



## AMERICAN INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER Ankara, Turkey

E-Documents  
February 2011, Issue 2

### ■ 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

2010 SSI Annual Strategy Conference Report "Defining War for the 21st Century." Strategic Studies Institute. Steven Metz and Phillip R. Cuccia. January 31, 2011.

The Strategic Studies Institute's XXI Annual Strategy Conference, held at Carlisle Barracks from April 6-8, 2010, addressed the topic of the meaning of war. While it did not seek to produce a definitive answer to questions about the nature and definition of war, it did highlight the crucial questions and their implications, including issues such as whether the cause of war is shifting, whether all forms of organized, politically focused violence constitute war, and the distinction between passive and active war.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=1036> [HTML format with links].

First Step to Literacy: Getting Books in the Hands of Children. Brookings Institution. Anda Adams and Jacques van der Gaag. January 28, 2011.

Being able to read and write is the most basic foundation of knowledge accumulation and further skill development. Without literacy, there can be no quality education. Presently, 1 in 5 adults is illiterate, two-thirds of whom are women. At the current pace, over 700 million adults worldwide will still not be able to read in 2015. In global education discussions, literacy rates are most often reported for adolescents and adults, an ex post facto measure of the failure of primary school systems to impart basic skills in the most formative schooling years. It is clear that much needs to be done to provide these adolescents and adults with access to successful literacy programs. But we must also ensure that children with access to schooling are not growing up to be illiterate. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2011/0128\\_literacy\\_vandergaag.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2011/0128_literacy_vandergaag.aspx) [HTML format, various paging].

Getting to a "Grand Bargain" for Aid Reform: The Basic Framework for U.S. Foreign Assistance. Center for Global Development. Jean Arkedis. February 1, 2011.

Jean Arkedis focuses on understanding why long-term development is often subjugated to other objectives in the day-to-day planning processes of the U.S. government. She proposes one way to ensure that funding choices are made more rationally and systematically: by aligning the differing goals of aid more explicitly with redefined foreign assistance budget accounts. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1424793> [HTML format with a link].

Journalists' Privilege: Overview of the Law and Legislation in Recent Congresses. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kathleen Ann Ruane. January 19, 2011.

In *Branzburg v. Hayes*, 408 U.S. 665, 679-680 (1972), the Supreme Court wrote journalists claim "that to gather news it is often necessary to agree either not to identify the source of information published or to publish only part of the facts revealed, or both; that if the reporter is nevertheless forced to reveal these confidences to a grand jury the source so identified and other confidential sources of other reporters will be measurably deterred from furnishing publishable information, all to the detriment of the free flow of information protected by the First Amendment." The Court held, nonetheless, that the First Amendment did not provide even a qualified privilege for journalists to refuse "to appear and testify before state or federal grand juries." Since 2009, the movement to adopt a federal statutory journalists' privilege appears to have lost momentum. Nonetheless, the issue does have bipartisan support.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/secretary/RL34193.pdf> [PDF format, 15 pages].

Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI). Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Mary Beth Nikitin. January 18, 2011.

The Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) was formed to increase international cooperation in interdicting shipments of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), their delivery systems, and related materials. The Initiative was announced by President Bush on May 31, 2003. PSI does not create a new legal framework but aims to use existing national authorities and international law to achieve its goals. Initially, 11 nations signed on to the "Statement of Interdiction Principles" that guides PSI cooperation. As of January 2011, 97 countries (plus the Holy See) have committed formally to the PSI principles, although the extent of participation may vary by country. PSI has no secretariat, but an Operational Experts Group (OEG), made up of 21 PSI participants, coordinates activities.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/nuke/RL34327.pdf> [PDF format, 14 pages].

Egypt: Background and U.S. Relations. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Jeremy M. Sharp. January 28, 2011.

This report provides an overview of U.S.-Egyptian relations, Egyptian politics, and U.S. foreign aid to Egypt. Major public unrest transpiring in Egypt and elsewhere in the Arab world in late January 2011 raises challenging policy questions for the United States government and the 112th Congress. U.S. policy toward Egypt has long been framed as an investment in regional stability,

built primarily on long-running military cooperation and sustaining the March 1979 Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. Successive U.S. Administrations have viewed Egypt's government as a moderating influence in the Middle East. At the same time, there have been increasing U.S. calls for Egypt to democratize. In recent years, congressional views of U.S.-Egyptian relations have varied. Many lawmakers have viewed Egypt as a stabilizing regional force, but some members have argued for the United States to pressure Egypt's government to implement political reforms, improve human rights, and take a more active role in reducing Arab-Israeli tensions. Those concerns, in addition to economic frustration, are now driving the most significant public unrest in Egypt in a generation. The Obama Administration has called on the Egyptian government to respect the basic rights of protestors and has expressed concern about violence.

<http://pomed.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/rl33003.pdf> [PDF format, 32 pages].

Why Jordan Is Not a Regional Domino. Council on Foreign Relations. Robert Danin. February 1, 2011.

The Jordanian government's fall in Amman today appears to be the latest in the series of dominoes that first fell in Tunis and appears poised to tip over in Cairo. At first glance, there are similarities: Thousands of protesters have taken to the streets of Amman, Karak, Salt, and Irbid protesting difficult economic conditions, tax policies, government corruption, and other domestic maladies. Demonstrators called for their leaders' resignation, tanks deployed to the cities, and barricades were erected. Yet the government's toppling in Amman is not regime change and does not presage it. Instead, it is the removal of a government that leaves the throne well intact, according to the brief. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cfr.org/jordan/why-jordan-not-regional-domino/p23962> [HTML format, various paging].

United Nations System Funding: Congressional Issues. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Marjory Ann Browne. January 14, 2011.

The congressional debate over United Nations funding focuses on several questions, including (1) What is the appropriate level of U.S. funding for U.N. system operations and programs? (2) What U.S. funding actions are most likely to produce a positive continuation of U.N. system reform efforts? The U.N. system includes the United Nations, a number of specialized or affiliated agencies, voluntary and special funds and programs, and U.N. peacekeeping operations. Participating states finance the system with assessed contributions to the budgets of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. In addition, voluntary contributions are made both to those agencies and to the special programs and funds they set up and manage.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL33611.pdf> [PDF format, 62 pages].

The Impact of Egyptian Unrest on Oil Markets. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Frank A. Verrastro and Guy Caruso. February 1, 2011.

The two experts discuss the possible impact of Egyptian unrest on the oil markets. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://csis.org/publication/impact-egyptian-unrest-oil-markets> [HTML format, various paging].

Gold's Costly Dividend: Human Rights Impacts of Papua New Guinea's Porgera Gold Mine. Human Rights Watch. February 1, 2011.

The report identifies systemic failures on the part of Toronto-based Barrick Gold that kept the company from recognizing the risk of abuses, and responding to allegations that abuses had occurred. The report examines the impact of Canada's failure to regulate the overseas activities of its companies and also calls on Barrick to address environmental and health concerns around the mine with greater transparency. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2011/02/01/gold-s-costly-dividend-0> [HTML format with links].

Delegation and Divergence: A Study of 287(g) State and Local Immigration Enforcement. Migration Policy Institute. Randy Capps et al. January 2011.

The section 287(g) program, which delegates federal immigration enforcement powers to state and local officers, is not targeted primarily at serious offenders. The study finds that about half of 287(g) activity involves noncitizens arrested for misdemeanors or traffic offenses. Formal program changes unveiled by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in 2009 have not substantially changed program priorities, operations, outcomes, or community impacts, the report concludes, offering findings that also have implications for the Secure Communities program. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/287g-divergence.pdf> [PDF format, 73 pages].

Eye on the Ball: Medicine Regulation - Not IP Enforcement - Can Best Deliver Quality Medicines. Oxfam International. February 2, 2011.

**Poor-quality, or "substandard", medicines threaten patients and public health in developing countries. Prioritization of medicines regulation by developing-country governments, with the technical and financial support of rich countries, is badly needed, according to the study. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].**

<http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/eye-on-the-ball-medicine-regulation-020211-summ-en.pdf> Summary [PDF format, 6 pages].

<http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/eye-on-the-ball-medicine-regulation-020211-en.pdf> Full Report [PDF format, 51 pages].

The Middle East's Media Cities and the Global Film Industry. Knowledge @ Wharton. January 26, 2011.

In recent years, filmmakers and business executives from the United States, South Asia, and Europe have shown a growing interest in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, not only as a potential market but also as a wellspring of talent and inspiration. Major motion pictures -- such as *Syriana*, *The Kingdom*, *The Hurt Locker*, *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen*, and *In the Valley of Elah* -- were all filmed in the MENA region and have since achieved blockbuster success. Since the early 1940s, Western film directors have realized that this region -- defined by idiomatic histories, ancient cultures, and remarkable landscapes -- represents a unique and vibrant cinematic opportunity. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/articlepdf/2698.pdf?CFID=19715258&CFTOKEN=24443992&jsessionid=a8306d64d6e08d3516d6254e44115948285f> [PDF format, 4 pages].

Limited Public Interest in Egyptian Protests. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. February 1, 2011.

The extraordinary anti-government protests in Egypt have drawn much more attention from the news media than from the American public. But interest is in line with other overseas protests in recent years. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1878/limited-public-interest-egypt-protests> [HTML format, various paging].

Unauthorized Immigrant Population: National and State Trends, 2010. Pew Hispanic Center. Jeffrey S. Passel and D'Vera Cohn. February 1, 2011.

As of March 2010, 11.2 million unauthorized immigrants were living in the U.S., virtually unchanged from a year earlier and remaining well below the population's peak of 12 million in 2007. The number of unauthorized immigrants in the nation's workforce (8 million) also has not changed in the past year. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/133.pdf> [PDF format, 32 pages].

Health Topics: 80% of Internet Users Look for Health Information Online. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Susannah Fox. February 1, 2011.

Health information remains one of the most important subjects that internet users research online. Symptoms and treatments continue to dominate internet users' health searches, but food safety, drug safety, and pregnancy information are among eight new topics included in the current survey. In all, 80% of internet users gather health information online. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2011/PIP\\_HealthTopics.pdf](http://pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2011/PIP_HealthTopics.pdf) [PDF format, 33 pages].

Belgium, from Model to Case Study for Conflict Resolution. U.S. Institute of Peace. Jonas Claes and Valerie Rosoux. February 1, 2011.

Belgian scholars analyze the current political crisis in Belgium from a conflict resolution perspective. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB79-Belgium,\\_from\\_Model\\_to\\_Case\\_Study\\_for\\_Conflict\\_Resolution.pdf](http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB79-Belgium,_from_Model_to_Case_Study_for_Conflict_Resolution.pdf) [PDF format, 3 pages].

Reforming Pakistan's Police and Law Enforcement Infrastructure: Is It Too Flawed to Fix?. U.S. Institute of Peace. Hassan Abbas. February 2011.

An effective police force is critical to countering insurgency. In Pakistan, an understaffed and under-equipped police force is increasingly called on to manage rising insecurity and militant violence. The report evaluates the obstacles to upgrading the existing police system and recommends traditional and innovative reform options, including major restructuring of the total civilian law enforcement infrastructure, without which the police force cannot be effectively improved. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR266-Reforming\\_Pakistan's\\_Police\\_and\\_Law\\_Enforcement\\_Infrastructure.pdf](http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR266-Reforming_Pakistan's_Police_and_Law_Enforcement_Infrastructure.pdf) [PDF format, 20 pages].

Is Egypt 'Too Big to Fail'? U.S. Institute of Peace. Raymond Gilpin. February 2011.

Raymond Gilpin examines the economic implications of the protests in Egypt. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.usip.org/publications/egypt-too-big-fail> [HTML format, various paging].

The Secrets to Programs that Work: New Tools for Program Design and Evaluation. Center for American Progress. Jitinder Kohll et al. February 2011.

More than 80 percent of Americans think the federal budget process should be reformed so that spending decisions are based on what works, according to a 2010 Center for American Progress survey. This demands more prominent consideration during the design phase about whether a new program is likely to work. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/pdf/design\\_for\\_success.pdf](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/pdf/design_for_success.pdf) Full Report [PDF format, 88 pages].

[http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/pdf/design\\_for\\_success\\_exec\\_summ.pdf](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/pdf/design_for_success_exec_summ.pdf) Summary [PDF format, 7 pages].

FY 2010 Annual Report on Intercountry Adoptions. U.S. Department of State. Web posted February 1, 2011.

The report is prepared for Congress in compliance with the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000. In Fiscal Year 2010, the U.S. Government issued 11,059 immigrant visas to children adopted by U.S. citizen adopting parents. These children immigrated to the U.S. from over 100 different countries and found new homes in every one of our 50 states. The U.S. is committed to ensuring that all intercountry adoptions are in the best interests of the child and that effective safeguards are in place to ensure safe, transparent, and successful adoption procedures.

[http://adoption.state.gov/pdf/fy2010\\_annual\\_report.pdf](http://adoption.state.gov/pdf/fy2010_annual_report.pdf) [PDF format, 6 pages].

Remarks by the President on the Situation in Egypt. The White House. President Barack Obama. February 1, 2011.

This is the transcript of remarks by the President on Egypt.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/02/01/remarks-president-situation-egypt> [HTML format, various paging].

Economic Impacts of Alcohol Pricing Policy Options in The UK. Rand Corporation. Priscilla Hunt et al. February 2011.

The study presents evidence on the links between alcohol prices and consumption and the economic impacts of each policy option, the statistical data describing the market for alcohol and findings from interviews with key stakeholders. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/technical\\_reports/2011/RAND\\_TR858.pdf](http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/technical_reports/2011/RAND_TR858.pdf) Full Report. [PDF format, 129 pages].

[http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/technical\\_reports/2011/RAND\\_TR858.sum.pdf](http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/technical_reports/2011/RAND_TR858.sum.pdf) Summary [PDF format, 7 pages].

Enrollment in Postsecondary Institutions, Fall 2009; Graduation Rates, 2003 & 2006 Cohorts; and Financial Statistics, Fiscal Year 2009. National Center for Education Statistics. February 2, 2011.

The report presents findings from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) spring 2010 data collection. This collection included five components: Student Financial Aid for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students for the 2009-10 academic year; Enrollment for fall 2009; Graduation Rates within 150 percent of normal program completion time for full-time, first-time degree/ certificate-seeking undergraduate students beginning college in 2003 at 4-year institutions or in 2006 at less-than-4-year institutions; Graduation Rates within 200 percent of normal program completion time for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students beginning college in 2001 at 4-year institutions or in 2005 at less-than-4-year institutions; and Finance for fiscal year 2009.

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011230.pdf> [PDF format, 75 pages].

Upcoming Rules Pursuant to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Curtis W. Copeland and Maeve P. Carey. January 13, 2011.

Congress delegates rulemaking authority to agencies for a variety of reasons, and in a variety of ways. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA, P.L. 111-148) is a particularly noteworthy example of congressional delegation of rulemaking authority to federal agencies. The report examines the most recent edition of the Unified Agenda, published on December 20, 2010 (the first edition that RISC compiled and issued after the enactment of PPACA). The report identifies upcoming proposed and final rules listed in the Unified Agenda that are expected to be issued pursuant to PPACA. The Appendix lists these upcoming proposed and final rules in a table. The report also briefly discusses the long-term actions listed in the Unified Agenda, as well as some options for congressional oversight over the PPACA rules.

[http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R41586\\_20110113.pdf](http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R41586_20110113.pdf) [PDF format, 30 pages].

The "Anti-Nationals": Arbitrary Detention and Torture of Terrorism Suspects in India. Human Rights Watch. February 1, 2011.

On three separate days in 2008, India was plunged into panic as synchronized bombs struck three major cities, killing 152 people and injuring hundreds of others. An obscure Islamist militant group calling itself the Indian Mujahideen (IM) claimed responsibility. The state response was massive. In sweeps across the country, state police brought in scores of Muslim men for questioning and promptly labeled many "anti-national." The police arbitrarily detained, tortured, and ill-treated many bombing suspects to get them to confess. In several cases, the police themselves appear to have drafted the confessions, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2011/02/01/anti-nationals> [HTML format with links].

Tunisia, Egypt and Beyond: Fewer Predictions, More Data and Aid Reform Needed. Brookings Institution. Daniel Kaufmann et al. February 2, 2011.

Nobody predicted that the desperate act of a young Tunisian who set himself on fire in protest of government policies that left him jobless and disenfranchised would ignite protests for democratic and economic reforms across the Middle East. Since this incident, Tunisia's government has fallen and demonstrations have spread to Yemen, Jordan, Algeria, Sudan and Egypt, where well over a million people took to the streets to demand the ousting of President Mubarak, whose days appear numbered. Yemen's president has also announced that he will not seek re-election or



hand power to his son, while the prime minister and government of Jordan was dismissed by the King after demonstrations. The world has been watching and Middle East experts, politicians and pundits have weighed in on the unfolding events. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0202\\_egypt\\_development\\_kaufmann.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0202_egypt_development_kaufmann.aspx) [HTML format, various paging].

Aiding Development: Assistance Reform for the 21st Century. Brookings Institution. Kemal Dervis et al. February 2, 2011.

Global development assistance efforts are experiencing a critical moment of change. This moment is not a week or month but a several-year period in which political scales are tipping, rationales and underlying assumptions are being reexamined, and new systems and approaches are emerging. Collectively, the public and private institutions involved are working around the world to alleviate poverty and human suffering, support equitable economic growth, foster better governance, promote global public health, prevent conflict, and strengthen the resilience of communities vulnerable to external shocks. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2011/02\\_aiding\\_development/02\\_aiding\\_development.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2011/02_aiding_development/02_aiding_development.pdf) [PDF format, 44 pages].

Central Asia: Decay and Decline. International Crisis Group. February 3, 2010.

Quietly but steadily Central Asia's basic human and physical infrastructure - the roads, power plants, hospitals and schools and the last generation of Soviet-trained specialists who have kept this all running - is disappearing. The equipment is wearing out, the personnel retiring or dying. Post-independence regimes made little effort to maintain or replace either, and funds allocated for this purpose have largely been eaten up by corruption. This collapse has already sparked protests and contributed to the overthrow of a government, says the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/asia/central-asia/201%20Central%20Asia%20-%20Decay%20and%20Decline.ashx> [PDF format, 47 pages].

Audit Report: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Monitoring of Power Grid Cyber Security. U.S. Department of Energy. January 2011.

Despite their importance to protecting the power grid, the CIP [Critical Infrastructure Protection] standards did not include a number of security controls commonly recommended for government and industry systems, including both administrative and mission-related systems. Without increased efficiency in this area, the Commission and the entities under its purview may not be able to develop and implement future standards in a timely manner to address emerging security threats, according to the report.

<http://www.ig.energy.gov/documents/IG-0846.pdf> [PDF format, 30 pages].

Pathways to Prosperity: Meeting the Challenge of Preparing Young Americans for the 21st Century. Harvard Graduate School of Education. February 2011.

Despite decades of efforts to reform education, and billions of dollars of expenditures, the harsh reality is that America is still failing to prepare millions of its young people to lead successful lives as adults. The report examines the reasons for the failure to prepare so many young adults, and advances an exciting vision for how the United States might regain the leadership in educational attainment it held for over a century. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.gse.harvard.edu/news\\_events/features/2011/Pathways\\_to\\_Prosperty\\_Feb2011.pdf](http://www.gse.harvard.edu/news_events/features/2011/Pathways_to_Prosperty_Feb2011.pdf) [PDF format, 52 pages].

Worst Case Housing Needs 2009: Report to Congress. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. February 2011.

In a report to Congress, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) found that "worst case housing needs" grew by nearly 1.2 million households, or more than 20 percent, from 2007 to 2009 and by 42 percent since 2001. "Worst case housing needs" are defined as low-income households who paid more than half their monthly income for rent, lived in severely substandard housing, or both.

[http://www.huduser.org/Publications/pdf/worstcase\\_HsgNeeds09.pdf](http://www.huduser.org/Publications/pdf/worstcase_HsgNeeds09.pdf) [PDF format, 78 pages].

Presidential Proclamation--National African American History Month. The White House. February 1, 2011.

"The great abolitionist and orator Frederick Douglass once told us, "If there is no struggle, there is no progress." Progress in America has not come easily, but has resulted from the collective efforts of generations. For centuries, African American men and women have persevered to enrich our national life and bend the arc of history toward justice. From resolute Revolutionary War soldiers fighting for liberty to the hardworking students of today reaching for horizons their ancestors could only have imagined, African Americans have strengthened our Nation by leading reforms, overcoming obstacles, and breaking down barriers. During National African American History Month, we celebrate the vast contributions of African Americans to our Nation's history and identity. This year's theme, "African Americans and the Civil War," invites us to reflect on 150 years since the start of the Civil War and on the patriots of a young country who fought for the promises of justice and equality laid out by our forbearers."

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/02/01/presidential-proclamation-national-african-american-history-month> [HTML format, various paging].

The Arab Rising - Part I. YaleGlobal. Susan Froetschel. February 2, 2011.

With the Egyptian president conceding not to seek re-election and his supporters clashing with pro-democracy demonstrators, the country is on edge. Demonstrations have also led to dismissal of the Jordanian government and the Yemeni president agreeing to step down at the end of his current term. The Middle East stands at a crossroads, and this YaleGlobal series explores the challenges faced by the U.S. and regional powers. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

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

The Arab Rising - Part II. YaleGlobal. Jamsheed K. Choksy and Carol E. B. Choksy. February 4, 2011.

Anger rages in Egypt, Jordan, Yemen and throughout the Middle East. Protesters plead for international support in their demands for democracy and economic reforms, and this YaleGlobal

series examines the implications of the Arab upsurge. Iran, long intent on promoting Islamic governance throughout the Middle East, has been swift to grab the opportunity offered by the turmoil, explain the authors. Proudly claiming a policy of "supporting resistance" in the Middle East, Iran issues news feeds, scholarships and social-media posts to the Muslim world, while covertly funding groups like Hamas, Hezbollah and the Muslim Brotherhood. Exiled Islamist leaders covet political roles in Tunisia and Egypt, and if religious rule trumps secular representative government, Iran anticipates emerging as a major powerbroker. The report emphasizes that Iran faces big obstacles convincing Sunni Arabs to welcome rigid governance of a Shi'ite theocracy. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/arab-rising-part-ii> [HTML format, various paging].

The Arab Rising - Part III. YaleGlobal. Barry Rubin. February 7, 2011.

The uprising in Egypt threatens to upset a precarious balance in the Middle East and make resolution of the Israel-Palestine conflict more difficult, if not impossible. Political upheavals in Tunisia and Egypt have added to recent developments like the revelation of Palestinian negotiating documents in pushing the likelihood of a settlement beyond the realm of possibility, says the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/arab-rising-part-iii> [HTML format, various paging].

Financial Characteristics of Vegetable and Melon Farms. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Mir Ali and Gary Lucier. February 3, 2011.

This report presents a financial snapshot of the U.S. vegetable and melon farms by region and farm size over three 3-year periods (1999-2007).

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/VGS/2010/12Dec/VGS34201/VGS34201.pdf> [PDF format, 33 pages].

The Tenth Year: A Briefing on Terrorism Issues to New Members of the 112th Congress. RAND Corporation. Michael Jenkins. Web posted February 2011.

The U.S. has not experienced another major terrorist attack since September 11, 2001, which many had feared. However, few in 2001 would have imagined that, ten years later, the U.S. would still be threatened by the same jihadist terrorist enterprise. Its effort to defeat and dismantle this global network while protecting itself against further attacks has become its longest campaign. On January 8, 2011, Brian Michael Jenkins briefed newly elected members of Congress on a spectrum of foreign policy, national security, and domestic issues, with a particular focus on domestic terrorism prevention and transportation security in the post-9/11 era. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/corporate\\_pubs/2011/RAND\\_CP625.pdf](http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/corporate_pubs/2011/RAND_CP625.pdf) [PDF format, 15 pages].

Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood. Council on Foreign Relations. Jayshree Bajoria. February 3, 2011.

The anti-government protests in Egypt will likely mean a greater political role for the Muslim Brotherhood, analysts say. But experts are divided over whether the Islamist group will choose a path of moderation or extremism. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cfr.org/africa/egypts-muslim-brotherhood/p23991> [HTML format, various paging].

Egypt's Uphill Economic Struggles. Council on Foreign Relations. Isobel Coleman. February 2, 2011.

Whatever change follows Egypt's political turbulence, any new government will have to confront the country's rampant unemployment, cronyism, and other factors impeding growth and development, in addition to constitutional reform, says Isobel Coleman. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cfr.org/africa/egypts-uphill-economic-struggles/p23985> [HTML format, various paging].

Afghanistan Opium Survey 2011: Winter Rapid Assessment for the Central, Eastern, Southern and Western Regions. U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime. Web posted February 1, 2011.

Based on a qualitative assessment of cultivation trends, the winter assessment in the south, west, central and east of Afghanistan predicts an overall slight decrease in opium cultivation for 2011 in this region. This follows a stable opium cultivation estimated in 2010 for the whole country, halting a declining trend in cultivation observed since 2007. The result of this assessment indicates that the current high price of opium did not produce an increase in opium cultivation in the highest cultivating provinces of Hilmand and Kandahar. In these two provinces the cultivation is expected to decrease in 2011. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.unodc.org/documents/crop-monitoring/Afghanistan/ORAS\\_report\\_2011.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/crop-monitoring/Afghanistan/ORAS_report_2011.pdf) [PDF format, 32 pages].

Poverty Among Older Americans, 2009. Urban Institute. Philip Issa et al. February 3, 2011.

About one in three Americans age 65 or older lived in low-income families in 2009, including 8.9 percent in poverty. Poverty rates were much higher among those who did not complete high school, lived alone, or had poor health. This data brief reports how poverty and near-poverty rates among older Americans in 2009 varied by demographics, living arrangements, and health status; shows that poverty and near poverty among seniors declined between 2007 and 2009; and describes income sources for poor and non-poor seniors. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412296-Poverty-Among-Older-Americans.pdf> [PDF format, 6 pages].

Generations and Their Gadgets. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Kathryn Zickuhr. February 3, 2011.

Devices have become popular across generations, with a majority now owning cell phones, laptops and desktop computers. Younger adults are leading the way in increased mobility, preferring laptops to desktops and using their cell phones for a variety of functions, including internet, email, music, games, and video. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2011/PIP\\_Generations\\_and\\_Gadgets.pdf](http://pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2011/PIP_Generations_and_Gadgets.pdf) [PDF format, 20 pages].

Keeping the Faith: Faith Organizing for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Moral and Civil Rights in a Southern State. Center for American Progress. Susan Brooks Thistlethwaite and Marta Cook. Web posted February 2, 2011.

The lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender rights movement has made enormous strides in recent years. LGBT rights activists and their allies have secured important victories in achieving

equal legal rights. In addition, they have achieved greater moral equality in the eyes of several religious groups. Furthermore, hundreds of churches and synagogues across the country, in almost every state, have become formally welcoming to LGBT Americans. Tennessee illustrates how movements for equality can advance in the face of organized religious and political opposition, and how that opposition can spur alliances among faith groups and LGBT advocates. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/pdf/tennessee\\_faith.pdf](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/pdf/tennessee_faith.pdf) [PDF format, 33 pages].

A Voluntary Default Savings Plan: An Effective Supplement to Social Security. Center for Economic and Policy Research. Dean Baker and David Rosnick. February 2011.

This paper outlines a proposal for a default savings plan that is intended to provide an important supplement to retirement income for the bottom half of the workforce, most of whom have little other than Social Security to support themselves in retirement at present. Under the proposal, workers would make a default contribution of 3.0 percent on annual wages up to \$40,000. They could opt out from this contribution if they choose. The contribution would be automatically turned into an annuity at retirement although workers would have the option to make a lump sum withdrawal after paying a modest penalty. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/cepr-savings-plan-2011-02.pdf> [PDF format, 25 pages].

Egypt and Tunisia (and, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan). Center for Strategic & International Studies. Anthony H. Cordesman. February 3, 2011.

There is no one cause behind the upheavals in Egypt, Tunisia, and Yemen. The causes are political and ideological, and cannot be separated from the religious, ethnic, sectarian, and tribal tensions in given countries. According to the author, it is clear from the statements of many demonstrators that they are angry at repression, corruption, and a lack of basic justice. It is clear from others, that they see a world without a clear future, without any personal opportunities and status, without rewards for education and willingness to work, and often without clear prospects for marriage, a far more critical measure of social well being in the Arab world than in the West. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://csis.org/publication/egypt-and-tunisia-and-iraq-afghanistan-and-pakistan> [HTML format, various paging].

Afghanistan: Politics, Elections, and Government Performance. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kenneth Katzman. January 21, 2011.

The limited capacity and widespread corruption of all levels of Afghan governance are growing factors in debate over the effectiveness of U.S. strategy in Afghanistan, as expressed in an Administration assessment of policy released December 16, 2010. A competent, respected, and effective Afghan government is considered a major prerequisite for a transition to Afghan lead that is to take place by 2014, a timeframe agreed by the United States, its international partners, and the Afghan government. Afghan governing capacity has increased significantly since the Taliban regime fell in late 2001, but many positions, particularly at the local level, are unfilled or the governing function performed by unaccountable power brokers. Traditional attitudes also continue to prevail, with implications such as slowing efforts to curb such practices as child marriages, court judgments against converts from Islam to Christianity, and cleric-driven curbs on the sale of alcohol and Western-oriented programming in the burgeoning Afghan media.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/155581.pdf> [PDF format, 58 pages].

Development of Energy Efficiency Indicators in Russia. International Energy Agency, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Nathalie Trudeau and Isabel Murray. January 2011.

Russia is sometimes referred to as "the Saudi Arabia of energy efficiency"; its vast potential to reduce energy consumption can be considered a significant "energy reserve". Russia, recognising the benefits of more efficient use of energy, is taking measures to exploit this potential. The president has set the goal to reduce energy intensity by 40% between 2007 and 2020. In the past few years, the IEA has worked closely with Russian authorities to support the development of energy efficiency indicators in Russia, critical to an effective implementation and monitoring of Russia's ambitious energy intensity and efficiency goals. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/download/fulltext/5kgk7w8v4dhl.pdf?expires=1296831031&id=0000&accname=guest&checksum=45AFEBBD77159B865220FDA53BE2ACFA> [PDF format, 55 pages].

Raising Education Outcomes in Switzerland. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Andres Fuentes. February 2, 2011.

Almost all workers are educated at least to the upper secondary level and vocational education contributes to one of the most successful transition performances of youth to employment in the OECD. Higher education enjoys an excellent reputation, as reflected in one of the highest scientific publication rates relative to population in the OECD and high placements of Swiss universities in international rankings. Participation in continuous education is among the largest in the OECD. Public spending per pupil on pre-primary education is low in international comparison whereas spending on tertiary academic education per graduate is among the highest in the OECD. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/download/fulltext/5kgj3l0wr4q6.pdf?expires=1296834500&id=0000&accname=guest&checksum=BC3A209B086D0446592BCEC244524E44> In English [PDF format, 38 pages].

<http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/download/fulltext/5kgj3l0r2g26.pdf?expires=1296834404&id=0000&accname=guest&checksum=A2B589EFD10B3148F9D9A6DBCD188002> In French [PDF format, 42 pages].

Increasing Public Sector Efficiency in Slovakia. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Felix Hufner. February 3, 2011.

The study contends that given the deterioration in public finances, there is now very little scope for higher spending. Raising public sector efficiency would free up resources and yield better outcomes with the same inputs, helping to stimulate productivity and thus potential growth in Slovakia. Raising efficiency in tax collection (notably VAT) is urgently needed, plans to unify the collection of tax and social security contributions should be implemented swiftly and drawing on EU funds needs to become more efficient. In addition, raising the efficiency in healthcare should be a priority. This involves dealing with the high out-of-pocket payments and reforming the remuneration structure of doctors. Pharmaceutical spending is excessive and can be reduced, notably by further fostering generic substitution. Impediments to competition among health

insurance funds should be reconsidered and the risk-equalisation system should be improved. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/download/fulltext/5kgj3l0m0q0r.pdf?expires=1296836045&id=0000&accname=guest&checksum=5B50D2182C4F7717FB26EA00A6862964> [PDF format, 30 pages].

Plug-in Electric Vehicles: A Practical Plan for Progress. School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University. February 2011.

While President Barack Obama's State of the Union address displayed a big vision for electric cars in America, the study concludes that the President's vision needs bold action from the auto industry, federal government and the scientific community to ensure those goals are realized. It lays out the short-term and long-term steps the U.S. must take to be assured of a global leadership role in the emerging electric vehicle industry. The study represents a first-ever evaluation of one of President Obama's chief environmental campaign goals of putting one million alternative-energy vehicles on U.S. highways by 2015. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.indiana.edu/~spea/pubs/TEP\\_combined.pdf](http://www.indiana.edu/~spea/pubs/TEP_combined.pdf) [PDF format, 82 pages].

Country Analysis Briefs: Oman. Energy Information Administration. February 2011.

Like most of its neighbors, Oman is dependent upon its oil sector for the majority of its export revenues and budgetary requirements. Oman possesses the largest oil reserves of any non-OPEC country in the Middle East and significant reserves of natural gas, of which it is a leading exporter regionally. Exports of natural gas have diversified the economy away from oil, but Oman will remain highly dependent on its hydrocarbon sectors for the foreseeable future. Oman is pursuing economic diversification, however its industrialization program is itself reliant upon increased volumes of petroleum and natural gas as feedstock. This leaves Oman's efforts to expand its economy largely dependent on the sectors from which it is attempting to diversify.

<http://www.eia.gov/emeu/cabs/Oman/pdf.pdf> [PDF format, 7 pages].

Murder or Attempted Murder of a Member of Congress and Other Federal Officials and Employees: Implications in Federal Criminal Law and Procedures of Events in Tucson. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Charles Doyle. January 25, 2011.

Jared Lee Loughner was arrested for the attempted murder of Representative Gabrielle Giffords, the murder of United States District Court Judge John Roll, and the murder or attempted murder of several federal employees. The arrest brings several features of federal law to the fore. Federal crimes of violence are usually violations of the law of the state where they occur; an offender may be tried in either federal or state court or both. Ordinarily, federal crimes must be tried where they occur, but in extraordinary cases a defendant's motion for a change of venue may be granted. In capital cases, the decision to seek the death penalty rests with the Attorney General. Should a defendant elect to assert an insanity defense, he must provide pretrial notification. In the face of that notice, the court may order an examination to determine the defendant's competence to stand trial. Federal law affords victims, including families of the deceased or incapacitated, the right to confer with prosecutors, and to attend the trial and other public judicial proceedings.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41606.pdf> [PDF format, 13 pages].

Is Biopower Carbon Neutral? Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kelsi Bracmort. January 25, 2011.

Congress has been increasingly interested in biopower, electricity generated from biomass. Biopower, a baseload power source, has the potential to strengthen rural economies, enhance energy security, and improve the environment, proponents say. Biopower could be produced from a large range of biomass feedstocks nationwide (e.g., urban, agricultural, and forestry wastes and residues). One challenge to biopower production is a readily available feedstock supply. At present, biopower requires tax incentives to be competitive with conventional fossil fuels. Congressional support for biopower has aimed to promote energy security, and has generally assumed that biopower is carbon neutral. An energy production activity is typically classified as carbon neutral if it produces no net increase in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions on a life-cycle basis. The premise that biopower is carbon neutral has come under scrutiny as its potential to help meet U.S. energy demands and reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions is more closely examined.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41603.pdf> [PDF format, 17 pages].

Learning by Doing: The Pakistan Army's Experience with Counterinsurgency. Atlantic Council. Shuja Nawaz. February 1, 2011.

The report examines the doctrinal shift toward counterinsurgency (COIN) that has taken place in the Pakistan army in recent years. The army appears to have learned many lessons from its experiences in Swat in 2008 and is now altering its approach and training system to fighting a homegrown insurgency and the rising threat of improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Mr. Nawaz has traveled widely in Pakistan, speaking with people in the field and at training establishments to gauge the extent of the transformation of the Pakistan Army that will allow it to battle insurgency and militancy within its borders. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.acus.org/files/publication\\_pdfs/403/020111\\_ACUS\\_Nawaz\\_PakistanCounterinsurgency.pdf](http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/403/020111_ACUS_Nawaz_PakistanCounterinsurgency.pdf) [PDF format, 44 pages].

Will It Take a Crisis to Fix Fiscal Policy? Urban Institute. Rudolph G. Penner. February 4, 2011.

Unless current policies are reformed, the national debt will continue to grow relative to GDP until a sovereign debt crisis, like those in Ireland and Greece, is inevitable. Although the nation is becoming more concerned about spiraling debt and a presidential fiscal commission and other groups have suggested reforms, the president and congressional leaders have been unwilling to recommend specific policy reforms. Consequently, it is becoming more and more likely that policymakers will not undertake necessary reforms until a financial crisis forces their hand, says the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412297-Fix-Fiscal-Policy.pdf> [PDF format, 21 pages].

Ripple Effect of Egypt's Protests. Council on Foreign Relations. Deborah Jerome. February 4, 2011.

The Arab world is watching warily as protests in Yemen, Jordan, Algeria, and Syria add to regional unrest. All are rooted in concern over economic mismanagement and repression, but any new cast of leaders would face steep challenges. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cfr.org/egypt/ripple-effect-egypts-protests/p24007> [HTML format, various paging].



Neglected Tropical Diseases: Background, Responses, and Issues for Congress. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. January 21, 2011.

Over the past decade, global health has become a priority in U.S. foreign policy, and U.S. funding for related efforts has more than tripled. Roughly 534,000 people are believed to be killed by an Neglected Tropical Diseases annually. Some groups argue that the United States should increase funding for NTD programs to improve global health and advance domestic capacity to detect NTD cases that may arise, particularly for diseases like dengue and Chagas. Other groups maintain that countries like Brazil, China, and India that have received support for eliminating NTDs should play a greater role in addressing the health challenge, particularly as their own economies exhibit strong growth.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41607.pdf> [PDF format, 59 pages].

Country Analysis Briefs: Egypt. Energy Information Administration. February 2011.

Hydrocarbons play a sizeable role in Egypt's economy both from oil and natural gas production and also in terms of revenues from the Suez Canal, an important transit point for oil shipments out of the Persian Gulf. Total oil production, however, has declined since the country's 1996 peak of close to 935,000 barrels per day (bbl/d) to current levels of about 660,000 bbl/d. Egypt's consumption is slightly higher than production and the country has begun to rely on a small volume of imports to meet domestic demand. Egypt also has the largest oil refining sector in Africa and since refining capacity now exceeds domestic demand, some non-Egyptian crudes are currently imported for processing and re-export.

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/Egypt/pdf.pdf> [PDF format, 10 pages].

How Well Are American Students Learning? Brown Center on Education Policy. Tom Loveless. February 2011.

The study is divided into three parts. Part I presents the latest results from state, national, or international assessments and alerts readers to important trends in the data. Part II explores an education issue in depth, sometimes by investigating different sources of empirical evidence than previous research, sometimes by posing a conventional question in an unconventional way. Part III analyzes a current or impending question regarding education policy. In all three sections, the studies strive to ask clear questions, gather the best available evidence, and present findings in a nonpartisan, jargon-free manner. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2011/0207\\_education\\_loveless/0207\\_education\\_loveless.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2011/0207_education_loveless/0207_education_loveless.pdf) [PDF format, 32 pages].

National Security Letters: Proposals in the 112th Congress. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Charles Doyle. February 1, 2011.

Three USA PATRIOT Act-related amendments to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) expire on February 28, 2011. None of the expiring provisions deal with National Security Letters (NSLs). The USA PATRIOT Act Sunset Extension Act of 2011 (S. 193), however, would both extend the expiration of those provisions and amend existing NSL authority. S. 193 corresponds in large measure to legislation reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee during the last Congress (S. 1692 (111th Cong.)).

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/intel/R41619.pdf> [PDF format, 30 pages].

Beyond a Global Deal: A UN+ Approach to Climate Governance. Global Governance 2020. Bruce Au et al. January 2011.

A global agreement on binding emissions reductions is unlikely, but progress against climate change can still be made through a patchwork of initiatives and commitments by forward-thinking countries, subnational governments, international organizations, businesses and civil society. That is the conclusion of the GG2020 climate change working group in their final report . [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.gg2020.net/fileadmin/media/gg2020/GG2020\\_2011\\_Climate\\_Beyond\\_Global\\_Deal.pdf](http://www.gg2020.net/fileadmin/media/gg2020/GG2020_2011_Climate_Beyond_Global_Deal.pdf) [PDF format, 32 pages].

Land Deals in Africa: What Is in the Contracts? International Institute for Environment and Development. Lorenzo Cotula. February 2011.

Over the past few years, agribusiness, investment funds and government agencies have been acquiring long-term rights over large areas of land in Africa. Together with applicable national and international law, contracts define the terms of an investment project, and the way risks, costs and benefits are distributed. Who has the authority to sign the contract and through what process greatly influences the extent to which people can have their voices heard. Yet very little is known about the exact terms of the land deals. Drawing on the legal analysis of twelve land deals from different parts of Africa, the report discusses the contractual issues for which public scrutiny is most needed, and aims to promote informed public debate about them. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/12568IIED.pdf> [PDF format, 56 pages].

Who Are America's Poor Children?: Examining Health Disparities Among Children in the United States. National Center for Children in Poverty. David Seth and Elizabeth Isakson. January 2011.

Good health goes a long way, as research suggests that poor health in childhood not only impedes early child development, but can also have lasting consequences on children's future health and wellbeing. Although many would agree that a health is a fundamental right, children born into low-income families are less likely to enjoy this right. The report provides an overview of the health of America's children by poverty status from 2007 to 2009. To assess health disparities between poor and nonpoor children, it identifies a list of publicly available annual indicators within the following five broad domains of health: environmental health, health insurance coverage, access to healthcare services, behavior, and health outcomes. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text\\_995.pdf](http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text_995.pdf) [PDF format, 16 pages].

Policies Towards a Sustainable Use of Water in Spain. Organisation for Economic and Co-operation and Development. Andres Fuentes. February 2011.

Spain uses its natural water resources intensively, mostly in agriculture, thanks to a highly developed dam infrastructure. The limits for extraction of natural resources have largely been reached and climate change is expected to continue lowering natural water endowments markedly in future especially in dry areas of the country. The costs of exploiting alternative supply sources on a large scale, notably desalination and recycling, remain well above water prices paid by consumers at present. However, further steps need to be taken to halt excessive groundwater abstractions, including through improved monitoring and the introduction of charges on

abstractions from overexploited aquifers, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/download/fulltext/5kgj3l0ggczt.pdf?expires=1297086978&id=0000&accname=guest&checksum=FFEA0EBE469EF74064407A473AF56E82> [PDF format, 31 pages].

Are Medical Devices Turning the Corner against Heart Failure? American Enterprise Institute. John E. Calfee and Gabriel Sudduth. January 2011.

The Outlook reports that left ventricular assist devices, or "heart pumps," are proving to be the best available option for patients with advanced heart failure, and that the technology has huge potential for improvement. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/2011-HPO-02-g.pdf> [PDF format, 10 pages].

Can China's Currency Go Global? American Enterprise Institute. John H. Makin. February 2011.

The Outlook shows an assessment of the prospects for the yuan to replace the dollar as an international reserve currency. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/EO-2011-02-g.pdf> [PDF format, 5 pages].

The Power of Jurisdiction In Promoting Social Policies in Small States. U.N. Research Institute for Social Development. Godfrey Baldacchino. January 31, 2011.

On the basis of a global review of empirical material, the paper argues that a stronger appreciation of strategic issues, institutional practices, legal features, regulatory capacities and behavioural response mechanisms would help in understanding why some small states succeed while others do not. Many small states have been successful because they have transcended their size: their citizens are disproportionately avid travellers, well represented overseas, confident users of international languages, keen transnational brokers and mercantilists, active in regional and international circles, and have high propensities toward migration. Even at the macro political and economic level, small states are potentially well endowed with the ability to influence events that take place beyond their shores, and from which they can reap benefits. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/httpNetITFramePDF?ReadForm&parentunid=D4C9913E82705AD9C125781F0061AE49&parentdoctype=paper&netitpath=80256B3C005BCCF9/\(httpAuxPages\)/D4C9913E82705AD9C125781F0061AE49/\\$file/Baldacchino.pdf](http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/httpNetITFramePDF?ReadForm&parentunid=D4C9913E82705AD9C125781F0061AE49&parentdoctype=paper&netitpath=80256B3C005BCCF9/(httpAuxPages)/D4C9913E82705AD9C125781F0061AE49/$file/Baldacchino.pdf) [PDF format, 41 pages].

Burundi: From Electoral Boycott to Political Impasse. International Crisis Group.

Burundi risks reversing the decade of progress it has enjoyed since its civil war ended unless the government resumes political dialogue with the opposition, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/africa/central-africa/burundi/169-burundi-from-electoral-boycott-to-political-impasse.aspx> Summary in English [HTML format, various paging].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/fr/regions/afrique/afrique-centrale/burundi/169-burundi-from-electoral-boycott-to-political-impasse.aspx> Summary in French [HTML format, various paging].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/africa/central-africa/burundi/169%20Burundi%20-%20Du%20Boycott%20Electoral%20A%20L%20Impasse%20Politique.ashx> Full Text in French [PDF format, 37 pages].

Using Student Performance to Evaluate Teachers. RAND Corporation. February 2011.

Over the past 15 years, a growing body of research has demonstrated that teachers are the most important school-based determinant of student achievement. The research has also shown that many current teacher evaluation systems, which rely mainly on supervisor judgments, do not adequately reflect variation in teachers' estimated ability to raise test scores. As a result, there is a growing interest in developing teacher evaluation systems that incorporate value-added estimates of teachers' effects on student achievement. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research\\_briefs/2011/RAND\\_RB9569.pdf](http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_briefs/2011/RAND_RB9569.pdf) [PDF format, 3 pages].

Immigration and High-Impact, High-Tech Entrepreneurship. Brookings Institution. David M. Hart and Zoltan J. Acs. February 2011.

The study shows that the founding teams of about 16 percent of a nationally representative sample of high-impact, high-tech companies, the kind of company that is most critical for long-term economic growth, include at least one immigrant. These immigrant entrepreneurs are deeply-rooted in the U.S.; about 77 percent, for instance, are U.S. citizens. Most are well-educated and have substantial professional experience. The evidence does not rule out the possibility that the immigrant entrepreneurs "crowd out" comparable natives. The study inclines toward the view that immigrants and natives complement one another. It also outlines three policy options that might expand the pool of potential high-impact, high-tech immigrant entrepreneurs over the long-term: clearing the green card backlog, easing the pathway from student visa to work visa to green card, and creating a "point system" for a limited number of unsponsored green card applicants. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/02\\_immigration\\_hart\\_acs/02\\_immigration\\_hart\\_acs.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/02_immigration_hart_acs/02_immigration_hart_acs.pdf) [PDF format, 11 pages].

Protests in Yemen Threaten Fragile State. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Christopher Boucek. February 4, 2011.

While the scale of the protests in Yemen has so far remained modest in comparison to those in Egypt and Tunisia, the impact for a country already on the brink of failure could be significant. Yemen faces multiple internal conflicts, an increasingly violent secessionist movement in the south, the seven-year Houthi rebellion in northern Sa'ada, and significant activity by a resurgent al-Qaeda. Even more threatening to the long-term future of Yemen are the serious economic problems, endemic poverty and chronically high levels of unemployment that are aggravated by rampant corruption and explosive population growth, according to the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=42524&prog=zgp&proj=zme> [HTML format, various paging].

Investing in Central Europe: Opportunity Knocks. Deloitte. February 2011.

Key drivers for investors making cross-border direct investments usually include gaining access to new and growing markets and reducing costs. The countries of Central Europe score high on

both factors. The report covers Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.deloitte.com/assets/Dcom-Global/Local%20Assets/Documents/Tax/dtt\\_tax\\_investinginCE\\_2011.pdf](http://www.deloitte.com/assets/Dcom-Global/Local%20Assets/Documents/Tax/dtt_tax_investinginCE_2011.pdf) [PDF format, 112 pages].

National Security Space Strategy: Unclassified Summary. U.S. Department of Defense. Web posted February 4, 2011.

The strategy is derived from the National Security Strategy and the National Space Policy and outlines necessary changes to enhance national security through DoD and intelligence community activities in space. It is the culmination of a lengthy and detailed Space Posture Review conducted in close consultation with other agencies and allies. The NSSS is driven by an evolving strategic environment. Space is crucial for military operations and intelligence collection, but it is increasingly congested with satellites, orbital debris, and radiofrequency interference; contested by countries developing counterspace capabilities; and competitive with an increasing number of spacefaring countries and companies.

[http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2011/0111\\_nsss/docs/NationalSecuritySpaceStrategyUnclassifiedSummary\\_Jan2011.pdf](http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2011/0111_nsss/docs/NationalSecuritySpaceStrategyUnclassifiedSummary_Jan2011.pdf) [PDF format, 21 pages].

An Historical Perspective on the China-North Korea Border. Center for Strategic & International Studies. David C. Kang. February 7, 2011.

The past few years have seen increasing attention, mostly critical, of China's relations with North Korea. In both South Korea and the U.S., policymakers, scholars, and other observers believe that China should do more to make North Korea behave more responsibly and are quite critical when China avoids pressuring or criticizing North Korean behavior. On the other hand, there is an underlying fear in South Korea that China intends to extend formal or informal Chinese control onto the Korean peninsula. Indeed, one of the main arguments some Chinese have been making for including the ancient kingdom of Koguryö (37 BC - 668 AD) as part of Chinese history is that Koguryö had entered into "tributary relations" with various states located in China. Although the Chinese have been careful to emphasize that they were talking only about Koguryö and not about Paekche and Silla, nonetheless they may believe that a precedent has been set. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://csis.org/files/publication/110207\\_Historical\\_Perspective\\_on\\_China-North%20Korea\\_Border.pdf](http://csis.org/files/publication/110207_Historical_Perspective_on_China-North%20Korea_Border.pdf) [PDF format, 4 pages].

Armenia and Azerbaijan: Preventing War. International Crisis Group. February 8, 2011.

Escalating front-line clashes, a spiralling arms race, vitriolic rhetoric and a virtual breakdown in peace talks increase the chance Armenia and Azerbaijan will go back to war over Nagorno-Karabakh, with devastating regional consequences, says the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/europe/B60%20Armenia%20and%20Azerbaijan%20Preventing%20War.ashx> [PDF format, 20 pages].

Helping America Win the Clean Energy Race. Center for American Progress. Richard W. Caperton et al. February 7, 2011.

The authors introduce nine key milestones that should shape the design and development of a specific clean energy standard. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/pdf/ces\\_brief.pdf](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/pdf/ces_brief.pdf) [PDF format, 11 pages].

Decentralization and Rural Service Delivery in Uganda. International Food Policy Research Institute. Bernard Bashaasha et al. February 7, 2011.

Uganda introduced the decentralization policy in 1997 under the Local Government Act of 1997 that has since undergone four amendments. The policy inherently decentralized service delivery institutions and their governance in order to improve access to services for the rural poor. The paper documents the state of knowledge regarding rural service provision in Uganda under decentralization and identifies knowledge gaps for further investigation. Its focus is on education, health, and agricultural advisory services, as well as the management of natural resources in Uganda. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/ifpridp01063.pdf> [PDF format, 32 pages].

Militant Extremists in the United States. Council on Foreign Relations. Jonathan Masters. February 7, 2011.

Violent acts by homegrown militant extremists in the U.S. have declined, but "lone wolf" attacks are on the rise. The post 9/11 legal and political landscape poses new challenges to law enforcement authorities seeking to prevent such attacks. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cfr.org/terrorist-organizations/militant-extremists-united-states/p9236> [HTML format, various paging].

Climate Change Policy and the Adoption of Methane Digesters on Livestock Operations. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Nigel Key and Stacy Sneeringer. February 7, 2011.

Methane digesters, biogas recovery systems that use methane from manure to generate electricity, have not been widely adopted in the U.S. because costs have exceeded benefits to operators. Burning methane in a digester reduces greenhouse gas emissions from manure management. A policy or program that pays producers for these emission reductions, through a carbon offset market or directly with payments, could increase the number of livestock producers who would profit from adopting a methane digester. The report shows an economic model that illustrates how dairy and hog operation size, location, and manure management methods, along with electricity and carbon prices, could influence methane digester profits.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR111/ERR111.pdf> [PDF format, 47 pages].

A National Offshore Wind Strategy: Creating an Offshore Wind Energy Industry in the United States. U.S. Department of Energy. February 7, 2011.

The report is the plan on offshore wind energy and demonstrates federal government's commitment to expeditiously develop a sustainable, world-class offshore wind industry in a way that reduces conflict with other ocean uses and protects resources. The plan focuses on overcoming three key challenges: the relatively high cost of offshore wind energy; technical challenges surrounding installation, operations, and grid interconnection; and the lack of site data and experience with project permitting processes.

[http://www1.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro/pdfs/national\\_offshore\\_wind\\_strategy.pdf](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro/pdfs/national_offshore_wind_strategy.pdf) [PDF format, 52 pages].

New START Treaty Entry Into Force: Fact Sheet. U.S. Department of State. February 5, 2011.

The New START Treaty officially entered into force with the exchange of Instruments of Ratification between Secretary Clinton and Foreign Minister Lavrov in Munich on February 5, 2011. The entry into force of the New START Treaty sets into motion a number of requirements which are outlined in the Fact Sheet.

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2011/02/156037.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

Accelerating Advanced Manufacturing with New Research Centers. Brookings Institution. Howard Wial and Susan Helper. February 8, 2011.

Manufacturing remains a critical sector for the economic health of the nation as a whole and for the states. The sector accounts for the bulk of U.S. exports, is key to innovation, and provides many high-wage jobs for less educated workers. So reversing or at least stemming manufacturing job losses is essential to an economic recovery that leads to a sustained period of export-oriented, innovation-fueled, opportunity-rich economic growth, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0208\\_states\\_manufacturing\\_wial/0208\\_states\\_manufacturing\\_wial.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0208_states_manufacturing_wial/0208_states_manufacturing_wial.pdf) [PDF format, 10 pages].

High School Graduation Rates in the United States and Impact of Adolescent Romance. RAND Corporation. Chung Pham. February 7, 2011.

The document reviews the controversy over the true high school graduation rate in the U.S., provides a comprehensive review of the debate, discusses shortcomings of current methods, and proposes new methods that address those shortcomings. The author concludes that current methods that are widely used are flawed: High school graduation rates in the United States are well above 80 percent, with high racial disparity; the graduation rates for white and Asian students are around 85 percent, and the rates for Hispanic and African American students are around 70-80 percent. Moderate dating has a positive impact on college readiness and college enrollment; serious dating and early sex has a significant negative impact on graduation and college enrollment. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/rgs\\_dissertations/2011/RAND\\_RGSD276.pdf](http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/rgs_dissertations/2011/RAND_RGSD276.pdf) [PDF format, 133 pages].

Algeria's Oil Revenues Will Not Prevent Social Upheaval. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Lahcen Achy. February 7, 2011.

The recent announcement by Algeria's president, Abdelaziz Bouteflika, that he will end the country's 19-year-old state of emergency law was welcome news to opposition parties and civil society groups. But unless its leaders quickly address the major structural problems plaguing its economy and increase government oversight, Algeria's protests will likely grow, according to the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=42541&prog=zgp> [HTML format, various paging].

A Threat Transformed: Al Qaeda and Associated Movements in 2011. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Rick "Ozzie" Nelson et al. February 8, 2011.

The transformation of the al Qaeda threat into a broader movement has important implications for U.S. and international counterterrorism strategy. First, the diffusion of global Islamist terrorism has greatly complicated the work of policymakers and national security practitioners. Al Qaeda core, while operationally diminished, plays an active role within the syndicate of armed groups active in Pakistan and Afghanistan, often helping to facilitate attacks that it alone could not perpetrate. Emerging affiliates pose a range of threats: In less than a year, al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula launched two attempted attacks on the U.S. homeland; and Lashkar-e-Taiba, in perpetrating the 2008 Mumbai bombings, provoked further military tensions between Pakistan and India. Nonaffiliated cells and individuals, while mostly unsophisticated, represent a unique type of threat: "homegrown" extremists could enable domestic attacks. The report examines the nature of these changes and is part of a larger, year-long study that will forecast the nature of AQAM in 2025. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://csis.org/files/publication/110203\\_Nelson\\_AThreatTransformed\\_web.pdf](http://csis.org/files/publication/110203_Nelson_AThreatTransformed_web.pdf) [PDF format, 38 pages].

Trade and Global Recession. National Bureau of Economic Research. Jon Eaton et al. Web posted February 8, 2011.

Global trade fell 30 percent relative to GDP during the Great Recession of 2008-2009. Did this collapse result from factors impeding international transactions or did it simply reflect the greater severity of the recession in highly traded sectors? The report strives to answer this question with detailed international data, interpreted within a general-equilibrium trade model. Counterfactual simulations of the model show that a shift in spending away from manufactures, particularly durables, accounts for more than 80 percent of the drop in trade/GDP. Increased trade impediments reduced trade in some countries, but globally the impact of these changes largely cancels out. [Note: contains copyrighted material],

[http://www.nber.org/papers/w16666.pdf?new\\_window=1](http://www.nber.org/papers/w16666.pdf?new_window=1) [PDF format, 61 pages].

Middle East Notes and Comment: Drawing the Wrong Lessons. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Jon B. Alterman. February 8, 2011.

Mubarak's end is near, but the danger is that other Arab leaders will draw the wrong lesson from his fall. Rather than concluding that Mubarak was too wed to the ideas of the past, they are likely to conclude he was insufficiently cautious of abandoning those ideas, says the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://csis.org/files/publication/0211\\_MENC.pdf](http://csis.org/files/publication/0211_MENC.pdf) [PDF format, 2 pages].

The National Military Strategy of the United States of America 2011: Redefining America's Military Leadership. Joint Chiefs of Staff. February 8, 2011.

The Strategy emphasizes how the Joint Force will redefine America's military leadership to adapt to a challenging new era. It identifies trends in the strategic environment, explains how the U.S. will address them, and articulates regional and functional capability priorities.

[http://www.jcs.mil/content/files/2011-02/020811084800\\_2011\\_NMS\\_-\\_08\\_FEB\\_2011.pdf](http://www.jcs.mil/content/files/2011-02/020811084800_2011_NMS_-_08_FEB_2011.pdf) [PDF format, 24 pages].



Federal Funding of Transportation Improvements in BRAC Cases. Transportation Research Board. February 7, 2011.

Implementation of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment (BRAC) law of 2005 will concentrate tens of thousands of additional personnel at or near 18 domestic military bases, several of which are located in major metropolitan areas with already congested transportation infrastructure, says the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/sr/sr302Summary.pdf> Report in Brief [PDF format, 4 pages].

[http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=13104](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13104) [HTML format with links].

2010 U.S. Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator Annual Report on Intellectual Property Enforcement. Executive Office of the President of the United States. February 2011.

This year, DOJ and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) have increased their investigations and prosecutions of corporate and state-sponsored trade secret theft. In addition, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will lead an effort this year to thoroughly assess the patent enforcement landscape in China and recommend steps that the U.S. Government can take to improve patent enforcement there.

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/IPEC/ipec\\_annual\\_report\\_feb2011.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/IPEC/ipec_annual_report_feb2011.pdf) [PDF format, 92 pages].

State of the World's Forests 2011. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2011.

The ninth biennial issue of *State of the World's Forests* is being launched at the outset of 2011, the International Year of Forests. This Year aims to promote awareness and understanding of forests and forestry issues. The chapters draw attention to four key areas that warrant greater attention during the International Year of Forests and beyond: regional trends on forest resources; the development of sustainable forest industries; climate change adaptation and mitigation; and the local value of forests. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i2000e/i2000e.pdf> [PDF format, 179 pages].

Guide for Policy and Programmatic Actions at Country Level to Address High Food Prices. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2011.

Low-income food-deficit countries have been hit hard by high food prices in recent years. The people most affected by higher food prices are net food buyers, depending on the extent to which international price movements are transmitted to domestic markets. In planning country-level actions, it is essential to tailor the response to the specific conditions of the country and the situation of different stakeholders concerned. Since the situation can vary from country to country, "one size fits all" strategies are not effective; they have even been counterproductive in many cases. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/ISFP/revisedISFP\\_guide\\_web.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ISFP/revisedISFP_guide_web.pdf) [PDF format, 52 pages].

Vice President Biden Announces Six Year Plan to Build National High-Speed Rail Network. Office of the Vice President, The White House. February 8, 2011.

Vice President Joe Biden announced a comprehensive plan that will help the nation reach President Obama's goal of giving 80 percent of Americans access to high-speed rail within 25 years, as outlined in his State of the Union address. The proposal will place high-speed rail on equal footing with other surface transportation programs and revitalize America's domestic rail manufacturing industry by dedicating \$53 billion over six years to continue construction of a national high-speed and intercity passenger rail network. As a part of President Obama's commitment to winning the future by rebuilding America's roadways, railways and runways, the plan will lay a new foundation for the nation's economic opportunity, job creation, and competitiveness.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/02/08/vice-president-biden-announces-six-year-plan-build-national-high-speed-r> [HTML format, various paging].

Transforming High Schools: Performance Systems for Powerful Teaching. Alliance for Excellent Education. February 8, 2011.

Teaching quality is recognized as the most powerful school-based factor in student learning. This does not mean, however, that all teachers have powerful effects on student learning. Considerable evidence points to the enormous variation in teaching practice as a fundamental problem in improving high schools. The national policy community recognizes that in order for the United States to compete in a global knowledge economy, the concentration and distribution of effective teachers in secondary schools must be dramatically improved. Fundamental policy questions remain unanswered, however, about what approaches are best to ensure teaching quality. The brief provides several recommendations for federal and state policymakers to support educator development in high schools. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.all4ed.org/files/TransformingHSs.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

U.S. - Brazil Relations: A Fresh New Start? Brookings Institution. Mauricio Cardenas. February 8, 2011.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner's visit to Brazil appears to be the launching pad of a renewed era of U.S.-Brazil relations. The visit comes after recent notable differences between the Obama and Lula administrations, the most conspicuous of which was the disagreement on the way to handle Iran's nuclear program. In this context and despite her affinity to Lula, Brazil's newly-elected president, Dilma Rousseff, has taken careful steps to highlight her administration's willingness to re-calibrate the U.S.-Brazil relationship. Surprising many analysts, Rousseff has spoken with a new voice and is bringing fresh air to the bilateral relationship, according to the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0208\\_brazil\\_cardenas.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0208_brazil_cardenas.aspx) [HTML format, various paging].

Beyond Symbolism? The U.S. Nuclear Disarmament Agenda and Its Implications for Chinese and Indian Nuclear Policy. CATO Institute. Lavina Lee. February 8, 2011.

The Obama administration has elevated nuclear disarmament to the center of its nuclear agenda through the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) with Russia and the release of the U.S. Nuclear Posture Review (NPR). The administration also expects that its professed goal of "getting to zero" has symbolic value and will encourage reciprocity in terms of disarmament and nuclear arms control by other nuclear weapons states, as well as cooperation on measures to limit nuclear proliferation and the threat of nuclear terrorism. In the case of the two rising powers of Asia -- China and India -- it is highly questionable whether either of these expectations will be met, says the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.cato.org/pub\\_display.php?pub\\_id=12755](http://www.cato.org/pub_display.php?pub_id=12755) [HTML format with links].

Will Pakistan Follow Egypt's Example? Council on Foreign Relations. Jayshree Bajoria. February 8, 2011.

Pakistan may be even more vulnerable than Egypt to popular discontent, with higher inflation, unemployment, and external debt, much of it exacerbated by the devastating flood of 2010 that crippled an already teetering economy. According to the brief, many Pakistanis are sympathetic to the anger over corruption, surging food prices, and lack of jobs driving Egypt's protests. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cfr.org/pakistan/pakistan-follow-egypts-example/p24038> [HTML format, various paging].

Facing Our Energy Realities: A Plan to Fuel Our Recovery. Institute for 21st Century Energy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce. February 2011.

In an effort to reset the national conversation on energy policy, the U.S. Chamber's Institute for 21st Century Energy today unveiled a plan designed to offer realistic, bipartisan solutions to our nation's top energy challenges. The five-part plan was formulated after Energy Institute officials returned from the first phase of its Energy Reality Tour, a nationwide dialogue with thousands of business and community leaders on a variety of energy issues. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.energyxxi.org/images/FacingourEnergyRealities.pdf> [PDF format, 8 pages].

Agricultural, Food, and Water Nanotechnologies for the Poor. International Food Policy Research Institute. Guillame Gruere et al. February 8, 2011.

There are a number of potential opportunities associated with agricultural, food, and water nanotechnology for the poor, but to achieve such opportunities a number of challenges need to be overcome. The paper provides a rapid assessment of key technologies that could have a large impact on the poor via increased agricultural productivity, improved food and water safety, and nutrition. Second, it reviews some of the main challenges to their deployment and adoption by the poor. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/ifpridp01064.pdf> [PDF format, 52 pages].

The Obesity Epidemic: Causes and Current Policy Perspectives. James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy. Vivian Ho et al. February 8, 2011.

The report examines the effects of obesity as a public health concern and possible policy options to combat it. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.bakerinstitute.org/publications/HPF-pub-PolicyReport46-WEB-012511.pdf> [PDF format, 12 pages].

E-Verify: Strengths, Weaknesses, and Proposals for Reform. Migration Policy Institute. Marc R. Rosenblum. February 2011.

With Congress likely to consider new mandates involving E-Verify, the currently voluntary employment eligibility verification system, this Insight examines the strengths and weaknesses of

E-Verify, which has grown dramatically in recent years. It also discusses proposals for reform, including adding biometric screening to the system. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/E-Verify-Insight.pdf> [PDF format, 24 pages].

Under the Microscope: Microfinance's Latest Growing Pains. Knowledge @ Wharton. February 2011.

The most recent crisis to hit microfinance began in India's southern state of Andhra Pradesh, where allegations of widespread over-indebtedness, heavy-handed collection tactics and borrower suicides have stirred a national debate about regulating the industry. While it is too early to tell how the sector will respond, the crisis in Andhra Pradesh has sparked heated debate and soul-searching throughout the world's microfinance community. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/articlepdf/2701.pdf?CFID=19715258&CFTOKEN=24443992&jsessionid=a8305e7abd1dc1dd4b6745222a2c2a6928a7> [PDF format, 4 pages].

The Claim for Recognition of Israel as a Jewish State: A Reassessment. The Washington Institute for Near East Policy. Tal Becker. February 2011.

Israel's claim for recognition as a "Jewish" state continues to generate substantial controversy: what many Israelis see as an elementary component of true peace, many Palestinians perceive as a ploy to undermine it. And because this debate has been cast in zero-sum terms, it has created the impression of an insurmountable obstacle to Israeli-Palestinian reconciliation. In the heat of the argument, there has been a failure to identify the genuine interests at stake, to weigh their legitimacy, and to consider the alternatives for addressing them, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.washingtoninstitute.org/pubPDFs/PolicyFocus108.pdf> [PDF format, 78 pages].

Daring to Fail: First-Person Stories of Criminal Justice Reform. Center for Court Innovation. February 2011.

Talk of "best practices" and "evidence-based programs" has dominated the field of criminal justice in recent years. By and large this has been a positive development - and a natural corrective to policymaking based on anecdote and emotion. Recognizing this, the Center for Court Innovation and the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance have launched a multi-faceted initiative designed to promote innovation at the grassroots level by encouraging criminal justice agencies to engage in a process of trial and error - much the way a scientist would. A large part of this effort has been devoted to studying criminal justice reform efforts - both successes and failures - in an effort to identify lessons for the innovators of tomorrow. By fostering a more open and honest public discussion of failures in particular, the project seeks to encourage self-reflection, transparency and thoughtful risk-taking among criminal justice agencies. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.courtinnovation.org/\\_uploads/documents/Daring\\_2\\_Fail.pdf](http://www.courtinnovation.org/_uploads/documents/Daring_2_Fail.pdf) [PDF format, 93 pages].

Water Security: The Water-Food-Energy-Climate Nexus. World Economic Forum. 2011.

Business leaders at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in 2008 set out a Call to Action on Water, to raise awareness and develop a better understanding of how water is linked to economic growth across a nexus of issues and to make clear the water security challenge we

face if a business as usual approach to water management is maintained. This report captures where the debate is now and sets out the challenge we face if nothing is done to improve water management in the next two decades. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_WI\\_WaterSecurity\\_WaterFoodEnergyClimateNexus\\_2011.pdf](http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_WI_WaterSecurity_WaterFoodEnergyClimateNexus_2011.pdf) [PDF format, 33 pages].

A Comparison of Longline and Trawl Fishing Practices and Suggestions for Encouraging the Sustainable Management of Fisheries in the Barents Sea. World Wildlife Fund. February 2011.

The study presents a comparison of Russian trawling and long-line bottom fishing practices. Biological, ecological and social-economic aspects are considered. Prospects of development of trawling and longline fishing in the Barents sea are analysed and recommendations about rational use of marine living resources of the Barents sea are made. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://assets.panda.org/downloads/blockengl.pdf> [PDF format, 51 pages].

Will Adoption of Electronic Health Records Improve Quality in U.S. Hospitals? RAND Corporation. Spencer S. Jones et al. February 9, 2011.

The report shares findings on the potential effects of electronic health records (EHRs) on health care quality, based on analysis of extensive data from 2003 and 2006 on EHR adoption, hospital characteristics, and hospital quality in nearly 2,100 hospitals. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research\\_briefs/2011/RAND\\_RB9570.pdf](http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_briefs/2011/RAND_RB9570.pdf) [PDF format, 3 pages].

Recent Lessons from the Stimulus: Transportation Funding and Job Creation. Smart Growth America. February 2011.

In his State of the Union address, President Obama called on Americans to "out-innovate, out-educate, and out-build the rest of the world" to win the future. To rebuild America, he said, we will aim to put "more Americans to work repairing crumbling roads and bridges." The report analyzes states' investments in infrastructure to determine whether they made the best use of their spending based on job creation numbers. It evaluates how successful states have been in creating jobs with their flexible \$26.6 billion of transportation funds from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA). [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/documents/lessons-from-the-stimulus.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

A 21st Century Agenda for Creating Opportunity and Well-Being. Brookings Institution. Alan Berube et al. February 2011.

The founding of the United Nations and the creation of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, standards of living have improved markedly on a global scale, but major goals remain unmet. As the U.S. slowly recovers from a devastating economic downturn, jobs, homes and personal well being are in jeopardy. In many developing countries, rapid growth has created new opportunities and lifted millions out of poverty, but a growing fraction of the poor live in fragile states, in or vulnerable to conflict and violence. With foreign aid unable to meet development

challenges in part due to budget pressures, a new 21st century approach to development is needed to create greater opportunity for more people. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/02\\_creating\\_opportunity/02\\_creating\\_opportunity.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/02_creating_opportunity/02_creating_opportunity.pdf) [PDF format, 10 pages].

Latinos and Digital Technology, 2010. Pew Hispanic Center. Gretchen Livingston. February 9, 2011.

Latinos are less likely than whites to access the internet, have a home broadband connection or own a cell phone, according to the survey. Latinos lag behind blacks in home broadband access but have similar rates of internet and cell phone use. Hispanics, on average, have lower levels of education and earn less than whites. Controlling for these factors, the differences in internet use, home broadband access and cell phone use between Hispanics and whites disappear. In other words, Hispanics and whites who have similar socioeconomic characteristics have similar usage patterns for these technologies. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/134.pdf> [PDF format, 34 pages].

Can the Internet Tame Governments? - Part I. YaleGlobal. James Cowie. February 9, 2011.

Debate rages in the West about whether the internet in authoritarian states is a tool for winning freedoms or another device for control. In the wake of Egypt's mass protests emerged the first case of a government's attempt to sever an entire nation from internet access. The series explores governments and the internet, and which is the taming force. The first article explains technological factors and how Egypt's low service diversity allowed authorities to kill access easily by requiring a few internet service providers to disconnect. The shutdown to suppress government criticism carries high costs over the long-term, though, both in terms of economy and reputation. Egypt's internet blackout only heightened protesters' determination and directed new attention to their complaints. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/can-internet-tame-governments-part-i> [HTML format, various paging].

Can the Internet Tame Governments? - Part II. YaleGlobal. Borje Ljunggren. February 11, 2011.

The internet, so essential for the modern economy, is a bane for autocratic governments thin-skinned about criticism, whose minions strive to eliminate any dissident thoughts or deeds. Internet and cell phones were less widely available in 1989, and global observers can't help but wonder if such communications might have thwarted China's violent crackdown on student protests at Tiananmen Square. The series explores governments' attempt to control the internet. China, the world's fastest growing economic power, applies selective censorship, such as removing "Egypt" from its search engines. Yet Chinese internet society increasingly recognizes the government's controlling ways, pursuing a "right to know," explains Borje Ljunggren. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/can-internet-tame-governments-part-ii> [HTML format, various paging].

Making Peace in Afghanistan. U.S. Institute of Peace. Minna Jarvenpaa. February 9, 2011.

The report draws on a series of workshops entitled "Anticipating a Political Process in Afghanistan: How Should the International Community Respond?" These workshops brought

together some thirty analysts, both Afghans and foreigners, who have spent many years in Kabul, Kandahar, and other parts of Afghanistan. Participants considered a range of possible scenarios for Afghanistan over the next five years and the drivers of events in Afghanistan, then developed scenarios based on a five-year perspective and constructed along two main axes: the degree of political inclusion and the degree of state capacity and control. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR267Jarvenpaa.pdf> [PDF format, 12 pages].

Whose Aid is it Anyway?: Politicizing in Conflicts and Crises. Oxfam International. February 10, 2011.

**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNATIONAL AID, BOTH IN MEETING URGENT NEEDS AND IN TACKLING ENTRENCHED POVERTY, IS BEING UNDERMINED IN SOME OF THE WORLD'S POOREST PLACES, ACCORDING TO THE REPORT. [NOTE: CONTAINS COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL].**

[http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/bp145-whose-aid-anyway-100211-en\\_0.pdf](http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/bp145-whose-aid-anyway-100211-en_0.pdf) [PDF format, 36 pages].

<http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/bp145-whose-aid-anyway-100211-en-summ.pdf> Summary [PDF format, 7 pages].

The Budget and Economic Outlook: Fiscal Years 2011 to 2021. Statement of Douglas W. Elmendorf before the Committee on the Budget, U.S. House of Representatives. Congressional Budget Office. February 10, 2011.

Although recent actions by U.S. policymakers should help support further gains in real (inflation-adjusted) GDP in 2011, production and employment are likely to stay well below the economy's potential for a number of years. CBO expects that economic growth will remain moderate this year and next. CBO projects that inflation will remain very low in 2011 and 2012, reflecting the large amount of unused resources in the economy, and will average no more than 2.0 percent a year between 2013 and 2016.

[http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/120xx/doc12060/02-10-2011Outlook\\_Testimony\\_House.pdf](http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/120xx/doc12060/02-10-2011Outlook_Testimony_House.pdf) [PDF format, 7 pages].

Department of Education: Improved Oversight and Controls Could Help Education Better Respond to Evolving Priorities. U.S. Government Accountability Office. February 10, 2011.

Education faces challenges in managing expanded responsibilities and evolving program priorities. In recent years Education has faced a large increase in the amount of grant funding and programs that it is responsible for managing. Education's annual budget increased by nearly 36 percent in real terms between fiscal years 2000 and 2008, and Congress authorized additional funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act). Education will be further challenged to administer additional competitive programs under the Recovery Act, and current legislative proposals may shift additional programs to competitive award processes.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11194.pdf> [PDF format, 67 pages].

<http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d11194high.pdf> Highlights [PDF format, 1 page].

President Obama Details Plan to Win the Future through Expanded Wireless Access. The White House. February 10, 2010.

In his State of the Union address, President Obama called for a National Wireless Initiative to make available high-speed wireless services to at least 98 percent of Americans. The Wireless Innovation and Infrastructure Initiative laid out today will make it possible for businesses to achieve that goal, while freeing up spectrum through incentive auctions, spurring innovation, and creating a nationwide, interoperable wireless network for public safety. It will also reduce the national deficit by approximately \$10 billion.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/02/10/president-obama-details-plan-win-future-through-expanded-wireless-access> [HTML format, various paging].

How Iran Sees Egypt's Protests. Council on Foreign Relations. Roya Wolverson. February 10, 2011.

Continued unrest in Egypt is stirring tensions between Iran's hardliners and opposition movement and stoking concerns that an Iran-friendly Egyptian regime could upset the regional balance of power. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cfr.org/iran/iran-sees-egypts-protests/p24058> [HTML format, various paging].

What Parents Don't Know about College Graduation Rates Can Hurt. American Enterprise Institute. Andrew P. Kelly and Mark Schneider. February 8, 2011.

Many students choose a college based on program offerings, cost, and distance from home, but they may be overlooking a vital piece of information: the school's graduation rate. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/EduO-2011-02-g.pdf> [PDF format, 10 pages].

Beyond Recovery: Moving the Gulf Coast Towards a Sustainable Future. Center for American Progress and Oxfam America. Kate Gordon et al. February 9, 2011.

The report provides recommendations for a regional ecosystem restoration plan to help coastal communities recover their past strength and provide the building blocks for a new, more diversified economic growth strategy. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/pdf/beyond\\_recovery.pdf](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/pdf/beyond_recovery.pdf) [PDF format, 80 pages].

Disrupting College: How Disruptive Innovation Can Deliver Quality and Affordability to Postsecondary Education. Center for American Progress and Innosight Institute. Clayton M. Christensen et al. February 2011.

The United States must adjust its focus and policies to make quality postsecondary education affordable to more people, write the authors. The colleges and universities are facing a crisis of their own. The report treats the industry's challenges, at their core, as problems of managing innovation effectively. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/pdf/disrupting\\_college.pdf](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/pdf/disrupting_college.pdf) [PDF format, 72 pages].



Fewer Want Spending to Grow, But Most Cuts Remain Unpopular. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. February 10, 2011.

The public's views about federal spending are beginning to change. Across a range of federal programs, Americans are no longer calling for increased spending, as they have for many years. For the most part, however, there is not a great deal of support for cutting spending, though in a few cases support for reductions has grown noticeably. The survey also shows that the public is reluctant to cut spending - or raise taxes - to balance state budgets. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://people-press.org/reports/pdf/702.pdf> [PDF format, 44 pages].

Emigration and Democracy. The World Bank. Frederic Docquier et al. February 2011.

Migration is an important yet neglected determinant of institutions. This paper documents the channels through which emigration affects home country institutions and considers dynamic-panel regressions for a large sample of developing countries. The authors find that emigration and human capital both increase democracy and economic freedom. This implies that unskilled (skilled) emigration has a positive (ambiguous) impact on institutional quality. Simulations show an impact of skilled emigration that is generally positive, significant for a few countries and for many countries once incentive effects of emigration on human capital formation are accounted for. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2011/02/02/000158349\\_20110202083029/Rendered/PDF/WPS5557.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2011/02/02/000158349_20110202083029/Rendered/PDF/WPS5557.pdf) [PDF format, 49 pages].

Cote d'Ivoire's Political Stalemate: A Symptom of Africa's Electoral Institutions. U.S. Institute of Peace. Dorina Bekoe. February 2011.

The Peace Brief examines the political stalemate in Côte d'Ivoire following the November 28, 2010, presidential election and its implications for the future. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB80%20Cote%20d'Ivoire's%20Political%20Stalemate.pdf> [PDF format, 5 pages].

Belarus: Background and U.S. Policy Concerns. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Steven Woehrel. February 2011.

On January 31, 2011, the EU and the United States imposed enhanced visa and financial sanctions against top Belarusian officials. Congress has responded to the situation in Belarus with legislation. The Belarus Democracy Act (P.L. 108-347) authorized aid for pro-democracy forces in Belarus and funding for increased U.S.-sponsored broadcasting to Belarus. The bill supported sanctions on Belarus and top leaders of the Lukashenko regime until Belarus met specific democratic and human rights criteria. The bill also required the President to report to Congress on the sale by Belarus of weapons or weapons-related assistance to regimes supporting terrorism, and on the personal wealth of Lukashenko and other senior Belarusian leaders. The 109th Congress passed several resolutions criticizing human rights abuses and calling on Belarus to hold free and fair elections. On January 26, 2011, Representative Chris Smith introduced H.R. 515, which would reauthorize the Belarus Democracy Act.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/156507.pdf> [PDF format, 17 pages].

China and Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and Missiles: Policy Issues. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Shirley A. Kan. February 3, 2011.

Congress has long been concerned about whether U.S. policy advances the national interest in reducing the role of the People's Republic of China (PRC) in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and missiles that could deliver them. Recipients of China's technology reportedly include Pakistan and countries said by the State Department to have supported terrorism, such as Iran. The report discusses the security problem of China's role in weapons proliferation and issues related to the U.S. policy response since the mid-1990s. China has taken some steps to mollify U.S. and other foreign concerns about its role in weapons proliferation. Nonetheless, supplies from China have aggravated trends that result in ambiguous technical aid, more indigenous capabilities, longer-range missiles, and secondary (retransferred) proliferation.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/156523.pdf> [PDF format, 77 pages].

Reforming America's Housing Finance Market, A Report to Congress. U.S. Department of Treasury and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. February 11, 2011.

On February 11, 2011, the Obama Administration delivered a report to Congress that provides a path forward for reforming America's housing finance market. The Administration's plan will wind down Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and shrink the government's current footprint in housing finance on a responsible timeline. The plan also lays out reforms to continue fixing the fundamental flaws in the mortgage market through stronger consumer protection, increased transparency for investors, improved underwriting standards, and other critical measures. Additionally, it will help provide targeted and transparent support to creditworthy but underserved families that want to own their own home, as well as affordable rental options.

<http://www.treasury.gov/initiatives/Documents/Reforming%20America%27s%20Housing%20Finance%20Market.pdf> [PDF format, 32 pages].

The 2010 Decennial Census: Background and Issues. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Jennifer D. Williams. February 3, 2011.

The 23rd decennial census of the U.S. population began on January 25, 2010, in Noorvik, AK, where the Bureau of the Census Director, among others, traveled by snowmobile and dogsled to enumerate the residents. Most U.S. households--about 120 million--received their census forms by mail in March, ahead of the official April 1 Census Day, and 74% of the households that received forms mailed them back. From May through July, the Census Bureau contacted about 47 million nonresponding households and on December 21, 2010, released the official state population figures and total U.S. resident population of 308,745,538 as of Census Day.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R40551.pdf> [PDF format, 23 pages].

Gun Control Legislation. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. William J. Krouse. February 3, 2011.

Congress has debated the efficacy and constitutionality of federal regulation of firearms and ammunition, with strong advocates arguing for and against greater gun control. The tragic shootings in Tucson, AZ, on January 8, 2011, in which six people were killed and 13 wounded, including Representative Gabrielle Giffords, could prompt the 112th Congress to examine issues related to the shooter's mental illness and drug use and his use of large capacity ammunition feeding devices (LCAFDs) (see H.R. 308 and S. 32), as well as a proposal to ban firearms within the proximity of certain high-level federal officials (see H.R. 496).

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL32842.pdf> [PDF format, 46 pages].

Around the Halls: A New Egypt. Brookings Institution. Martin S. Indyk et al. February 11, 2011.

In response to the resignation of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Martin Indyk, Kenneth Pollack and Shibley Telhami discuss the implications of this latest development, what Egypt's future will look like as a new democracy, and the impact on the Arab world. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0211\\_halls\\_egypt.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0211_halls_egypt.aspx) [HTML format, various paging].

Lower Savings in China Could Slow-Down Growth in Latin America. Brookings Institution. Mauricio Cardenas and Jeff Frank. February 11, 2011.

It has long been the belief that high savings rates in China and other Asian economies will allow developing nations in Latin America to have cheap access to capital. Although Chinese personal savings rates remain high, there is increasing evidence that these rates will soon decline. The brief describes a narrowing window of opportunity for Latin American nations to take advantage of low-cost capital. The policy implications are that these regions should begin to rapidly promote households to move from nonfinancial to financial forms of wealth in order to increase domestic savings. Governments can also play a role by raising their own savings. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0211\\_china\\_savings\\_cardenas\\_frank.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0211_china_savings_cardenas_frank.aspx) [HTML format, various paging].

What Is 'CLASS'? And Will It Work? Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. Alicia H. Munnell and Josh Hurwitz. February 2011.

Long-term care is the major uninsured expense for most retirees. Neither private health insurance nor Medicare covers long-term care expenses, although Medicare provides for care in a skilled nursing facility for up to 100 days following hospitalization. Long-term care insurance is available in the private market, but few people purchase plans due to high premiums and limited benefits. As a result, many turn to family members for care or are forced to deplete their resources to qualify for Medicaid to pay for nursing home care. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://crr.bc.edu/images/stories/Briefs/IB\\_11-3.pdf](http://crr.bc.edu/images/stories/Briefs/IB_11-3.pdf) [PDF format, 11 pages].

Degrees of Risk: Defining a Risk Management for Climate Security. Pew Center for Global Climate Change. Nick Mabey et al. February 2011.

There is a growing consensus in the security community that climate change presents significant risks to the delivery of national, regional and global security goals. Through sea level rise, shortages of food and water and severe weather events, climate change will have significant impacts on all countries, which in turn could affect their social stability and economic security. In the coming decades such impacts will increase the likelihood of conflict in fragile countries and regions. Peaceful management of even moderate climatic changes will require investment in increased resilience in national and international security and governance systems. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/Degrees-of-Risk\\_Defining%20a%20Risk%20Management-Framework-for-Climate-Security\\_Full-Report.pdf](http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/Degrees-of-Risk_Defining%20a%20Risk%20Management-Framework-for-Climate-Security_Full-Report.pdf) [PDF format, 179 pages].

Crisis in Cote d'Ivoire: Africa's Time to Step Up? The Heritage Foundation. Morgan Roach and Ray Walser. February 11, 2011.

For weeks, the winner of Côte d'Ivoire's presidential election, Alassane Ouattara, has barricaded himself in a hotel. Meanwhile, Ouattara's opponent, incumbent Laurent Gbagbo, clings to office despite demands from the African Union and other governments to relinquish power. The U.S. has emphasized that this crisis is an African issue and that it is the responsibility of African leaders to stabilize the political climate. While the U.S. has offered its assistance and support by implementing financial and travel sanctions on Gbagbo, his family, and his inner circle, the Administration is right to let African leaders lead in resolving this problem, according to the authors. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.heritage.org/Research/Reports/2011/02/Crisis-in-Cote-d-Ivoire-Africas-Time-to-Step-Up> [HTML format, various paging].

The Role of the Department of Defense in Cybersecurity. Center for Democracy and Technology. Greg Nojeim. February 11, 2011.

The testimony explores the cybersecurity threat to the U.S. and discusses how to avoid cybersecurity measures that would infringe on privacy or innovation or unintentionally undermine security itself. Center for Democracy and Technology believes that private network operators, not the government, should monitor and secure private sector systems, while the Department of Defense secures military systems and the Department of Homeland Security secures civilian government systems. The testimony is provided to the House Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.cdt.org/files/pdfs/20110211\\_cybersec\\_hse\\_armedsvs.pdf](http://www.cdt.org/files/pdfs/20110211_cybersec_hse_armedsvs.pdf) [PDF format, 17 pages].

The Horizon Report 2011. The New Media Consortium and EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative. February 8, 2011.

The report examines emerging technologies for their potential impact on and use in teaching, learning, and creative inquiry. The six technologies featured are already the focus of attention at a number of innovative organizations around the world, and the work showcased reveals the promise of a wider impact. It should be noted that the *HorizonReport* is not a predictive tool. It is meant, rather, to highlight emerging technologies with considerable potential for the focus areas of teaching, learning, and creative inquiry. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://net.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/HR2011.pdf> [PDF format, 40 pages].

Getting Real on Trade with Pakistan: Duty-Free Market Access as Development Policy. Center for Global Development. Kimberly Ann Elliott and Carolina Decker. February 11, 2011.

The combination of relatively high American barriers to trade in textiles and apparel and the importance of the sector to the Pakistani economy make increased market access a potentially powerful tool of U.S. policy. Unfortunately, recent proposals to extend duty-free market access for Pakistani exports restrict the product and geographic coverage so severely that they would be meaningless in practice. Moreover, the analysis suggests that the concerns about job loss in the U.S. textile industry from broader coverage are exaggerated. A serious trade package for

Pakistan would expand the geographic coverage to allow duty-free imports from all of Pakistan, expand the product coverage for clothing, and cover all other Pakistani exports as well, according to the authors. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1424821/> [HTML format with links].

Promoting Democracy: The Whys and Hows for the United States and the International Community. Council on Foreign Relations. Mark Lagon. February 2011.

Mark Lagon examines the uneven history of promoting democracy in U.S. foreign policy and offers lessons for how the United States can best advance democracy today. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cfr.org/democracy-promotion/promoting-democracy-whys-hows-united-states-international-community/p24090> [HTML format, various paging].

Mexico: Development and Democracy at a Crossroads. Council on Foreign Relations. Shannon K. O'neil and Douglas Dillon. February 2011.

Shannon O'Neil charts the progress of Mexico's economic and democratic reforms. She sees grounds for optimism on both fronts but concludes that Mexico risks falling behind unless it redoubles efforts to overcome its authoritarian past. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cfr.org/mexico/mexico-development-democracy-crossroads/p24089> [HTML format, various paging].

With a Left Like This, Who Needs the Right? [Center for Strategic & International Studies]. Jeffrey Hornung. February 11, 2011.

Are Japan's left-of-center parties bad for its national security and the U.S.-Japan alliance? Given their advocacy of various levels of pacifism, anticapitalism, and anti-Americanism, it is easy to believe these would translate into a fundamental shift in Japan's security policies if given the chance to govern. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://csis.org/files/publication/110211\\_Hornung.pdf](http://csis.org/files/publication/110211_Hornung.pdf) [PDF format, 3 pages].

USDA Agricultural Projections to 2020. U.S. Department of Agriculture. February 14, 2011.

The long-term projections are developed by interagency committees in USDA, with the Economic Research Service (ERS) having the lead role in the preparation of the report. The new projections cover crop and livestock commodities, agricultural trade and aggregate indicators such as farm income, and food prices through 2020. The projections do not represent a USDA forecast, but a conditional, long-run scenario based on specific assumptions about farm policy, weather, the economy and international developments. Provisions of the 2008 Farm Act are incorporated into the projections and are assumed to remain in effect through 2020. Normal weather also is assumed throughout the projection period.

[http://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity/archive\\_projections/USDAgriculturalProjections2020.pdf](http://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity/archive_projections/USDAgriculturalProjections2020.pdf) [PDF format, 106 pages].

Prospects for Iran. Legatum Institute. Jonathan Paris. January 2011.

The Iran crisis is in fact two crises: the emergence of civil resistance inside Iran as a result of the disputed election of 12 June 2009, and the pursuit of nuclear weapons by the Islamic Republic of Iran. The paper offers a comprehensive analysis of the situation in Iran today. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.li.com/attachments/20110116%20-%20Legatum%20Institute%20-%20Prospects%20for%20Iran.pdf> [PDF format, 74 pages].

Proposed Interagency Rule on Executive Compensation. Shadow Financial Regulatory Committee. February 14, 2011.

On February 7th, the FDIC became the first agency to issue a proposed interagency rule aimed at restricting the risk sensitivity of executive compensation structures at financial firms. The Shadow Financial Regulatory Committee believes that the proposed pay rules are vague and unenforceable. For example, "inappropriate risk-taking" is defined nonobservationally as arrangements that could lead to "material financial loss." The Committee believes that before any new pay rules are adopted regulators have to be more specific about the meaning of "excessive risk-taking" and "inappropriate risk-taking," and other poorly defined terms used in the proposal. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/Statement%20No.%20305.pdf> [PDF format, 2 pages].

Seasonal Flu Vaccination: Why Don't More Americans Get It? RAND Corporation. Katherine M. Harris et al. February 14, 2011.

The researchers found that less than half of U.S. adults received flu vaccinations in 2010. Strategies to increase flu vaccination rates should include stronger efforts to address public skepticism and negative perceptions. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research\\_briefs/2011/RAND\\_RB9572.pdf](http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_briefs/2011/RAND_RB9572.pdf) [PDF format, 5 pages].

Tea Party's Hard Line on Spending Divides GOP. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. February 11, 2011.

The divisions among House Republicans over how deeply to cut federal spending reflect fundamental differences within the GOP base. Roughly half of Republicans and Republican-leaningers agree with the Tea Party movement, and they take a much harder line on cutting federal spending than do Republicans who disagree with the Tea Party or have no opinion of the movement. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1892/tea-party-republicans-divide-cuts-federal-spending> [HTML format, various paging].

System Trials to Demonstrate Mileage-Based Road Use Charges. RAND Corporation. Paul Sorensen. February 11, 2011.

Increasing vehicle fuel economy and the likely adoption of alternative fuel vehicles in the coming decades dim prospects for continued reliance on gasoline and diesel excise taxes to fund highway and bridge maintenance, expansion, and completion. Road use charges based on vehicle miles of travel (VMT fees) are viewed by many as a promising replacement for fuel taxes; their revenue yield would be unaffected by fuel economy or fuel type, the fees could be structured to help address additional transportation goals, the system could provide detailed travel data to

support improved transportation planning and operations, and the in-vehicle metering equipment could serve as a platform for additional driver services. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/reprints/2011/RAND\\_RP1423.pdf](http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/reprints/2011/RAND_RP1423.pdf) [PDF format, 194 pages].

Counterfeiters: Foes or Friends? National Bureau of Economic Research. Yi Quan. February 14, 2011.

The paper combines a natural policy experiment and randomized lab experiments to estimate the differential impacts of counterfeiting on the sales and purchase intent of branded products of various quality levels. The authors find that the counterfeits have both advertising effects for the brand and substitution effects for authentic products. The advertising effect dominates substitution effect for high-end authentic product sales, and the substitution effect outweighs advertising effect for low-end product sales. The counterfeits could increase brand awareness as well as steal business. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.nber.org/papers/w16785.pdf?new\\_window=1](http://www.nber.org/papers/w16785.pdf?new_window=1) [PDF format, 66 pages].

Industry Expects 800 Million More Travelers by 2014 - China Biggest Contributor. International Air Transport Association. February 14, 2011.

The industry consensus forecast released by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) indicates that by 2014 there will be 3.3 billion air travelers, up by 800 million from the 2.5 billion in 2009. By 2014 international aviation will handle 38 million tonnes of air cargo, up 12.5 million tonnes from the 26 million tonnes carried in 2009. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.iata.org/pressroom/pr/Pages/2011-02-14-02.aspx> [HTML format, various paging].

U.S.' Least, Most Educated Most Likely to Find Jobs in 2010. Gallup. February 14, 2011.

Unemployment improved the most between January 2010 and January 2011 among Americans with a high school education or less, declining to 13.6% from 15.4%, and among those with postgraduate work, declining to 3.8% from 5.0%. The deterioration in the jobs situation facing Americans with some college leaves them with an underemployment rate of 21.9%, and suggests a need for added emphasis on finishing college. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.gallup.com/poll/146108/Least-Educated-Likely-Find-Jobs-2010.aspx> [HTML format, various paging].

Eighteen Days That Shook the Middle East - Part I. YaleGlobal. Dilip Hiro. February 14, 2011.

Protesters in Tunisia and Egypt accomplished much, shaking off fears of security forces, speaking out against corrupt systems and toppling authoritarian leaders. But revolution is far from complete, reminds Dilip Hiro. By definition, representative government for Egypt requires inclusion of the Muslim Brotherhood. That group, started in 1928 by a teacher and a few workers in British military camps of the Suez Canal Zone, was a means for Arabs to pursue dignity, according to the Brotherhood's English website, to become "more than mere hirelings belonging to the foreigners." Outlawed yet tolerated in Egypt, branches are spread throughout the region. Demands for democratic rights, rising stature of the Brotherhood and other opposition groups, Hiro explains, have sent political tremors throughout the region. How deep the impact will be depends on whether citizens in Tunisia, Egypt and other nations can achieve a revamping of political systems through courageous and unified struggle. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/eighteen-days-shook-middle-east-part-i> [HTML format, various paging].

Mexico Denies "Insurgency": Implications for an Appropriate Response. Brookings Institution. Diana Villiers Negroponete. February 14, 2011.

Mexico has rejected the term "insurgency" to describe the current criminal violence caused by drug traffickers. In response to Mexican pressure, President Obama withdrew his characterization of the violence in Mexico as an "insurgency" in a newspaper interview just hours after Secretary of State Clinton used the term at the Council on Foreign Relations. If we are not to describe the conflict in Mexico as an "insurgency", then we are left with the dilemma of how to describe the nature of Mexico's current violence and what strategy to apply in countering this violence. Why is the "insurgency" term such a painful subject for Mexicans? [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0214\\_mexico\\_negroponete.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0214_mexico_negroponete.aspx) [HTML format, various paging].

A More Proactive U.S. Approach to the Georgia Conflicts. Center for American Progress. Samuel Charap and Cory Welt. February 15, 2011.

The report offers recommendations for beginning a conflict resolution process with Georgia and its neighbors. It starts with a brief review of Washington debates about the conflicts and a description of current U.S. policy. It then explains why the time is right for a more proactive U.S. approach to the Georgia conflicts and detail the important but often overlooked progress that has been achieved since the war. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/pdf/georgia-report.pdf> [PDF format, 80 pages].

The Role of Religion in National Security Policy Since 9/11. Strategic Studies Institute. Jonathan E. Shaw. February 11, 2011.

The U.S. has struggled to find a framework to integrate religion into the post-September 11, 2001 (9/11) discussion of national security. Islam has been the central focus, with both the 9/11 terrorists and many of America's partners in overseas contingency operations sharing an Islamic heritage. President George W. Bush's paradigm of "Religion as Freedom" and President Barack H. Obama's paradigm of "Religion as Unity" have been partially successful, but they have yet to provide a nuanced understanding of Islam and a comprehensive framework. Is it possible to wage war against radical Muslim terrorists if your national security policy does not consider religion as power which motivates terrorist behavior? Yes, but you risk being ineffective or inefficient, or both, says the author.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=1044> [HTML format, various paging].

The Communist Insurgency in the Philippines: Tactics and Talks. International Crisis Group. February 14, 2011.

The Philippine government is unable to control and develop large parts of the country because of the longstanding communist insurgency. The conflict has lasted more than 40 years and killed tens of thousands of combatants and civilians. Planning their attacks and securing weapons and funds locally, the insurgents have strong roots in the different regions where they operate and have proved hard to defeat. The government's counter-insurgency strategy has diminished their numbers but has not been able to destroy the organisation. Neither side will win militarily. As



peace negotiations resume under the Benigno Aquino administration, the parties to the talks should immediately commit to making existing human rights monitoring mechanisms work, while they try to reach the more difficult long-term goal of a durable political settlement. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/asia/south-east-asia/philippines/202%20The%20Communist%20Insurgency%20in%20the%20Philippines%20Tactics%20and%20Talks.ashx> [PDF format, 39 pages].

Project BioShield: Authorities, Appropriations, Acquisitions, and Issues for Congress. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Frank Gottron. February 7, 2011.

In 2004, Congress passed the Project BioShield Act (P.L. 108-276) to encourage the private sector to develop medical countermeasures to chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) terrorism agents and to provide a novel mechanism for federal acquisition of those newly developed countermeasures. Although some countermeasures have been acquired through this law, Congress continues to address several Project BioShield-related policy issues. These include whether to continue diverting Project BioShield acquisition funding to other purposes; whether to change the countermeasure development and acquisition process; how to replace stockpiled countermeasures as they expire; and whether to alter federal efforts to encourage the development of broad-spectrum countermeasures.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/terror/R41033.pdf> [PDF format, 19 pages].

Review of the Scientific Approaches Used During the FBI's Investigation of the Anthrax Letters. National Research Council. February 15, 2011.

The report examines the scientific approaches used and conclusions reached by the FBI during its investigation of the 2001 anthrax mailings found it is not possible to reach a definitive conclusion about the origins of the anthrax in letters mailed to New York City and Washington, D.C. based solely on the available scientific evidence. The report does not assess the guilt or innocence of anyone connected to the case. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=13098](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13098) [HTML format with links, 250 pages].

Will Green Energy Make the United States Less Secure? National Center for Policy Analysis. H. Sterling Burnett and Wesley Dwyer. February 10, 2011.

Environmentalists have long cited the environmental harms caused by fossil fuels as evidence of the need to move to green sources of energy such as wind and solar power. Recently, some conservatives have joined their cause. However, key components of renewable energy technologies are made from a small number of rare earth elements, and other rare minerals. Despite the name, these elements are relatively abundant in Earth's crust, but they are rarely found in economically exploitable concentrations. The exception to this generality is the People's Republic of China. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.ncpa.org/pdfs/ba739.pdf> [PDF format, 2 pages].

The Myth of Green Energy Jobs: The European Experience. American Enterprise Institute. Kenneth P. Green. February 15, 2011.

Green programs in Spain destroyed 2.2 jobs for every green job created, while the capital needed for one green job in Italy could create almost five jobs in the general economy. Wind and solar

power have raised household energy prices by 7.5 percent in Germany, and Denmark has the highest electricity prices in the European Union. Central planners in the United States trying to promote green industry will fare no better at creating jobs or stimulating the economy, according to the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/EEO-2011-02-No-2-g.pdf> [PDF format, 7 pages].

The Presidents Left, the Regimes are Still Here. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Marina Ottaway. February 14, 2011.

While the removal from power of Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak were historic moments for the entire Arab world, the old regimes in Tunisia and Egypt are still fighting to retain as much power and control as they can. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=42627&prog=zgp&proj=zme> [HTML format, various paging].

Refocus on Iran: More Sanctions Needed. The Heritage Foundation. James Phillips. February 14, 2011.

Iran's hostile regime has been one of the chief beneficiaries of the political turmoil that has convulsed Egypt and Tunisia, which distracted the U.S. and other countries from the ongoing standoff over Iran's nuclear program. The dramatic events diverted international attention from Tehran's refusal to negotiate an acceptable resolution of the nuclear issue at the failed Istanbul talks last month. According to the report, there is a distinct danger that Tehran will conclude that growing regional instability is tilting the balance of power in its favor and give it greater latitude to withstand international pressure to rein in its nuclear weapons program. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://thf\\_media.s3.amazonaws.com/2011/pdf/wm3154.pdf](http://thf_media.s3.amazonaws.com/2011/pdf/wm3154.pdf) [PDF format, 3 pages].

A Victory for Peace and Independence? National Endowment for Democracy. Dave Peterson. February 11, 2011.

Although a justifiable occasion for jubilation, the official announcement on February 7 of the results of Sudan's historic referendum on self-determination for the south was unsurprising. Since the first day of balloting on January 9, and indeed, for many years before the voting began, the outcome was obvious. Nearly 99 percent of southerners voted in favor of some form of independence from the north, a stunning margin. Yet there can be little doubt the results are accurate, not only due to the domestic and international observers that sanctioned them, says the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.ned.org/about/staff/dave-peterson/a-victory-for-peace-and-independence> [HTML format, various paging].

Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2012. Office of Management and Budget. February 14, 2011.

The budget contains the Budget Message of the President, information on the President's priorities, budget overviews organized by agency, and summary tables.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/Overview/> [HTML format with links].

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/budget.pdf> [PDF format, 216 pages].

Car-Tastrophe: How Federal Policy Can Help, not Hinder, the Greening of the Automobile, Pacific Research Institute. Amy Kaleita. February 14, 2011.

Many policies aiming to "green" the American car culture may do just the opposite, according to the study. It explores the environmental implications of several commercially available vehicle and fuel types, and identifies where policies could be improved to result in net benefits to Americans. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://pacificresearch.org/docLib/20110214\\_cartastrophe\\_final\(2\).pdf](http://pacificresearch.org/docLib/20110214_cartastrophe_final(2).pdf) [PDF format, 29 pages].

The Impact of Improved Detection Technology on Drug Quality: A Case Study of Lagos, Nigeria. American Enterprise Institute. Roger Bate and Aparna Mathur. February 14, 2011.

Nigeria is one of the few countries seriously affected by counterfeit drugs to have actively combated them. As part of this effort its regulatory agency, NAFDAC, has deployed handheld spectrometers to identify fake drugs in the market. In this Outlook, we analyze anti-malarial drug samples procured randomly from pharmacies in the largest city in Nigeria, the port of Lagos prior to and after the spectrometers were deployed. There is a statistically significant drop in the number of drugs failing quality control tests after the spectrometers were introduced, and a noticeable disparity in price between those passing and those failing tests as well. While it is not likely that the deployment of the spectrometers is the only reason for the improvement in drug quality, and the segmentation of the market, it is surely a major factor. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/Nigeria-Working-Paper-v1.pdf> [PDF format, 12 pages].

The Public Renders a Split Verdict on Changes in Family Structure. Pew Social & Demographic Trends. February 16, 2011.

The American public is sharply divided in its judgments about the sweeping changes in the structure of the American family that have unfolded over the past half century. About a third generally accepts the changes; a third is tolerant but skeptical; and a third considers them bad for society. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewsocialtrends.org/files/2011/02/Pew-Social-Trends-Changes-In-Family-Structure.pdf> [PDF format, 14 pages].

Federal Workforce: Practices to Increase the Employment of Individuals with Disabilities. U.S. Government Accountability Office. February 16, 2011.

The federal government is the world's largest and most complex entity, with about \$3.5 trillion in outlays in fiscal year 2010 funding a broad array of programs and operations. GAO maintains a program to focus attention on government operations that it identifies as high risk due to their greater vulnerabilities to fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement or the need for transformation to address economy, efficiency, or effectiveness challenges. Since 1990, GAO has designated over 50 areas as high risk and subsequently removed over one-third of the areas due to progress made.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11351t.pdf> [PDF format, 15 pages].

U.S. Postal Service: Foreign Posts' Strategies Could Inform U.S. Postal Service's Efforts to Modernize. U.S. Government Accountability Office. February 16, 2011.

The foreign posts GAO reviewed have developed alternative delivery choices for customers that, according to the posts, have reduced costs and improved customer satisfaction and service. All of these posts now offer digital (purely electronic) or hybrid mail (a blend of physical and digital) options. Some posts offer parcel pick up at retail facilities like grocery stores, which are open longer than post offices, and are often owned and operated by businesses that partner with the posts, thus reducing costs. One post allows customers to pick up parcels from a publicly-located machine, or parcel locker, that is available 24 hours a day.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11282.pdf> [PDF format, 44 pages].

Chad's North West: The Next High-risk Area? International Crisis Group. February 17, 2011.

For more than five years, public attention relative to Chad has been focused on the armed rebellion in the east and the crisis in the Darfur region of neighbouring Sudan, while totally neglecting the country's North West. However, there are serious risks that the rise of trans-Saharan drug trafficking and terrorism, emergence of radical Muslim movements in neighbouring countries, development of inter-communal violence, decline of local traditional justice systems and lack of state governance will destabilise that ignored region. The authorities in N'Djamena need to move to change the governance system there and defuse the multiple roots of potential conflict before a crisis explodes. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/africa/central-africa/chad/B78-chads-north-west-the-next-high-risk-area.aspx> Summary in English [HTML format, various paging].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/fr/regions/afrique/afrique-centrale/tchad/B78%20Chads%20North%20West%20The%20Next%20High-risk%20Area.aspx> Summary in French [HTML format, various paging].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/africa/central-africa/chad/B78%20Le%20Nord-ouest%20du%20Tchad%20la%20prochaine%20zone%20c3%a0%20haut%20risque.ashx> Full Text in French [PDF format, 20 pages].

Statistical Portrait of Hispanics in the United States, 2009. Pew Hispanic Center. February 17, 2011.

This statistical profile of the Latino population is based on Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the Census Bureau's 2009 American Community Survey (ACS). The ACS is the largest household survey in the United States, with a sample of about 3 million addresses. It covers the topics previously covered in the long form of the decennial census. The ACS is designed to provide estimates of the size and characteristics of the resident population, which includes persons living in households and group quarters. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewhispanic.org/factsheets/factsheet.php?FactsheetID=70> [HTML format, various paging].

Portrait of the Foreign-Born Population in the United States, 2009. Pew Hispanic Center. February 17, 2011.

This statistical profile of the foreign-born population is based on Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the Census Bureau's 2009 American Community Survey (ACS). The ACS is the largest household survey in the United States, with a sample of about 3 million addresses. It covers the topics previously covered in the long form of the decennial census. The ACS is designed to provide estimates of the size and characteristics of the resident population, which includes persons living in households and group quarters. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewhispanic.org/factsheets/factsheet.php?FactsheetID=69> [HTML format, various paging].

Labor Unions Seen as Good for Workers, Not U.S. Competitiveness. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. February 17, 2011.

The favorability ratings for labor unions remain at nearly their lowest level in a quarter century with 45% expressing a positive view. Yet the public expresses similar opinions about business corporations -- 47% have a favorable impression -- and this rating is also near a historic low. Americans express mixed views of the impact of labor unions on salaries and working conditions, international competitiveness, job availability and productivity. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://people-press.org/reports/pdf/705.pdf> [PDF format, 18 pages].

Democratization in Egypt: The Potential Role of Decentralization. Urban Institute. Jameson Boex. February 16, 2011.

Although the timing and fervor of the unrest in Egypt over the past several weeks has come as a surprise to many, the underlying causes of the unrest do not come as a surprise. While the removal of President Hosni Mubarak signifies the achievement of the demonstrators' main demand, merely substituting the president or cabinet will not make Egypt more democratic, nor will a change in the national leadership empower the people over the public sector. Instead, deep structural reforms are needed within Egypt's public sector in order to ensure that the public sector is capable of being responsive to the needs of the people. This Policy Brief highlights the role that decentralization reform could play in that process. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://urban.org/uploadedpdf/412301-Democratization-in-Egypt.pdf> [PDF format, 5 pages].

The Potential for Public-Private Partnerships: Philanthropic Leaders Consider Housing as a Platform. Urban Institute. M. Katherine Kraft and Rebecca R. Riley. Web posted February 17, 2011.

The paper reports on the opportunities and challenges of creating partnerships between foundations and government agencies in promoting housing as a platform. Through discussions with philanthropists, the authors examine evidence for "housing as a platform" and assess the challenges that impede public private partnerships. They find that there is a wide interpretation of philosophies that can make partnerships more difficult to establish. The authors identify specific topics related to HUD's strategic interests where improvement might advance closer relationships between HUD and private foundations. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.urban.org/uploadedpdf/1001511-Public-Private-Partnerships.pdf> [PDF format, 49 pages].

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