Institution. Michael O'Hanlon and Bruce Riedel. Winter 2011.

Rather than conceding at least one-third of the country to extremists and reducing NATO forces quickly, the United States should tie its force drawdown to the growth and maturation of Afghan security forces. Under this plan, described here as "Plan A-," U.S. and other foreign forces would have to keep fighting hard in Afghanistan for 2--4 more years, even as they gradually passed the baton to Afghan forces, but the United States would not need to stay in Afghanistan indefinitely, and would not tie its downsizing to the stabilization of all key terrain. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/articles/2010/12_afghanistan_ohanlon_riedel/12_afghanistan_ohanlon_riedel.pdf [PDF format, 10 pages].

After the Coup: Ongoing Violence, Intimidation, and Impunity in Honduras. Human Rights Watch. December 20, 2010.

The report documents the state's failure to ensure accountability for abuses committed under the country's de facto government in 2009. The report also documents 47 cases of threats or attacks - including 18 killings - against journalists, human rights defenders, and political activists since the inauguration of President Porfirio Lobo in January 2010. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. <http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2010/12/21/after-coup-0> [HTML format, various paging].

Baby Boomers Approach Age 65 - Glumly: Survey Findings about America's Largest Generation. Pew Research Center. D'Vera Cohn and Paul Taylor. December 20, 2010.

Perched on the front stoop of old age, Baby Boomers are more downbeat than other age groups about the trajectory of their own lives and about the direction of the nation as a whole, according to the survey. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1834/baby-boomers-old-age-downbeat-pessimism> [HTML format, various paging].

Births: Preliminary Data for 2009. National Vital Statistics Reports. Brady E. Hamilton et al. December 21, 2010.

Teen birth rate hit record low in 2009 and the overall fertility drops for second straight year.
http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr59/nvsr59_03.pdf [PDF format, 29 pages].

Immigration Policy in the United States: An Update. Congressional Budget Office. December 2010.

The document presents data through 2009 on permanent and temporary admissions of foreign nationals to the U.S., the number and types of visas issued, the naturalization of residents, and enforcement of immigration laws, and makes comparisons with 2004, which was the most recent year for which most data were reported in the earlier paper.

http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/119xx/doc11959/12-03-Immigration_Chartbook.pdf [PDF format, 39 pages].

K-12 Education: Many Challenges Arise in Educating Students Who Change Schools Frequently. U.S. Government Accountability Office. Web posted December 20, 2010.

Educational achievement of students can be negatively affected by their changing schools often. The recent economic downturn, with foreclosures and homelessness, may be increasing mobility. GAO analyzed federal survey data, interviewed U.S. Education officials, conducted site visits at eight schools in six school districts, and reviewed federal laws and existing research for the report.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d1140.pdf> [PDF format, 52 pages].

Profiles of Nonprofit Education Management Organizations: 2009-2010. National Education Policy Center. Gary Miron and Jessica L. Urschel. December 2010.

The report examines nonprofit education management organizations (EMOs). It is modeled after the 12 annual reports that cover for-profit EMOs. While the number of schools operated by for-profit EMOs grew rapidly in the 1990s and is now leveling off, the data contained in this report illustrate how the number of schools operated by nonprofit EMOs has been growing more steadily and steeply over time. Since the previous year alone, the number of nonprofit EMOs has increased by 2.2%, the number of schools operated by nonprofit EMOs increased by 10.0%, and the number of students enrolled in these schools increased by 22.2%. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://nepc.colorado.edu/files/NEPC_NP-EMO-09-10.pdf [PDF format, 138 pages].

Shut Out of the Military: Today's High School Education Doesn't Mean You're Ready for Today's Army. The EducationTrust. December 2010.

For generations of Americans, a military career has provided the chance to join a tradition of discipline, honor, service to country, and achievement. However, the analysis reveals that many young people pinning their hopes on a career in the Armed Forces will never get the chance to serve. It examines data from the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) administered to potential Army recruits gathered from 2004 to 2009. The analysis paints a picture of the K-12 school system's inability to academically prepare students for opportunities in the military and beyond. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.edtrust.org/sites/edtrust.org/files/publications/files/ASVAB_4.pdf [PDF format, 11 pages].

Threat of Homegrown Islamist Terrorism. Council on Foreign Relations. Toni Johnson. December 10, 2010.

An increase in terror incidents involving Islamic radicals who are U.S. citizens is vexing law enforcement officials and posing new questions about the roots of their radicalization. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://www.cfr.org/publication/11509/threat_of_homegrown_islamist_terrorism.html [HTML format, various paging].

What Is the Price of College? National Center for Education Statistics. Christina Chang Wei. December 20, 2010.

The brief describes the annual price of education among undergraduates enrolled in U.S. postsecondary institutions in 2007-08. The most recent administration of the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS) supplied the data.
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011175.pdf> [PDF format, 18 pages].

Workplace Clinics: A Sign of Growing Employer Interest in Wellness. Center for Studying Health System Change. Ha T. Tu et al. December 2010.

Commonplace in the 1980s among the heavy industry/manufacturing and financial sectors, workplace clinics were geared primarily toward treating workplace injuries or minimizing employees' time away from work. Experts attribute their recent resurgence to employers viewing them as a tool for containing medical costs and boosting productivity, as well as an asset in helping to attract potential employees, according to the study. The benefits of workplace clinics don't stop with employers, however. Most try to offer shorter appointment and in-office wait times, as well longer clinician visits than typical in another medical care setting. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.rwjf.org/files/research/71564.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

Are Drugs Made in Emerging Markets Good Quality? American Enterprise Institute. Roger Bate. December 22, 2010.

Increasing competition generally decreases product prices. But in the case of pharmaceuticals, this is only beneficial if competitor products are therapeutically equivalent (bioequivalent). One measure of quality control is a consistently made product, examined in detail in this paper. A comprehensive study of drug samples in African and Asian countries, assessed for variability by spectrometer, suggests that registered products perform notably better than unregistered products. As all of the sampled drugs are used to treat potentially lethal infections, this product variability (particularly of unregistered drugs) could prove detrimental to public health. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.aei.org/docLib/20101222-Bate-WP.pdf> [PDF format, 13 pages].

Children and AIDS: Fifth Stocktaking Report, 2010. U.N. Children's Fund. November 30, 2010.

Achieving an AIDS-free generation is possible if the international community steps up efforts to provide universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, and social protection, according to the report. Attaining this goal, however, depends on reaching the most marginalized members of society. While children in general have benefited enormously from the substantial progress made in the AIDS responses, there are millions of women and children who have fallen through the cracks due to inequities rooted in gender, economic status, geographical location, education level and social status. Lifting these barriers is crucial to universal access to knowledge, care,

protection, and the prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) for all women and children. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.unicef.org/publications/files/Children_and_AIDS-Fifth_Stocktaking_Report_2010_EN.pdf [PDF format, 52 pages].

Costs of Adapting to Climate Change for Human Health in Developing Countries. The World Bank. December 2010.

The main human health impacts of climate change are increased incidence of vector-borne disease (malaria), water-borne disease (diarrhea), cardio respiratory diseases, heat- and cold-related deaths, injuries and deaths from extreme weather events (flooding), and a greater prevalence of malnutrition. Adaptation measures comprise all actions taken to reduce, prevent, or treat these additional cases of disease or death, including actions outside the health sector such as disaster reduction programs, food and water security measures, and the provision of infrastructure services. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2010/12/01/000356161_20101201014523/Rendered/PDF/581680NWP0Box31CDP0111010Health1web.pdf [PDF format, 30 pages].

The Global Crisis and Financial Intermediation in Emerging Market Economies. Bank for International Settlements. December 2010.

Emerging market economies (EMEs) were significantly affected by the global financial crisis. Nevertheless, compared with their experience in previous crises, EMEs displayed remarkable resilience, maintaining robust rates of growth even as the crisis unfolded in advanced economies starting around mid-2007, and containing disruptions to financial markets so as to avoid experiencing crises themselves. The peak period of stress in EME financial markets was also comparatively limited, with severe pressures in the aftermath of the Lehman Brothers bankruptcy in mid-September 2008, and improved stability and signs of recovery starting around the second quarter of 2009. Since then, EMEs have outperformed advanced economies, both in terms of economic growth and in asset price valuations. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://bis.org/publ/bppdf/bispap54.pdf> [PDF format, 411 pages].

North Korea's Nuclear Question: Sense of Vulnerability, Defensive Motivation, and Peaceful Solution. Strategic Studies Institute. Kwang Ho Chun. December 28, 2010.

Why have efforts to dismantle the North Korean nuclear program failed so far? What can be done in order to achieve a peaceful and long-lasting resolution to this conundrum? To answer these questions, the report scrutinizes and refutes two prevailing academic-cum-policy approaches to the North Korean nuclear situation: the use of coercive tools within a general framework of containment, and bypassing the regime in Pyongyang and engaging the Korean people with the hope that they will gain enough power to transform North Korea into a democratic nuclear-free country.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=1037> [HTML format with links].

Immigration Legalization in the United States and European Union: Policy Goals and Program Design. Migration Policy Institute. Marc R. Rosenblum. December 2010.

Immigrant legalization, while highly controversial on both sides of the Atlantic, is a critical and widely used tool for managing illegal immigration. Lawmakers seeking to design effective legalization regimes must balance competing goals: inclusiveness versus avoidance of rewarding illegal behavior, and assuring a high rate of participation without admitting ineligible migrants or encouraging future illegal migration. The brief examines the legalization debate and discusses

policy parameters that characterize legalization programs, such as qualifications, requirements, benefits, and program design and implementation. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/legalization-policydesign.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

Mapping the Russian Blogosphere. U.S. Institute of Peace. Anand Varghese. December 20, 2010.

Analysis of more than 11,000 Russian-language blogs reveals an active political blogosphere comprising internationally linking bloggers; Russian media-focused bloggers; nationalists; members of the democratic opposition; bloggers focused on business, economics, and finance; and social and environmental activists. Russian bloggers tend to be less politically polarized than their counterparts in the American blogosphere, and they prefer to blog about political issues from a nonpartisan position. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB72-Mapping_the_Russian_Blogosphere_0.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

Russia: Unstable Economy and Political Crisis. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Segei Aleksashenko. December 22, 2010.

Though the rise in oil prices has strengthened Russia's economy, low growth is still likely this year and next, according to the report. The budgetary outlook remains uncertain, the government promises to slash spending even as it announces new initiatives, leaving policy makers with a tough choice, particularly as parliamentary and presidential elections approach. Most importantly, however, the country's political situation appears to be deteriorating, overshadowing all other arenas. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=42182&prog=zgp,zru&pr oj=zie> [HTML format, various paging].

Waltzing with the Elephant: The Painful but Inevitable Convergence of Germany and the Euro-Periphery. Brookings Institution. Carlo Bastasin. December 20, 2010.

Despite an incredibly severe global economic crisis, the number of unemployed people in Germany has been shrinking: in January 2005 unemployment rolls in Germany topped five million, and today they number less than three million. Recently the OECD forecasted that in the next two years Germany will again overtake China as the country with the world's highest balance of payments surplus reaching 7.6 percent of GNP. For some eurozone countries, coping with Germany's economic stellar performance is becoming as difficult as waltzing with an elephant, says the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2010/1220_german_economy_bastasin/1220_german_economy_bastasin.pdf [PDF format, 5 pages].

India Battles for Transparency - Part I. YaleGlobal. Sadanand Dhume. December 22, 2010.

Debates comparing the rise of India and China often center on which is on the fast track as global leader, the world's largest democracy versus the authoritarian state ruled by the Communist Party. Democracies are not immune to opaque processes or sets of complex rules known only to insiders, and this two-part series examines how corruption could impede India's rise. The author analyzes India's scandal over a limited number of 2G telecom licenses allocated to corporations at discount rates. The investigation, along with recorded telephone conversations among an elite ring of politicians, corporate executives and journalists in India, Dhume notes, give "an overwhelming impression that the exercise of power in India is compromised by a culture of rampant cronyism." [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/india-battles-transparency-part-i> [HTML format, various paging].

India Battles for Transparency - Part II. YaleGlobal. Pranab Bardhan. December 24, 2010.

The second report in the series examines the rise in corruption and its impact on India's global standing. Bardhan compares structural elements of the two states and pinpoints reasons for rising corruption, including layers of regulation and bureaucratic review and fast-rising value of scarce public resources and opportunities for profiting from favored allocation. In China, the corrupt can anticipate harsh penalties, and promotions are tied to economic performance. Both systems suffer from "cronyism." Rather than fall into cynicism and acceptance, Bardhan urges governments and citizens to tighten their resolve for constant vigilance. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/india-battles-transparency-%E2%80%93-part-ii> [HTML format, various paging].

Chavez Alters Venezuela's Constitutional Regime. Council on Foreign Relations. Joel D. Hirst. December 20, 2010.

Early in the morning of December 3, 2007, a humbled Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez admitted his defeat (MSNBC) in a national election. For the first time, voters had rejected him at the polls -- saying no to his bold attempt to modify sixty-nine articles of Venezuela's 1999 constitution and usher in a "socialist state." But that contrition was short lived. Using the gradual passage of "organic laws" by his overwhelming majority in the National Assembly, Chavez has enacted almost all aspects of his proposed 2007 constitution. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/23667/chavez_alters_venezuelas_constitutional_regime.html [HTML format, various paging].

Americans See U.S. as Exceptional; 37% Doubt Obama Does. Gallup. Jeffrey M. Jones. December 22, 2010.

Americans widely agree that the United States has a unique character because of its history and Constitution that sets it apart from other nations as the greatest in the world. This view, commonly referred to as "U.S. exceptionalism," is shared by at least 73% of Americans in all party groups, including 91% of Republicans. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.gallup.com/poll/145358/Americans-Exceptional-Doubt-Obama.aspx> [HTML format, various paging].

Biotech Forests: An Environmental Blessing? National Center for Policy Analysis. Wesley Dwyer and H. Sterling Burnett. December 14, 2010.

Genetically modified grains, fruits and vegetables have become ubiquitous on U.S. farms and in supermarkets. Genetically modified trees could be a boon as well, say the authors.

[*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.ncpa.org/pdfs/ba734.pdf> [PDF format, 2 pages].

Classified Information Policy and Executive Order 13526. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kevin R. Kosar. December 10, 2010.

Recently, there have been multiple high-profile incidents involving the release of classified government information. Perhaps most prominent was *Wikileaks.org's* unauthorized publication of more than 600,000 classified Department of Defense documents. Such incidents have further heightened congressional, media, and public interest in classified information policy. President Barack H. Obama issued Executive Order 13526 on "Classified National Security Information" on December 29, 2009, and Congress enacted P.L. 111-258, the Reducing Over-Classification Act, which President Obama signed into law on October 9, 2010.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/153313.pdf> [PDF format, 22 pages].

The Debate Over Airport Security. Council on Foreign Relations. Jayshree Bajoria. December 28, 2010.

New screening measures at U.S. airports are being called overly intrusive by some passengers and civil rights groups. National security experts advise using a system that relies more on intelligence, behavioral profiling, and empowering passengers. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/23673/debate_over_airport_security.html [HTML format, various paging].

A Guide for Deficit Reduction in the United States Based on Historical Consolidations That Worked. American Enterprise Institute. Andrew G. Biggs et al. December 27, 2010.

Most developed countries face the need for significant policy changes to balance their budgets over the long run. Yet there is significant disagreement in the literature concerning the identification and impact of successful fiscal consolidations. The paper explores the impact that differing assumptions and methodologies have on conclusions, and derive bounds across specifications that can be used by policymakers in designing their own reforms. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/20101227-Econ-WP-2010-04.pdf> [PDF format, 68 pages].

Politics Goes Mobile. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Lee Rainie and Aaron Smith. December 23, 2010.

More than a quarter of American adults - 26% - used their cell phones to learn about or participate in the 2010 mid-term election campaign. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2010/PIP_Mobile_Politics.pdf [PDF format, 11 pages].

Top Stories of 2010: Haiti Earthquake, Gulf Oil Spill. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. December 21, 2010.

Two major disasters -- the earthquake in Haiti and the oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico -- captured the public's attention more than any other major stories in 2010, but Americans also kept a consistent eye on the nation's struggling economy. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1837/top-news-stories-2010-public-interest-haiti-earthquake-gulf-oil-spill> [HTML format, various paging].

Transfer and Articulation Policies. Education Commission of the States. Matthew Smith. December 2010.

An increase in the number of transfer and articulation policies over the past decade demonstrates that state legislatures and higher education governing boards have recognized the need for such policies. At least two-thirds of states have one or more of the following: Enabling legislation; Cooperative system or institutional agreements; Web sites devoted to clearly articulating transfer policy; or a transferable common core. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.ecs.org/clearinghouse/90/70/9070.pdf> [PDF format, 15 pages].

Creative Economy Report 2010. U.N. Conference on Trade and Development. December 15, 2010.

Early evidence indicates that demand for some "creative industry" products -- particularly those which are domestically consumed, such as videos, music, video games, and new formats for TV programs -- remained stable during the global recession. This economic sector, especially if supported by enlightened government policies, may help national economies, including those of

developing countries, to recover from the downturn, contends the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/ditctab20103_en.pdf [PDF format, 423 pages].

Oil to Cash: Fighting the Resource Curse through Cash Transfers. Center for Global Development. Todd Moss. January 4, 2011.

Many of the world's poorest and most fragile states are joining the ranks of oil and gas producers. These countries face critical policy questions about managing and spending new revenue in a way that is beneficial to their people. At the same time, a growing number of developing countries have initiated cash transfers as a response to poverty, and these programs are showing some impressive results. In this paper, I propose putting these two trends together: countries seeking to manage new resource wealth should consider distributing income directly to citizens as cash transfers. Beyond serving as a powerful and proven policy intervention, cash transfers may also mitigate the corrosive effect natural resource revenue often has on governance. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1424714/> [HTML format with links].

Review of Maritime Transport 2010. U.N. Conference on Trade and Development. December 20, 2010.

More than 80% of international trade in goods is carried by sea, and an even higher percentage of developing-country trade is carried in ships. It closely monitors developments affecting world seaborne trade, freight rates, ports, surface transport, and logistics services, as well as trends in ship ownership and control and fleet age, tonnage supply, and productivity. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/rmt2010_en.pdf [PDF format, 212 pages].

The Role of Women in Global Security. U.S. Institute of Peace. Valerie Norville. January 2011.

The report examines women's roles in peace building, post-conflict reconstruction, and economic development. It draws on discussions at the conference on "The Role of Women in Global Security," held in Copenhagen on October 29-30, 2010, and co-hosted by the U.S. Embassy in Denmark and the Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in partnership with the U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP). Ambassador Laurie S. Fulton, U.S. Ambassador to Denmark and former member of USIP's board, brought together participants from the United States, Nordic-Baltic countries, Afghanistan, Liberia, and Uganda to focus on the roles that women can play as leaders in areas of active conflict and post-conflict. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR264-The_role_of_Women_in_Global_Security.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

World Youth Report: Youth & Climate Change. United Nations. 2010.

The 2010 World Youth Report focus on youth and climate change, and is intended to highlight the important role young people play in addressing climate change, and to offer suggestions on how young people might be more effectively integrated as individuals and collective agents of change within the realm of climate change adaptation and mitigation. The Report is designated to assist youth and youth organizations in educating themselves and to become more actively involved in combating the threat of climate change. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/WYR2010Final%20online%20version.pdf> [PDF format, 192 pages].

Asset Dynamics in Northern Nigeria. International Food Policy Research Institute. Andrew Dillon and Esteban J. Quinones. December 2010.

The paper examines household asset dynamics and gender-differentiated asset inequality over a 20-year period (1988-2008) in northern Nigeria. It shows that the initial endowments of both household capital and livestock holdings are inconsistent with the poverty trap hypothesis but that tracking rules for households in panel surveys may lead to differences in empirical results on poverty traps. Initial livestock holdings have an effect on women's future livestock holdings but not on their livestock shares within the household, as the effect of initial livestock holdings on men's future livestock levels was much greater than its effect on women's levels. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/ifpridp01049.pdf> [PDF format, 32 pages].

Breaking the Cycle of Electoral Violence in Nigeria. U.S. Institute of Peace. Ebere Onwudiwe and Chloe Berwind-Dart. December 2010.

On Christmas, an explosion ruined a church in Jos in Plateau State, Nigeria. A total of 38 people were killed in the Jos vicinity over the Christmas holidays. This is but the latest chapter of fighting between Christians and Muslims in Plateau State. Many other factors besides religion lie behind the fighting, but the fault line between Christians and Muslims is a recurring source of tension. According to the report, all of Nigeria is focused on the national and state elections scheduled for April 2011. Past elections have lacked credibility but the federal government has given assurances that the 2011 elections will be different. Violence relating to elections is always a threat in Nigeria. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR263-Breaking_the_Cycle_of_Electoral_Violence_in_Nigeria.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

Country Analysis Briefs: Malaysia. Energy Information Administration. December 2010.

Malaysia's national oil and gas company, Petroleam Nasional Berhad (Petronas), holds exclusive ownership rights to all oil and gas exploration and production projects in Malaysia and is the single largest contributor of Malaysian government revenues, almost half in 2009, by way of dividends and taxes. As Malaysia's oil fields are maturing, the government is focused on enhancing output from existing fields and from new offshore developments of both oil and gas, which are expected to increase aggregate production capacity in the near- to mid-term.
<http://www.eia.gov/emeu/cabs/Malaysia/pdf.pdf> [PDF format, 8 pages].

Country Analysis Briefs: Saudi Arabia. Energy Information Administration. January 2011.

Saudi Arabia was the world's largest producer and exporter of total petroleum liquids in 2010, and the world's second largest crude oil producer behind Russia. Saudi Arabia's economy remains heavily dependent on crude oil. Oil export revenues have accounted for 80-90 percent of total Saudi revenues and above 40 percent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP).
http://www.eia.gov/emeu/cabs/Saudi_Arabia/pdf.pdf [PDF format, 11 pages].

Perils in Pakistan's Political Crisis. Council on Foreign Relations. January 3, 2011.

The Pakistani government's loss of its parliamentary majority has raised new concerns among some analysts of instability for a country crucial to U.S. efforts to combat Taliban and al-Qaeda militants. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.cfr.org/publication/23707/perils_in_pakistans_political_crisis.html [HTML format, various paging].

Felipe Calderon's War: It's Time for a Serious Debate. Brookings Institution. Kevin Casas-Zamora. December 30, 2010.

On current trends, Mexico will end 2010 with more than 11,000 drug-related executions, nearly five times as many as in 2006, at the dawn of President Felipe Calderón's offensive against the

country's drug trafficking cartels. Even worse is the fact that drug-related violence is spreading throughout Mexico. In 2008, three states -Chihuahua, Sinaloa and Baja California--accounted for 57% of executions. Two years later, the figure is down to 47% and falling. These numbers, as well as the recent massacres perpetrated by the cartels in places like Mexico City and Nayarit, which hitherto had been largely spared of the violence, spell serious trouble for the Mexican government. So far, the one silver lining about the spiraling violence in Mexico was that it was narrowly contained in a few places. This is now changing, says the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/articles/2010/1230_mexico_drug_war_casaszamora.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

65% of Internet Users Have Paid for Online Content. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Jim Jansen. December 30, 2010.

Nearly two-thirds of internet users (65%) have paid to download or access some kind of online content from the internet, ranging from music to games to news articles. Music, software, and apps are the most popular content that internet users have paid to access or download, although the range of paid online content is quite varied and widespread. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2010/PIP-Paying-for-Online-Content_final.pdf [PDF format, 13 pages].

Critical Materials Strategy. U.S. Department of Energy. December 2010.

The report examines the role of rare earth metals and other materials in the clean energy economy. Its main conclusions include several clean energy technologies and sound policies. <http://www.energy.gov/news/documents/criticalmaterialsstrategy.pdf> [PDF format, 166 pages].

Hunger and Homelessness Survey. The United States Conference of Mayors. December 2010.

The issues of hunger and homelessness still remain major challenges in U.S. cities according to the report. on the status of Hunger and Homelessness in 27 cities in America. For more than a quarter century, The Conference of Mayors has documented the magnitude of the issues of hunger and homelessness in our nation's cities, as well as efforts cities are making to address these challenges. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.usmayors.org/pressreleases/uploads/2010_Hunger-Homelessness_Report-final%20Dec%2021%202010.pdf [PDF format, 102 pages].

Multiple Perspectives on Battered Mothers and their Children Fleeing to the United States for Safety: A Study of Hague Convention Cases. U.S. Department of Justice. Jeffrey L. Edleson et al. December 2010.

Mothers who flee with their children because of domestic violence may have few other options to ensure their safety and that of their children in the face of their partner's violence. Yet when their flight takes them across international boundaries, they become vulnerable to being legally treated as an "abducting" parent by the courts. The report focuses on the situations of women who experienced abuse in another country and came to the United States in an effort to protect themselves and their children, but who then faced civil actions in U.S. state or federal courts for child abduction under international legal agreements.

<http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/232624.pdf> [PDF format, 405 pages].

National Information Sharing Strategy 2011. Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice. 2011.

The FBI National Information Sharing Strategy provides the goals and structure to initiate and implement information sharing activities and capabilities. This Strategy is multi-faceted and emphasizes reinforcement of a culture that encourages information sharing, makes information sharing easier through the focused use of information technology and policy, and makes information sharing more effective. By promoting an information sharing culture and by instituting policies, procedures and technical capabilities to empower it, the FBI is creating the climate necessary for its professionals to fully embrace their information sharing role and deepen their understanding of both threats and opportunities which will enable informed decisions and effective action to strengthen the national security of the U.S.

<http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/national-information-sharing-strategy-1/national-information-sharing-strategy-2011> [PDF format, 12 pages].

Public's Top Stories of the Decade - 9/11 and Katrina. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. December 30, 2010.

The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 drew more public interest than any other story in the past decade. The 2005 hurricanes in the Gulf, high gasoline prices and the collapse of the economy in 2008 also grabbed overwhelming public attention. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1841/publics-top-news-stories-2001-2010-september-11-katrina> [HTML format, various paging].

Social Security and Medicare Taxes and Benefits Over a Lifetime. Urban Institute. C. Eugene Steuerle and Stephanie Rennane. January 2011.

How much will you pay in Social Security and Medicare taxes over your lifetime? And how much can you expect to get back in benefits? It depends on whether you're married, when you retire, and how much you've earned over a lifetime. The tables provide estimates of the lifetime value of Social Security and Medicare benefits and taxes for typical workers in different generations at various earning levels. The "lifetime value of taxes" is based upon the value of accumulated taxes, as if those taxes were put into an account that earned a 2 percent real rate of return (that is, 2 percent plus inflation). The "lifetime value of benefits" represents the amount needed in an account (also earning a 2 percent real interest rate) to pay for those benefits. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/social-security-medicare-benefits-over-lifetime.pdf> [PDF format, 6 pages].

State High School Tests: Exit Exams and Other Assessments. Center on Education Policy. December 21, 2010.

The study discusses new developments in state high school exit exam policies and how students enrolled in school in states with these policies are affected. It finds that 28 states required high school exit exams in the 2009-10 school year (up from 26 in 2009), and public schools in those states enroll 83 percent of the nation's students of color and more than three-quarters of the country's low-income pupils [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cep-dc.org/index.cfm?DocumentTopicID=24&sortBy=url.DocumentPublicationDate&sortDir=Desc> [HTML format with links].

Global Aging and the Crisis of the 2020s. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Richard Jackson and Neil Howe. January 4, 2011.

From the fall of the Roman and the Mayan empires to the Black Death to the colonization of the New World and the youth-driven revolutions of the twentieth century, demographic trends have played a decisive role in many of the great invasions, political upheavals, migrations, and environmental catastrophes of history. By the 2020s, an ominous new conjuncture of

demographic trends may once again threaten widespread disruption. The report discusses global aging, which is likely to have a profound effect on economic growth, living standards, and the shape of the world. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://csis.org/publication/global-aging-and-crisis-2020s> [HTML format with links].

Southern Sudan's Milestone Referendum. Council on Foreign Relations. Deborah Jerome. January 7, 2011.

The January 9 referendum on southern Sudan's secession is expected to go smoothly, but some experts caution that disputes over oil and land, and the south's volatility, could mean a violent transition, says the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://www.cfr.org/publication/23754/southern_sudans_milestone_referendum.html [HTML format, various paging].

China's Green Ambition, US Sees Red. YaleGlobal. Michael Richardson. January 5, 2011.

As factory to the world, China is hungry for energy. The nation secures traditional sources of energy - as the largest producer and consumer of coal, ranking second in oil consumption and imports, fifth for oil production, and is also intent on dominating the global renewable-energies industry. Recognizing that the rapidly-growing industry creates jobs, China devotes a growing pile of investment funds targeted for green-energy development, explains the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/chinas-green-ambition-us-sees-red> [HTML format, various paging].

Hu Jintao's State Visit: China and the Korean Peninsula. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Victor Cha. January 6, 2011.

On January 19, President Hu Jintao of China will arrive in Washington for his third state visit since President Barack Obama's inauguration. On the agenda will be discussion of a wide range of issues, including global trade imbalances, currency valuation, Iran's nuclear program, global climate change, and most critically, North Korea. President Hu's trip comes after a year of difficult relations between the United States and China over North Korea's provocations. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://csis.org/publication/hu-jintaos-state-visit-china-and-korean-peninsula> [HTML format, various paging].

U.S. South-Korea Relations. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Mark E. Manyin et al. December 8, 2010.

Since late 2008, relations between the United States and South Korea (known officially as the Republic of Korea, or ROK) have been arguably at their best state in decades. By the middle of 2010, in the view of many in the Obama Administration, South Korea had emerged as the United States' closest ally in East Asia. U.S.-South Korean coordination over policy towards North Korea has been particularly close. The Obama and Lee Administrations have adopted a medium-to-longer-term policy of "strategic patience" that involves three main elements: refusing to return to the Six-Party Talks without an assurance from North Korea that it would take "irreversible steps" to denuclearize; gradually attempting to alter China's strategic assessment of North Korea; and using Pyongyang's provocations as opportunities to tighten sanctions against North Korean entities.
<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/R41481.pdf> [PDF format, 33 pages].

The Middle East: Selected Key Issues and Options for the 112th Congress. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Casey L. Addis et al. January 3, 2011.

The Middle East presents an array of challenges to U.S. foreign policy. Although the United States maintains strong relations with several key Arab and non-Arab states such as Israel, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Turkey, other state and non-state actors, such as Iran, the Lebanese Shiite group Hezbollah in Lebanon, and the Palestinian Sunni group Hamas, are aligned against U.S. interests. The U.S. and its regional and international allies continue to work to limit the influence of these actors while advocating for economic and political reform to address ongoing socioeconomic challenges and to promote democracy and a greater respect for human rights in the region.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/R41556.pdf> [PDF format, 20 pages].

Lady Ashton and Jalili/Salehi: What Next in Istanbul? Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Pierre Goldschmidt. January 5, 2011.

If Iran's intention is to become a nuclear-weapon threshold state without allowing the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to uncover its progress toward that goal, then its current stalling tactics would seem appropriate. However, if Iran's nuclear intentions are exclusively peaceful, then it is necessary to convince the Iranian leadership that its non-cooperative policies are counterproductive. This will not be an easy task considering the huge and persistent mistrust between Iran and most of the main nuclear supplier states, according to the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=42225&prog=zgp&proj=znp> [HTML format, various paging].

What Sadr's Return Means for Iraq. Council on Foreign Relations. Mohamad Bazzie. January 6, 2011.

Muqtada al-Sadr, one of the most popular Shiite clerics and an unrelenting rival of the United States in Iraq, has returned to his home in the southern Iraqi city of Najaf after three years of self-imposed exile in Iran. The cleric's surprise homecoming is a victory lap after he played a role as kingmaker in ending months of political paralysis following the country's national election in March and securing a second term for Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/23737/what_sadrs_return_means_for_iraq.html [HTML format, various paging].

Pakistan Floods 2010: Preliminary Damage and Needs Assessment. The World Bank. Web posted December 29, 2010.

Pakistan experienced extraordinary rainfall in mid-July 2010, which continued until September 2010. The rains/floods have affected over 20 million people. In the wake of the floods, the Government of Pakistan requested the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank (WB) to lead the Damage and Needs Assessment (DNA). [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/PAKISTANEXTN/Resources/293051-1264873659180/6750579-1291656195263/PakistanFloodsDNA_December2010.pdf [PDF format, 188 pages].

Designing Social Media Policy for Government. Brookings Institution. Jana Hrdinova and Natalie Helbig. January 2011.

Government agencies in the United States and around the world are increasingly looking to leverage social media to improve the quality of government services and enable greater citizen engagement. One central challenge that has emerged is the blurring line between the three types of social media use by government employees, namely agency use, professional use, and personal use. In this brief, the Center for Technology in Government at the University at Albany

draws on its research on social media to clarify these different use types and why they matter for designing social media policy. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/01_social_media_policy/01_social_media_policy.pdf [PDF format, 9 pages].

The 2010 Congressional Reapportionment and Latinos. Pew Hispanic Center. January 5, 2011.

Hispanic voters are nearly three times more prevalent in states that gained congressional seats and Electoral College votes in the 2010 reapportionment than they are in states that lost seats, according to the analysis. Based on averages reflecting congressional gains and losses, 15.2% of the eligible voter population in states that gained seats is Hispanic, compared with just 5.4% of eligible voters in those states that lost seats. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/132.pdf> [PDF format, 11 pages].

Environmental Health in Early Childhood Systems Building. National Center for Children in Poverty. Andrea Bachrach et al. December 2010.

Exposure to environmental hazards has negative outcomes for healthy child development. Household and community pollutants affect people of all ages, but for a number of important reasons young children face a significantly higher risk of developing disease and experiencing cognitive and psychomotor developmental delays. Fortunately, many common forms of exposure are preventable, and there are abundant opportunities for state level stakeholders to initiate and support effective interventions. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text_981.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

Faith on the Hill: The Religious Composition of the 112th Congress. Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. January 5, 2011.

Many analysts described the November 2010 midterm elections as a sea change, with Republicans taking control of the U.S. House of Representatives and narrowing the Democratic majority in the Senate. But this political overhaul appears to have had little effect on the religious composition of Congress, which is similar to the religious makeup of the previous Congress and of the nation, according to the analysis. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewforum.org/Government/Faith-on-the-Hill--The-Religious-Composition-of-the-112th-Congress.aspx#2> [HTML format, various paging].

How Important Are Inheritances for Baby Boomers? Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. Alicia H. Munnell et al. January 2011.

Due to a changing retirement landscape, many baby boomers are likely to have insufficient resources for a secure retirement. One potential source that could improve their situation is inheritances. The study quantifies the aggregate amount of inheritances that baby boomers, those individuals born between 1946 and 1964, can expect to receive over their lifetimes, and the distribution of past and prospective receipts by household type. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://crr.bc.edu/images/stories/Briefs/IB_11-1.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

International Trade and Finance: Key Policy Issues for the 112th Congress. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Raymond J. Ahearn. December 30, 2010.

The 112th Congress faces a full agenda of international trade and finance issues. Early in 2011, the Obama Administration is expected to ask Congress to approve a free trade agreement (FTA) with South Korea and possibly FTAs with Colombia and Panama. The Administration is seeking to conclude the much larger ten year-old World Trade Organization's (WTO) Doha Round of

multilateral trade negotiations, which, if completed, would also require congressional approval. The Administration is also negotiating a Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement, a regional FTA that currently includes nine countries on both sides of the Pacific.
<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41553.pdf> [PDF format, 27 pages].

Internet Gains on Television as Public's Main News Source. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. January 4, 2011.

The internet is slowly closing in on television as Americans' main source of national and international news. Currently, 41% say they get most of their news about national and international news from the internet, which is little changed over the past two years but up 17 points since 2007. Television remains the most widely used source for national and international news - 66% of Americans say it is their main source of news - but that is down from 74% three years ago and 82% as recently as 2002. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://people-press.org/reports/pdf/689.pdf> [PDF format, 9 pages].

New Decade, New Hopes for Job Growth. Brookings Institution. Michael Greenstone and Adam Looney. January 7, 2011.

The December employment number released today by the U.S. Department of Labor, show signs of improvement in the labor market. The economy added 103,000 jobs last month, although encouraging after last month's disappointing growth, this is not large enough to absorb new entrants and make a dent in the "job gap," explained in the report. However, unemployment fell to 9.4 percent. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0107_jobs_greenstone_looney.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

Visa Security Policy: Roles of the Department of State and Homeland Security. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Ruth Ellen Wasem. December 16, 2010.

Foreign nationals not already legally residing in the United States who wish to come to the U.S. generally must obtain a visa to be admitted, with certain exceptions noted in law. The Departments of State (DOS) and Homeland Security (DHS) each play key roles in administering the law and policies on the admission of aliens. Although the DOS's Consular Affairs is responsible for issuing visas, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigrant Services (USCIS) in DHS approves immigrant petitions, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in DHS operates the Visa Security Program in selected embassies abroad, and the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in DHS inspects all people who enter the United States.
<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/homsec/R41093.pdf> [PDF format, 24 pages].

Agriculture, Nutrition, Health: Exploiting the Links. International Food Policy Research Institute. Web posted January 2011.

Most people would say that agriculture is for growing food, and on one level, they are right. Agricultural performance, after all, is measured in terms of production and productivity. The point of agriculture doesn't stop there, however. At a deeper level, the purpose of agriculture is not just to grow crops and livestock, but to grow healthy, well-nourished people. Farmers produce a wide range of goods, including cotton, coffee, and energy crops, but one of their ultimate tasks is to produce food of sufficient quantity (that is, enough calories) and quality (with the vitamins and minerals needed by the human body) to feed all of the planet's people so that they can lead healthy, productive lives. Agriculture thus effectively includes goals related to human health and nutrition. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/2020anh_issuebrochure.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

Containing the Atom: Paul Nitze and the Tradition of Non-Use of Nuclear. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Reid Pauly. January 11, 2011.

On a rainy day in June 1982, two men sat on a log in the forest outside of Geneva, Switzerland. Far from the White House and the Kremlin, Paul Nitze and Yuli Kvitszinsky's frank discussion on that afternoon demonstrated that the unlimited proliferation of nuclear arsenals was not predestined, and that individuals long associated with unflinching commitments to nuclear strength could now seriously envision a world without the existence of threatening nuclear arms. The biggest surprise was on the American side, as Paul Nitze, a fixture of the U.S. defense establishment since World War II and the hawkish author of NSC-68, had come to believe in the idea of completely eliminating nuclear weapons. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://csis.org/files/publication/110111_pauly_containing_atom.pdf [PDF format, 22 pages].

Food Crisis, Household Welfare, and HIV/AIDS Treatment: Evidence from Mozambique. Center for Global Development. Damien de Walque et al. January 6, 2011.

Using panel data from Mozambique collected in 2007 and 2008, the authors explore the impact of the food crisis on the welfare of households living with HIV/AIDS. The analysis finds that there has been a real deterioration of welfare in terms of income, food consumption, and nutritional status in Mozambique between 2007 and 2008, among both HIV and comparison households. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1424730/> [HTML format with links].

Dealing With Nuclear North Korea. YaleGlobal. Bennett Ramberg. January 10, 2011.

North Korea's newly revealed uranium-enrichment program continues to advance. No amount of sticks or carrots - negotiations, incentives, sanctions, waiting for the regime to fall - has slowed the North's determination in building its nuclear arsenal, writes the author. Dealing with a state that's otherwise undeveloped, isolated and paranoid remains a leading source of global tension. Recent aggression from the North would seem to preclude one solution, unconditional recognition. Diplomacy would reduce the isolation of North Korea that so far has assured power for its leaders. At the same time, the international community must demonstrate no tolerance of nuclear proliferation. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/dealing-nuclear-north-korea> [HTML format, various paging].

A Tale of Two Ports: Gwadar and Chabahar Display Chinese-Indian Rivalry in the Arabian Sea. YaleGlobal. Christopher Jaffrelot. January 7, 2011.

A common strategy in geopolitical rivalries is to accrue alliances, strengthen positions and counter competitors. Two ports in the Arabian Sea, one in Iran and another Pakistan, demonstrate an emerging contest for power in the Arabian Sea, explains Christophe Jaffrelot, China helps Pakistan with its port at Gwadar while India assists Iran with the port at Chabahar. The development entails rail lines, highways and other massive construction projects and signals that the emerging Asian giants seek connections while resisting encirclement by rivals. Some of the new alliances make for strange bedfellows and, depending on political or military events, may not last for long. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/tale-two-ports> [HTML format, various paging].

Defining Success in Afghanistan. American Enterprise Institute. Frederick W. Kagan and Kimberly Kagan. January 7, 2011

Success in Afghanistan is the establishment of a political order, security situation, and indigenous security force that is stable, viable, enduring, and able--with greatly reduced international support--to prevent Afghanistan from being a safe haven for international terrorists. The current American and Coalition strategy is making progress and should be continued. Since President Obama,

NATO allies, and the Afghans have agreed that troops will be present in Afghanistan through 2014, the policy does not require substantial modifications at this point. The paper is on the current situation in Afghanistan and a consideration of some of the prospects and challenges ahead. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.aei.org/docLib/DefiningSuccessinAfghanistanElectronicVersion.pdf> [PDF format, 40 pages].

Winners and Losers in the Iraqi Election Battle. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Marina Ottaway and Danial A. Kaysi. January 10, 2011.

While Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki has succeeded in maintaining political power, the new government still faces significant challenges, including complex political alliances that could undermine much needed legislation, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=42260&prog=zgp&proj=zme> [HTML format, various paging].

Celebrating Reform: Doing Business. The World Bank. Simeon Djankov et al. January 2011.

Reforming business regulation takes leadership-more than many other reforms. Committed leaders provide vision, energy and direction to improving business climates, often in the face of daunting challenges. Some of the case studies included in this report are: celebrating reform by Simeon Djankov and Caralee McIlesh; starting a business (quickly) in El Salvador by James Newton, Sylvia Solf, and Adriana Vicentini; how to double business entry in two years by Tom Jersild and Zoran Skopljak; employing Macedonia's youth by Adam Larson, Kiril Minoski, and Janet Morris; protecting investors from self-dealing by Melissa Johns and Jean Michel Lobet; adding a million taxpayers by Rita Ramalho; speeding up trade by Allen Dennis; repairing a car with the engine running by Sabine Hertveldt; and faster, more orderly exit by Justin Yap. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2011/01/05/000334955_20110105024618/Rendered/PDF/587860WP0CaseS10BOX353819B01PUBLIC1.pdf [PDF format, 68 pages].

Haiti's Fatally Flawed Election. Center for Economic and Policy Research Jake Johnston and Mark Weisbrot. January 2011.

The report describes the results of an independent recount of vote tally sheets from Haiti's November 28 presidential election. These 11,181 election tally sheets from across Haiti were posted online by Haiti's Provisional Electoral Council (CEP). It finds that for some 1,326 voting booths, or 11.9 percent of the total, tally sheets were either never received by the CEP or were quarantined for irregularities. This corresponds to about 12.7 percent of the vote, which was not counted and is not included in the final totals that were released by the CEP on December 7, 2010 and reported by the press. It also found many more tally sheets that had irregularities in the vote totals that were sufficient to disqualify them, and a large number of clerical errors that further undermines the credibility of the vote count. The report finds that based on the numbers of irregularities, it is impossible to determine who should advance to a second round. If there is a second round, it will be based on arbitrary assumptions and/or exclusions. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/haiti-2011-01.pdf> [PDF format, 15 pages].

Information Technology and Student Achievement: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment in Ecuador. Inter-American Development Bank. Paul Carrillo et al. Web posted January 2011.

The paper studies the effects of information and communication technologies (ICT) in the school environment on educational achievement. To quantify these effects, the impact is evaluated of a

project run by the municipality of Guayaquil, Ecuador, which provides computer-aided instruction in mathematics and language to students in primary schools. Using an experimental design, it is found that the program had a positive impact on mathematics test scores (about 0.30 of a standard deviation) and a negative but statistically insignificant effect on language test scores. The impact is heterogeneous and is much larger for those students at the top of the achievement distribution. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?docnum=35554298> [PDF format, 31 pages].

Security After the Quake? Addressing Violence and Rape in Haiti. U.S. Institute of Peace. Brooke Stedman. January 7, 2011.

In the wake of Haiti's disastrous earthquake, international organizations have begun to recognize gender-based violence as a significant area of concern, particularly within Port-au-Prince's internally displaced persons (IDP) camps. Other forms of gender-based violence include not only rape, but also sexual abuse. Grassroots organizations are working to reduce and better document sexual violence and to establish local mechanisms for increasing security throughout Haiti's tent encampments. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB73-Security_After_the_Quake.pdf [PDF format, 3 pages].

Becoming American: Beyond the Melting Pot. International Information Program, U.S. Department of State. January 2011.

The United States is often referred to as the "Great Melting Pot," a metaphor that connotes the blending of many cultures, languages and religions to form a single national identity. But this metaphor fails to capture the slow, complex and frequently turbulent process by which immigrants of diverse backgrounds and beliefs join U.S. society, even as they transform it.
http://www.america.gov/media/pdf/ejs/en_0111_immigration.pdf#popup [PDF format, 32 pages].

History Repeat?: NRA Has Blocked New Gun Laws After Tragedies Like Tucson. Center for Public Integrity. Peter H. Stone. January 11, 2011.

The killing spree by an Arizona man wielding a semiautomatic pistol with a high-capacity magazine raises the prospect of a fresh debate on whether the country needs tougher gun controls. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.publicintegrity.org/articles/entry/2818/> [HTML format, various paging].

Jazz Masters. National Endowment for the Arts. January 2011.

The study profiles NEA Jazz Masters from 1982 to 2011 with brief biographies and selected discographies for all 119 honorees. It includes a brief history of NEA's creation of the Jazz Masters program and an overview of the newly expanded program.
<http://nea.gov/pub/2011-JazzMasters.pdf> [PDF format, 139 pages].

U.S. Deepwater Drilling's Future. Council on Foreign Relations. Toni Johnson. January 7, 2011.

The Gulf of Mexico oil spill spotlights the growth of deepwater drilling and the challenges of balancing strong environmental regulation with efforts to expand U.S. domestic oil production. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://www.cfr.org/publication/22204/us_deepwater_drillings_future.html [HTML format, various paging].

2010 Tied for Warmest Year on Record. National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration. January 12, 2011.

According to NOAA scientists, 2010 tied with 2005 as the warmest year of the global surface temperature record, beginning in 1880. This was the 34th consecutive year with global temperatures above the 20th century average. For the contiguous United States alone, the 2010 average annual temperature was above normal, resulting in the 23rd warmest year on record. http://www.noaa.gov/stories2011/20110112_globalstats.html [HTML format, various paging].

Decision-making and Action Taking: Fisheries Management in a Changing Climate. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. David Fluharty. January 2011.

Decision-makers in fisheries management are confronted with the challenge of how to respond to existing and predicted changes in ocean conditions that are likely to affect the stocks of fish they manage. In order to address climate change most research and thinking advises decision-makers to ensure that fisheries are well-managed and abundant in an ecosystem context. These policies can best allow fisheries to adapt to changing climate. To address climate change, decision-makers should carefully monitor changing conditions and potential changes in factors affecting fish stock abundance, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. <http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/download/fulltext/5kgkhn9gpth.pdf?expires=1295014704&id=0000&accname=quest&checksum=0BCAF2D31EA1B65369D2DD94D70E84A2> [PDF format, 31 pages].

Nuclear Power's Global Expansion: Weighing Its Costs and Risks. Strategic Studies Institute. Henry D. Sokolski. Ed. January 13, 2011.

Will the global spread of nuclear power programs, which could bring many more countries much closer to acquiring nuclear weapons capabilities, be an inevitable consequence of energy market economics? Or is such an expansion impossible without government subsidies and new policies to support them? The study showcases the analyses of some of the world's leading energy experts to shed light on this key 21st century security issue. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. <http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=1041> [HTML format with links].

Africa Fighting Malaria: Improving Assessments of Fake and Substandard Drugs in the Field. American Enterprise Institute. Roger Bate. January 13, 2011. Substandard and counterfeit drugs can be lethal to patients and accelerate drug resistance across at-risk populations. This is a major problem for diseases like malaria with few high-quality treatments available. Some African governments, notably Nigeria and Ghana, have responded to this challenge, often with help from donors, and have deployed an array of technologies to assist them. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. <http://www.aei.org/docLib/africafightingmalaria.pdf> [PDF format, 4 pages].

Foresight Africa: The Continent's Greatest Challenges and Opportunities for 2011. Africa Growth Institute, Brookings Institution. Ernest Aryeetey et al. January 11, 2011.

Before the recent global economic crisis, African countries experienced one of the longest periods of economic expansion. Although Africa weathered the crisis much better than many other regions, its economies remain fragile and daunted by the challenge of achieving sufficiently high growth rates. Yet, there are also many opportunities that offer hope for African countries to achieve sustainable growth in 2011. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2011/01_africa_economy_agi/01_africa_economy_agi.pdf [PDF format, 36 pages].

Promises Unfulfilled: An Assessment of China's National Human Rights Action Plan. Human Rights Watch. January 11, 2011.

The report details how despite the Chinese government's progress in protection of some economic and social rights, it has undermined many of the key goals of the National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP) by tightening restrictions on rights of expression, association, and assembly over the past two years. The report highlights how that rollback of key civil and political rights enabled rather than reduced a host of human rights abuses specifically addressed in the NHRAP. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2011/01/11/promises-unfulfilled-0> [HTML format with links].

Strengthen Ties with China, But Get Tough on Trade. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. January 12, 2011.

As President Obama prepares to host Chinese President Hu Jintao next week, Americans increasingly see Asia as the region of the world that is most important to the United States. While Americans see China as a rising global power, relatively few characterize the U.S.-China relationship as adversarial; China is seen primarily as an economic threat, rather than a military one. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1855/china-americans-want-closer-ties-but-tougher-trade-policy> [HTML format, various paging].

Taiwan: Elections at Home, Economic Relations with the Mainland and U.S.-China-Taiwan Relations. Foreign Policy Research Institute. Jacques deLisle. January 2011.

What do Taiwan's November 2010 elections for the mayors of five major municipalities and the signing of a major economic accord with mainland China in June 2010 mean for Taiwan's political future, including the 2012 presidential contest, and relations among Taiwan, the People's Republic of China and the United States? [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.fpri.org/enotes/201101.delisle.taiwanelection.pdf> [PDF format, 6 pages].

Bosnia: Europe's Time to Act. International Crisis Group. January 11, 2011.

According to the report, the European Union (EU) should make 2011 the year when it finally takes the lead international role in helping Bosnia on its journey from a war-ravaged ward to a stable member state. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/europe/B59%20Bosnia%20-%20Europes%20Time%20to%20Act.ashx> [PDF format, 20 pages].

Eurasian Energy: Hot and Cold. Atlantic Council. Boyko Nitzov. January 12, 2011.

The report surveys the current state of energy markets in Central Eurasia, and explores areas for improvement and reform. It focuses on hydrocarbons. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/403/011211_ACUS_Nitzov_EurasiaEnergy.PDF [PDF format, 6 pages].

The Eurozone's Next Crisis. Council on Foreign Relations. Roya Wolverson. January 13, 2011.

Portugal could be the next victim of the eurozone debt crisis, but an EU-IMF led bailout is unlikely to solve the eurozone's larger problems, experts say. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/23790/eurozones_next_crisis.html [HTML format, various paging].

Country Analysis Briefs: Qatar. Energy Information Administration. January 2011.

Qatar is a member of the Organization of the Oil Exporting Countries (OPEC) and is a significant oil producer. The Qatari government has devoted more resources recently to the development of natural gas, particularly for export as liquefied natural gas (LNG). Though only producing LNG since 1997, Qatar is now the world's largest supplier of LNG. Qatar is also a member and host

country for the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF), an organization formed in 2001 to promote the interest of the world's major gas producers.
<http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/Qatar/pdf.pdf> [PDF format, 10 pages].

Nepal: Identify Politics and Federalism. International Crisis Group. January 13, 2011.

Federal restructuring of the state has emerged as an important commitment in Nepal's constitutional process. If the constitution is not promulgated in time or a decision on federalism is deferred, serious unrest could follow, according to the report.
<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/asia/south-asia/nepal/199%20Nepal%20--%20Identity%20Politics%20and%20Federalism.ashx> [PDF format, 37 pages].

From Relief to Recovery: Supporting Good Governance in Post-Earthquake Haiti. Oxfam International. January 6, 2011.

The humanitarian response undertaken in Haiti after the earthquake that struck on 12 January 2010 has been one of the most complex ever. However, as the first anniversary of the quake approaches, the Haitian state, together with the international community, is making little progress in reconstruction. The Haitian authorities need to show greater strategic leadership and take decisions that reflect the priority needs of the Haitian population, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/haiti-relief-to-recovery-060111-en.pdf> [PDF format, 25 pages].

What do Haitians Need After the Earthquake? Oklahoma State University. Rock Andre and Jayson L. Lusk. February 2011.

The earthquake that hit Haiti in the beginning of 2010 led to tremendous international solidarity in the recovery effort. Despite the tons of aid sent to Haiti, relatively little is known about the effectiveness of the aid or about the continuing needs of the Haitians. Using data collected from in-person surveys with over 1,000 Haitians, the report seeks to quantify some of the impacts of the earthquake while determining people's relative preferences for food and other basic needs in the aftermath of the Haiti's earthquake. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://ageconsearch.umn.edu/bitstream/98631/2/Aid%20relief-Journal%20Article-%20Revised.pdf> [PDF format, 39 pages].

Central American Immigrants in the United States. Migration Policy Institute. Aaron Terrazas. January 2011.

The United States is home to about 2.9 million immigrants from the Central American countries of Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama. Immigration from Central America has grown rapidly in recent decades, but more than two of every five Central American immigrants lack legal immigration status while about one in ten resides in the U.S. under temporary humanitarian protection. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.migrationinformation.org/USfocus/display.cfm?ID=821> [HTML format, various paging].

Filling in the Blanks: How Information Can Affect Choice in Higher Education. American Enterprise Institute. Andrew P. Kelly and Mark Schneider. January 12, 2011.

Spurred on by the Obama administration, and supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Lumina Foundation, the United States has embarked on a "college completion agenda" to increase the number of American adults with postsecondary degrees. Given the current rate at which students fail to complete associate's and bachelor's degrees, the challenge goes beyond simply increasing the number of students who start a degree at colleges and universities. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/fillingintheblanks.pdf> [PDF format, 36 pages].

REAL ID Implementation: Less Expensive, Doable, and Helpful in Reducing Fraud. Center for Immigration Studies. Janice Kephart. January 2011.

REAL ID driver's license provisions derive from two sources. First, the 9/11 Commission recommended in 2004 that Congress set minimum standards for more secure issuance of driver's licenses and birth records. The Commission made this recommendation based on the finding that terrorists' easy access to state-issued IDs helped them embed in the United States, with 18 of the 19 hijackers having acquired a total of 30 state-issued IDs among them, documents that enabled them to board aircraft without additional scrutiny at check-in counters. The second precursor for REAL ID was the 2004 AAMVA Security Framework, which stated that ensuring people are who they say they are requires identity verification and document authentication including date of birth, Social Security number, passport information, and legal status. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cis.org/articles/2011/real-id.pdf> [PDF format, 20 pages].

High Speed Rail in America. America 2050 and Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. January 11, 2011.

The study cites ridership potential as the number one factor in determining if a corridor is suitable for investment, identifies the specific conditions that generate ridership demand, and scores each corridor according to strength in those areas. The top performing corridors in each region determined to have the greatest potential demand for high-speed rail ridership include corridors such as: New York-Washington, DC; Chicago-Milwaukee; Los Angeles-San Diego; Tampa (via Orlando) to Miami; Dallas-Houston; Atlanta-Birmingham; Portland-Seattle; and Denver-Pueblo. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.america2050.org/pdf/HSR-in-America-Complete.pdf> [PDF format, 56 pages].

How Well Are American Students Learning? Brookings Institution. Tom Loveless. February 2011.

Unlike most countries, the United States does not have national education standards, no single set of expectations for what all American teachers should teach and all American students should learn. It never has. A question that the rest of the world considers foundational to its national school systems, deciding the content of the curriculum, sits in the hands of local authorities. That is because the United States has 50 state school systems. Heterogeneity extends to the deepest levels of schooling. Even students transferring from one teacher to another within the same school may, as a consequence, learn a different curriculum than their former classmates. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2011/0111_naep_loveless/0111_naep_loveless.pdf [PDF format, 14 pages].

Obama's Job Ratings, Personal Image Unchanged by Recent Washington Events. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. January 13, 2011.

Neither the trouncing of the Democratic Party in the midterm elections nor the surprising legislative accomplishments of the "lame duck" Congress has had a measurable effect on opinions of Barack Obama. The president's approval ratings have been rock steady since late August and his personal image has changed very little since the middle of last year. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://people-press.org/report/693/> [HTML format, various paging].

Wikipedia, Past and Present. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Kathryn Zickuhr and Lee Rainie. January 13, 2011.

Wikipedia, the "multilingual, web-based, free-content encyclopedia project," was created in 2001 and celebrates its tenth anniversary on January 15, 2011. The percentage of all American adults who use Wikipedia to look for information has increased from 25% in February 2007 to 42% in May 2010. This translates to 53% of adult internet users. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2011/PIP_Wikipedia.pdf [PDF format, 9 pages].

The Sum of All We Are. Urban Institute. C. Eugene Steuerle. January 13, 2011.

What allows us to live and thrive in a good society? To grow and progress so much that we consider it a failure to have a few years of negative or low growth? To live in peace, at least within our borders? To enjoy almost endless possibility? The author strives to answer these questions. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. <http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/901399-the-sum-of.pdf> [PDF format, 2 pages].

The Year in Review: South Korea in 2010. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Ellen Kim. January 13, 2011.

From the sinking of the Cheonan, to North Korea's disclosure of its clandestine uranium enrichment facility, to the shelling of Yeonpyeong Island, a multitude of inter-Korean security crises this year raised a real possibility of war on the Peninsula. With Kim Jong-eun anointed as its future leader, North Korea underwent internal government reshuffling and embarked on a succession process to open a third-generation of the Kim family's dynastic rule. Tensions of armed conflict and rapid developments on the Peninsula had an impact on the regional security landscape. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. http://csis.org/files/publication/110113_korea_platform.pdf [PDF format, 11 pages].

The Gender Dividend: Making the Business Case for Investing in Women. Deloitte. Greg Pellegrino et al. January 13, 2011.

With a rapidly changing global economy, leaders are urgently seeking an effective method to sustain economic growth. While geography, industry, and technology are important considerations, gender is an imperative factor that cannot be ignored. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. http://www.deloitte.com/assets/Dcom-Global/Local%20Assets/Documents/Public%20Sector/dttl_ps_genderdividend_130111.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

Global Risks 2011. World Economic Forum. Kristel Van der Elst and Nicholas Davis, eds. January 2011.

The report provides a high-level overview of 37 selected global risks as seen by members of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Councils and supported by a survey of 580 leaders and decision-makers around the world. The report aims to enhance understanding of how a comprehensive set of global risks are evolving, how their interaction impacts a variety of stakeholders, and what trade-offs are involved in managing them. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. <http://riskreport.weforum.org/> [HTML format, 130 pages].

The Other Side of Gender: Including Masculinity Concerns in Conflict and Peacebuilding. U.S. Institute of Peace. Nina Sudhakar and Kathleen Kuehnast. January 14, 2011.

This is the summary of a workshop on the topic of how conflict changes gender roles by the U.S. Institute of Peace. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB75-Other_Side_of_Gender.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

The Markets Prey on Debt-Laden Nations. YaleGlobal. Joergen Oerstroem Moeller. January 17, 2011.

The world has gross savings of more than \$61 trillion, reports the International Monetary Fund. Those holdings are highly imbalanced: China's surplus is more than \$4 trillion while the U.S. owes \$14 trillion. Investors relentlessly detect and predict trends in pursuit of higher profits. Japan, the U.S. and many European nations carry high debt loads. The financial markets are impatient with low interest rates that spur government spending, debt and reckless investments that repeatedly threaten global economic stability. On the markets' radar are European nations like Greece, Ireland and Spain. Quick, unified action on reform, austerity, along with modest growth, protects the eurozone, for now, explains researcher Joergen Oerstroem Moeller. The U.S. - less quick to change its spending ways - is the next target for the markets. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/markets-prey-debt-laden-nations> [HTML format, various paging].

Conduct Befitting a Great Power: Responsibility and Sovereignty in U.S.-China Relations. Center for American Progress. Nina Hachigian. January 14, 2011.

Chinese President Hu Jintao arrives in Washington for a state visit later this month, with hopes high in both capitals that his trip may serve to smooth out the edges of a U.S.-China relationship that has frayed over the past year. Clashes over security, the global economy, and differing political values challenge the relationship today. At the heart of many of these disputes are conflicting understandings about how a great power should act in the 21st century. Washington and Beijing have different conceptions of global responsibility. Washington has spent decades since World War II investing in an international architecture of economic and security accords that delivered stability and enabled China's growth. Now Washington wants Beijing to play by the rules, help improve the international system, and contribute to solving urgent global problems, many of which China helps to create, among them economic imbalances and global warming. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/01/pdf/china_policy.pdf [PDF format, 33 pages].

Reality in U.S. -China Relations. Council on Foreign Relations. Elizabeth C. Economy. January 14, 2011.

A series of frank statements by U.S. officials before the upcoming summit with Chinese president Hu Jintao provides an important new footing for advancing cooperation between the two countries, says Elizabeth Economy. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/23803/reality_in_uschina_relations.html [HTML format, various paging].

Rising to the Challenge: A Progressive U.S. Approach to China's Innovation and Competitiveness Policies. Center for American Progress. Kate Gordon et al. January 14, 2011.

When Chinese president Hu Jintao alights in Washington, D.C. next week for a summit meeting with President Obama, he will learn firsthand that China is fast becoming the touchstone against which everything wrong with the U.S. economy is measured. The overarching message coming from the United States is this: If China would just stop cheating, the U.S. economy would rebound, helping both nations and the rest of the world recover more sustainably from the Great Recession and sparking broad-based economic growth on both sides of the Pacific. Equally forcibly (though in more diplomatic language), President Barack Obama is expected to deliver that same message, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/01/pdf/china_innovation.pdf [PDF format, 50 pages].

Understanding Tunisia's Tremors. Council on Foreign Relations. Deborah Jerome. January 14, 2011.

Weeks of protests against unemployment, repression, and corruption in Tunisia could mean the end of President Ben Ali's government and could affect repressive governments in the Middle East, say experts. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://www.cfr.org/publication/23798/understanding_tunisia_tremors.html [HTML format, various paging].

Tunisia: Lessons of Authoritarian Collapse. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Thomas Carothers. January 14, 2011.

In the 1990s dictators fell by the dozen and we got used to receiving the startling news that another longtime strongman, seemingly entrenched in power indefinitely, was suddenly history. With democracy's spread having slowed over the last decade we've gotten out of the habit of receiving such news and have forgotten some of the basic lessons of authoritarian collapse. The fall of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali in Tunisia usefully reminds us of them, according to the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=42300&prog=zgp&proj=zdr,zme> [HTML format, various paging].

Shared Goals: Measuring Overall Development Progress in Pakistan. Center for Global Development. Nancy Birdsall and Wren Elhai. January 14, 2011.

The United States has one overriding goal in Pakistan. It is a more capable and prosperous, less fractious state, able to fulfill three basic functions: ensure internal security, meet the basic needs of its citizens, and maintain its own legitimacy. As clearly set out in the Obama administration's strategic planning documents, Pakistan's political, economic, and security challenges undermine not only its own security, but also the security of other countries in the region and of the United States. In the end, it only is when Pakistan is on a durable path toward transformation that American policymakers can put to rest their nightmare scenario of extremists and terrorists controlling that beleaguered country's nuclear arsenal, according to the authors. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1424744/> [HTML format with links].

Can Unemployed Older Workers Find Work? Urban Institute. Richard W. Johnson and Janice S. Park. January 12, 2011.

Job loss during the Great Recession is upending retirement savings plans for many older workers. Fewer than a quarter of workers age 50 and older who lost their jobs between mid-2008 and the end of 2009 found work within 12 months, much lower than the reemployment rate for younger workers. Older displaced workers who find jobs must often accept deep pay cuts. These challenges highlight the need for more training and employment services for those 50 and older. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412283-Unemployed-Older-Workers.pdf> [PDF format, 2 pages].

CDC Health Disparities and Inequalities Report - United States, 2011. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. January 14, 2011.

Since 1946, CDC has monitored and responded to challenges in the nation's health, with particular focus on reducing gaps between the least and most vulnerable U.S. residents in illness, injury, risk behaviors, use of preventive health services, exposure to environmental hazards, and premature death. The report is the first in a periodic series of reports examining disparities in selected social and health indicators.

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/other/su6001.pdf> [PDF format, 116 pages].

Earned Legalization: Effects of Proposed Requirements on Unauthorized Men, Women, and Children. Migration Policy Institute. Marc R. Rosenblum et al. January 2011.

Requirements for earned legalization could have different effects on the ability of unauthorized men, women, and children to gain legal status. The brief examines requirements proposed in the five major legalization bills proposed by Congress since 2006. Analysis shows that language requirements, depending on how they are structured, could exclude the largest number of unauthorized immigrants, with between 3.3 million and 5.8 million unauthorized adults unable to pass the English language tests contemplated by two recent bills. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/legalization-requirements.pdf> [PDF format, 28 pages].

Education is Not the Cure for High Unemployment or for Income Inequality. Economic Policy Institute. Lawrence Mishel. January 13, 2011.

With signs pointing to persistent high unemployment and a recovery even weaker than those of the early 1990s and 2000s, it is becoming common to hear in the media and among some policy makers the claim that lingering unemployment is not cyclical but "structural." In this story, the jobs problem is not a lack of demand for workers but rather a mismatch between workers' skills and employers' needs. Another version of the skills mismatch is also being told about the future: we face an impending skills shortage, particularly a shortfall of college graduates, after the economy returns to full employment. The author discusses these points. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://epi.3cdn.net/67ee506f20f88f8ee7_17m6ii9g8.pdf [PDF format, 26 pages].

Job Creation on a Budget: How Regional Industry Clusters Can Add Jobs, Bolster Entrepreneurship, and Spark Innovation. Brookings Institution. Mark Muro and Kenan Fikri. January 19, 2011.

The best way to create more jobs in a state is to grow them at home, rather than poach them from elsewhere: Some 95 percent of all job gains in a year in an average state come from the expansion of existing businesses or the birth of new establishments. However, the usual recipe of tax credits, R&D, training programs, and physical infrastructure is not sufficient, by itself, to spur such "organic" job creation. States also need to cultivate their industry clusters, geographic concentrations of interconnected firms and supporting organizations. Properly designed, cluster strategies are a low-cost way to stimulate innovation, new-firm start-ups, and job creation by helping to link and align the many factors that influence firm and regional growth, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0119_clusters_muro/0119_clusters_muro.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

Meeting the Challenge: The Role of School Leaders in Turning Around the Lowest-Performing High Schools. Alliance for Excellent Education. January 18, 2011.

As the national policy community has coalesced around the priority of graduating all students ready for college and careers, the challenge of improving the lowest-performing high schools serving the most challenged populations remains. The brief examines the limitations of previous high school reforms and describes new approaches showing promise in producing substantive changes in secondary level teaching and learning. It highlights the central role of school leaders and districts in creating high school learning environments that can engage and support students with widely divergent learning needs. The brief concludes with a set of policy recommendations for the design of coherent systems to build human capital and foster the conditions for high school transformation. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.all4ed.org/files/MeetingTheChallenge.pdf> [PDF format, 19 pages].

A Portrait of Stepfamilies. Pew Research Center Social & Demographic Trends. Kim Parker. January 13, 2011.

Today, more than four-in-ten American adults have at least one step relative in their family - either a stepparent, a step or half sibling or a stepchild, according to the survey. People with step relatives are just as likely as others to say that family is the most important element of their life. However, they typically feel a stronger sense of obligation to their biological family members (be it a parent, a child or a sibling) than to their step relatives, the survey finds. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewsocialtrends.org/2011/01/13/a-portrait-of-stepfamilies/> [HTML format, various paging].

The Social Side of the Internet. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Lee Rainie et al. January 18, 2011.

The internet is now deeply embedded in group and organizational life in America. The study finds that 75% of all American adults are active in some kind of voluntary group or organization, and internet users are more likely than others to be active: 80% of internet users participate in groups, compared with 56% of non-internet users. And social media users are even more likely to be active: 82% of social network users and 85% of Twitter users are group participants. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2011/PIP_Social_Side_of_the_Internet.pdf [PDF format, 40 pages].

A Worm in the Apple?: The Implications of Seniority-Based Teacher Layoffs. American Enterprise Institute. Dan Goldhaber. January 13, 2011.

Stories abound about the staffing cuts that will have to be made currently, and in the next couple of years, as the ripple effects of the economic crisis impact local and state education budgets. Major budget cuts make teacher layoffs a near inevitability. This raises two very timely questions: what now determines which teachers are laid off, and is that policy best for students? [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/WormintheApple.pdf> [PDF format, 28 pages].

Advanced Economics Pose Three Financial Risks to Developing Countries in 2011. Center for Global Development. Liliana Rojas-Suarez. January 18, 2011.

As in recent years, the major risks for emerging market economies in 2011 will come not from the policies and actions of the countries themselves, but from developments in advanced economies. There are three major risks: the debt crisis in Europe and the ramifications of potential sovereign defaults, continued sluggish growth in the U.S., and China's role in the so-called "currency wars" that are adversely affecting many developing countries. Many developing countries have recently become notably resilient to adverse external shocks; with good macroeconomic policies and some good luck, they may be able to weather the storm, but the United States, Europe, and China have large roles to play in their success or failure to do so. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1424748/> [HTML format with links].

Freedom in the World 2011: The Authoritarian Challenge to Democracy. Freedom House. January 2011.

According to the survey's findings, 2010 was the fifth consecutive year in which global freedom suffered a decline, the longest period of setbacks for freedom in the nearly 40-year history of the report. These declines threaten gains dating to the post-Cold War era in Africa, Latin America,

Asia, and the former Soviet bloc. The latest survey highlights the increasing truculence of the world's most powerful authoritarian regimes, which has coincided with a growing inability or unwillingness on the part of the world's democracies to meet the authoritarian challenge. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.freedomhouse.org/images/File/fiw/FIW_2011_Booklet.pdf [PDF format, 34 pages].

How to Keep the Nuclear Genie in the Bottle. YaleGlobal. Richard Weitz. January 19, 2011.

Following a series of agreements with the U.S., Russia and former Soviet states, the global stockpile of nuclear warheads has dropped from 70,000 to 22,000 since 1987, reports the World Nuclear Association. The Association says, "Highly-enriched uranium in US and Russian weapons and other military stockpiles amounts to about 2000 tonnes, equivalent to about twelve times annual world mine production," adding that governments direct the weapons-grade material for civilian fuel. Unsecured stockpiles remain a target for smugglers and terrorists, notes the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/how-keep-nuclear-genie-bottle> [HTML format, various paging].

Poverty in Numbers: The Changing State of Global Poverty from 2005 to 2015. Brookings Institution. Laurence Chandy and Geoffrey Gertz. January 2011.

Poverty reduction lies at the core of the global development challenge. For the international development community, this objective serves not only as a source of motivation, but as a defining theme across its work. Many of the world's most prominent aid organizations cite poverty reduction as their overarching goal. But while the common goal of poverty reduction is never disputed, we find it remarkably difficult to measure whether it is happening, and if so how fast, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/01_global_poverty_chandy/01_global_poverty_chandy.pdf [PDF format, 23 pages].

Sustainable Cities: Oxymoron or the Shape of the Future? Harvard Business School. Annissa Alussi et al. January 2011.

According to the authors, two trends are likely to define the 21st century: threats to the sustainability of the natural environment and dramatic increases in urbanization. The paper reviews the goals, business models, and partnerships involved in eight early "ecocity" projects to begin to identify success factors in this emerging industry. Ecocities, for the most part, are viewed as a means of mitigating threats to the natural environment while creating urban living capacity by combining principles of green building with the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) to better manage complex urban systems. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.hbs.edu/research/pdf/11-062.pdf> [PDF format, 26 pages].

Australia's Flood Pain. Council on Foreign Relations. Toni Johnson. January 19, 2011.

Australia's continued flooding is expected to cost billions in losses and clean-up, and some scientists believe the devastating floods are a harbinger of increasing extreme weather events to come. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/23825/australias_flood_pain.html [HTML format, various paging].

Toxic Legacy: Hunger, Oppression, Migration, and Health in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. U.S. Institute of Peace. Leonard S. Rubenstein. January 19, 2011.

The brief explores the current health status of North Korea, initiatives to strengthen the health system, the potential impact of migration and informal markets on health, and prospects for the future health of the population. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB-77_Toxic_Legacy.pdf [PDF format, 5 pages].

Britain's Coalition Government: A Preliminary Verdict. The Heritage Foundation. Robin Harris. January 10, 2011.

Britain and the United States face similar budgetary problems. Deficits in both countries are unsustainably high. So is public spending. Action is being taken in Britain, but in the U.S., there is continuing pressure either to take no serious action at all or to take the wrong action, most notably by repairing the deficit with tax increases or by increasing spending even further. The U.K. coalition government has proved unexpectedly bold in the decisions taken on the deficit but less bold on spending and, in some respects, bold in the wrong sense on taxes. The U.K. has also faced, and in some respects has yielded to, the temptation to adopt wrong priorities in its departmental budget reductions, says the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. http://thf_media.s3.amazonaws.com/2011/pdf/sr0087.pdf [PDF format, 29 pages].

Can Tunisia Spark a Revolutionary Wave? Council on Foreign Relations. Deborah Jerome. January 18, 2011.

The overthrow of Tunisia's government last week in what has been dubbed a Jasmine Revolution has reverberated throughout the region and has left Tunisia itself in a state of political turbulence. In the wake of the ouster of Tunisian President Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali are two questions: Is Tunisia's example likely to spark comparable uprisings across the Arab world? And will democracy take root in Tunisia? [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. http://www.cfr.org/publication/23810/can_tunisia_spark_a_revolutionary_wave.html [HTML format, various paging].

Christian Minorities Under Attack: Egypt. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Michele Dunne. January 20, 2011.

The bombing of a Coptic Christian church on New Year's Day reflected a sharp rise in religious friction that has been slowly brewing in Egypt for years. This is the transcript of Congressional testimony by Michele Dunne. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*]. http://carnegieendowment.org/files/0120_testimony_dunne.pdf [PDF format, 3 pages].

Country Analysis Briefs: United Arab Emirates. Energy Information Administration. January 2011.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is a federation of seven different emirates which together comprise the third largest economy in the Middle East behind Saudi Arabia and Iran. Its per capita GDP is second only to Qatar. The UAE is an important producer of natural gas and oil, ranking seventh globally in total proven reserves of both. Abu Dhabi possesses the majority of oil and natural gas reserves followed by Dubai, with small amounts in Sharjah and Ras al-Khaimah. The country is also a member of the Organization for Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/UAE/pdf.pdf> [PDF format, 9 pages].

What's Next for Tunisia? Center for Strategic & International Studies. Haim Malka. January 20, 2011.

Tunisia remains in a state of emergency. The 23-year rule of Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali, one of the Arab world's most ruthless and efficient autocrats, has crumbled. Few are sorry to see him and his cronies go, but it remains unclear what kind of governing system will take his place. Tunisia's new government, when it emerges, may be more representative and less repressive, but that will take time. Tunisia's interim rulers are faced with the immediate tasks not only of restoring order after a month of street protests, but also of shaping a new governing system. Doing so will require balancing between popular demands on the one hand and retaining the support of at least some of Tunisia's elites on the other. How the interim government navigates this delicate balance and

sets the new rules of the game will have a major impact on the future direction of Tunisia. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://csis.org/publication/whats-next-tunisia> [HTML format, various paging].

Cuba: U.S. Restriction on Travel and Remittances. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Mark P. Sullivan. January 7, 2011.

Restrictions on travel to Cuba have been a key and often contentious component in U.S. efforts to isolate Cuba's communist government since the early 1960s. Under the George W. Bush Administration, restrictions on travel and on private remittances to Cuba were tightened. In March 2003, the Administration eliminated travel for people-to-people educational exchanges unrelated to academic coursework. Under the Obama Administration, Congress took action in 2009 to ease some restrictions on travel to Cuba by including two provisions in the FY2009 omnibus appropriations measure (P.L. 111-8), which President Obama signed into law on March 11, 2009. <http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/155003.pdf> [PDF format, 34 pages].

Americans Living with Disability and Their Technology Profile. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Susannah Fox. January 21, 2011.

One in four American adults live with a disability that interferes with activities of daily living. Fifty-four percent of adults living with a disability use the internet, compared with 81% of adults who report none of the disabilities listed in the survey. Two percent of American adults say they have a disability or illness that makes it harder or impossible for them to use the internet. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2011/PIP_Disability.pdf [PDF format, 5 pages].

Attitudes about Abortion. American Enterprise Institute. Karlyn Bowman. January 20, 2011.

In the thirty-eight years since the Supreme Court decided *Roe v. Wade*, pollsters have asked hundreds of questions about abortion. The study brings many of those questions together in one place. It shows how different pollsters have approached the subject. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.aei.org/docLib/Abortion2011.pdf> [PDF format, 33 pages].

CLEAN Contracts: Making Clean Local Energy Accessible Now. Center for American Progress. Richard W. Caperton et al. January 2011.

For many reasons, it's time to change direction in America's energy use to rely on clean renewable energy, according to the paper. Renewable power reverses harmful environmental trends from global warming to local air pollution that hurts human health. But clean energy has many purely economic benefits as well. The paper looks at the one policy that has helped to bring more renewable electricity into the marketplace than any other: the Clean Local Energy Accessible Now, or CLEAN, contract, also known as a "feed-in tariff." [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/01/pdf/clean_contracts.pdf [PDF format, 26 pages].

Cracking the Student Aid Code: Parent and Student Perspectives on Paying for College. College Board. January 18, 2011.

The study finds that early awareness and a simplified student aid process are key to navigating the federal financial aid system, especially at a time when U.S. students and their families face rising college prices and stagnant incomes. Based on extensive focus-group and survey research with parents and students, the study also finds that nearly half of the parent respondents did not know the cost of attending a public college in their home state, and only 44 percent of Latino parent respondents were aware of the Pell Grant program. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://advocacy.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/11b_3172_Cracking_Code_Update_WEB_110112.pdf [PDF format, 32 pages].

Early Observations on Possible Defenses by the Emerging Threat Agent Project. RAND Corporation. Bruce W. Bennett et al. January 2011.

Adversaries could acquire emerging chemical and biological (CB) agents years before U.S. defense planners recognize those agents, and many more years before the United States establishes a comprehensive defense against them. Gaps in defenses against chemical and biological weapon agents can pose a serious risk to U.S. military operations. The paper summarizes early expert observations about the threat and possible responses. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/occasional_papers/2011/RAND_OP290.pdf [PDF format, 25 pages].

Economy Dominates Public's Agenda, Dims Hopes for the Future. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. Andrew Kohut et al. January 20, 2011.

The public's policy agenda is again dominated by the economy and jobs with other major issues viewed as less important. Fully 87% say that strengthening the economy should be a top priority for the president and Congress and 84% rate improving the job situation as a top priority, by far the highest percentages among 22 issues tested. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://people-press.org/reports/pdf/696.pdf> [PDF format, 37 pages].

Health Care Brawl: All or Nothing Doesn't Work. Urban Institute. C. Eugene Steuerle. January 21, 2011.

The ongoing debate over health reform at times almost appears like a sporting event, with Democrats and Republicans trying to name winners and losers in passing or repealing legislation. But in my Fiscal Times op-ed this week, I explain why, when it comes to health reform, this winner-take-all mentality misses a major point: government programs, whether well designed or poorly designed, need to work within budget constraints. While such constraints inevitably identify losers relative to an open-ended budget (which, like deficits, can hide the losers), they do lead to far better budget and health policy. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.urban.org/publications/901401.html> [HTML format, various paging].

Misunderstanding Regarding State Debt, Pensions, and Retiree Health Costs Create Unnecessary Alarm. Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Iris J. Lav and Elizabeth McNichol. January 20, 2011.

Unlike the projected operating deficits for fiscal year 2012, which require near-term solutions to meet states' and localities' balanced-budget requirements, longer-term issues related to bond indebtedness, pension obligations, and retiree health insurance, discussed more fully below, can be addressed over the next several decades. It is not appropriate to add these longer-term costs to projected operating deficits. Nor should the size and implications of these longer-term costs be exaggerated, as some recent discussions have done. Such mistakes can lead to inappropriate policy prescriptions, say the authors. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cbpp.org/files/1-20-11sfp.pdf> [PDF format, 21 pages].

Taking the Government Out of Housing Finance: Principles for Reforming the Housing Finance Market. American Enterprise Institute. Peter J. Wallison et al. January 20, 2011.

The Institute's latest housing finance plan eliminates the need for government guarantees and permits the gradual elimination of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, according to the study. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/HousingFinance.pdf> [PDF format, 40 pages].

Unions and Upward Mobility for Asian American and Pacific Islander Workers. Center for Economic and Policy Research. John Schmitt et al. January 2011.

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) are, with Latinos, the fastest growing ethnic group in the U.S. workforce. In 2009, Asian American and Pacific Islanders were one of every 20 U.S. workers, up from one in 40 only 20 years earlier. AAPIs, again with Latinos, are also the fastest growing ethnic group in organized labor, accounting for just under one-in-20 unionized workers in 2009. Even after controlling for workers' characteristics including age, education level, industry, and state, unionized AAPI workers earn about 14.3 percent more than non-unionized AAPI workers with similar characteristics. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/unions-aapi-2011-01.pdf> [PDF format, 13 pages].

Border Management Modernization. The World Bank. Gerard McLinden et al. January 2011.

The book provides border management policymakers and reformers with a broad survey of key developments in and principles for improving trade facilitation through better border management, including practical advice on particular issues. It presents a new, more comprehensive approach to trade facilitation through border management reform: an approach that embraces a much wider, 'whole of government' perspective. The objective of this book is to summarize and provide guidance on what constitutes good practices in border management-looking beyond customs clearance. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2011/01/07/000356161_20110107013015/Rendered/PDF/588450PUB0Bord101public10BOX353816B.pdf PDF format, 401 pages].

Practical Considerations in Using Bioeconomic Modelling for Rebuilding Fisheries. Organisation for Economic Co-operation Development. Sherry L. Larkin et al. January 21, 2011.

Many of the world's fish stocks are considered to be in need of rebuilding. In response, global agreements, including UNCLOS, have sought to adopt some (optimal) level of fish biomass, usually the level associated with the maximum sustainable yield (MSY). While establishing a sustainable level of harvest is goal with intuitive appeal, the pursuit of MSY ignores many relevant economic and social factors that are critical to the sustainability of a fishery. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
<http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/download/fulltext/5kgk9qclw7mv.pdf?expires=1295971628&id=0000&accname=guest&checksum=FBD1BB4D1F5D5405E34D4F2136DEB51D> [PDF format, 39 pages].

Reproductive Rights and Reproductive Technology in 2030. Brookings Institution. John A. Robertson. January 21, 2011.

According to the author, two decades is a short period of time for full scale trait association networks to be teased out and then to perfect the ability to insert and delete genes in humans in a safe and effective way. Two decades may also be too brief a time for social and cultural norms about parental choice to change and develop in the direction described here. But there is much room for legal and constitutional norms now focused on abortion and sterilization to evolve to encompass assisted reproduction, genetic selection and alteration, stem-cell derived gametes, and even reproductive cloning. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0121_reproductive_technology_robertson/0121_reproductive_technology_robertson.pdf [PDF format, 21 pages].

World Report 2011. Human Rights Watch. January 24, 2011.

The report summarizes human rights conditions in more than 90 countries and territories worldwide. According to the report, with increasing frequency, governments that might exert pressure for human rights improvement are accepting the rationalizations and subterfuges of repressive governments, favoring private "dialogue" and "cooperation" over more hard-nosed approaches. In principle there is nothing wrong with dialogue, but it should not be a substitute for public pressure when the government in question lacks the political will to respect rights. Human Rights Watch calls on governmental supporters of human rights to ensure that the quest for cooperation does not become an excuse for inaction. [Note: contains copyrighted material] <http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2011/01/24/world-report-2011> [HTML format with links].

The Environmental Issues of a Unified Korea. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Jinsuk Byun. January 24, 2011.

Considering the present tension between the two Koreas, manifested in the *Cheonan-Ham* incident, it might sound a little too soon to talk about the issues of a unified Korea. However, as we have seen in the German Unification case, the unification of the Korean Peninsula may come unexpectedly, according to the report. If it does, the cost will be high. It could be higher simply because it comes unexpectedly. Considering the shock which former East European communist countries' environmental degradation delivered when they collapsed and opened to the world in the late 1980s and the early 1990s, it is reasonable for us to expect and prepare for possible environmental problems in North Korea. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://csis.org/files/publication/110124_Environmental_issues_of_unified_Korea.pdf [PDF format, 19 pages].

Trade Induced Change? The Impact of Chinese Imports on Innovation, IT and Productivity. National Bureau of Economic Research. Nicholas Bloom et al. January 24, 2011.

The report examines the impact of Chinese import competition on patenting, IT, R&D and TFP using a panel of up to half a million firms over 1996-2007 across twelve European countries. Chinese import competition had two effects: first, it led to increases in R&D, patenting, IT and TFP within firms; and second it reallocated employment between firms towards more innovative and technologically advanced firms. These within and between effects were about equal in magnitude, and appear to account for around 15% of European technology upgrading between 2000-2007. Rising Chinese import competition also led to falls in employment, profits, prices and the skill share. By contrast, import competition from developed countries had no effect on innovation. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://www.nber.org/papers/w16717.pdf> [PDF format, 63 pages].

Transitional Justice in North Korea: Accountability for Human Rights Atrocities. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Seong-Phil Hong. January 24, 2011.

Around the 1990s the international community eventually directed its attention to the atrocities in North Korea when the realities of these atrocities began to surface, piece by piece, from the live testimony of slave labor workers in Siberia, a former guard and survivors in the concentration camps, and numerous defectors hiding mostly across the Chinese and Russian borders. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110124_Transitional_Justice_North_Korea.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

Civil-Military Relations in Medvedev's Russia. Strategic Studies Institute. Stephen J. Blank. January 25, 2011.

These three chapters originated in an SSI conference in January 2010 and go to the heart of a question of vital significance for both Asia and Russia, namely, what are Russia's prospects in Asia? The three papers outline the challenges Russia faces in Asia, the nature of the dynamic and complex Asian security environment, and the extent to which Russia is or is not meeting those challenges. These chapters represent both Russian and U.S. views on the subject and do not agree in their conclusions or analyses. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=1038> [HTML format with links, 116 pages].

The EU's Experience with Security Sector Governance. U.S. Institute of Peace. Louis-Alexandre Berg. January 2011.

Civilian oversight ministries are essential to broader efforts to strengthen the performance and responsiveness of security and law enforcement forces. Ministries facilitate coordination among agencies, hold personnel accountable to law and policy, perform administrative functions, shield forces from political interference, and enable civilian oversight through the legislature, civil society, and other mechanisms. Failure to support these roles can undermine efforts to strengthen law enforcement and improve citizen safety in countries affected by conflict or instability, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR265-EU's_Experience_with_SSG.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

Improving Sweden's Automatic Pension Adjustment Mechanism. Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. Nicholas Barr and Peter Diamond. January 2011.

The public pension world has seen two innovations in recent years. One is the emergence of notional defined contribution (NDC) plans. The other is the introduction of automatic adjustment mechanisms to help keep pension systems solvent when the economy weakens. This *brief* looks at the Swedish system to demonstrate how NDCs work and evaluates the workings of the automatic adjustment mechanism in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://crr.bc.edu/images/stories/Briefs/IB_11-2.pdf [PDF format, 9 pages].

Bahrain: Reform, Security, and U.S. Policy. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kenneth Katzman. January 5, 2011.

After experiencing serious unrest during the late 1990s, Bahrain undertook several steps to enhance the inclusion of the Shiite majority in governance. However, the Sunni-led government's efforts to maintain its tight grip on power stirred new unrest among Bahraini Shiites in advance of October 23, 2010, parliamentary elections. In advance of the elections, the government launched a wave of arrests intended to try to discredit some of the hardline Shiite leadership as tools of Iran. The crackdown contributed to increasing Shiite popular protests in advance of the elections. The main Shiite faction, an Islamist group called "*Wifaq*" (Accord), won one more seat than it did in the 2006 election but still ended up short of a majority (18 out of the 40 seats) in the elected lower house. <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/95-1013.pdf> [PDF format, 18 pages].

Lebanon Approaches Tipping Point. Council on Foreign Relations. Deborah Jerome. January 25, 2011.

The approval of a Hezbollah-backed candidate as Lebanon's new prime minister feeds concerns in the West about the militant Shiite group's growing strength and the implications for national and regional stability. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://www.cfr.org/publication/23858/lebanon_approaches_tipping_point.html [HTML format, various paging].

Oman: Reform, Security, and U.S. Policy. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kenneth Katzman. January 6, 2011.

The Sultanate of Oman is a long-time U.S. ally in the Persian Gulf. It has allowed U.S. access to its military facilities for virtually every U.S. military operation in and around the Gulf since 1980, despite the sensitivities in Oman and throughout the Middle East about a U.S. military presence there. Oman also has fully and consistently supported U.S. efforts to achieve a Middle East peace by publicly endorsing the peace treaties that have been achieved between Israel and some of its Arab neighbors. It was partly in appreciation for this alliance that the United States entered into a free trade agreement (FTA) with Oman. The FTA was considered pivotal to helping Oman diversify its economy to compensate for its relatively small reserves of crude oil.
<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/RS21534.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

Political Violence in North Africa: The Perils of Incomplete Liberalization. Brookings Doha Center. Anouar Boukhars. January 2011.

After the attacks of September 11, 2001, a growing number of analysts and policymakers drew a link between the dramatic rise of terrorism in the Middle East and the region's lack of democracy. The question of whether levels of political rights and freedoms affect the resort to violence continues to be a source of major political debate. While some scholars insist that democracies are less likely to produce terrorist activity, due to their ability to channel grievance peacefully, others contend that regimes transitioning to democracy are highly vulnerable to destabilization. Periods of liberalization often raise citizens' expectations for freedom that regimes are unwilling or unable to meet. The resulting dissonance can fuel violent opposition. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].
http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/01_north_africa_boukhars/01_north_africa_boukhars.pdf [PDF format, 43 pages].

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