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SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS

2010 Human Rights Report. U.S. Department of State. April 8, 2011.

"This report provides encyclopedic detail on human rights conditions in over 190 countries for 2010. Because we are publishing this report three months into the new year, however, our perspectives on many issues are now framed by the dramatic changes sweeping across countries in the Middle East in 2011. At this moment we cannot predict the outcome of these changes, and we will not know the lasting impacts for years to come. The internal dynamics in each of these countries are different, so sweeping analysis of the entire region is not appropriate. In places like Tunisia and Egypt, we are witnessing popular demands for meaningful political participation, fundamental freedoms, and greater economic opportunity. These demands are profound, they are homegrown, and they are being driven by new activists, many of them young people. These citizens seek to build sustainable democracies in their countries with governments that respect the universal human rights of their own people. If they succeed, the Middle East region, and with it the whole world, will be improved." - From the Introduction.

<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2010/index.htm> [HTML format with links].

Gaza: The Next Israeli-Palestinian War? International Crisis Group. March 24, 2011.

Amidst a serious escalation of deadly violence, a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas must urgently be achieved to prevent the situation spinning out of control, according to the brief. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/Middle%20East%20North%20Africa/Israel%20Palestine/B30%20Gaza%20--%20The%20Next%20Israeli-Palestinian%20War.ashx> [PDF format, 8 pages].

The Philippines: Back to the Table, Warily, in Mindanao. International Crisis Group. March 24, 2011.

The success of peace talks between the Philippine government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) will depend on each side convincing the other that it has the will and capacity to deliver - and both have doubts. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/asia/south-east-asia/philippines/B119%20The%20Philippines%20%20Back%20to%20the%20Table%20Warily%20in%20Mindanao.ashx> [PDF format, 16 pages].

Alternative Approaches to Funding Highways. Congressional Budget Office. March 23, 2011.

About 25 percent of the U.S.'s highways, which carry about 85 percent of all road traffic, are paid for in part by the federal government. Federal spending on highways comes primarily from taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel, but those and other taxes paid by highway users do not yield enough revenue to support current or proposed federal spending on highways. Although raising fuel taxes would increase revenue, those taxes alone cannot provide a strong incentive for highway users to consider all of the costs their road use imposes on others. The study examines broad alternatives for federal funding of highways, focusing on fuel taxes and on other taxes that could be assessed on the basis of the number of miles that vehicles travel.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/121xx/doc12101/03-23-HighwayFunding.pdf> [PDF format, 38 pages].

A Tryst with Destiny. YaleGlobal. Yoichi Funabashi. March 23, 2011.

On 11 March, a 9.0 earthquake struck the Japanese coast, followed by a tsunami's powerful wall of water. Natural disaster damaged a nuclear power plant, releasing radiation that taints some crops and Tokyo's water supply. Tragedy that devastated the world's third largest economy will transform Japan's identity and policies, too, explains journalist and author Yoichi Funabashi, writing from Tokyo. The Japanese have set a powerful example, enduring hardships with steadfast civility. Struggling with the greatest challenges in their lifetime, political leaders recalibrate their stances on issues. Cooperation blending with a sense of urgency, honesty and accountability, not political posturing, are crucial. The report contends that the entire Japanese population must participate fully in planning and rebuilding, engaging with the world in setting the highest of goals. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/tryst-destiny> [HTML format, various paging].

Fukushima: What It Is and Isn't. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Sharon Squassoni. March 24, 2011.

The enormous earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan on March 11, 2011, triggered a crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power reactors that is still unfolding, watched cautiously by millions across the globe. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110324_Squassoni_Fukushima.pdf [PDF format, 2 pages].

The Brotherhood's Coming-Out Party. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Nathan J. Brown. March 24, 2011.

After a momentous two months, Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood must now decide how to organize a political party, direct its political participation, and handle the emergence of a group of activist youth leaders. *[Note: contains copyrighted material]*.

<http://carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=43230&prog=zgp&proj=zme> [HTML format, various paging].

Libya and the Responsibility to Protect. Council on Foreign Relations. Jayshree Bajoria. March 24, 2011.

Intervention in Libya has been justified by the "responsibility to protect" doctrine. But debate is growing over whether Libya meets the criteria, and the mission's success is challenged by lack of clarity on objectives, says the author. *[Note: contains copyrighted material]*.

<http://www.cfr.org/libya/libya-responsibility-protect/p24480> [HTML format, various paging].

The Wisconsin Retirement System is One of the Healthiest in the Country. Center for Economic and Policy Research. Dean Baker. March 2011.

Wisconsin's pension system is on excellent financial footing and among the healthiest in the nation. The fund has consistently contributed 100 percent of the amount of money that actuaries calculate is needed each year. As a result, while the fund's holdings dipped in 2008 due to stock market losses, it remains one of the most solid in the country and has enough funds to cover the promises made not only to current retirees but to those in the future, according to the report. *[Note: contains copyrighted material]*.

<http://www.cows.org/pdf/bp-WRS.pdf> [PDF format, 2 pages].

Identifying Arabic-Language Materials for Children That Promote Tolerance and Critical Thinking. RAND Corporation. Gail L. Zellman et al. March 22, 2011.

Building a society that supports and values the production, diffusion, and application of new knowledge and the expression of new ideas is critical for human development. The report is part of a broader effort to identify and disseminate materials whose messages encourage tolerance and support the development and use of critical thinking skills in the Arabic-speaking world. It focuses on identifying Arabic language materials targeted to children ages 4-14. The authors describe the creation of developmentally appropriate criteria used to identify and screen indigenous Arabic-language works for children that promote tolerance and critical thinking. *[Note: contains copyrighted material]*.

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/technical_reports/2011/RAND_TR856.pdf [PDF format, 85 pages].

Hispanics Account for More than Half of Nation's Growth in Past Decade. Pew Hispanic Center. Jeffrey S. Passel et al. March 24, 2011.

The 2010 Census counted 50.5 million Hispanics in the U.S., making up 16.3% of the total population. The nation's Hispanic population, which was 35.3 million in 2000, grew 46.3% over the decade, and even more sharply in many Southeastern states. Overall, growth in the Hispanic population accounted for most of the nation's growth--56%--from 2000 to 2010. Among children ages 17 and younger, there were 17.1 million Latinos, representing 23.1% of this age group, up from 17.1% in 2000. The analysis includes counts, growth rates, and rankings for the Hispanic population in each state. *[Note: contains copyrighted material]*.

<http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/140.pdf> [PDF format, 8 pages].

How Libraries Add Value to Communities. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Lee Rainie. March 23, 2011.

The Net, smartphones, and other technologies have added to the way people can engage with so much to local communities and wider communities of interest. Yet, there are many gaps. Lee Rainie, Director of the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, explores those gaps at the Computers in Libraries conference. He points to some findings of his Project that highlight areas where libraries and information services add value to the participants in their communities. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Presentations/2011/Mar/2011%20-%203.23.11%20-%20CIL%20pdf%20-%20how%20libraries%20add%20value.pdf> [PDF format, 36 pages].

Earthquakes: Risk, Detection, Warning, and Research. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Peter Folger. March 18, 2011.

The U.S. faces the possibility of large economic losses from earthquake-damaged buildings and infrastructure. The Federal Emergency Management Agency has estimated that earthquakes cost the United States, on average, over \$5 billion per year. California, Oregon, and Washington account for nearly \$4.1 billion (77%) of the U.S. total estimated average annualized loss. California alone accounts for most of the estimated annualized earthquake losses for the nation. A single large earthquake, however, can cause far more damage than the average annual estimate. The 1994 Northridge (CA) earthquake caused as much as \$26 billion (in 2005 dollars) in damage and was one of the costliest natural disasters to strike the United States. One study of the damage caused by a hypothetical magnitude 7.8 earthquake along the San Andreas Fault in southern California projected as many as 1,800 fatalities and more than \$200 billion in economic losses. An issue for the 112th Congress is whether existing federally supported programs aimed at reducing U.S. vulnerability to earthquakes are an adequate response to the earthquake hazard.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/159337.pdf> [PDF format, 31 pages].

Bahrain: Reform, Security, and U.S. Policy. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kenneth Katzman. March 21, 2011.

Protests that erupted in Bahrain following the uprising that overthrew Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on February 11, 2011, demonstrate that Shiite grievances over the distribution of power and economic opportunities were not satisfied by previous efforts to include the Shiite majority in governance. Possibly because of concerns that a rise to power of the Shiite opposition could jeopardize the extensive U.S. military cooperation with Bahrain, the Obama Administration criticized the early use of violence by the government but subsequently praised the Al Khalifa regime for its offer of a dialogue with the demonstrators. It did not call for the King to step down, and Administration contacts with his government are widely credited for the decision of the regime to cease using force against the protesters as of February 19, 2011. However, as protests escalated in March 2011, Bahrain's government, contrary to the advice of the Obama Administration, invited security assistance from other neighboring Gulf Cooperation Council countries and subsequently moved to end the large gatherings. Some believe the crackdown has largely ended prospects for a negotiated political solution in Bahrain, and could widen the conflict to the broader Gulf region.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/159344.pdf> [PDF format, 24 pages].

Priority Medicines for Mothers and Children 2011. World Health Organization. March 21, 2011.

Improving maternal and child health is a global priority. An estimated 8.1 million children under the age of five die every year and an estimated 1 000 women - most of them in developing countries - die every day due to complications during pregnancy or childbirth. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.who.int/medicines/publications/A4prioritymedicines.pdf> [PDF format, 4 pages].

Libya Exposes Fault Lines in the Mediterranean - Part I. YaleGlobal. Francois Godement. March 25, 2011.

Europe and the West, enforcing a no-fly zone over Libya, anticipate a quick end to the conflict. With the tenacity of the pro-Gaddafi forces, that assumption may prove to be misplaced. The crisis reveals a range of security vulnerabilities affecting the Mediterranean and beyond. François Godement notes how the need to evacuate thousands of citizens from Libya has highlighted the rising capabilities of India's and China's navies. Navies from emerging economies demonstrate ability to intervene quickly in the Mediterranean with greater force than Europeans might use in Asia. Godement questions Europe's neglect of defense preparedness and internal bickering: Mixed messages - arguments over intervention versus diplomacy and cost-cutting - weaken European influence in specific conflicts, including Arab uprisings and immigration control, and broader international security matters. Agreement on when the use of force is appropriate eludes the global powers, leading to internal and cross-border debates as conflict rages. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/libya-fault-lines-mediterranean-part-i> [HTML format, various paging].

Death Sentences and Executions 2010. Amnesty International. March 28, 2011.

In the last decade, more than 30 countries have abolished the death penalty in law or practice. Fifty-eight countries worldwide now retain the death penalty for ordinary crimes, and less than half of these carried out executions in 2010. The report analyzes some of the key developments in the worldwide application of the death penalty in 2010, citing figures gathered by Amnesty International on the number of death sentences handed down and executions carried out during the year. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/ACT50/001/2011/en/ea1b6b25-a62a-4074-927d-ba51e88df2e9/act500012011en.pdf> In English [PDF format, 60 pages].

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/ACT50/001/2011/en/e4092792-77df-4492-ac1f-2d4a469e8174/act500012011es.pdf> In Spanish [PDF format, 63 pages].

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/ACT50/001/2011/en/baeb03e3-6cc0-4255-b694-ed31714a5004/act500012011fra.pdf> In French [PDF format, 66 pages].

Large and Deadly Earthquakes This Year. U.S. Geological Survey. March 28, 2011.

U.S. Geological Survey National Earthquake Information Center provides earthquakes magnitude 7.0 and greater in 2011, including casualty information.

<http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eqarchives/year/mag7.php> [HTML format, various paging].

The Chávez Model Threatens Ecuador. American Enterprise Institute. Jose Cardenas. March 21, 2011.

Given Venezuelan leader Hugo Chávez's theatrical obsession with the limelight, it is easy to overlook the activities of other radical populist leaders in the Andean region. This is a dangerous oversight, says the author. In Ecuador, operating under the radar, Rafael Correa is imposing his own autocratic vision for his country's path to salvation. In doing so, he has made common cause with rogue international actors and criminal groups who care not a whit about the interests of the Ecuadorean people, but only about maximizing their destructive agendas. The Obama administration should disabuse itself of the notion that Correa is someone "with whom we can do business" and instead increase scrutiny of his activities in this critical region of the Western Hemisphere, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/LAO-2011-03-No-2-g.pdf> In English [PDF format, 6 pages].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/2011-02-LAO-Spanish.pdf> In Spanish [PEF format, 7 pages].

The New Bottom Billion: What If Most of the World's Poor Live in Middle-Income Countries? Center for Global Development. Andy Sumner. March 24, 2011.

Most of the world's poor no longer live in low-income countries. An estimated 960 million poor people, a new bottom billion, live in middle-income countries, a result of the graduation of several populous countries from low-income status. That is good news, but it has repercussions. Donors will have to change the way they think about poverty alleviation. They should design development aid to benefit poor people, not just poor countries, keep supporting middle-income countries, think beyond traditional aid to craft coherent development policies, and work to help create space for more inclusive policy processes in new and old MICs. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1424922> [HTML format with links].

Overview of Immigration Issues in the 112th Congress. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Ruth Ellen Wasem. March 21, 2011.

There is a broad-based consensus that the U.S. immigration system is broken. This consensus erodes, however, as soon as the options to reform the U.S. immigration system are debated. Substantial efforts to comprehensively reform immigration law failed in the 109th and 110th Congresses. The number of foreign-born people residing in the U.S. is at the highest level in U.S. history and has reached a proportion of the U.S. population, 12.5%, not seen since the early 20th century. According to the latest estimates by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), about 10.8 million unauthorized aliens were living in the U.S. in January 2010, down from a peak of 11.8 million in January 2007. Some observers and policy experts maintain that the presence of millions of unauthorized residents is evidence of inadequacies in the legal immigration system as well as failures of immigration control policies and practices. The report synthesizes immigration issues as a multi-tiered debate.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/homsec/R41704.pdf> [PDF format, 19 pages].

Fukushima Nuclear Crisis. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Richard J. Campbell. March 15, 2011.

The earthquake on March 11, 2011, off the east coast of Honshu, Japan's largest island, reportedly caused an automatic shutdown of eleven of Japan's fifty-five operating nuclear power plants. Most of the shutdowns proceeded without incident. The plants closest to the epicenter,

Fukushima and Onagawa, were damaged by the earthquake and resulting tsunami. The U.S. and other countries, as well as the International Atomic Energy Agency, are providing assistance to Japan to deal with the nuclear crisis. According to the U.S. State Department, Japan has requested foreign assistance including consequence management support, transport of pumps, boron, fresh water, remote cameras, global hawk surveillance, evacuation support, medical support, decontamination, and radiation monitoring equipment. A U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission advisory team is in Japan at the Japanese government's request. The Department of Energy has sent radiation monitoring equipment, and the U.S. Department of Defense has provided high-pressure water pumps and fire trucks.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/nuke/R41694.pdf> [PDF format, 6 pages].

The Debate Over U.S. Libya Intervention. Council on Foreign Relations. Matthew C. Waxman. March 28, 2011.

With the UN Security Council-authorized military strikes on Libya in full swing, legal debate in the United States is focused on whether, as a matter of U.S. constitutional law, the president may unilaterally order U.S. forces to participate in those operations without going to Congress for permission. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cfr.org/libya/debate-over-us-libya-intervention/p24500> [HTML format, various paging].

The State of Working America's Wealth, 2011: Through Volatility and Turmoil, the Gap Widens. Economic Policy Institute. Sylvia A. Allegretto. March 23, 2011.

Why is wealth important? Like wages and income, overall wealth is central to a family's standard of living. Wealth, particularly liquid assets such as savings and checking account balances and direct holding of stocks and bonds, can help families cope with financial emergencies that arise due to unemployment or illness. Wealth also makes it easier for families to invest in education and training, start a small business, or fund retirement. More tangible forms of wealth such as cars, computers, and homes can directly affect a family's ability to participate fully in work, school, and community life. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://epi.3cdn.net/2a7ccb3e9e618f0bbc_3nm6idnax.pdf [PDF format, 34 pages].

Low Numbers: A Practical Path to Deep Nuclear Reductions. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. James M. Acton. March 28, 2011.

U.S. policy seeks to create the conditions that would allow for deep reductions in nuclear arsenals. The report offers a practical approach to reducing the U.S. and Russian stockpiles to 500 nuclear warheads each and those of other nuclear-armed states to no more than about half that number. This target would require Washington and Moscow to reduce their arsenals by a factor of ten, says the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://carnegieendowment.org/files/low_numbers.pdf [PDF format, 94 pages].

West Censoring East: The Use of Western Technologies by Middle East Censors, 2010-2011. Berkman Center for Internet & Society, Harvard University. Helmi Noman and Jillian C. York. March 28, 2011.

The report analyzes the use of American and Canadian-made tools Websense, McAfee SmartFilter, and Netsweeper for the purpose of government-level filtering in the Middle East and

North Africa. The investigation found that nine countries in the region utilize Western-made tools. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://opennet.net/sites/opennet.net/files/ONI_WestCensoringEast.pdf [PDF format, 21 pages].

Modest Support for Libya Airstrikes, No Clear Goal Seen. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. March 28, 2011.

After several days of airstrikes on Libya by the United States and its allies, the public has mixed reactions to the military operation. Nearly half of Americans (47%) say the United States made the right decision in conducting air strikes in Libya, while 36% say it was the wrong decision. Fully one-in-six (17%) express no opinion. On balance, however, the public does not think that the U.S. and its allies have a clear goal in taking military action in Libya. Just 39% say the U.S. and its allies have a clear goal, while 50% say they do not. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1941/poll-airstrikes-libya-right-wrong-decision-lengthy-involvement-moammar-gadhafi-remove> [HTML format, various paging].

Ready for Takeoff: China's Advancing Aerospace Industry. RAND Corporation. Roger Cliff et al. March 2, 2011.

The book assesses China's aerospace capabilities and the extent to which China's participation in commercial aerospace markets and supply chains is contributing to the improvement of those capabilities. It examines China's commercial aviation manufacturing capabilities, its commercial and military capabilities in space, Chinese government efforts to encourage foreign participation in the development of China's aerospace industry, transfers of foreign aerospace technology to China, the extent to which U.S. and other foreign aerospace firms depend on supplies from China, and the implications of these issues for U.S. security interests. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/monographs/2011/RAND_MG1100.pdf [PDF format, 164 pages].

Libya Exposes Fault Lines in the Mediterranean - Part II. YaleGlobal. Shashank Joshi. March 28, 2011.

At the behest of a divided Arab League, NATO forces began enforcing a no-fly zone over Libya. Such unified intervention is rare, not seen since the 1991 coalition that pushed Iraq back after its invasion of Kuwait, explains researcher Shashank Joshi. Support for Libya's desperate rebels could give the region's other dictators pause before attacking their citizens - or encourage renewed protests in regimes just as vile with more powerful security forces. Action in Libya, of course, shields other oppressors, focusing Western attention on yet another war while marginalizing protests elsewhere. Unity for next steps in the troubled region is tenuous yet essential. Arab public opinion will turn hostile if intervention is perceived as an illegitimate power grab, warns Joshi. UN Resolution 1973 is highly specific, focused exclusively on protecting civilians in Libya. Any deviations from the goal or failure could make Western forces the target of public ire among Arabs as well as their own electorates. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/libya-fault-lines-mediterranean-part-ii> [HTML format, various paging].

Iraq and the Kurds: Confronting Withdrawal Fears. International Crisis Group. March 28, 2011.

Iraq's government was long in the making, but its inclusive nature and the way in which it was formed offer hope that it can make progress in the struggle between Arabs and Kurds. Coalition partners have a unique opportunity to make headway. Both sides should build on the apparent goodwill generated by efforts to establish a government to lay the foundations for a negotiated and peaceful settlement. In particular, they should immediately resume talks over the status of Kirkuk and other disputed territories, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/Middle%20East%20North%20Africa/Iraq%20Syria%20Lebanon/Iraq/103%20Iraq%20and%20the%20Kurds%20--%20Confronting%20Withdrawal%20Fears.ashx> [PDF format, 45 pages].

Liquid Fuels Production in Middle Eastern and North African Countries. U.S. Energy Information Administration. March 28, 2011.

Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) countries supplied about 30 million barrels per day (mmb/d) of liquid fuels in 2010, or more than one-third of the estimated total worldwide daily supply of 86.3 mmb/d. Three countries: Saudi Arabia (10.07 mmb/d), Iran (4.25 mmb/d), and the United Arab Emirates (2.81 mmb/d), accounted for about 57 percent of total MENA liquid fuels production on average (see map) between January and November 2010, latest figures available. Together, Algeria and Libya comprised about 5 percent of global liquid fuels production, or nearly 4 mmb/d. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/todayinenergy/detail.cfm?id=690> [HTML format, various paging].

Ivory Coast Deserves Deeper Democracy. Brookings Institution. Ezra Suruma and Brandon Routman. March 28, 2011.

The people of Ivory Coast are paying the ultimate price for democracy. At least 400 have died since the December 2010 elections, nearly one million are internally displaced and over 90,000 have fled to Liberia. Abidjan, a city of over 4 million people, is quickly becoming a battlefield and a ghost town with a quarter of its population uprooted. Meanwhile the supporters of both Laurent Gbagbo and Alassane Ouattara are recruiting more soldiers and intensifying preparations for the war ahead. Is this the right way to achieve democracy? How did Ivory Coast get to this point? [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0328_ivory_coast_suruma.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

Americans Want More Coverage of Teacher Performance and Student Achievement. Brookings Institution. Darrell M. West et al. March 29, 2011.

Americans want more media coverage of their local schools. In particular, they want more information than they now receive about teacher performance, student academic achievement, crime, and violence in their schools; and more as well about curricula, finances and reform efforts. While there is a great interest in receiving this information through new technological sources more so than ever before. Americans however, continue to rely on traditional media, particularly newspapers, for information on their schools. There is an imperative to improve both education journalism and the ways in which schools communicate directly to parents, students, and citizens. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2011/0329_education_news/0329_education_news.pdf [PDF format, 41 pages].

The Perils of Privatizing the U.S. Mortgage Finance System. Center for American Progress. David Min. March 29, 2011.

The U.S. Congress and the Obama administration are now earnestly engaged in the complicated process of reforming our nation's mortgage finance system. The decisions they make will have enormous impacts on the shape of the U.S. financial markets and may well decide whether homeownership remains a part of the American Dream for middle-class families or instead a distant hope for only the wealthy, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/03/pdf/min_privitization.pdf [PDF format, 21 pages].

Belgium and its Water Foot Print. World Wildlife Fund. March 29, 2011.

The report calculates that every Belgian consumes 7400 lt, about 90 bathtubs, of water every day. Water is a precious natural resource that is used on a massive scale in agriculture, and in the production of our food, of animal feed and of textile fibres, not to mention biofuel. The report encourages public actors and businesses to take account of water footprints and the sustainable management of water in their management practices and their policies. [*Note:contains copyrighted material*].

http://wwf.panda.org/about_our_earth/all_publications/?199830/Belgium-and-its-Water-Footprint [HTML format with links].

Thailand: No Safe Refuge. Refugees International. Lynn Yoshikawa. March 24, 2011.

The eruption of conflict between the Burmese military and an ethnic rebel faction in eastern Burma has forced over 30,000 people to flee to Thailand since November 2010. Skirmishes are ongoing and both parties have planted landmines in people's villages and farmlands. While the Thai government has a long-standing policy of providing refuge for "those fleeing fighting," the Thai army is pressuring Burmese to return prematurely and restricting aid agencies. Unless the Thai Government strengthens its policy to protect those fleeing fighting and persecution, current and future refugees will have no choice but to join the ranks of millions of undocumented and unprotected migrant workers in Thailand, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.refugeesinternational.org/sites/default/files/032411_Thailand_letterhead.pdf [PDF format, 2 pages].

The Diverse Structure and Organization of U.S. Beef Cow-Calf Farms. U.S. Department of Agriculture. William D. McBride and Kenneth Mathews, Jr. March 28, 2011.

Beef cow-calf production in the U.S. is widespread, occurring in every State. Nearly 765,000 farms, about 35 percent of the 2.2 million farms in the U.S., had a beef cow inventory in 2007. Most of these were small, part-time operations. About a third of farms that raise beef animals had a beef cow inventory of less than 10 cows, more than half had fewer than 20 cows, and nearly 80 percent had fewer than 50 cows. Many small operations are "rural residence farms" that specialize in beef cow-calf production, but their income from off-farm sources exceeds that from the farm. Most beef cow-calf production occurs on large farms, but cow-calf production is not the primary enterprise on many of these farms. Findings suggest that operators of beef cow-calf farms have a diverse set of goals for the cattle enterprise.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/EIB73/EIB73.pdf> [PDF format, 48 pages].

Were the Nigerian Banking Reforms 2005 A Success... And for the Poor? National Bureau of Economic Research. Lisa D. Cook. March 28, 2011.

The Nigerian banking system was in crisis for much of the 1990's and early 2000's. The reforms of 2005 were ambitious in simultaneously attempting to address safety, soundness, and accessibility. This paper uses published and new survey data through 2008 to investigate whether bank consolidation and other measures achieved their stated goals and whether they also enhanced development, efficiency, and profitability. Following the reforms, banks are better capitalized, more efficient, and less involved in the public sector but not more profitable and accessible to the poor. While there is greater supervision and less fragility, recorded distress was artificially low. The improved macroeconomic environment also explains some of the variation in observed outcomes and likely enhanced the efficacy of reforms. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.nber.org/papers/w16890.pdf> [PDF format, 40 pages].

Interrogating Urban Poverty Lines: The Case of Zambia. International Institute for Environment and Development. Miniva Chibuye. March 2011.

The paper suggests that the scale and depth of urban poverty in Zambia is under-estimated by official poverty lines. It argues that basing the food poverty line on a national average cost for food underestimates urban poverty and is likely to overestimate rural poverty. This is because of the significant disparity between cost of food in rural and urban areas, which is largely driven by the methods of accessing food items. The paper also argues that the threshold for the upper poverty line is too meagre for any urban area in Zambia, especially when taking the cost of housing into consideration. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/10592IIED.pdf> [PDF format, 43 pages].

Operation Odyssey Dawn (Libya): Background and Issues for Congress. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Jeremiah Gertler. March 28, 2011.

The ongoing uprising in Libya against the government of Muammar al Qadhafi has been the subject of evolving domestic and international debate about potential international military intervention, including the proposed establishment of a no-fly zone over Libya. On March 17, 2011, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 1973, establishing a no-fly zone in Libyan airspace, authorizing robust enforcement measures for the arms embargo established by Resolution 1970, and authorizing member states "to take all necessary measures ... to protect civilians and civilian populated areas under threat of attack in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, including Benghazi, while excluding a foreign occupation force of any form on any part of Libyan territory." In response, the U.S. established Operation Odyssey Dawn, the U.S. contribution to a multilateral military effort to enforce a no-fly zone and protect civilians in Libya. From the outset of operations, the Obama administration declared its intent to transfer command of operations over Libya to a coalition entity. On March 28, 2011, the NATO Secretary General announced that NATO would take over command of all aspects of military operations within a few days.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/R41725.pdf> [PDF format, 33 pages].

State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs: FY2011 Budget and Appropriations. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Marian Leonardo Lawson et al. March 23, 2011.

The annual State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs appropriations bill has been the primary legislative vehicle through which Congress reviews the U.S. international affairs budget

and influences executive branch foreign policy making in recent years, as Congress has not regularly considered these issues through a complete authorization process for State Department diplomatic activities since 2003 and for foreign aid programs since 1985. Funding for Foreign Operations and State Department/Broadcasting programs has been steadily rising since FY2002, after a period of decline in the 1980s and 1990s. Ongoing assistance to Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as large new global health programs and rapidly increasing assistance to Pakistan, has kept the international affairs budget at historically high levels in recent years. The change of Administration in 2009 did not disrupt this trend. However, increasing concern about the federal budget deficit and accountability for funds already provided may check this growth in FY2011.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/R41228.pdf> [PDF format, 35 pages].

The Teaching Penalty: An update through 2010. Economic Policy Institute. Sylvia A. Allegretto et al. March 30, 2011.

Effective teachers are demonstrably the most important resource schools have for improving the academic success of their students (Hanushek and Rivkin 2006; Rice 2003). Yet for many school leaders, recruiting and retaining talented and effective classroom teachers remains an uphill battle. For decades, a small and declining fraction of the most cognitively skilled graduates have elected to enter the teaching profession, while rigorous national standards and school-based accountability for student performance have pushed the demand for talented teachers to an all-time high. The authors find that public elementary and secondary school teachers continue to be undercompensated relative to comparably-educated workers. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://epi.3cdn.net/91c523e88aaf7494e2_vem6ibvjn.pdf [PDF format, 6 pages].

Impact of Shale Gas Development on Global Gas Markets. James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy. Kenneth B. Medlock III. April 1, 2011.

According to the author, developments in shale gas have turned world expectations for this fuel source upside down. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.bakerinstitute.org/publications/impact-of-shale-gas-development-on-global-gas-markets/view> [HTML format with a link].

Montagnard Christians in Vietnam: A Case Study in Religious Repression. Human Rights Watch. March 30, 2011.

The report details the latest government crackdowns on these indigenous peoples, known collectively as Montagnards. The report documents police sweeps to root out Montagnards in hiding. It details how the authorities have dissolved house church gatherings, orchestrated coerced renunciations of faith, and sealed off the border to prevent asylum seekers from fleeing to Cambodia. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2011/03/30/montagnard-christians-vietnam-0> [HTML format with links].

A New Architecture for Border Management. Migration Policy Institute. Demetrios G. Papademetriou and Elizabeth Collett. March 2011.

The report examines the emergence of a new border architecture resulting from the explosion in global travel and the dawning of the age of risk. This new border architecture must respond

effectively to the seemingly competing demands of facilitating mobility while better managing the risks associated with cross-border travel e.g. terrorism, the entry of unwanted migrants, and organized crime. The report examines the information-sharing agreements, technology innovations, and multilateral partnerships that have emerged as key components of the new architecture for border management, and discusses challenges and considerations for the future. *[Note: contains copyrighted material]*.

<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/borderarchitecture.pdf> [PDF format, 34 pages].

Immigration Integration in Europe in a Time of Austerity. Migration Policy Institute. Elizabeth Collett. March 2011.

The report examines the global financial downturn's effects on immigrant integration funding in the European Union and on immigrants on both sides of the Atlantic. Elizabeth Collett offers an analysis of how immigrant integration programs are faring in EU countries with rising debt levels and a new focus on austerity. *[Note: contains copyrighted material]*.

<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/TCM-integration.pdf> [PDF format, 30 pages].

Leveraging Migration for Africa: Remittances, Skills, and Investments. African Development Bank and the World Bank. March 30, 2011.

With about 30 million Africans living outside their home countries, migration is a vital lifeline for the continent. Yet African governments need to do more to realize the full economic benefits of the phenomenon. The report strives to fill important knowledge gaps on African migration, remittances, and diasporas. *[Note: contains copyrighted material]*.

<http://econ.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/EXTDECPROSPECTS/0,,contentMDK:21681739~pagePK:64165401~piPK:64165026~theSitePK:476883,00.html> [THML format with links to chapters].

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTDECPROSPECTS/Resources/476882-1157133580628/AfricaStudyEntireBook.pdf> Full Report [PDF format, 214 pages].

Classifying and Measuring Agricultural Support: Identifying Differences Between the WTO and OECD Systems. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Anne Effland. March 31, 2011.

Most countries provide some level of support to their agricultural sectors. Because support can affect producers and consumers in other countries, a number of systems have been developed to measure agricultural support levels and classify types of support in ways that facilitate comparing them across countries. The WTO and OECD employ similar classification systems, generally addressing the same question and measuring the same programs. However, results can be surprisingly and fundamentally different, rendering comparisons inappropriate, meaningless, or even wrong. Careful attention to the sources of difference can prevent potential misunderstandings and misleading uses.

http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/EIB74/EIB74_ReportSummary.pdf Summary [PDF format, 2 pages].

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/EIB74/EIB74.pdf> Full Report [PDF format, 24 pages].

NAFTA at 17: Full Implementation Leads to Increased Trade and Integration. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Steven Zahniser and Andrew Roe. March 31, 2011.

This report is the last in USDA's series of Congressionally mandated biennial reports on the impacts of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on U.S. agriculture and the rural economy. The report responds to a mandate in the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act of 1993.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/WRS1101/WRS1101.pdf> [PDF format, 71 pages].

Stop the Madness: The Insanity of ROI and the Need for New Qualitative Measures of Academic Library Success. Columbia University. James G. Neal. April 2, 2011.'

"This paper is not a scientific study or a literature review or a reasoned analysis of the assessment literature on academic libraries. It is a polemic and a call to action. It is an appeal for the academic library to step away from inappropriate, unsophisticated and exploitable ROI research as a miscalculated, defensive and risky strategy... We need effective and honest ways to explore issues like user satisfaction, the usability of systems and services, market penetration, cost-effectiveness, productivity, impact, and success in advancing institutional priorities," according to the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.goeshow.com/acrl/national/2011/client_uploads/handouts/stop_the_madness1.pdf [PDF format, 6 pages].

Attention Medical Shoppers: What Health Care Can Learn from Walmart and Amazon. Harvard Business School. Carmen Nobel. April 4, 2011.

At a Harvard Business School discussion on health care management, experts looked to the retail industry as a possible model for delivering medical services more effectively and inexpensively. In order to get its financial and management woes under control, the health care industry might want to peek at the playbooks of retail giants like Walmart, Google, and Amazon.com. [*Note:contains copyrighted material*].

<http://hbswk.hbs.edu/pdf/item/6658.pdf> [PDF format, 2 pages].

Preventing Nuclear Meltdown: Assessing Regulatory Failure in Japan and the United States. Brookings Institution. Daniel Kaufmann. April 1, 2011.

Many wonder whether Japan's nuclear disaster could have been averted. The embattled operator of the Fukushima nuclear plant, Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO), has borne the brunt of criticism; its numerous failures over the years are well known. However, Japan's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA), responsible for regulating the nuclear industry, also ought to be subject to particular scrutiny for allowing TEPCO to operate despite its past safety and disclosure violations. The authors ask what types of regulatory failure may have contributed to Japan's nuclear crisis and assess whether the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is at risk of committing similar errors. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0401_nuclear_meltdown_kaufmann.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

Politics and Transition in the New South Sudan. International Crisis Group. April 4, 2011.

Now that South Sudan's referendum is complete and its independence from the North all but formalised, focus must increasingly shift to the political agenda at home. A new transitional government will preside over a fixed term from 9 July 2011, during which a broadly consultative review process should yield a permanent constitution. Critical decisions taken now and immediately after independence will define the health and trajectory of democracy in what will soon be the world's newest state. Two factors may shape the coming transition period more than any other; first, the degree to which the South's ruling Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) allows an opening of political space in which a vibrant multi-party system can grow; secondly, the will to undertake democratic reform within the SPLM, as intra-party politics continue to dominate the political arena in the near term. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/africa/horn-of-africa/sudan/172%20-%20Politics%20and%20Transition%20in%20the%20New%20South%20Sudan.ashx> [PDF format, 43 pages].

Belarus: Crushing Human Rights at Home? Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Matthew Rojansky. April 1, 2011.

Following December's presidential election in Belarus, which OSCE observers said failed to meet international standards, Alexander Lukashenka claimed an implausible landslide victory and launched a wave of political repression. In testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Matthew Rojansky outlines steps the West should take to respond to the crackdown and lay the groundwork for positive, democratic change in Belarus. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://carnegieendowment.org/files/0401_testimony_rojansky.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

Bahrain: Between the United States and Saudi Arabia. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Marina Ottaway. April 4, 2011.

Protests in Bahrain first started on February 14 as young people took to the streets in large numbers to voice the same demands for reform heard recently around the Arab world. But unrest in Bahrain has additional dimensions. While protestors in the capital, Manama, and its surrounding villages are overwhelmingly Shias, with a sprinkling of liberal Sunnis, security forces on the other side are predominantly Sunni and propping up a Sunni monarchy in a majority-Shia country. As a result, protest in Bahrain is not simply a domestic struggle for political rights and liberal reform, although it certainly has that dimension, according to the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=43416&prog=zgp&proj=zme> [HTML format, various paging].

Libya Exposes Fault Lines in the Mediterranean - Part III. YaleGlobal. Joseph Chamie. March 30, 2011.

The United Nations authorized intervention in Libya, as protests continue throughout the Middle East. In a speech on Libya, U.S. President Barack Obama noted, "The change that is taking place across the region is being driven by the people of the region." Joseph Chamie analyzes the region's young people and their anger about limited economic opportunities. Arab nations share many common trends, rapid population growth since 1970 creating a majority of citizens under age 25. Add to that steady urbanization and high rates of unemployment. Chamie notes differences, too: Young workers flee the poorest nations, while richer oil nations host poor non-Arabs from afar. Limited employment and consequent delays in marriages create tensions. The demographic patterns exacerbate rising anger, and Chamie contends that the effects of rapid

population growth will remain a powerful factor in the region for years to come. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/libya-fault-lines-mediterranean-part-iii> [HTML format, various paging].

Libya Exposes Fault Lines in the Mediterranean - Part IV. YaleGlobal. Harsh V. Pant. April 1, 2011.

Armed with UN Security Council Resolution 1973, authorizing a no-fly zone in Libya, international powers moved swiftly to protect Libyans from brutal retaliation threatened by their leader. But rising powers Brazil, Russia, India and China refrained from joining the rescue by western power, explains Harsh V. Pant. "The debate on Libya once again underlines that, despite the hyperbole about the decline of the West and the rise of the rest, the 'rest' are not ready to take on roles as global powers," Pant suggests. By abstaining rather than casting vetoes, China and Russia allowed the operation to proceed, while democracies India and Brazil expressed reservations about the resolution. Acknowledging that the intervention may not achieve quick success, Pant urges the BRICs to develop alternatives for protecting human rights and outlining sovereignty's role in an interconnected world. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/libya-fault-lines-mediterranean-part-iv> [HTML format, various paging].

In a Borderless World, Innovation Reigns Supreme. YaleGlobal. Ashok Bardhan. April 4, 2011.

Economists and policymakers recognize that investment in research and development, by government or industry, contributes to innovation, employment and higher living standards. In pursuit of bigger markets and lower costs U.S. firms started the trend of relocating manufacturing and services overseas, and now R&D activities follow, explains Ashok Bardhan. The transfers raise questions about how globalization of technology and increased research within emerging economies might influence innovation: A broader base globally could expand innovation's impact and its benefits; or perhaps innovation has reached a plateau or transitional stage, offering incremental improvements rather than disruptive technologies like electricity or computers. Investing large sums in research assists, but does not guarantee innovation to flourish. Stagnation in innovation and new job creation is a global problem, and Bardhan warns that the U.S., most affected and alarmed, is not alone in confronting the impact of slowing innovation in rising inequality and low job growth. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/borderless-world-innovation-reigns-supreme> [HTML format, various paging].

Power Play? Teacher Characteristics and Class Assignments. Urban Institute. Demetra Kalogrides et al. Web posted April 1, 2011.

While prior research has documented differences in the distribution of teacher characteristics across schools serving different student populations, few studies have examined how teacher sorting occurs within schools. Comparing teachers who teach in the same grade and school in a given year, the authors find less experienced, minority, and female teachers are assigned students with lower average prior achievement, more prior behavioral problems, and lower prior attendance rates than their more experienced, white and male colleagues. Though more effective teachers and those with advanced degrees are also assigned less difficult classes, controlling for these factors does not eliminate the association between experience, race, gender, and assignments. These patterns have negative implications for teacher retention given the

importance of working conditions for teachers' career decisions. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/1001530-Teacher-Characteristics-and-Class-Assignments.pdf> [PDF format, 60 pages].

Making Peace after Genocide: Anatomy of Burundi Process. U.S. Institute of Peace. Howard Wolpe. April 2011.

A former seven-term member of Congress and presidential special envoy during the Clinton administration, Howard Wolpe led the U.S. delegation to the Arusha and Lusaka peace talks to end the civil wars in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The report distills the author's experience as a presidential special envoy to Africa's Great Lakes region from 1996 to 2001, and as the director of a Burundi leadership training initiative from 2003 to 2009. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PW_Burundi.pdf [PDF format, 80 pages].

Iraq's Disputed Territories: A View of the Political Horizon and Implications for U.S. Policy. U.S. Institute of Peace. Sean Kane. April 2011.

According to U.S. government officials, the greatest potential threat to Iraq's stability is not extremist groups but the prospect of Arab-Kurdish conflict over oil-rich Kirkuk and other disputed territories. The report attempts to demystify and disaggregate the often poorly defined disputed territories by drawing upon two data sets: the political preferences expressed in these territories during Iraq's three postconstitution elections and archival records detailing these areas' respective administrative histories. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PW69_final.pdf [PDF format, 72 pages].

Churches in Court: The Legal Status of Religious Organizations in Civil Lawsuits. Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. April 1, 2011.

American religious institutions have been at the center of many legal controversies in recent years. The Roman Catholic Church, for instance, has been fighting a very public and contentious legal battle over whether it can be held accountable for employing priests who sexually abuse minors. The Episcopal Church also has been caught up in a series of legal disputes, most of them over the ownership of church property. These and related lawsuits raise complex constitutional questions that have been troubling American courts for more than a century: Do the First Amendment's religion clauses, which guarantee religious liberty and prohibit all laws "respecting the establishment of religion," bestow a unique legal status on religious organizations that puts some of their decisions and actions beyond the reach of civil laws? To put it another way, are legal disputes involving churches and other religious institutions constitutionally different from those involving their secular counterparts, and if so, how? [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://pewforum.org/uploadedFiles/Topics/Issues/Church-State_Law/Pillar_Autonomy.pdf [PDF format, 25 pages].

Popular Protests in North Africa and the Middle East (III): The Bahrain Revolt. International Crisis Group. April 6, 2011.

Manama's crackdown and Saudi Arabia's military intervention are dangerous moves that could stamp out hopes for peaceful transition in Bahrain and turn a mass movement for democratic reform into an armed conflict, while regionalising an internal political struggle. They could also exacerbate sectarian tensions not only in Bahrain or the Gulf but across the region. The report, the third in an ongoing series that analyses the wave of popular protests across North Africa and the Middle East, describes the background and course of the current revolt, as well as key Bahrain players, their interests and positions. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/Middle%20East%20North%20Africa/Iran%20Gulf/Bahrain/105-%20Popular%20Protests%20in%20North%20Africa%20and%20the%20Middle%20East%20-III-The%20Bahrain%20Revolt.ashx> [PDF format, 33 pages].

Nepal's Fitful Peace Process. International Crisis Group. April 7, 2011.

The parties to Nepal's fitful peace process have less than eight weeks to agree on integration of Maoist combatants and federalism before the term of the Constituent Assembly elected to draft a new constitution expires. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/asia/south-asia/nepal/B120%20Nepals%20Fitful%20Peace%20Process.ashx> [PDF format, 24 pages].

Economic Views Sag, Obama Rating Slips. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. April 7, 2011.

Currently, 47% approve of the way Obama is handling his job as president while 45% disapprove. Opinions about Obama's job performance continue to be deeply divided along partisan lines: 80% of Democrats approve of the way he is handling his job while 16% disapprove. Republicans' views are the reverse - 16% approve and 81% disapprove. Among independents, 48% disapprove and 42% approve of the job Obama is doing. In terms of specific issues, Obama receives his highest rating for his handling of the environment (51% approve, 35% disapprove). [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://people-press.org/files/legacy-pdf/04-07-11%20April%20Political%20Release.pdf> [PDF format, 40 pages].

The Arab Reawakening and Its Strategic Implications. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Chas Freeman. April 6, 2011.

While viewed from afar, the Arab world may appear at present to be a zone of strife, even in these turbulent times, Saudi Arabia and the region can be seen to present many more opportunities for transnational cooperation than they do for conflict. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=43471&prog=zgp> [HTML format, various paging].

Refugees and IDPs after Conflict: Why They Do Not Go Home. U.S. Institute of Peace. Patricia Weiss Fagan. April 2011.

The report reviews the challenges facing returning refugees and internally displaced persons after protracted conflict, questioning the common wisdom that the solution to displacement is, in almost

all cases, to bring those uprooted to their places of origin, regardless of changes in the political, economic, psychological, and physical landscapes. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR268Fagen.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

The Need to Pursue Mutual Interests in U.S.-PRC Relations. U.S. Institute of Peace. Thomas J. Christensen. April 2011.

Recent turbulence in U.S.-Chinese relations stems from China's umbrage at what it perceives to be the United States' attempts to harm China's core interests. Thomas Christensen presents a distinct perspective on U.S.-China relations that emphasizes the dangers in interacting in an environment of mistrust and polarization. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR269Christensen.pdf> [PDF format, 12 pages].

The Perils of Libyan Nation Building. Council on Foreign Relations. Jayshree Bajoria. April 7, 2011.

Any outcome of the Libyan war will require boots on the ground, say analysts, urging the international community to focus on helping the country rebuild civil, political, and social institutions that serve Libyan national interests. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cfr.org/libya/perils-libyan-nation-building/p24609> [HTML format, various paging].

Nuclear Power Plant Sites: Maps of Seismic Hazards and Population Centers. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Anthony Andrews. March 29, 2011.

To map the proximity of plant sites to faults, the report refers to the USGS Quaternary Fault and Fold Database of the U.S. This database contains information on faults and associated folds in the U.S. that are believed to be sources of greater than magnitude 6 ($M > 6$) earthquakes during the Quaternary (the past 1,600,000 years). It is important to note that this map is not a prediction of an earthquake event. To map the proximity of plant sites to seismic hazards, it refers to the USGS Seismic Hazard Map for the U.S. This map displays quantitative information about seismic ground motion hazards as horizontal ground acceleration (in terms of gravitational acceleration) of a particle at ground level moving horizontally during an earthquake.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/159787.pdf> [PDF format, 12 pages].

Indian Issues: Observations on Some Unique Factors that May Affect Economic Activity on Tribal Lands. U.S. Government Accountability Office. Anu K. Mittal. April 7, 2011.

Indian tribes are among the most economically distressed groups in the U.S. In 2008, the U.S. Census Bureau reported that the poverty rate among American Indian and Alaska Natives was almost twice as high as the population as a whole, 27 percent compared with 15 percent. Residents of tribal lands often lack basic infrastructure, such as water and sewer systems, and sufficient technology infrastructure. Without such infrastructure, tribal communities often find it difficult to compete successfully in the economic mainstream. The testimony statement summarizes GAO's observations on (1) five broad categories of unique issues that may create uncertainty and therefore affect economic activity in Indian country and (2) tribes' use of special gaming and small business contracting provisions.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11543t.pdf> [PDF format, 22 pages].

The Importance and Promise of American Manufacturing. Center for American Progress. Michael Ettlinger and Kate Gordon. April 7, 2011.

Manufacturing is critically important to the American economy. For generations, the strength of our country rested on the power of our factory floors, both the machines and the men and women who worked them. According to the authors, the U.S. needs manufacturing to continue to be a bedrock of strength for generations to come. Manufacturing is woven into the structure of our economy: Its importance goes far beyond what happens behind the factory gates. The strength or weakness of American manufacturing carries implications for the entire economy, our national security, and the well-being of all Americans. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/04/pdf/manufacturing.pdf> [PDF format, 48 pages].

From School Choice to Educational Choice. American Enterprise Institute. Frederick M. Hess et al. April 4, 2011.

Calls for transformative change in American schooling have too often accepted the orthodoxies of the nineteenth-century schoolhouse. The Outlook offers a more promising vision for twenty-first-century, choice-centered reform. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/EduO-2011-03-g.pdf> [PDF format, 5 pages].

The U.S. Global Development Council: What Should It Look Like? Brookings Institution. Noam Unger. April 8, 2011.

When President Barack Obama launched a new U.S. global development policy last year to world leaders assembled at the United Nations, he said, "Put simply, the United States is changing the way we do business." He also stated that supporting development cannot be the work of governments alone, noting that "foundations, the private sector and NGOs are making historic commitments that have redefined what's possible." This is well supported by the fact that the vast majority of resource flows from the U.S. to developing countries now come directly from private individuals, organizations and companies rather than from the U.S. government. Having recognized this dramatic shift, and in an effort to nurture greater policy coherence across the broad range of U.S. government agencies and instruments now engaged in promoting global development in various ways, in September 2010 the White House issued a presidential policy directive on global development announcing that it was creating the U.S. Global Development Council. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/04_development_council_unger/04_global_development_council.pdf [PDF format, 15 pages].

The New Health Care Law's Effect on State Medicaid Spending: A Study of the Five Most Populous States. Cato Institute. Jagadeesh Gokhale. April 6, 2011.

Unless it is repealed, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 promises to increase state government obligations for Medicaid by expanding Medicaid eligibility and introducing an individual health insurance mandate for all U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents. Once PPACA becomes fully effective in 2014, the Medicaid benefits of those who become newly eligible and enroll into Medicaid will be almost fully covered by the federal government through 2019, with federal financial support expected to be extended thereafter. But PPACA provides states with no additional federal financial support for *new enrollees among those eligible for Medicaid under the old laws*. The study estimates and compares potential increases in Medicaid

expenditures from PPACA by the five most populous states: California, Florida, Illinois, New York, and Texas. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cato.org/pubs/wtpapers/StateMedicaidSpendingWP.pdf> [PDF format, 46 pages].

Find Me the Money: Financing Climate and Other Global Public Goods. Center for Global Development. Nancy Birdsall and Benjamin Leo. April 6, 2011.

The global community faces a number of critical challenges ranging from climate change to crossborder health risks to natural-resource scarcities. Many of these so-called global commons problems carry grave risks to economic growth in the developing world and to the livelihoods and welfare of their people. Climate change is the classic example. Despite the risks involved, donor governments have funded programs addressing global challenges such as climate change at far lower levels than traditional programs of country-based development assistance. The prospects for dealing with such global challenges will depend at least in part on new collective financing mechanisms. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1424979/> [HTML format with a link, 46 pages].

The Peace Corps in a Smaller World: A New Model for the Next 50 Years. Center for Global Development. Charles Kenny. April 4, 2011.

Charles Kenny takes a look at the Peace Corps, fifty years after its founding. Demand from developing countries for volunteers outstrips the Peace Corps' capacity to respond. Nonetheless, he argues, the agency operates on a model designed for a very different world, and an evolutionary change in that model from a government-operated program to a grant-making system closer to the Fulbright scholarships could result in a higher effectiveness in meeting the Peace Corps' fundamental goals over its next fifty years of life. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1424955/> [HTML format with a link].

Democracy Promotion and the Obama Doctrine. Council on Foreign Relations. Larry Diamond. April 8, 2011.

President Obama is right to balance U.S. national interests with democracy promotion in dealing with the Middle East, intervening in select cases and standing behind democracy advocates in others, says Larry Diamond. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cfr.org/us-strategy-and-politics/democracy-promotion-obama-doctrine/p24621> [HTML format, various paging].

Pivotal Elections for Emerging Peru. Council on Foreign Relations. Joel D. Hirst. April 8, 2011.

Peru's presidential elections on April 10 amount to a contest among old, familiar names. The most recent IPSOS Poll, the last poll due to Peruvian electoral law, shows the most support for Ollanta Humala, who ran in the previous election in 2006 and was narrowly defeated by Alan Garcia. He is followed in polling by Keiko Fujimori, daughter of former president Alberto Fujimori, currently in prison for corruption, then former president Alejandro Toledo, and Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, a former minister of the economy and finance. This year's election is crucial for Peru to be able to consolidate its democratic stability and its economic growth, according to the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cfr.org/peru/pivotal-elections-emerging-peru/p24622> [HTML format, various paging].

Corporate Workouts in Mexico: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Arturo C. Porzecanski. April 8, 2011.

It is now more than ten years that the law governing the Mexican insolvency regime, the *Ley de Concursos Mercantiles* (LCM, best translated as the "Business Reorganization Act" of 2000), was enacted and has been successfully applied in hundreds of cases of corporate debt workouts. The LCM is widely and rightly lauded as a quantum improvement over its predecessor, the *Ley de Quiebras y Suspensión de Pagos*, the "Bankruptcy and Suspension of Payments Law" of 1943. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://csis.org/files/publication/issues201104_CorporateMexico_SpecialIssue1.pdf [PDF format, 6 pages].

Biosecurity Can Reinvigorate the U.S.-Japan Relationship. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Masamichi Minehata. April 7, 2011.

Just as the nuclear revolution profoundly affected international security in the 20th century, biotechnology, and the life sciences more broadly, with their growing capacity to understand and manipulate fundamental life processes, will have a profound impact on security in the 21st century. This offers great benefits as a means of responding to societal challenges related to public health, medicine, agriculture, and energy development. This is especially critical in the Asia-Pacific region, home to rapidly developing biotechnology industries, says the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://csis.org/files/publication/pac1121.pdf> [PDF format, 2 pages].

With a Little Help from My (Random) Friends: Success and Failure in Post-Business School Entrepreneurship. National Bureau of Economic Research. Josh Lerner and Ulrike Malmendier. Web posted April 4, 2011.

To what extent do peers affect our occupational choices? This question has been of particular interest in the context of entrepreneurship and policies to create a favorable environment for entry. Such influences, however, are hard to identify empirically. The report exploits the assignment of students into business school sections that have varying numbers of classmates with prior entrepreneurial experience. It finds that the presence of entrepreneurial peers strongly predicts subsequent entrepreneurship rates of students without an entrepreneurial background, but in a more complex way than the literature has previously suggested: A higher share of entrepreneurial peers leads to lower rather than higher subsequent rates of entrepreneurship. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.nber.org/papers/w16918.pdf> [PDF format, 56 pages].

Transparency Mechanisms and Non-Tariff Measures: Case Studies. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Evdokia Moisé. Web posted April 11, 2011.

Transparent design and implementation of domestic regulation reduces business costs for the public and private sector, according to these case studies from Australia, the European Union, the United Kingdom and the United States. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/download/fulltext/5kgf0rzzwfq3.pdf?expires=1302534663&id=0000&accname=quest&checksum=D784FD9A30AB64271CB136406A65DF1E> [PDF format, 35 pages].

New Facts About Families: Recent Findings on Family Meals, Cohabitation and Divorce. Pew Social & Demographic Trends. D'Vera Cohn. April 8, 2011.

More than 2,000 demographers, sociologists and others converged on Washington, D.C., recently for the Population Association of America's annual meeting. Among the poster sessions and papers presented were some that dispute the popular (or academic) wisdom about important aspects of family life. Three are described here, along with Pew Research Center survey findings that bear on the topics they cover -- family meals, cohabitation and divorce. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1959/family-meals-cohabitation-divorce-new-findings-contradict-conventional-wisdom> [HTML format, various paging].

Civil War at 150: Still Relevant, Still Divisive. Pew Center for the People & the Press. April 8, 2011.

As the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War approaches, most Americans say the war between the North and South is still relevant to American politics and public life today. More than half of Americans (56%) say the Civil War is still relevant, according to the latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted March 30-April 3 among 1,507 adults. Nearly four-in-ten (39%) say the Civil War is important historically but has little current relevance. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1958/civil-war-still-relevant-and-divisive-praise-confederate-leaders-flag> [HTML format, various paging].

A Master Plan for Higher Education in the Midwest: A Roadmap to the Future of the Nation's Heartland. The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. James J. Duderstadt. April 2011.

One of the most urgent issues facing the U.S. and the Midwest is developing the human capital needed to compete and thrive in the global economy. The Midwest is home to a vast array of higher education institutions, but their structures and methods were designed for a very different time and economy. In the report, Duderstadt argues the American Midwest, a region that once powered the industrial economy, created the middle class, and defended democracy, is floundering in a 21st century global economy driven by knowledge and innovation. The report recommends streamlining curricula from K-12 through post-secondary education, exploring alternative higher education funding mechanisms, redefining the role of community colleges, and promoting a culture of lifelong learning. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.thechicagocouncil.org/Userfiles/File/Globalmidwest/A_Master_Plan_for_Higher_Education_FINAL.pdf [PDF format, 106 pages].

China Bubble: Empty Mega Mall and Million Dollar Pooch. YaleGlobal. Vikram Mansharamani. April 6, 2011.

China remains one of the world's fastest growing economies, yet numerous signs point to a speculative mania underway. While investors anticipate China's economic growth to continue apace at 8 percent, reinforcing the flurry of demand, easy money and excessive building, a slowdown to 5 percent is not outlandish, explains Vikram Mansharamani. A slowdown would have

global ramifications, as commodity markets, finance and shipping industries, suppliers in emerging markets, multinational corporations and borrowers like the U.S. Treasury all count on thriving business growth in China. Like the Dutch tulip dealers of the 1600s or the U.S. mortgage bankers and property brokers of 2006, investors with a stake in China insist, "This time it's different." But as pointed out by investor and Yale alum John Templeton, the four words can be the most expensive in the English language. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/china-bubble-million-dollar-pooch> [HTML format, various paging].

Thailand: The Calm Before Another Storm? International Crisis Group. April 11, 2011.

If Thailand is to minimise the risk of renewed demonstrations and violence, it needs to ensure that forthcoming elections are free and fair and that a legitimate government is formed without any interference from the elite establishment, says the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/asia/south-east-asia/thailand/B121-thailand-the-calm-before-another-storm.aspx?alt_lang=th Summary in Thai [HTML format, various paging].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/asia/south-east-asia/thailand/B121-%20Thailand-%20The%20Calm%20Before%20Another%20Storm.ashx> [PDF format, 20 pages].

International Space Station (ISS) - Ongoing Assessments for Life Extension Appear to be Supported. U.S. Government Accountability Office. April 11, 2011.

NASA is using analytical techniques, physical tests, and inspections to assess primary structures and functional systems and determine sparing needed to support safe functioning and full scientific utilization of the ISS through 2020. These assessments are ongoing, so all results are not yet available. The report indicates that NASA's assessments appear to be supported by sufficient, accurate and relevant underlying data. It also finds, however, that NASA's estimates of ISS sparing needs are sensitive to assumptions about hardware reliability.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11519r.pdf> [PDF format, 39 pages].

ARTICLES

DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

Alexander, Caroline THE SHOCK OF WAR (Smithsonian, Vol. 41, No. 5, September 2010, pp. 58-66)

Almost a century after the first cases appeared in World War I, medical science is still struggling to find treatments and cures for American soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan with "shell shock." This term was adopted by British practitioners as they attempted to help the walking wounded of The Great War. Today doctors use the terms "traumatic brain injury" or "post-traumatic stress disorder" to describe a patterns of behavior marked by trembling, sleeplessness, rage, tremors, and depression. Alexander reports that military men may have characterized the first cases of the syndrome as a "loss of nerve," rather than a genuine injury, but doctors of the era speculated that close exposure to high-powered explosives created shock waves that disturbed the brain. The analysis is not too far removed from medicine's understanding of brain

injury today. While the syndrome was recognized in the early years of the 20th century, most of the medical records have been lost and medicine did not follow through on the condition of these veterans with comprehensive studies or health assessment. In 2009, the U.S. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency released a study demonstrating the effects of blast forces on the brain, and the findings shed new light on the injuries of soldiers at the Somme in 1916, and those in Baghdad in the next century. The study's most important findings, Alexander writes, is that the brain can remain structurally intact after exposure to a blast, but still experience injury due to inflammation. Detection of that inflammation would allow the first clinical diagnoses which would distinguish a brain injury from a stress disorder, leading to better identification of the proper course of care. Currently available online at <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history-archaeology/The-Shock-of-War.html>

Block, Ben LANGUISHING LANGUAGES (Worldwatch, Vol. 23, No. 4, July/August 2010, pp. 24-28)

Almost half of the world's 6700 languages could become extinct by the end of this century, according to one estimate made by the United Nations. If those languages die, a unique view of the world will expire with them. People who live close to their land and rely upon its resources for their existence use their language to describe their environment with a precision and nuance that other languages can't approach. Currently, experts estimate that some 470 languages are on the critical list, 182 of them in the Western Hemisphere, 152 in the Pacific and the remainder divided among other regions. Block reports on one successful effort to resuscitate a dying language in the Hawaiian Islands. The native language was forbidden in the schools after the United States annexed the islands in the 19th Century, so by the 1980s, very few children in Hawaii spoke the language. Parents boycotted the schools and developed their own curriculum to revive the language for a new generation, and now thousands of youngsters speak the language of "Aloha." Some other tribal groups have turned to traditional songs as a tool in language preservation.

Cart, Julie NATURAL LABORATORY (National Wildlife, April/May 2011)

Yellowstone National Park has become a foremost laboratory for study of the effects of global warming because it is so close to its original state and hosts such a wide variety of flora and fauna. Scientists have already recorded changes in water levels, a rise in destructive pine beetle infestations, and negative, or potentially negative, impacts on fish and wildlife species. Climate change presents a significant management challenge to this unique ecosystem. Scientists in Yellowstone look to create new strategies for protecting the diversity of such compromised natural preserves. Currently available online at <http://www.nwf.org/en/News-and-Magazines/National-Wildlife/Animals/Archives/2011/Studying-Global-Warming-at-Yellowstone.aspx>

Farber, Michael PEACE, LOVE AND HOCKEY IN BELFAST (Sports Illustrated, vol. 114, no. 12, March 21, 2011, pp. 96//104)

In Belfast, Northern Ireland, divided by religion and politics, a fledgling hockey team is attempting to redefine the parameter of sports by forging a unifying identity. In April 2010, the team celebrated the United Kingdom's Elite Ice Hockey League playoff championship. However, the team has been careful to avoid further hostilities, by forbidding the wearing of replica soccer jerseys in the arena, which might stir sectarian resentment, or playing any national anthem to avoid offending any ethnic groups. The team is far away from being a championship team for the National Hockey League but it does provide a free education for the players, and its intensive weekly community sessions are a lesson in humanity for the children and a lesson in humility for the players. Currently available online at <http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/vault/article/magazine/MAG1183372/index.htm>

Finkbeiner, Ann LOOKING FOR GHOSTS (Smithsonian, Vol. 41, No. 7, November 2010, pp. 77-81)

International scientific teams are constructing massive installations that they hope will allow them to detect, capture and study sub-atomic particles. In European abandoned mines and in the depths of Antarctic ice, scientists are positioning equipment to detect neutrinos, subatomic particles hurling through the universe, a by-product of the sun's manufacture of energy. Neutrinos bombard Earth by the trillions each second, but efforts to detect them so far have spotted only the tiniest fraction of what exist in theory. The particles were first conceived in the 1930s during the dawn of the atomic age. Scientists observed that the disintegration of a radioactive atom was producing less energy than it had originally contained, and they conceived of neutrinos as particles that could account for this energy loss. If researchers are to fully understand the composition of the universe, they must learn more about neutrinos. Currently available online at <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/Looking-for-Neutrinos-Natures-Ghost-Particles.html#>

Ross, Alec INTERNET FREEDOM: HISTORIC ROOTS AND THE ROAD FORWARD (SAIS Review of International Affairs, vol. 30, no. 2, Summer-Fall 2010, pp. 3-15)

The author, Senior Advisor for Innovation to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, is tasked with maximizing the potential of technology in service of America's diplomatic and development goals. This article addresses the need to protect and promote the positive social and economic benefits of network technologies by mapping out the principles of Internet freedom, its history, contemporary context and conceptual framework, and providing an overview of how the work of the State Department can help achieve its goals. While in many regards, limits to Internet freedom have grown across the globe, the State Department has and will continue to promote freedom through diplomacy, monitoring and reporting, programming, and policy. In her remarks on Internet freedom in January of 2010, Secretary of State Clinton said, "On their own, new technologies do not take sides in the struggle for freedom and progress, but the United States does. We stand for a single Internet where all of humanity has equal access to knowledge and ideas." It is a complicated project that spans difficult issues in economics, human rights, and social opportunity but it is rooted in simple principles that have stood the test of time. Open societies offering equal access to an unfettered marketplace of ideas and commerce flourish and deliver social and economic benefits to their citizens. The work of Internet freedom seeks to bring these goals into twenty-first century statecraft. Currently available online at http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/sais_review/summary/v030/30.2.ross.html

Sachs, Jessica Snyder MIGRATORY MARVELS (National Wildlife, April/May 2011)

Scientists using lightweight monitoring devices have documented astonishing long-distance travel and endurance in migratory birds. Bar-tailed godwits logged the longest non-stop flight ever recorded: 7100 miles, from Alaska to New Zealand, in eight days. Even the tiny hummingbird can travel 600 miles on a gram of fat, due to their streamlined physiology. But global warming and human activity on coastlines threatens numerous species through habitat destruction. Currently available online at <http://www.nwf.org/News-and-Magazines/National-Wildlife/Birds/Archives/2011/Tracking-Migratory-Birds.aspx>

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Agarwal, Bina WOMEN MANAGING FARMS AND FORESTS IN SOUTH ASIA (Solutions, vol. 2, no. 2, March 2011, pp. 16-20)

Agarwal, Director and professor of economics at the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi University, notes that, for millions of women and children in developing countries, rights to agricultural land are crucial to their well-being. She writes, however, that inheritance laws and

custom favor men, and women lack the resources to buy or lease land, or are unable to cultivate land effectively, due to the small size of plots. Agarwal advocates a group approach, whereby women would pool their resources to create joint farm enterprises. Such collectives would be quite different from Soviet-style forced collectivization; voluntary cooperatives benefit from economies of scale, and women are able to share equipment and produce more food than they would on individual plots. Agarwal notes that in some former Soviet-bloc countries, groups of families have banded back together to form agricultural cooperatives. She says that similar successes can be accomplished with forest-protection cooperatives. Currently available online at <http://www.thesolutionsjournal.com/node/899>

Brown, Ellen HOW WISCONSIN CAN TURN ECONOMIC AUSTERITY INTO PROSPERITY (Market Oracle, March 7, 2011)

The author, an attorney, writes that as states struggle to balance their budgets to deal with shrinking revenues, pension funds for state government employees are on the chopping block. Brown points out that this need not be the case; by forming a state-owned bank, Wisconsin could put its public pension fund into the bank, and manage the funds in-house or put it to work by lending to local businesses; this would generate tax revenues for the state and cover annual pension payouts. She points to the example of North Dakota, the only state in the country to have its own bank, and the only state to escape the credit crunch. Several other states are exploring the possibility of setting up their own state-owned banks. Available online at <http://www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article26754.html>

Gallis, Helene SUSTAINABLE ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN AFRICA (Worldwatch, Vol. 23, No. 4, July/August 2010, pp. 12-17)

Development efforts in developing nations need to take a decidedly different tack than in the past, one this author calls "sustainable entrepreneurship." Through the decades of development assistance, there are many examples of projects envisioned by donors that could not be sustained over the long term with local resources and skills. Some donor groups are now recognizing the need for development ideas to percolate from the ground up, but they also want to redefine what "entrepreneurship" means in these countries. Accumulation of wealth is implied in the Western definition of that term, but advocates of this new trend hope that future entrepreneurs will consider social environmental, and economic factors in equal measure, as they conceive development projects. The author cites examples of initiatives launched by this new breed of developing world entrepreneurs, notably partners in a Nigerian enterprise who are developing the first environmentally sustainable high-rise building on the Lagos waterfront. The trend is also unfolding on the national scale, Gallis reports, citing a Rwandan effort to establish itself as a regional hub for information and communications technologies, even while the nation still works to achieve basic developmental standards for availability of clean water and electricity.

Hirsch, Michael THE RESURRECTION (National Journal, March 26, 2011)

In this profile of Citigroup and its CEO Vikram Pandit, the author notes that the resurgent "too big to fail" Wall Street banks are growing bigger and more global than before, earning more of their profits overseas and pushing out or buying up smaller competitors. Hirsch notes that many of the regulatory reforms enacted after the 2008-2009 financial crash have yet to take effect; regulators abroad agree even less on a common strategy than do those in Washington. He notes that the underlying instabilities that resulted in the global crisis have remained unresolved. As these giant financial institutions expand their global reach, Hirsch warns that the U.S. government may be put in the position of becoming the guarantor of last resort for banks over which it has even less control and oversight than previously. Currently available online at <http://www.nationaljournal.com/magazine/vikram-pandit-s-citigroup-growing-out-of-washington-s-control--20110328?page=1>

Stiglitz, Joseph THE GREATEST COUNTRY ON EARTH (Slate, March 7, 2011)

The Indian Ocean island nation of Mauritius is not particularly wealthy, nor does it have natural resources. Yet, the author notes, Mauritius has developed a thriving, diverse economy, a democratic political system, a strong social safety net, free higher education and widespread homeownership. Stiglitz says that American and European politicians could learn a lot from what some have called the "Mauritius miracle"; he believes that a key to the country's success is that Mauritius has chosen a way to organize society that leads to less inequality. The country has also decided that most military spending is a waste of money, and realized that universal education is essential to social unity, given Mauritius' potential religious and ethnic differences. Currently available online at <http://www.slate.com/id/2287534/?GT1=38001>

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Briggs, Chad ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE, STRATEGIC FORESIGHT, AND IMPACTS ON MILITARY POWER (Parameters, vol. 40, no. 3, Autumn 2010, pp. 1-15)

Briggs, with the Air University, USAF, writes that researchers have accepted for the past two decades that security cannot be well understood without taking environmental factors into account, yet a clear recognition of environmental security has yet to be adopted at the highest policy levels. The author writes that the environment has long been regarded as a constant, but in recent years there has been recognition that global environmental change presents completely new risks to security, and that new methods must be developed to assess these risks. Briggs argues that the military planners are able to assess complex and uncertain risks, but they need to engage with a wider network of researchers and scientists. He explores some of the lessons learned from the security community and the need for scenario planning to provide adequate early warning of security risks. Currently available online at <http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usawc/Parameters/Articles/2010autumn/Briggs.pdf>

Geist, Michael THE TROUBLE WITH THE ANTI-COUNTERFEITING TRADE AGREEMENT (SAIS Review of International Affairs, vol. 30, no. 2, Summer-Fall 2010, pp. 137-147)

The author, who holds the Canada Research Chair in Internet and E-commerce Law, at the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law, notes that since the U.S., the EU, Japan, Canada, and a handful of other countries announced their participation in the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) negotiations in October 2007, the agreement has been dogged by controversy. At the same time, it has captured the attention of trade and policy watchers, as it heralded the prospect of circumventing multilateral institutions such as the World Intellectual Property Organization and used hot-button issues like counterfeiting to advance the global intellectual property enforcement agenda. This essay examines the primary concerns associated with ACTA. First, the author examines the secrecy and lack of transparency; second, the substance of the agreement is reviewed by highlighting the most contentious issues; third, the global political implications of ACTA are discussed. While ACTA is frequently presented as little more than a standard trade agreement, the increasing discomfort among developing countries, as well as the long-term implications for multilateral institutions, provides powerful signals that the broader effects should not be underestimated. Currently available online at http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/sais_review/summary/v030/30.2.geist.html [

Hickman, John THE NEW TERRITORIAL IMPERATIVE (Comparative Strategy, vol. 29, no. 5, December 2010, pp. 405-411)

In the 1990s, many scholars predicted that the nation-state was in decline, after the disintegration of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia. However, events over the last decade contradict these

predictions. The author, with the Department of Government and International Studies at Berry College in Georgia, writes that the state remains the primary focus for researchers of international relations, because territory is the primary basis for power in the international system. He notes that Russia has not hesitated to wage war for control of territory, and has reestablished much of its traditional sphere of influence. Indonesia and India, which both battle multiple separatist insurgencies in the 1990s, have resisted fragmentation. Two new articles of the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea allow coastal states to claim sovereignty over much wider exclusive economic zones than before, and over geographic features such as the continental shelf; over a third of the world's oceans may now be claimed as sovereign territory. Hickman believes that natural resource depletion may become a primary motivator in the future for claims of territorial sovereignty.

Lewis, James SOVEREIGNTY AND THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT IN CYBERSPACE (Brown Journal of World Affairs, vol. 16, no. 2, Spring/Summer 2010, pp. 55-65)

The author, Senior Fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, writes that "the concept of cyberspace being a global commons due to its supposed lack of borders is best seen as a wish rather than a description". The Internet began as a U.S. government enterprise for defense and research, but the government opened it to the public during a period of major political change after the Cold War. The notion of the Internet as a commons was shaped by the anti-authoritarian culture of the Internet pioneers and the U.S. preference for markets and limited government; this is being challenged by present-day conditions, in which the Internet is no longer an exclusive preserve of the U.S., but an arena in which nations contend. The Internet was never designed to be a system upon which hundreds of millions of people would depend, and in which so much economic activity would take place. Lewis believes that government is crucial to defending the Internet, because sophisticated intelligence and military services would overwhelm private efforts. The Internet is now a public good, and "just as we do not expect airlines to defend our airspace against MiGs, we should not expect private companies to defend cyberspace against foreign governments."

U.S. SOCIETY & VALUES

Anderson, Kristine J. TRANSLATION STUDIES (Choice, vol. 48, no. 6, February 2011, pp. 1027-1036)

The author, a professor of library science at Purdue University, believes that, as an area of study, translation studies covers a vast and sprawling terrain. It is now populated by scholars who identify themselves with other disciplines, such as linguistics, anthropology, literature. In this essay, translation refers to the transfer of a statement or a text from one language to another, as distinguished from "translations" within the same language, for example, between professional jargons or between texts from different time periods, and from "translations" from one medium to another, such as works to film. Throughout the 1990s, translation studies experienced a phenomenal growth that has continued into the new millennium. The scientific branch of the field has made great strides, such as machine reading, but cultural approaches also continue to produce a great deal of research, including those traditionally studied in anthropology, history, literature, philosophy, and political science.

Greenberg, Gary MY MONSTER, MY SELF: ON NICHOLAS CARR AND WILLIAM POWERS (The Nation, March 16, 2011)

The author writes that mobile phones and the Internet have made the young fundamentally different than older adults. Greenberg reviews Nicholas Carr's THE SHALLOWS and William

Powers' *HAMLET'S BLACKBERRY*, which attempt to tell us who we are becoming now that we swim in an endless stream of digital data. Their books are in part confessional accounts of their discovery of their dependence on their cell phones and how the online life has changed them. Reading has been supplanted, as Carr puts it, by "the speedy, superficial skimming of information" culled from the links generated by a Google search, which discourages "any deep, prolonged engagement with a single argument, idea, or narrative." Constantly in the digital crowd, we are deprived of depth and substance, even when we don't know it. With every Google search or friend request or tweet or stolen look at your BlackBerry, you are that much more firmly plugged into the collective and that much less in touch with yourself. Some scientists have found that daily use of digital devices "stimulates brain cell alteration." The flood of information makes us more susceptible to distraction; if we want to preserve the health of our brains, says Greenberg, we must carve out a "peaceful spot where contemplativeness can work its restorative magic." Currently available online at <http://www.thenation.com/article/159279/my-monster-myself-nicholas-carr-and-william-powers>

Hond, Paul *THE ART OF PLEASING* (Columbia Magazine, Winter 2010-2011, pp. 34-38)

Fall for Dance is the enormously popular annual dance festival in New York City that Arlene Shuler launched in 2004, a year after she was appointed City Center's president and CEO. The 2010 event featured the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, Bill T. Jones, the Paul Taylor Dance Company, and the San Francisco Ballet, as well as troupes from Brazil, Taiwan, and France. One of the objectives of Fall for Dance is to bring new audiences to dance. For a city-owned venue like City Center, which must compete with the deluxe, 16-acre performing arts megaplex Lincoln Center ten blocks up Broadway, the cultivation of new audiences is both a moral and economic imperative. Shuler points to a history of shifting fortunes: In 1964, City Center's core companies, City Ballet and City Opera, left their birthplace at West 55th Street for the paved deserts and soaring glass of the new Lincoln Center. In the past seven years, more than 140 dance companies have appeared at Fall for Dance.

Nance, Kevin *THE WIDER SKY* (Poets & Writers, March-April 2011)

This profile of African-American poet Nikky Finney traces how the complexities of her South Carolina heritage influence her work and her life. Her poems on politics, people and personal relationships are both artful and audacious. Her mentors include poet Nikki Giovanni and the late novelist Toni Cade Bambara, and she now inspires her own creative writing students at the University of Kentucky. Her most recent book of poems is *HEAD OFF & SPLIT* (2011).

Pollin, Robert; Thompson, Jeffrey *THE BETRAYAL OF PUBLIC WORKERS* *The Nation*, February 16, 2011)

The Great Recession and its aftermath could bring even more severe assaults on the living standards and basic rights of ordinary Americans, write the authors. A wide swath of elected officials and opinion leaders have singled out public-sector unions as deadweight burdens sapping the economy's vitality, despite the fact that the recession was caused by Wall Street risk-taking, not public union payrolls, they say. The recession has severely hurt the coffers of local governments, they note, but rather than gouging state and local government employees, most of whom are not eligible for Social Security, states and municipalities need to raise taxes on the wealthy households most able to pay. They should also broaden their sources of tax revenue by taxing services such as payments to lawyers, and taxing items purchased over the Internet. The authors argue that state and local governments also have to stop giving out large tax breaks to corporations as inducements to locate there. They predict that if states declare bankruptcy they will break their obligations to employees, vendors, pensioners and even bondholders, which will undermine the basic foundations of the U.S. economy. Currently available online at <http://www.thenation.com/article/158647/betrayal-public-workers>

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