

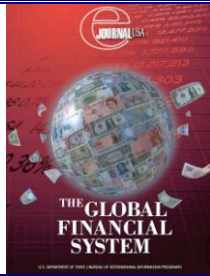


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SIGNIFICANT E-DOCUMENTS

ANTI-RACISM CONFERENCE OUTCOME DOCUMENT. United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. May 9, 2009.

The outcome document of the Durban Review Conference is designed to bring real changes for the millions of victims of racism worldwide. It has identified “concrete measures and initiatives at all levels” to stamp out racial discrimination and intolerance. It includes specific measures to address multiple forms of discrimination against vulnerable groups, such as migrant workers, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons, children, women and girls, persons with disabilities, victims of slavery and exploitation, trafficking and people living with HIV/AIDS. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Press/Draft_outcome_document_Rev.2.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages]

GLOBAL MONITORING REPORT 2009: A DEVELOPMENT EMERGENCY. World Bank. Web posted May 9, 2009.

The global economic crisis, the most severe since the Great Depression, is rapidly turning into a human and development crisis. No region is immune, says the report. The poor countries are especially vulnerable, as they have the least cushion to withstand events. The crisis, coming on the heels of the food and fuel crises, poses serious threats to their hard-won gains in boosting economic growth and reducing poverty. It is pushing millions back into poverty and putting at risk the very survival of many. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTGLOMONREP2009/Resources/5924349-1239742507025/GMR09_book.pdf [PDF format, 244 pages].

TREATIES IN FORCE 2009. U.S. Department of State. May 2009.

Treaties in Force is prepared by the Department of State for the purpose of providing information on treaties and other international agreements to which the United States has become a party and which are carried on the records of the Department of State as being in force as of its stated publication date, January 1, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/s/l/treaty/treaties/2009/index.htm> [HTML format with links to PDF file].

UPDATE: NOVEL INFLUENZA A (H1N1) VIRUS INFECTIONS – WORLDWIDE, May 6, 2009. U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. May 8, 2009.

Since mid-April 2009, CDC, state and local health authorities in the United States, the World Health Organization (WHO), and health ministries in several countries have been responding to an outbreak of influenza caused by a novel influenza A (H1N1) virus. Since recognition of the novel influenza A (H1N1) virus in Mexico and the United States, as of May 6, a total of 21 additional countries had reported cases, with a total of 1,882 confirmed cases worldwide. .

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5817a1.htm?s_cid=mm5817a1_x [HTML format, various paging].

CONGO: FIVE PRIORITIES FOR A PEACEBUILDING STRATEGY. International Crisis Group. May 11, 2009.

According to the author, the dire situation in the Kivus region of Congo will not improve without a comprehensive strategy of sustained political and results-oriented partnership between the government and the international community. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/africa/central_africa/150_congo____five_priorities_f

[or_a_peacebuilding_strategy.pdf](#) [PDF format, 33 pages].

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA: EFFECTS OF INFRASTRUCTURE CONDITIONS ON EXPORT COMPETITIVENESS, THIRD ANNUAL REPORT. U.S. International Trade Commission. Web posted May 8, 2009.

Poor infrastructure conditions in the land transport, maritime transport, and electricity sectors undermine significantly the export competitiveness of many sub-Saharan African (SSA) industries, according to the report. SSA governments and the private sector are pursuing government reform, increased investment, new applications of technology, and other strategies to improve infrastructure conditions. Many of these strategies have been implemented in cooperation with neighboring countries, SSA regional organizations, multilateral institutions, and development agencies.

<http://www.usitc.gov/publications/332/pub4071.pdf> [PDF format, 195 pages].

LABOUR MARKET FLEXIBILITY IN ESTONIA: WHAT MORE CAN BE DONE? Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Zuzana Brixiova. Web posted May 11, 2009.

The paper discusses options for removing the remaining barriers that impede worker reallocation across jobs, sectors, and regions into more productive activities in Estonia. [Note: contains copyright material].

[http://www.oalis.oecd.org/olis/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00002C3E/\\$FILE/JT03264092.PDF](http://www.oalis.oecd.org/olis/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00002C3E/$FILE/JT03264092.PDF) [PDF format, 31 pages].

OCCUPYING IRAQ: A HISTORY OF THE COALITION PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY. RAND Corporation. James Dobbins et al. May 12, 2009.

The American engagement in Iraq has been looked at from many perspectives, the flawed intelligence that provided the war's rationale, the failed effort to secure an international mandate, the rapid success of the invasion, and the long ensuing counterinsurgency campaign. The book focuses on the activities of the Coalition Provisional Authority and its administrator, L. Paul Bremer, who governed Iraq from May 2003 to June of the following year. The book recounts and evaluates the efforts of the United States and its coalition partners to restore public services, reform the judicial and penal systems, fight corruption, revitalize the economy, and create the basis for representative government. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2009/RAND_MG847.pdf [PDF format, 412 pages].

WINNING THE INFORMATION WAR IN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN. Council on Foreign Relations. Greg Bruno. May 11, 2009.

With overwhelming firepower, Western armies rarely lose in combat to Taliban fighters in Afghanistan. But in the communications battle, the militants appear to hold the edge. The paper explores the U.S. efforts to mount a "strategic communications" counterattack on the Afghanistan-Pakistan front. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/19330/winning_the_information_war_in_afghanistan_and_pakistan.html?breadcrumb=%2F [HTML format, various paging].

FAMILY NETWORKS AND SCHOOL ENROLMENT: EVIDENCE FROM A RANDOMIZED SOCIAL EXPERIMENT. National Bureau of Economic Research.

Manuela Angelucci et al. May 2009.

The report presents evidence on whether and how a household's behavior is influenced by the presence and characteristics of its extended family. It uses household panel data from the Progres program, which provides cash transfers to households conditional on their children's school attendance in rural Mexico. The mechanism through which the extended family influences household schooling choices is the redistribution of resources within the family network from eligible students who receive de facto unconditional cash transfers from Progres, towards eligible students on the margin of enrolling their children into secondary school. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.nber.org/papers/w14949.pdf> [PDF format, 41 pages].

MEXICO'S NARCO-INSURGENCY AND U.S. COUNTERDRUG POLICY. Strategic Studies

Hal Brands. May 7, 2009.

In late 2007, the U.S. and Mexican governments unveiled the Merida Initiative. A 3-year, \$1.4 billion counternarcotics assistance program, the Merida Initiative is designed to combat the drug-fueled violence that has ravaged Mexico of late. Focusing largely on security, enforcement, and interdiction issues, it pays comparatively little attention to the deeper structural problems that fuel these destructive phenomena. To make U.S. counternarcotics policy fully effective, it will be imperative to forge a more holistic, better-integrated approach to the "war on drugs."

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=918> [HTML format with a link to PDF file].

THE 2009 INFLUENZA A (H1N1) OUTBREAK: SELECTED LEGAL ISSUES. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. May 4, 2009.

Recent human cases of infection with a novel influenza A (H1N1) virus have been identified both internationally and in the United States. Since there has been human to human transmission and the new virus has the potential to become pandemic, it is timely to examine the legal issues surrounding this emerging public health threat. The report provides a brief overview of selected legal issues including emergency measures, civil rights, liability issues, and employment issues.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R40560.pdf> [PDF format, 34 pages].

CITIZEN'S BRIEFING BOOK: TO PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. Office of Public Engagement, The White House. May 11, 2009.

As a closing act for the Transition, Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett requested that the Office of Public Liaison create a process by which Americans outside of Washington could come together to present ideas directly to the President, a "Citizen's Briefing Book." 125,000 users submitted over 44,000 ideas and cast over 1.4 million votes, with the most popular ideas accumulating tens of thousands of votes each. The book contains some of the top ideas, broken into groups by issue area. Out of the tens of thousands of submissions, these ideas found the most support.

http://www.whitehouse.gov/assets/documents/Citizens_Briefing_Book_Final.pdf [PDF format, 33 pages].

"CONTACT YOUR DOCTOR": BAD ADVICE? Urban Institute. Robert A. Berenson. May 8, 2009.

Immediate concerns over swine flu might be waning, but public health and government officials continue their fight against the illness, directing people with flu symptoms to see their doctor. But advice like this takes for granted a well-functioning health care system. Many Americans don't have a doctor to contact, either because they don't have health insurance or because primary-care physicians are in seriously short supply. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.urban.org/publications/901250.html> [HTML format, various paging].

ESTIMATES OF JOB CREATION FROM THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009. Executive Office of the President of the United States. May 11, 2009.

The report details how the Administration will measure progress creating and saving jobs under the Recovery Act. Work began on the methodology in the earliest days of the Administration and within days of the Recovery Act being signed into law, Chairman Romer met with top economists from numerous agencies to develop a simple, conservative and accurate model for measuring progress. The model pairs a macro approach based on projected and actual spending with direct reporting by recipients to improve the level of accuracy.

http://www.whitehouse.gov/assets/documents/Job-Years_Revised5-8.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

THE FUTURE OF JOURNALISM: COMMUNICATIONS, TECHNOLOGY, AND THE INTERNET. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. May 6, 2009.

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation announces the following Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet hearing: The Future of Journalism.

http://commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Hearings.Hearing&Hearing_ID=7f8df1a5-5504-4f4c-ba34-ba3dc3955c61 [HTML format with links to testimonies in PDF files].

HEART ATTACK ENTREES AND SIDE ORDERS OF STROKE: THE SALT IN RESTAURANT MEALS IS SABOTAGING YOUR HEALTH. Center for Science in the Public Interest. May 11, 2009.

Unsafe levels of sodium chloride, or salt, in chain restaurant meals increase one's chance of developing hypertension, heart attacks, strokes, and kidney disease according to the report. The report exposes chain restaurant meals with dangerously high levels of sodium and is renewing its call on industry and government to lower sodium levels in foods. CSPI researchers examined 17 chains and found that 85 out of 102 meals had more than a day's worth of sodium, and some had more than four days' worth. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://cspinet.org/new/pdf/cspirestaurantsaltreport.pdf> [PDF format, 44 pages].

KEY FACTS ON CORPORATE FOUNDATIONS. Foundation Center. May 2009.

Charitable giving by the nation's nearly 2,500 corporate foundations remained virtually unchanged in 2008, according to the study. Giving totaled an estimated \$4.4 billion last year.

Corporate foundation giving will most certainly decline in 2009, with the banking and finance industries accounting for about one-quarter of corporate foundation support in recent years and corporate earnings down across the board. Slightly more than half of corporate foundations responding to the Center's annual forecasting survey said they expect to reduce their giving this year. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://foundationcenter.org/gainknowledge/research/pdf/keyfacts_corp_2009.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

ONE LAST CHANCE: THE ECONOMIC CASE FOR A NEW APPROACH TO FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN NEW ENGLAND. Pew Environment Group. Robert J. Johnston and Jon G. Sutinen. May 6, 2009.

The New England groundfish fishery would be more economically and environmentally sound if the system used to manage the activities of commercial fishermen was changed from regulations based on "days-at-sea" to annual catch limits, according to the report. In addition, the new system

would give declining populations of the region's iconic species like cod and flounder a chance to rebuild, providing a sustainable future for the industry. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.pewtrusts.org/uploadedFiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/Reports/Protecting_ocean_life/Johnston_Sutinen_2009.pdf [PDF format, 24 pages].

POLICIES NEEDED TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY, REVIVE ECONOMY IN THE SOUTHEAST U.S. World Resources Institute. May 7, 2009.

Energy efficiency policies in the Southeast U.S. can help reduce electricity use by more than 10 percent over the next six years, saving the same amount of power generated by more than 30 coal-fired power plants, according to the study. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.wri.org/press/2009/05/policies-needed-improve-energy-efficiency-revive-economy-southeast-us> [HTML format, various paging].

REACHING AMERICA'S HEALTH POTENTIAL: A STATE-BY-STATE LOOK AT ADULT HEALTH. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. May 6, 2009.

Across the country and in every state, adults with less education are more likely to be in less than very good health than college graduates, and adults in every state fall far short of the level of good health that should be achievable for all Americans, says the report. It ranks states on differences in adults' health based on their levels of education, and it shows that while people with more education are healthier, in some states these differences are much more dramatic than in others. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.rwjf.org/files/research/commission2009adulthealth.pdf> [PDF format, 24 pages].

THE ROUTE TO REFORM: BLUEPRINT FOR A 21ST CENTURY FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM. Transportation for America. May 11, 2009.

As Congress takes up debate over the federal surface transportation program, Transportation for America (T4 America) calls for the transformative change required to ensure that policies and programs are better aligned to serve the needs of a 21st Century America. It recommends that Congress should not shy away from restructuring the federal surface transportation program and its agencies. This means planning transportation systems and development patterns, to ensure that there are convenient and affordable travel options available to everyone, in every community, at every stage of life.
http://t4america.org/docs/blueprint_full.pdf [PDF format, 100 pages].

STATE WITH HIGHER GUN OWNERSHIP AND WEAK GUN LAWS LEAD NATION IN GUN DEATH. Violence Policy Center. May 6, 2009.

States with higher gun ownership rates and weak gun laws have the highest rates of gun death according to a new analysis by the Violence Policy Center (VPC) of just-released 2006 national data (the most recent available) from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.vpc.org/press/0905gundeath.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

TRANSFORMING AMERICA'S COMMUNITY COLLEGES: A FEDERAL POLICY PROPOSAL TO EXPAND OPPORTUNITY AND PROMOTE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY. Brookings Institution. Sara Goldrick-Rab et al. May 7, 2009.

To renew America's status as the world's leader in college attainment, the federal government needs to transform America's community colleges and equip them for the 21st century. The authors show that the long-overdue investment should establish national goals and a related

performance measurement system; provide resources to drive college performance toward those goals; stimulate greater innovation in community college policies and practices to enhance the quality of sub-baccalaureate education; and support data systems to track student and institutional progress and performance. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.brookings.edu/reports/2009/~media/Files/rc/reports/2009/0507_community_college_golddrick_rab/0507_community_college_full_report.pdf [PDF format, 37 pages].

PROSECUTING CONFLICT-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE AT THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT. Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. Ashley Dallman. May 2009.

The 1998 Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) promised to prosecute those most responsible for the 'unimaginable atrocities that deeply shock the conscience of humanity'. The promise includes the unprecedented explicit criminalization of rape and other forms of sexual violence in international humanitarian law. Yet, according to the report, nearly seven years after its establishment, the ICC's ability to serve as both a symbol of deterrence and as a catalyst for the elimination of sexual violence in armed conflict altogether remains questionable. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://books.sipri.org/files/insight/SIPRIInsight0901.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

COUNTRY ANALYSIS BRIEFS: ALGERIA. Energy Information Administration. May 2009.

Algeria is an important exporter of oil and natural gas and is a member of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). In 2008, Algeria produced 1.42 million bbl/d of crude oil. Algeria was the fourth largest crude oil producer in Africa after Nigeria (1.94), Angola (1.89), and Libya (1.71) and the largest total oil liquids producer on the continent. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/Algeria/pdf.pdf> [PDF format, 8 pages].

COUNTRY ANALYSIS BRIEFS: NIGERIA. Energy Information Administration. May 2009.

The Nigerian economy is heavily dependent on the oil sector which accounts for over 95 percent of export earnings and about 85 percent of government revenues. The oil industry is primarily located in the Niger Delta where it has been a source of conflict. The industry has been blamed for pollution that has damaged air, soil and water leading to losses in arable land and decreasing fish stocks. Local groups seeking a share of the oil wealth often attack the oil infrastructure and staff, forcing companies to declare force majeure on oil shipments. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/Nigeria/pdf.pdf> [PDF format, 9 pages].

'MOUNTAINS OF THE MOON' GET NOD FOR INTERNATIONAL WETLANDS PROTECTIONS. World Wildlife Fund. May 13, 2009.

Part of the Rwenzori Mountains, home to some of the last glaciers in Africa and likely Ptolemy's 'Lunis Montae,' received international recognition on Wednesday as a protected wetland site under the international Ramsar convention, a major conservation decision that will help protect the region's vast ecological riches. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.panda.org/?164182/Mountains-of-the-Moon-get-nod-for-international-wetlands-protection> [HTML format, various paging].

CHINA: TIANANAMEN'S UNHEALED WOUNDS. Human Rights Watch. May 13, 2009.

Twenty years after the Chinese army killed untold numbers of unarmed civilians in Beijing and other cities on and around June 3-4, 1989, the Chinese government continues to victimize

survivors, victims' families, and others who challenge the official version of events, according to the report. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2009/05/12/china-tiananmen-s-unhealed-wounds> [HTML format, various paging].

<http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2009/05/13/tiananmen-legacy> The Tiananmen Legacy [HTML format, various paging].

NORTH KOREA, INC. U.S. Institute of Peace. John S. Park. May 2009.

Assessing regime stability in North Korea continues to be a major challenge for analysts. By examining how the web of state trading companies affiliated to the Korean Workers' Party, the Korean People's Army, and the Cabinet operates, the author develops a new framework for gauging regime stability. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://library.usip.org/articles/1012202.1100/1.PDF> [PDF format, 27 pages].

ARAB COUNTRIES STUMBLE IN THE FACE OF GROWING ECONOMIC CRISIS. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Ibrahim Saif and Farah Choucair. May 14, 2009.

The reaction of Arab countries to the economic crisis has been patchy, uneven, and deficient. Cushioning the blow, protecting the hardest hit, and reigniting regional growth will all be best achieved by an urgent and coordinated response that does not compromise important long-term goals like increased transparency and stability, concludes the new commentary. Saif and Choucair examine the policy responses of Gulf countries, the Maghreb, and Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Yemen. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/economic_crisis_wc_english.pdf [PDF format, 10 pages].

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/economic_crisis_wc_arabic.pdf Arabic [PDF format, 8 pages]

REPORTED INSURGENT WHITE PHOSPHOROUS ATTACKS AND CACHES IN REGIONAL COMMAND-EAST, 2003-PRESENT. U.S. Central Command. May 11, 2009.

The declassified report of 38 events show the insurgents have used or stockpiled white phosphorus munitions in the Regional Command-East area of operations. The declassification and release are in response to claims that insurgents do not use, nor have access to, white phosphorus. The data, obtained from incident reporting from February 2003 through the present, show that insurgents have stockpiled and used white phosphorus against personnel in both indirect fire attacks as well as Improvised Explosive Devices.

<http://www.centcom.mil/en/press-releases/reported-insurgent-white-phosphorus-attacks-and-caches.html> [HTML format, various paging].

REVERSAL IN IRAQ. Council on Foreign Relations. Stephen Biddle. May 14, 2009.

Iraq is currently in the early stages of a negotiated end to an intense ethno sectarian war. As such, there are several contingencies in which recent, mostly positive trends in Iraq could be reversed, threatening U.S. national interests. The author assesses four interrelated scenarios in Iraq that could derail the prospects for peace and stability in the short to medium term and posits concrete policy options to limit U.S. vulnerability to the possibility of such reversals. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/CPA_contingencymemo_2.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

DIGNITY THROUGH DISCOURSE: POVERTY AND THE CULTURE OF DELIBERATION IN INDIAN VILLAGE DEMOCRACIES. Policy Research Working Paper, World Bank. Vijayendra Rao and Paromita Sanyal. May 2009.

Employing a view of culture as a communicative phenomenon involving discursive engagement, which is deeply influenced by social and economic inequalities, the authors argue that the struggle to break free of poverty is as much a cultural process as it is political and economic. They analyze examples of discursive spaces, public meetings in Indian village democracies (gram sabhas), where villagers make important decisions about budgetary allocations for village development and the selection of beneficiaries for anti-poverty programs. [Note: contains copyright material].

[http://www-](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/05/05/000158349_20090505113505/Rendered/PDF/WPS4924.pdf)

[wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/05/05/000158349_20090505113505/Rendered/PDF/WPS4924.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/05/05/000158349_20090505113505/Rendered/PDF/WPS4924.pdf) [PDF format, 46 pages].

CENSUS HISTORY: COUNTING EVERY PERSON ONCE, ONLY ONCE AND IN THE RIGHT PLACE. U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. May 11, 2009.

The report examines the Constitutional foundation and history of the U.S. Census and concludes that while the latest attempt by the White House to politicize the Census, though not entirely unprecedented, is unlikely to succeed. "When it comes to the Census, history demonstrates that political gamesmanship has always been the losing proposition," the report concludes. "Dating from before the founding of the United States through the present, there have been Census debates over everything from Constitutional issues and types of 'estimation' to reapportionment. In each and every debate, however, the politics of interference in and manipulation of the Census lose out to independence."

<http://republicans.oversight.house.gov/media/pdfs/20090511Censusreport.pdf> [PDF format, 19 pages].

DO ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS HELP OF HINDER MEDICAL EDUCATION? PLoS Medicine. Jonathan U. Peled et al. May 12, 2009.

Many countries worldwide are digitizing patients' medical records. In the United States, the recent economic stimulus package ("the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009"), signed into law by President Obama, includes \$US17 billion in incentives for health providers to switch to electronic health records (EHRs). The package also includes \$US2 billion for the development of EHR standards and best-practice guidelines. What impact will the rise of EHRs have upon medical education? The debate examines both the threats and opportunities. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.plosmedicine.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pmed.1000069> [HTML format, various paging].

GENERAL EXPLANATIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S FISCAL YEAR 2010 REVENUE PROPOSALS. U.S. Department of Treasury. May 11, 2009.

The report (Greenbook) provides details of plans to cut taxes for small businesses and middle class families and close unfair corporate tax loopholes. The plan includes \$736 billion in tax cuts for working families over the next ten years and provides almost \$100 billion in tax cuts for businesses, providing support to the entrepreneurs who will help drive an economic recovery. The plan also promotes fairness and fiscal responsibility by closing hundreds of billions in loopholes, including \$36 billion in tax breaks for oil companies and the \$86.5 billion "check-the-box" loophole which allows U.S. companies that invest overseas to shift income to tax havens.

<http://www.treas.gov/offices/tax-policy/library/grnbk09.pdf> [PDF format, 130 pages].

IMPORTED OIL AND U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY. RAND Corporation. Keith Crane et al. May 11, 2009.

While on a net basis the United States imports nearly 60 percent of the oil it consumes, this reliance on imported oil is not by itself a major national security threat, according to the study. The study finds that the economic costs of a major disruption in global oil supplies pose the greatest risk to the United States. The study evaluates commonly suggested links between oil imports and U.S. national security, and assesses the economic, political and military costs and benefits of potential policies to address threats to U.S. national security associated with imported oil. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2009/RAND_MG838.pdf [PDF format, 127 pages].

MEETING PROJECTED COAL PRODUCTION DEMANDS IN THE USA: UPSTREAM ISSUES, CHALLENGES, AND STRATEGIES. Virginia Center for Coal and Energy Research, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. May 12, 2009.

The study seeks to investigate different aspects of the coal supply chain and to highlight critical “upstream” fuel cycle issues that need to be addressed to ensure that the domestic coal industry can continue meeting the nation’s energy demands while delivering the social benefits and environmental performance demanded by the public. It reviews all coal-related upstream issues, identifying problems and strengths, and recommending areas of improvement. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.energycommission.org/ht/a/GetDocumentAction/i/10370> [PDF format, 20 pages].

STATE OF WASHINGTON, D.C.’S NEIGHBORHOODS. Urban Institute. Peter A. Tatian et al. Web posted May 14, 2009.

The District of Columbia’s leaders have committed to capitalizing on the city’s many assets and taking advantage of its recent growth and prosperity to tackle persistent challenges of inequality and exclusion. This report, prepared for the D.C. Office of Planning, seeks to aid the city’s leaders and citizens through tracking and measuring major economic and social indicators. The report provides a baseline assessment of the current situation in the city and its neighborhoods in nine subject categories: demographics; jobs and income; housing; education; health; family, youth, and seniors; safety and security; public investment; and environment. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.urban.org/uploadedpdf/411881_stateofwashington.pdf [PDF format, 189 pages].

STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE. U.S. Government Accountability Office. May 12, 2009.

The possibility of storing refined petroleum products as part of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) has been contemplated since the SPR was created in 1975. The SPR, which currently holds about 700 million barrels of crude oil, was created to help insulate the U.S. economy from oil supply disruptions. However, the SPR does not contain refined products such as gasoline, diesel fuel, or jet fuel. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 directed the Department of Energy (DOE) to increase the SPR’s capacity from 727 million barrels to 1 billion barrels, which it plans to do by 2018.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09695t.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

WHY ARE OLDER WORKERS AT GREATER RISK OF DISPLACEMENT? Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. Alicia H. Munnell et al. May 2009.

The conventional wisdom says that older workers are less likely to be displaced than younger workers. While true in the past, the conventional wisdom is no longer true today; the advantage that older workers had has disappeared. This loss of relative job security is troubling. Once displaced, older workers are less likely to be reemployed, have less time to adjust their retirement plans, and are more likely to retire prematurely. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://crr.bc.edu/images/stories/Briefs/ib_9-10.pdf [PDF format, 13 pages].

WOMEN AT RISK: WHY MANY WOMEN ARE FORGOING NEEDED HEALTH CARE.
Commonwealth Fund. Sheila D. Rustgi et al. May 11, 2009.

Women are more likely than men to feel the pinch of rising health costs and eroding health benefits, with about half (52%) of working-age women reporting problems accessing needed care because of costs, compared to 39 percent of men, the study finds. Women who are insured but have inadequate coverage are especially vulnerable: 69 percent of underinsured women have problems accessing care because of costs, compared to half (49%) of underinsured men. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.commonwealthfund.org/~media/Files/Publications/Issue%20Brief/2009/May/Women%20at%20Risk/PDF_1262_Rustgi_women_at_risk_issue_brief_Final.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

ARTICLES

DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

Bhattacharjee, Yudhijit PORN'S BEST FRIEND (Atlantic, May 2009)

Programs like "TrackMeNot" may disguise an individual's Internet searches, but is search privacy a good thing for society? Monitoring searches and responsibly mining search logs can further the common good, says the author. For example, epidemiologists use Google search data to track the spread of influenza. Google and other companies claim that records of searches help them improve their search engines and prevent "click fraud," automated clicking of links by those seeking to drive up their advertising revenue. The pressure from privacy advocates, however, is getting some results. Google announced it would "anonymize" IP addresses stored in search logs after nine months instead of its previous 18 month time frame. Currently available online at <http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/200905/web-tracking>

Caruson, Kiki PUBLIC WATCHDOGS OR IMPERIAL PITBULLS: AN EVALUATION OF SPECIAL PROSECUTOR INVESTIGATIONS OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH MISCONDUCT (Congress and the Presidency, vol. 36, no. 1, January-April 2009, pp. 80-114)

The author, Associate professor of political science at the University of South Florida, Tampa, discusses the role of the special prosecutor, also called an independent counsel, who is appointed by the Attorney General or Congress to investigate a government official for misconduct while in office. The individual is picked for this appointment from outside government, to avoid potential conflicts of interest or political connections to the incumbent administration. Critics of the use of special prosecutors argue that these investigators act as a "Fourth Branch" to the government because they are not subject to limitations in spending or have deadlines to meet. Caruson discusses the legislation providing authority to special prosecutors and analyzes what she considers the charge of a lack of accountability by measuring the cost, duration, and expansion of jurisdiction of each special counsel investigation.

Fallows, James TINFOIL UNDERWEAR (Atlantic, May 2009)

The author notes that there is no privacy on the Internet; the question is how to control the lack of privacy and the threats it may pose. Cookies, old files, browsing histories, are easy for users to control, and encrypting utilities work pretty well against eavesdropping. But it is “the inexorable pileup of information” on a variety of Web sites that experts identify as the major long-term threat to a user’s privacy. Your IP addresses allow tracking of all your Internet activities, and the companies that collect and own that data have decided to retain it more or less forever. The technical developments that make this possible cannot easily be undone, but the business policies could be, Fallows says. Online firms, however, are disinclined to reveal everything they know about their users – this would be commercial suicide. Nonetheless, many experts believe that government legislation offers modern computer users their best hope. For instance, a future law might require Google and other companies to strip specific IP addresses from records of searching or browsing activity that they intended to store for more than a brief period. This would be a balancing act similar to the creation of the “do-not-call” list for telemarketers. It would preserve the legitimate commercial value of aggregate data about Internet use, while protecting individuals if the records were dredged up in legal proceedings — or simply lost, stolen, or exposed through negligence or incompetence. Currently available online at <http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/200605/internet-privacy>

Kumar, Priya JOURNALIST OF THE FUTURE (American Journalism Review, April/May 2009)

NBC’s Mara Schiavocampo is being hailed as the first “digital correspondent.” After spending a year as a freelance reporter “not bound by geography,” the network was so impressed it created a new position for her to showcase her cinema-verité style of storytelling. Schiavocampo comes up with story ideas, shoots video and still photography, edits, blogs and produces packages for the Web and television. She travels where she pleases and covers subjects ranging from how Detroit citizens are coping with the struggling auto industry to the popularity of cupcakes to how Hindu temples in India sell hair from devotees for Americans’ hair extensions. Her stories, NBC Senior Vice President Alexandra Wallace, “convey an intimacy and honesty sometimes lost in traditional stories.” Currently available online at <http://www.ajr.org/Article.asp?id=4735>

Pollard, Katherine WHAT MAKES US HUMAN? (Scientific American, May 2009)

Comparisons of the genomes of humans and chimpanzees are revealing those rare stretches of DNA that are ours alone. Chimpanzees are the closest living relatives of humans and share nearly 99 percent of our DNA. Efforts to identify those regions of the human genome that have changed the most since chimps and humans diverged from a common ancestor have helped pinpoint the DNA sequences that make us human. The findings have also provided vital insights into how chimps and humans can differ so profoundly, despite having nearly identical DNA blueprints. Currently available online at <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=what-makes-us-human>

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Calder, Kent; Kim, Viktoriya KOREA, THE UNITED STATES, AND CENTRAL ASIA: FAR-FLUNG PARTNERS IN A GLOBALIZING WORLD (Korea Economic Institute Academic Paper Series, vol. 3, no. 9, December 2008, 13 pp.)

The authors, both associated with the Edwin O. Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, believe that Korea, the U.S. and Central Asia have significant and growing economic and geopolitical relevance for one another. All are deeply concerned with problems of global energy and with the future of Russia as a

constructive force in world affairs. The United States, like Korea, does have some important economic stakes in Central Asia, albeit interests more concentrated in the oil exploration, development, and production sectors. The authors explore the economic and security dimensions of the U.S.-Korea-Central Asia triangular relationship. Currently available online at <http://www.keia.org/Publications/AcademicPaperSeries/2008/APS-CalderKim.pdf>

Economy, Elizabeth; Segal, Adam THE G2 MIRAGE: WHY THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA ARE NOT READY TO UPGRADE TIES (Foreign Affairs, vol. 88, no. 3, May-June 2009)

Economy and Segal, senior fellows at the Council on Foreign Relations, argue that the U.S. and China are still too far apart in many ways to succeed by themselves in solving global problems. Without doubt they are key players in resolving problems of economics, environment, and stability. Nonetheless, pursuing solutions through an elevated bilateral relationship will only reveal mismatched interests, values, and capabilities; China's need for resources and markets, for example, clashes with Western goals for improving human rights and governance in the developing world. China's authoritarian yet decentralized government and lack of transparency makes cooperation difficult on food and product safety problems. What the U.S. should do, instead of elevating its bilateral relationship with China, is to invite Europe, Japan, and other important countries in Asia to coordinate policies toward China. "Throughout the world, countries are realizing that the issues that currently define their relationships with Beijing cannot simply be negotiated bilaterally," the authors write. Currently available online at <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/64946/elizabeth-c-economy-and-adam-segal/the-g-2-mirage>

Eichengreen, Barry THE LAST TEMPTATION OF RISK (National Interest, No. 101, May/June 2009, pp. 8-14)

Eichengreen, professor of economics and political science at the University of California, Berkeley, provides an interesting analysis of how the "Great Credit Crisis" developed, asserting that the problem lay not so much with the weakness of the underlying economic theory as with the cherry-picking by financial decision makers of the theories that supported excessive risk taking. The concept of Value at Risk, which seemingly reduced risk to a single number, led to the idea that risk could be mastered. Memories of past market crashes faded, and deregulation was "on the march." There was also pressure to conform to the accepted views rather than focus on the warnings coming from agency theory (which pointed out that compensation practices encouraged short-term thinking and excessive risk taking), information economics (which indicated that borrowers take on more risk when using other people's money), and behavioral economics (which can explain the herd mentality that leads to bubbles, panics, and crashes). The problem was not the failure of economists but the "partial and blinkered reading" of the available literature. Currently available online at <http://www.nationalinterest.org/Article.aspx?id=21274>

Scissors, Derek DENG UNDONE: THE COSTS OF HALTING MARKET REFORM IN CHINA (Foreign Affairs, vol. 88, no. 3, May-June 2009)

A research fellow at the Heritage Foundation, Scissors argues that China's leaders, obsessed with promoting economic expansion, have reversed market reforms attained over 30 years and reasserted state control of the economy in many ways. China has reversed price liberalization, privatization, and competition policy, and has started restricting incoming foreign investment and taxing exports. The U.S. and Chinese economies are tightly bound – U.S. imports from China amount to about 7.7 percent of all Chinese output, and the Chinese are Americans' biggest foreign creditors by far. Broad financial reform in China would benefit the United States, but merely ending exchange rate manipulation would not necessarily do so. A better objective for the Obama administration would be pressing China to let foreign investment move in and out freely. "By forcing financial policy to respond to market behavior, it could considerably reduce state

intervention in the Chinese economy,” Scissors writes. Currently available online at <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/64947/derek-scissors/deng-undone>

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Dunne, Michele THE BABY, THE BATHWATER, AND THE FREEDOM AGENDA IN THE MIDDLE EAST (Washington Quarterly, vol. 32, no. 1, January 2009, pp. 129-141)

According to the author, a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and editor of the Arab Reform Bulletin, the leaders of the new administration should not let failures in Iraq and Palestine deter them from pursuing the “freedom agenda” in the Middle East. More successful but less well-known cases such as Egypt, Bahrain, and Morocco show that the U.S. can promote democracy without sacrificing strategic interests. The administration should learn from these examples how to support democracy more effectively. Although the details and the degrees of success vary, the freedom agenda did not endanger strategic cooperation with any of these countries. Problems arise when democracy promotion is seen as a path to regime change. The author recommends four key steps: 1) Keep democracy on the agenda; 2) Be prepared to adjust tactics frequently; 3) Quell any instinctive fear of Islamists; and 4) Appoint the right people to positions of leadership at the relevant U.S. government departments and agencies. By showing “greater persistence in goals and flexibility in means” than the Bush administration, the new administration will be better able to advance U.S. interests and help the people in Arab countries make their governments more democratic. Currently available online at http://www.twq.com/09winter/docs/09jan_Dunne.pdf

Ottaway, Marina DIPLOMACY IN THE MIDDLE EAST (Harvard International Review, vol. 30, no. 3, Fall 2008, pp. 68-71)

Ottaway, Director of the Middle East Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, discusses the new independence being shown by the Gulf countries. She feels that, while this presents a challenge for Obama’s administration, it can also be viewed as an opportunity for America to work with Gulf countries to tackle the major problems of this region. Since Saddam Hussein was removed from power in early 2003, the number of Arab governments that are antagonistic to the U.S. has dwindled to nearly none. However, regimes that have been friendly to the U.S. are not blindly following Washington’s lead. While not hostile to America, the countries of the Gulf are pursuing policies that they believe protect their interests, regardless of what Washington wants. Currently available online at <http://hir.harvard.edu/index.php?page=article&id=1802>

Reddaway, Peter TWO-PART CZAR (National Interest, No. 101, May/June 2009, pp. 66-75)

According to the author, an emeritus professor of political science at George Washington University, the current economic crisis is straining the system of dual-executive leadership in Russia. Putin and Medvedev have somewhat different interests and instincts, partly because of divisions among the “mafia-like clans” and partly because of the ruling class’s priority on personal and clan interests, rather than the national interest. The clans are disoriented because there are two leaders rather than one, and no one is sure how the situation will play out. Will Putin retire and leave Medvedev in charge, or will he push him out and resume the presidency? The problems are many, including recession, unemployment, budget deficits, debts owed to Western lenders by Russian companies, neglected infrastructure and public-health facilities, lack of economic diversification, corruption, an underfunded educational system, and an unreformed military. Discontent and dissent are increasing, as are reports of tensions between the two leaders. Of the various scenarios for the near future, the least disruptive would be “a transition to

a situation in which Medvedev becomes a fully fledged president and appoints a competent prime minister to handle the recession.” But the outcome remains unclear. Currently available online at <http://www.nationalinterest.org/Article.aspx?id=21312>

Struwe, Lars B. FOR A GREATER HORN OF AFRICA SEA PATROL: A STRATEGIC ANALYSIS OF THE SOMALI PIRATE CHALLENGE (Danish Institute for Military Studies, March 2009, 44 pp.)

The author notes that the number of pirate attacks off Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden doubled to over 100 in 2008. Somalia-based pirates threaten freedom of the seas in a vital maritime route. The problem of deterring pirates will be aided through constant patrolling, international cooperation, shared intelligence and destruction of pirate bases. There needs to be more analysis of the best practices used to isolate and combat pirates, according to this study, and more insight is needed into the pirates’ lives and their methods of operation. Most importantly, this report calls for the creation of a Greater Horn of Africa Sea Patrol to secure freedom of navigation. The regional maritime unit would be formed by the coastal states from Egypt to Tanzania. It would support countries that already have a regional naval presence and help with specific tasks such as environmental monitoring and fishery inspection. This report is on the Internet at http://www.difms.dk/files/upload/20090313_141940_DIMS09_GreaterHornAfricaSeaPatrol_LarsStruwe.pdf

U.S. SOCIETY & VALUES

Bender, Kristin LITTLE BOXES: THE NEW MOVEMENT TO SERIOUSLY DOWNSIZE OUR HOMES (E Magazine, Vol. 20, no. 3, May-June 2009, pp. 35-39)

Bender describes how the environmental movement, rising energy prices, and the financial crisis of 2008 have affected Americans’ attitudes about housing. Now, about forty percent of new construction is “green” because it is less expensive for homeowners over the long term and creates less construction waste. As Baby Boomers are reaching retirement years and their children are no longer living with them, the family home is too large and too expensive to maintain. The article lists a number of construction projects and companies that are focused on building small, environmentally-friendly apartments, mobile homes, and detached houses. Currently available online at <http://www.emagazine.com/view/?4669>

Huwe, Terence K. EXPLOITING SYNERGIES AMONG DIGITAL REPOSITORIES, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, AND ONLINE COMMUNITY (Online, vol. 33, no. 2, March/April 2009, pp. 14-19)

The author, director of library and information resources at the Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, University of California at Berkeley, believes that there was a time when the Library of Congress and a couple of other leading research libraries were the principal developers of high-quality digital collections. No longer -- today, enterprising academic organizations, museums, and think tanks can take advantage of powerful open-source development tools and get started digitizing. High-quality collections, handled properly and rigorously, can open doors and influence among non-library colleagues. Digital collections gain vast new readerships when they appear online in structured and searchable formats. The fact that the excitement factor remains high spells opportunity for the profession. At the same time, the explosion of social networking software now enables repository managers to merge static repositories with Web 2.0 applications. Libraries have come a long way toward integrating special collections into their greater information ecologies of digital collections, web resources, and online conversations.

Digital repositories now provide enterprising curators with another chance to get out in front of the curve. In order to be effective, librarians must focus not only on new technology, but they must also rediscover the potential for synergy that lies hidden in their special collections.

**If you have any questions or want to reach the full text, please contact the
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