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SIGNIFICANT E-DOCUMENTS

THE LAUDER GLOBAL BUSINESS INSIGHT REPORT 2009: FIRST-HAND PERSPECTIVES ON THE GLOBAL ECONOMY. Joseph H. Lauder Institute of Management & International Studies. May 2009.

The study reports on companies and industries analyzed during a summer immersion program by the Institute's students in 12 countries around the world. It provides a window into the changing global economy, including the rise of Chinese and Egyptian companies in the telecommunications sector, the promise of Brazilian technology in the field of organic plastics, the challenges of the hostile takeover market in Russia, the continuing reluctance of the Japanese government to welcome foreign investment, and the dilemmas facing the Mexican oil industry. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/papers/download/LauderGlobalBusiness20090420.pdf> [PDF format, 51 pages].

SOLVING THE PUZZLE: RESEARCHING THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AROUND THE WORLD. National Science Foundation. May 2009.

The report describes how, over nearly 60 years, National Science Foundation (NSF) funded researchers have found signs of a changing climate in nearly every corner of the globe, from the icy expanses of Earth's polar regions to its equatorial ecosystems. Climate change research and education has been identified as a Presidential priority area and the report's release coincides with the recent announcement of the President's fiscal year 2010 budget for NSF, which includes an increase of approximately \$250 million for climate research, which would double NSF's investment in climate research. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.nsf.gov/news/nsf09202/nsf09202.pdf> [PDF format, 114 pages].

TRADE POLICY IN A TIME OF CRISIS: SUGGESTIONS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. Centre for Economic Policy Research. Gary Hufbauer and Sherry Stephenson. May 2009.

The world is enduring the worst economic setback since the Great Depression. Real estate and share prices have fallen sharply; major firms are failing; credit conditions are extremely tight; manufacturing production has dropped like a stone; commodity prices have plunged; and unemployment is rising everywhere. Poor countries are especially hard hit. According to the World Bank, slower economic growth in 2009 will add an additional 53 million people to those living on less than \$1.25 a day and 64 million to those living with less than \$2 a day (World Bank, 2009). [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.cepr.org/pubs/PolicyInsights/PolicyInsight33.pdf> [PDF format, 26 pages].

DANGEROUS BUT NOT OMNIPOTENT: EXPLORING THE REACH AND LIMITATIONS OF IRANIAN POWER IN THE MIDDLE EAST. RAND Corporation. May 19, 2009.

Following the U.S. invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan, the Iranian threat to U.S. interests has taken on seemingly unprecedented qualities of aggressiveness and urgency. Added to its provocative positions on the nuclear program, support for non-state militants, and development of threatening military capabilities is the sense that Iran is trying to effect far-reaching changes on the regional and even global stage. The report offers a new U.S. policy paradigm that seeks to manage the challenges Iran presents through the exploitation of regional barriers to its power and sources of caution in the regime's strategic calculus. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2009/RAND_MG781.pdf [PDF Format, 233 pages].

OPEC REVENUES FACT SHEET. Energy Information Administration. May 2009.

Based on projections from the Energy Information Administration May 2009, members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) could earn \$462 billion of net oil export revenues in 2009 and \$526 billion in 2010. Last year, OPEC earned \$968 billion in net oil export revenues, a 42 percent increase from 2007. Saudi Arabia earned the largest share of these earnings, \$285 billion, representing 29 percent of total OPEC revenues. On a per-capita basis, OPEC net oil export earning reached \$2,680 in 2008, a 40 percent increase from 2007. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/OPEC_Revenues/pdf.pdf [PDF format, 3 pages].

DR-CAFTA AND WORKER'S RIGHTS: MOVING FROM PAPER TO PRACTICE. Washington Office on Latin America. May 2009.

The study reveals that labor conditions in the DR-CAFTA countries have not improved and violations have not diminished regardless of promises made by the member countries to improve labor rights and the millions of dollars invested by the United States to meet this objective. Moreover, WOLA anticipates the labor situation in Central America will deteriorate further due to the global economic crisis. The report concludes that the investment directed at implementation of labor projects was insufficient to resolve the historical labor problems and the impunity with which many employers act. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.wola.org/images/stories/Rights%20and%20Development/wola_dr_cafta_rpt%20final.pdf [PDF format, 28 pages].

ALTERNATIVES FOR MODERNIZING U.S. FIGHTER FORCES. Congressional Budget Office. May 2009.

The United States Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps are in the process of replacing most of today's fighter aircraft with new F/A-18E/F, F-22, and F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) aircraft. Although procurement plans call for purchasing about 2,500 aircraft over the next 25 years, the services are projecting that those purchases will be unable to keep pace with the need to retire today's aircraft as they reach the limit of their service life. The study compares the size and capability of today's forces with the forces that would be fielded under the Department of Defense's (DoD's) modernization plans and several alternative plans that would offer varying levels of capability and require varying levels of budgetary commitment.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/101xx/doc10113/05-13-FighterForces.pdf> [PDF format, 73 pages].

AMERICAN ACADEMIC: THE STATE OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION WORKFORCE 1997-2007. American Federation of Teachers. May 12, 2009.

There are reports that document the steady growth of adjunct positions and decline of tenure-track jobs in the academic work force. The overall number of faculty and instructor slots grew from 1997 to 2007, but nearly two-thirds of that growth was in "contingent" positions, meaning those off of the tenure track. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.aftface.org/storage/face/documents/ameracad_report_97-07for_web.pdf [PDF format, 32 pages].

CHANGING PATTERNS ON NONMARITAL CHILDBEARING IN THE UNITED STATES. National Center for Health Statistics. May 2009.

Data from the Natality Data Sets, National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) shows that the childbearing by unmarried women has resumed a steep climb since 2002. Birth rates have risen considerably for unmarried women in their twenties and over, while declining or changing little for

unmarried teenagers. Nonmarital birth rates are highest for Hispanic women followed by black women. Rates for non-Hispanic white and Asian or Pacific Islander women are much lower. <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db18.pdf> [PDF format, 8 pages].

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THREE PROPOSED FEDERAL RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY STANDARDS. National Renewable Energy Laboratory. Patrick Sullivan et al. May 19, 2009.

The study compares three proposed national renewable electricity standards, also known as renewable portfolio standards. To assess the potential impacts of the three proposed standards on the U.S. electricity sector, a team of senior NREL energy analysts used the Laboratory's Regional Energy Deployment System, a detailed least-cost optimization model capable of simulating the special attributes of variable sources like wind and solar power. <http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy09osti/45877.pdf> [PDF format, 30 pages].

DOMINO EFFECT: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HARMS EVERYONE'S KIDS. Hoover Institution, Stanford University. Scott E. Carrell and Mark L. Hoekstra. May 12, 2009.

Children exposed to domestic violence not only have more disciplinary problems at school, they perform considerably worse in math and reading than other students. They also have a negative effect on their classroom peers, resulting in decreased test scores and increased disciplinary problems according to the study. [Note: contains copyright material]. http://media.hoover.org/documents/ednext_20093_58.pdf [PDF format, 59 pages].

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: BUILDING A HIGH-QUALITY SCHOOL CHOICE MARKET. Education Sector. Erin Dillon. May 19, 2009.

The neighborhoods of Southeast Washington, D.C., are among the poorest in the city. There, the grocery stores, banks, restaurants, and other institutions that suburbanites take for granted have long been in short supply. In recent years, however, government and nonprofit agencies have begun turning things for the better. [Note: contains copyright material]. http://www.educationsector.org/usr_doc/Food_for_Thought.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

GETTING STUDENTS MORE LEARNING TIME ONLINE. American Progress. Cathy Cavanaugh. May 18, 2009.

Internal and external forces are simultaneously transforming elementary and secondary education. Complementary changes within the K-12 education community are sweeping schools in the form of one-to-one computing, online learning for students and teachers, and differentiated instruction. [Note: contains copyright material]. <http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/05/pdf/distancelearning.pdf> [PDF format, 28 pages].

GOP LOSSES SPAN NEARLY ALL DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS. Gallup. Jeffrey M. Jones. May 18, 2009.

The decline in Republican Party affiliation among Americans in recent years is well documented, but a Gallup analysis now shows that this movement away from the GOP has occurred among nearly every major demographic subgroup. Since the first year of George W. Bush's presidency in 2001, the Republican Party has maintained its support only among frequent churchgoers, with conservatives and senior citizens showing minimal decline. [Note: contains copyright material]. <http://www.gallup.com/poll/118528/GOP-Losses-Span-Nearly-Demographic-Groups.aspx?CSTS=alert> [HTML format, various paging].

HEALTHCARE EQUALITY INDEX: CREATING A NATIONAL STANDARD FOR EQUAL TREATMENT OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES. Human Rights Campaign Foundation. May 12, 2009.

A key finding in the 2009 Healthcare Equality Index is the dramatic disparity between the number of patient non-discrimination policies inclusive of sexual orientation and those inclusive of gender identity. Less than seven percent of participating facilities protect patients from discrimination based on gender identity, while nearly three-quarters of participants provide these protections based on sexual orientation. The finding is symptomatic of the healthcare discrimination faced by transgender Americans every day, from the explicit denial of healthcare services to insensitive remarks by medical staff. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.hrc.org/documents/Healthcare_Equality_Index_2009.pdf [PDF format, 48 pages].

THE INCREASE IN LIVES SAVED, INJURIES PREVENTED, AND COST SAVINGS IF SEAT USE ROSE TO AT LEAST 90 PERCENT IN ALL STATES. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. May 2009.

A U.S. Department of Transportation study estimates that 1,652 lives could be saved and 22,372 serious injuries avoided each year on America's roadways if seat belt use rates rose to 90 percent in every state. The research report, based on 2007 data, also estimates that seat belts saved a stunning 15,147 lives that year.

<http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/811140.PDF> [PDF format, 4 pages].

POPULATION ESTIMATES. U.S. Census Bureau. May 14, 2009.

The Census Bureau releases state and county data depicting nation's population ahead of 2010 Census. Orange County, Fla., the nation's 35th most populous county, is one of six counties to have become majority-minority between 2007 and 2008, according to state and county population estimates by age, sex, race and Hispanic origin released today by the U.S. Census Bureau. Majority-minority is defined as more than half the population being of a group other than single-race, non-Hispanic white.

<http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.html> [HTML format with links to tables].

PROMOTING ECONOMIC MOBILITY BY INCREASING POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION. Pew Charitable Trust. Ron Haskins et al. May 12, 2009.

Many low-income students miss out on college because they don't know how much it actually costs or how to get access to billions of dollars in financial aid, according to the report.

This matters, say the report's authors, because postsecondary education is among the most important factors in determining whether a person achieves the American Dream of upward economic mobility. It has become increasingly difficult to advance in society without some level of higher education. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.pewtrusts.org/uploadedFiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/Reports/Economic_Mobility/PEW_EM_Haskins%207.pdf [PDF format, 66 pages].

RICH STATES, POOR STATES: ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX. American Legislative Exchange Council. May 19, 2009.

In the midst of economic turmoil, federal bailouts, and budget deficits in more than 40 states, the report offers a roadmap to recovery based on economic performance trends from states over the last 10 years. It shows how the federal bailout of the states may simply encourage out-of-control spending by states, which is up 124 percent over the last 10 years, without requiring them to make the tough decisions needed to bring about financial stability. [Note: contains copyright

material].

http://www.alec.org/am/pdf/tax/09RSPS/26969_REPORT_full.pdf [PDF format, 164 pages].

RX FOR PRODUCTS THAT CLAIM TO PREVENT H1N1?: A HEALTHY DOSE OF SKEPTICISM. Federal Trade Commission. May 2009.

The Federal Trade Commission has warned Web site operators who made claims that their products can prevent, treat, or cure the Influenza A/H1N1 virus, commonly known as swine flu, that they must have scientific proof to support their claims. The FTC told the companies, whose products include dietary supplements, air filtration devices, and cleaning agents, that without scientific proof they are violating federal law and must drop the claims or face further action.

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/alerts/alt083.pdf> [PDF format, 2 pages].

SAVING THE NEWS: TOWARD A NATIONAL JOURNALISM STRATEGY. Free Press. Victor Pickard et al. May 12, 2009.

The study reports on how the government should respond to the current crisis in journalism. It provides an in-depth analysis of ideas and proposals being debated around the future of the news business and advocates for a range of short- and long-term strategies. The report analyzes the collapse of the traditional business model for news and describes the alternatives emerging in its place. It also argues that new policies are needed to sustain vital professional journalism while embracing digital technology and the power of the Internet. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.freepress.net/files/saving_the_news.pdf [PDF format, 48 pages].

STORAGE OF CAPTURED CARBON DIOXIDE BENEATH FEDERAL LANDS. National Energy Technology Laboratory. Tim Grant. Web posted May 14, 2009.

The report provides an initial estimate of the potential to store carbon dioxide (CO₂) underneath millions of acres of Federal lands. It estimates and characterizes the storage potential that lies beneath some of the more than 400 million acres of Federal land available for lease. Estimated at between 126 to 375 billion metric tons of CO₂, the majority of this storage potential (about 85 percent) is located west of the Mississippi River, where most of the leasable Federal acreage (92 percent) is found.

http://www.netl.doe.gov/energy-analyses/pubs/Fed%20Land_403.01.02_050809.pdf [PDF format, 75 pages].

TAKING THE PULSE OF BIOSCIENCE EDUCATION IN AMERICA: A STATE-BY-STATE ANALYSIS. Battelle, Biotechnology Industry Organization, Biotechnology Institute. May 19, 2009.

States across America are failing to prepare students for pursuing biosciences in higher education, a key pipeline for developing the bioscience workforce of the future, according to the report. It provides the first ever comprehensive study of middle and high school bioscience education in the 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. The findings indicate a clear need for improved science education that incorporates the biosciences at the middle and high school levels if the United States bioscience industry sector is to remain globally competitive.

[Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.biotechinstitute.org/programs/documents/complete_battelle__bio_education_09_summary_report.pdf [PDF format, 64 pages].

TRENDS AND EMERGING PRACTICES IN GENERAL EDUCATION. Association of American Colleges and Universities. May 15, 2009.

The survey of chief academic officers at 433 colleges and universities of all sorts, public and private, two-year and four-year, large and small, suggests that many colleges and universities are reforming their general education programs and developing new curricular approaches and ways to assess key learning outcomes. As institutions review their general education programs, many are choosing to incorporate more engaged and integrative curricular practices. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.aacu.org/membership/documents/2009MemberSurvey_Part2.pdf [PDF format, 17 pages].

VICIOUS CYCLE: HOW UNFAIR CREDIT CARD COMPANY PRACTICES ARE SQUEEZING CONSUMERS AND UNDERMINING THE RECOVERY. U.S. Joint Economic Committee. May 12, 2009.

Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Chair of the Joint Economic Committee (JEC), and Senator Charles E. Schumer, Vice Chairman of the JEC, released a report showing unfair credit card practices are sending American families further into debt and undermining the economic recovery. The report outlines how the economic downturn and financial crisis have accelerated the adverse impacts of these practices on consumers, small businesses and our economy as a whole.

http://jec.senate.gov/index.cfm?FuseAction=Press.PressReleases&ContentRecord_id=3564a77b-5056-8059-7662-2ac1bbf01b5a&Region_id=&Issue_id= [HTML format with a link to PDF file].

VOTERS SUPPORT CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY AND GLOBAL WARMING LEGISLATION. Pew Environment Group. May 2009.

As the House Energy and Commerce Committee prepares to markup the American Clean Energy and Security Act, the Pew Environment Group releases national survey findings demonstrating overwhelming support for decisive action on behalf of clean energy jobs, energy independence and reducing the carbon pollution that causes global warming. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.pewglobalwarming.org/newsroom/release_ppt13may2009.html [HTML format with Power Point Link].

CONTAGION NATION: A COMPARISON OF PAID SICK DAY POLICIES IN 22 COUNTRIES. Center for Economic and Policy Research. May 20, 2009.

The sudden emergence of the H1N1 virus and the possibility of an epidemic outbreak on a scale not seen in decades have led to the closings of schools and workplaces around the world. The report shows that the United States is the only one of 22 rich countries that fails to guarantee sick workers some form of paid sick leave. Under current U.S. labor law, employers are not required to provide short-term paid sick days or longer-term paid sick leave. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/paid-sick-days-2009-05.pdf> [PDF format, 22 pages].

EQUALLY PREPARED FOR LIFE: HOW 15-YEAR-OLD BOYS AND GIRLS PERFORM IN SCHOOL. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. May 26, 2009.

In most countries, girls and boys now show similar results in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) tests of 15-year-olds. But systematic assessment of gender differences shows that students are still being held back by their own gender-related perceptions. [Note: contains copy material].

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/59/50/42843625.pdf> [PDF format, 76 pages].

THE CORAL TRIANGLE AND CLIMATE CHANGE: ECOSYSTEMS, PEOPLE AND SOCIETIES AT RISK. World Wildlife Fund and The University of Queensland. May 2009.

The report considers over 300 published scientific studies and includes the work of over 20 experts in fields such as biology, economics and fisheries science to present two different possible futures this century for the world's richest marine environment, the coasts, reefs and seas of the six countries of Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Timor Leste. The Coral Triangle, just one per cent of the earth's surface, includes 30 per cent of the world's coral reefs, 76 per cent of its reef building coral species and more than 35 per cent of its coral reef fish species as well as vital spawning grounds for other economically important fish such as tuna. It sustains the lives of more than 100 million people. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://assets.panda.org/downloads/climate_change___coral_triangle___full_report.pdf [PDF format, 229 pages].

A PERSPECTIVE ON CHANGING CONDITIONS IN LMES OF THE WORLD'S REGIONAL SEAS. United National Environmental Programme. May 20, 2009.

The world's coastal ocean waters continue to be degraded by unsustainable fishing practices, habitat degradation, eutrophication, toxic pollution, aerosol contamination, and emerging diseases, according to the report. It finds that 61 of the world's 64 large marine ecosystems, large coastal ocean waters adjacent to continents, show a significant increase in sea surface temperatures in the last 25 years, contributing to decreasing fisheries catches in some areas and increasing catches in others. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.lme.noaa.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=178:unep-lme-report&catid=39:reports&Itemid=62 [HTML format with a link to PDF file].

STATE AND NONSTATE ASSOCIATED GANGS: CREDIBLE "MIDWIVES OF NEW SOCIAL ORDERS. Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College. Max G. Manwaring. May 22, 2009.

The monograph examines contemporary populism and neo-populism, 21st century socialism, and a non-state actor, al-Qaeda, seeking regional and global hegemony. They are: first, paramilitary gang permutations in Colombia that are contributing significantly to the erosion of the Colombian state and its democratic institutions, and implementing the anti-system objectives of their elite neo-populist sponsors; second, Hugo Chavez's use of the New Socialism and popular militias to facilitate his populist Bolivarian dream of creating a mega-state in Latin America; and, third, al-Qaeda's strategic and hegemonic use of political-criminal gangs to coerce substantive change in Spanish and other Western European foreign and defense policy and governance. Lessons derived from these cases demonstrate how gangs might fit into a holistic effort to force radical political-social-economic change, and illustrate how traditional political-military objectives may be achieved indirectly, rather than directly.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=876> [HTML format with a link to PDF file].

HOW TIGHTLY HAS CHINA EMBRACED MARKET REFORMS IN AGRICULTURE? Amber Waves, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Fred Gale et al. May 21, 2009.

Situations like the 2008 soybean incident and the slowdown in food exports may be a foreshadowing of a crossroad China's policymakers are approaching. Pressure from the global market could induce authorities to go further in reforming agricultural institutions to improve international competitiveness. Alternatively, global market pressures could induce China to turn inward again by adopting protectionist measures that shield farmers and preserve the current system.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/AmberWaves/June09/PDF/ChinaMarket.pdf> [PDF format, 6 pages] .

RUSSIA'S GROWING AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS: CAUSES AND OUTLOOK. U.S. Department of Agriculture. William Liefert et al. May 15, 2009.

During the 2000s, Russian agricultural imports have grown considerably, from \$7 billion in 2000 to \$33 billion in 2008. This import growth has made Russia the second largest agricultural importer among emerging markets, after China. The main reasons for the import rise are macroeconomic—high growth in Russian gross domestic product, which increases consumer income and purchasing power, and real appreciation of the ruble, which makes imports less expensive vis-à-vis domestically produced goods. The economic crisis that hit Russia (and the world) in autumn 2008 makes the outlook for Russia's agricultural imports uncertain in the short term. However, the Russian economy is expected to stabilize within a year or two, at which time agricultural imports should continue to grow, although at a lower rate than in past years. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/WRS0904/WRS0904.pdf> [PDF format, 22 pages].

A NEW U.S. POLICY PARADIGM TOWARD IRAN. RAND Corporation. Frederic Wehrey et al. May 21, 2009.

Iranian power projection is marked by strengths, but it also has serious liabilities and limitations. The United States should consider a new approach to Iran that integrates elements of engagement and containment. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/2009/RAND_RB9422.pdf [PDF format, 3 pages].

INDIA'S ELECTION SHOWS EQUITABLE GLOBALIZATION CAN SUCCEED. Yale Global. Sadanand Dhume. May 2009.

India's Congress Party's big win in the recent election has as much significance for citizens of that country as it does for citizens of the world. It shows that democracy and development can go hand in hand, according to author Sadanand Dhume. A country that is slated to grow above 5 percent amid the financial crisis is a model for developing nations. That India can do this while sporting the world's largest democracy, enjoying the world's largest voter turnout, all the while exhibiting substantial pluralism, is a lesson that democracy is not simply a western phenomenon. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/display.article?id=12386> [HTML format, various paging].

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE POLICIES AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL IN CANADA: COSTS AND BENEFITS IN 2006. Fraser Institute. May 2009.

The study examines and measures the costs and benefits of federal bilingualism in the government of Canada's official languages policies in 2006/07. The paper presents the legal framework under which the federal government and federally regulated entities make decisions as to the internal and external usage of both official languages and the costs of these policies, and the third presents the benefits of these policies. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.fraserinstitute.org/commerce.web/product_files/OfficialLanguagePolicies.pdf [PDF format, 74 pages].

THE TAMING OF THE GREAT NUCLEAR POWERS. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Godfried van Benthem van den Bergh. May 2009.

The author argues that nuclear weapons have unintended beneficial consequences. They can make the intended development of a more peaceful global and political order possible. The Carnegie Nonproliferation Program presents the paper in hopes of furthering international dialogue and debate on the nuclear order, including the abolition of nuclear weapons. [Note:

contains copyright material].

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/taming_great_powers.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

THE VIRTUOUS TWINS: PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND IMPROVING SECURITY IN COLOMBIA. International Crisis Group. May 25, 2009.

Colombia's government must urgently address human rights abuses to enhance its security policy and bring lasting peace to the country. The government argues that the human rights record has improved with its "democratic security policy", but serious abuses, including of international humanitarian law, persist and in some instances are even increasing, according to the report. The government and the human rights community need to overcome mutual distrust by dialogue and concrete actions, starting with an end to officials' efforts to link human rights organizations with the guerrillas. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/latin_america/twins___protecting_human_rights_and_improving_security_in_colombia.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

BIOLOGICS IN PERSPECTIVE: THE CASE FOR GENERIC BIOLOGIC DRUGS. AARP Public Policy Institute. Leigh Purvis. May 2009.

Spending on biologic drugs is growing nearly twice as quickly as spending on traditionally developed "small molecule" drugs. One factor in the increase in spending on biologics is the lack of a statutory pathway to approve generic, or bio-equivalent, biologic drugs. Given the substantial out-of-pocket costs that can be associated with using biologic drugs, many patients will face impeded access until generic biologic drugs become available. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://assets.aarp.org/rgcenter/health/fs155_biologics.pdf [PDF format, 2 pages].

THE CLIMATE LOBBY'S NONSTOP GROWTH. Center for Public Integrity. Marianne Lavelle. May 19, 2009.

As Congress focuses on landmark legislation to reduce global warming, nearly 140 new businesses and interest groups, led by a diverse array of technology firms, have joined in the already intense lobbying on climate change, according to the report. Microsoft, Google, and eBay are among the technology firms that helped drive an increase of more than 14 percent in companies and organizations lobbying on climate in the first quarter of 2009. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.publicintegrity.org/investigations/climate_change/articles/entry/1376/ [HTML format, various paging].

DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY: STRATEGIC PLAN. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. May 2009.

The document describes the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency's (DARPA) strategy, as required by Section 2352, Title 10 of the United States Code. It provides a top-level view of DARPA's activities for Congress, the research community, and various elements of the Department of Defense (DoD). The strategic plan describes DARPA's mission, business processes, research thrusts and objectives, and research projects to achieve the objectives.

<http://www.darpa.mil/Docs/StratPlan09.pdf> [PDF format, 57 pages].

FACT SHEET: REFORMS TO PROTECT AMERICAN CREDIT CARD HOLDERS. The White House. May 22, 2009.

President Obama signs the Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility, and Disclosure (CARD) Act of 2009, marking a turning point for American consumers and ending the days of unfair rate

hikes and hidden fees.

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Fact-Sheet-Reforms-to-Protect-American-Credit-Card-Holders/ [HTML format, various paging].

FEDERAL AND STATE CIGARETTE EXCISE TAXES UNITED STATES, 1995-2009. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. May 22, 2009.

On April 1, 2009, the largest federal cigarette excise tax increase in history went into effect, bringing the combined federal and average state excise tax for cigarettes to \$2.21 per pack and achieving the Healthy People 2010 (HP2010) objective (27-21a) to increase the combined federal and average state cigarette excise tax to at least \$2 per pack. The report summarizes changes in the federal excise tax, as well as state excise taxes for all 50 states and the District of Columbia (DC) from December 31, 1995 to April 1, 2009.

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5819a2.htm?s_cid=mm5819a2_x [HTML format, various paging].

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY REPORT TO CONGRESS 2008. Federal Housing Finance Agency. May 18, 2009.

Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) releases FHFA's first Report to Congress, detailing the findings of the agency's 2008 annual examinations of Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, the 12 Federal Home Loan Banks (FHLBanks), and the Office of Finance. The report is the first Report to Congress since FHFA was established by the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (HERA), signed into law in July of 2008. The report includes conclusions from the examinations of the FHLBanks, information about the compensation of FHLBank directors, and housing mission and goals information for all 14 GSEs.

<http://www.fhfa.gov/webfiles/2331/FHFAReportToCongress2008final.pdf> [PDF format, 156 pages].

ONLINE CLASSIFIEDS. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Sydney Jones. May 2009.

The number of online adults who have used online classified ads has more than doubled in the past four years. Almost half (49%) of internet users say they have ever used online classified sites, compared with 22% of online adults who had done so in 2005. On any given day about a tenth of internet users (9%) visit online classified sites, up from 4% in 2005. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2009/PIP%20-%20Online%20Classifieds.pdf> [PDF format, 14 pages].

PREPARATION FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION EXAMS. National Association for College Admission Counseling. Derek C. Briggs. May 20, 2009.

Students and families may not be getting as much help as they think from commercial admission test preparation, according to the report commissioned by the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC). Existing academic research suggests average gains as a result of commercial test preparation are in the neighborhood of 30 points on the SAT and less than one point on the ACT, substantially lower than gains marketed by test preparation companies. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.nacacnet.org/PublicationsResources/Research/Documents/TestPrepDiscussionPaper.pdf> [PDF format, 33 pages].

REDUCING FORECLOSURES: NO EASY ANSWERS. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. Christopher Foote et al. May 2009.

The paper takes a look at a leading argument about what is causing the foreclosure crisis and what should be done to stop it. It uses an economic model to focus on two key decisions: the borrower's choice to default on a mortgage and the lender's subsequent choice whether to renegotiate or modify the loan. The theoretical model and econometric analysis illustrate that unaffordable loans, defined as those with high mortgage payments relative to income at origination, are unlikely to be the main reason that borrowers decide to default. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.frbatlanta.org/filelegacydocs/wp0915.pdf> [PDF format, 53 pages].

TAX PREFERENCES FOR COLLEGIATE SPORTS. Congressional Budget Office. May 2009.

Long viewed as an integral component of higher education, athletic programs in many universities have become highly commercialized and, in some cases, are very rewarding financially: The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) men's basketball tournament alone garnered about \$143 million in revenue for athletic departments in 2008, and college football bowl games generated a similar amount.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/100xx/doc10055/05-19-CollegiateSports.pdf> [PDF format, 26 pages].

TOUGH DECISIONS AND LIMITED OPTIONS: HOW PHILADELPHIA AND OTHER CITIES ARE BALANCING BUDGETS IN A TIME OF RECESSION. Pew Charitable Trusts. May 18, 2009.

The report looks at how 13 major cities are coping with the recession and finds that most are facing significant budget gaps and are cutting services and personnel in response. It examines the budget decisions that have been proposed or enacted in Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Columbus (OH), Detroit, Kansas City (MO), Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Pittsburgh and Seattle. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.pewtrusts.org/uploadedFiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/Reports/Philadelphia-area_grantmaking/FINAL_Budget%20Brief.pdf [PDF format, 14 pages].

U.S. CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS FROM ENERGY SOURCES 2008 FLASH ESTIMATE. Energy Information Administration, U.S. Department of Energy. May 2009.

U.S. carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels decreased by 2.8 percent in 2008, from 5,967 million metric tons of carbon dioxide (MMT_{CO2}) in 2007 to 5,802 MMT_{CO2} in 2008, according to preliminary estimates released today by the Energy Information Administration (EIA). This is the largest annual decline in energy-related carbon dioxide emissions since EIA began annual reporting on greenhouse gas emissions. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/1605/flash/pdf/flash.pdf> [PDF format, 17 pages].

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE GLOBAL WATER CRISIS: WHAT BUSINESSES NEED TO KNOW AND DO. Pacific Institute and United Nations Global Impact. May 2009.

The report explores the linkages between climate change and water, from both the scientific and corporate management perspectives. It covers a number of critical areas, including how climate change is expected to impact water scarcity, water quality, and water demand; the ways in which water and energy are interconnected, including trade-off scenarios; and how businesses can strategically manage water-climate risks. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.pacinst.org/reports/ungc_climate_water/report.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY OUTLOOK 2009. Energy Information Administration. May 2009.

World marketed energy consumption is projected to grow by 44 percent between 2006 and 2030, driven by strong long-term economic growth in the developing nations of the world, according to the reference case projection. The current global economic downturn will dampen world energy demand in the near term, as manufacturing and consumer demand for goods and services slows. However, with economic recovery anticipated to begin within the next 12 to 24 months, most nations are expected to see energy consumption growth at rates anticipated prior to the recession.

[http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/ieo/pdf/0484\(2009\).pdf](http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/ieo/pdf/0484(2009).pdf) [PDF format, 284 pages].

A RATING OF DESIGNATED OPERATIONAL ENTITIES (DOEs) ACCREDITED UNDER THE CLEAN DEVELOPMENT MECHANISM (CDM): SCOPE, METHODOLOGY AND RESULTS. World Wildlife Fund and Oko-Institut e.V. May 27, 2009.

The evaluation of climate offset projects under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) is inefficient and often of poor quality, according to the report. It rates project evaluators which certify offset projects under the Kyoto Protocol's mechanism reveals. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wwf_doe_rating___scope_methodology_and_results_final.pdf [PDF format, 15 pages].

THE NORTH KOREAN PUZZLE. Council on Foreign Relations. Robert McMahon and Jayshree Bajoria. May 28, 2009.

North Korea's nuclear test on May 25, its second since October 2006, once again threatens stability in Northeast Asia and poses a challenge to the international nonproliferation regime. Pyongyang has also threatened to disregard the 1953 armistice that ended the Korean War, which could further escalate tensions on the peninsula. The crisis revives vexing questions about the North Korean regime, the extent of its nuclear capabilities, its murky succession politics, its seeming imperviousness to sanctions, and the limits of multilateral diplomacy aimed at denuclearization. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/19507/north_korean_puzzle.html?breadcrumb=%2F [HTML format, various paging].

CAPITAL INFLOWS, HOUSEHOLD DEBT AND THE BOOM-BUST CYCLE IN ESTONIA. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Zuzana Brixiova et al. May 27, 2009.

From 2000 to 2007, Estonia was one of the fastest growing emerging market economies. A housing boom, fuelled by capital inflows and credit, resulted in skyrocketing house prices and an over-expanded construction sector. However, the currency board limited the Bank of Estonia's ability to curb credit growth, while the fiscal policy framework amplified the cycle through pro-cyclical spending increases and tax cuts. As credit was mostly financed by cross-border loans from foreign banks, the risks of disruptions to credit flows and financial contagion have increased. Some have already materialized through tightened lending standards and capital outflows. Estonia is now in a severe recession. [Note: contains copyright material].

[http://www.oecd.org/olis/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00002DFE/\\$FILE/JT03265470.PDF](http://www.oecd.org/olis/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00002DFE/$FILE/JT03265470.PDF) [PDF format, 32 pages].

YEMEN: DEFUSING THE SAADA TIME BOMB. International Crisis Group. May 27, 2009.

Away from media headlines, a war has been raging on and off in Yemen's northern governorate of Saada since 2004, flaring up in adjacent regions and, in 2008, reaching the outskirts of the capital, Sanaa. The conflict, which has brought about extensive destruction, pits a rebel group, known generically as the Huthis, against government forces. Today's truce is fragile and risks being short-lived, says the report. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/middle_east__north_africa/iraq_iran_gulf/86_yemen__defusing_the_saada_time_bomb.pdf [PDF format, 41 pages].

2007 ECONOMIC CENSUS: PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND TECHNICAL SERVICE INDUSTRY SERIES. U.S. Census Bureau News. May 26, 2009.

This is a series of national-level data files on the professional, scientific, and technical services sector (NAICS 54). These include data for industries such as legal services, accounting and tax preparation services, engineering and architectural services, and others. The files provide data on the number of establishments, revenue, payroll, number of employees, value of product line revenue, and other data items by industry. These data will be released through October 2009.

http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/IBQTable?_bm=y&-geo_id=&-ds_name=EC075411&-lang=en [HTML format, various paging].

BRINGING BROADBAND TO RURAL AMERICA: REPORT ON A RURAL BROADBAND STRATEGY. Federal Communications Commission. May 22, 2009.

Concluding that all rural Americans must have the opportunity to reap the full benefits of broadband services, Federal Communications Commission releases a report. It provides a starting point for the development of policies to deliver broadband to rural areas and restore economic growth and opportunity for Americans residing and working in those areas.

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-291012A1.pdf [PDF format, 83 pages].

CANCER FACTS & FIGURES 2009. American Cancer Society. May 2009.

Cancer death rates are falling steadily, according to the American Cancer Society's annual cancer statistics report, Cancer Facts & Figures 2009, and its companion article "Cancer Statistics, 2009," published in the Society's CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians. The drop is driven in large part by better prevention, increased use of early detection practices, and improved treatments for cancer. Cancer death rates dropped 19.2% among men during 1990-2005 and 11.4% among women during 1991-2005. Cancer incidence rates are also on the decline – they decreased 1.8% per year among men from 2001-2005 and 0.6% per year from 1998-2005 among women. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.cancer.org/downloads/STT/500809web.pdf> [PDF format, 72 pages].

THE CONDITION OF EDUCATION 2009. U.S. Department of Education. May 28, 2009.

The report summarizes important developments and trends in education using the latest available data. It presents 46 indicators on the status and condition of education. The indicators represent a consensus of professional judgment on the most significant national measures of the condition and progress of education for which accurate data are available. The 2009 print edition includes 46 indicators in five main areas: (1) participation in education; (2) learner outcomes; (3) student effort and educational progress; (4) the contexts of elementary and secondary education; and (5) the contexts of postsecondary education.

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2009/2009081.pdf> Full Report [PDF format, 359 pages].

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2009081> [HTML format with individual sections in PDF files].

CROSS-CULTURAL SKILLS FOR DEPLOYED AIR FORCE PERSONNEL: DEFINING CROSS-CULTURAL PERFORMANCE. RAND Corporation. Chaitra M. Hardison et al. May 2009.

Because of its strong interest in providing airmen with the cross-cultural skills that have grown ever more essential to successful mission accomplishment in foreign environments, the report provides a foundation for the design of a comprehensive Air Force program of cross-cultural training and education. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2009/RAND_MG811.pdf [PDF format, 202 pages].

EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES IN 2008. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. May 27, 2009.

The share of families with an unemployed member rose from 6.3 percent in 2007 to 7.8 percent in 2008, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The proportion of families with an unemployed member in 2008 neared the recent peak of 8.1 percent in 2003. Of the nation's 77.9 million families, 82.2 percent had at least one employed member in 2008, down by 0.4 percentage point from 2007.

<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/famee.nr0.htm> [HTML format with links to PDF files].

MAKING EVERY DROP WORK: INCREASING WATER EFFICIENCY IN CALIFORNIA'S COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL (CII) SECTOR. National Resources Defense Council. Ronnie Cohen et al. May 26, 2009.

In the midst of a third consecutive dry year, California's water supply continues to shrink as the state's population grows, but according to the report, the state's commercial, industrial and institutional (CII) sector has the tools to save more than enough water to meet the annual needs of Los Angeles, San Francisco and San Diego combined. Some leading California businesses and institutions are already catching on, saving water and money at the same time. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.nrdc.org/water/cacii/files/cii.pdf> [PDF format, 40 pages].

THE PARADOX OF DECLINING FEMALE HAPPINESS. Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. Betsey Steven and Justin Wolfers. May 2009.

By many objective measures the lives of women in the United States have improved over the past 35 years, yet we show that measures of subjective well-being indicate that women's happiness has declined both absolutely and relative to men. The paradox of women's declining relative wellbeing is found across various datasets, measures of subjective well-being, and is pervasive across demographic groups and industrialized countries. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://bpp.wharton.upenn.edu/betseys/papers/Paradox%20of%20declining%20female%20happiness.pdf> [PDF format, 45 pages].

PRESIDENT OBAMA ANNOUNCES OVER \$467 MILLION IN RECOVERY ACT FUNDING FOR GEOTHERMAL AND SOLAR ENERGY PROJECTS. U.S. Department of Energy. May 27, 2009.

"We have a choice. We can remain the world's leading importer of oil, or we can become the world's leading exporter of clean energy," said President Obama. "We can hand over the jobs of the future to our competitors, or we can confront what they have already recognized as the great opportunity of our time: the nation that leads the world in creating new sources of clean energy will be the nation that leads the 21st century global economy. That's the nation I want America to be."

<http://www.energy.gov/news2009/print2009/7427.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT IN NOMINATING JUDGE SONIA SOTOMAYOR TO THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT. The White House. May 26, 2009.

“Over a distinguished career that spans three decades, Judge Sotomayor has worked at almost every level of our judicial system, providing her with a depth of experience and a breadth of perspective that will be invaluable as a Supreme Court justice,” says the President Obama as he nominates Sonia Sotomayor.

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Remarks-by-the-President-in-Nominating-Judge-Sonia-Sotomayor-to-the-United-States-Supreme-Court/ [HTML format, various paging].

REVIEW OF SITE (POINT-OF-USE) AND FULL-FUEL-CYCLE MEASUREMENT APPROACHES TO DOE/EERE BUILDING APPLIANCE ENERGY-EFFICIENCY STANDARDS – LETTER REPORT. National Research Council. May 27, 2009.

The report recommends that the U.S. Department of Energy should consider gradually changing its system of setting appliance energy-efficiency standards to a full-fuel-cycle measurement, which takes into account both the energy used to operate an appliance. It also recommends to include upstream energy costs, energy consumed in producing and distributing fuels from coal, oil, and natural gas, and energy lost in generating and delivering electric power. This change would offer consumers more complete information on household energy consumption and its environmental impacts, says the congressionally mandated report. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12670#toc [HTML format with link to PDF files]

SHIFTING BOUNDARIES: THE ESTABLISHMENT CLAUSE AND GOVERNMENT FUNDING OF RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS AND OTHER FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS. Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. May 2009.

The report explores the complex, fluid relationship between government and religion. Among the issues examined are religion in public schools, displays of religious symbols on public property, conflicts concerning the free exercise of religion, and government funding of faith-based organizations. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://pewforum.org/newassets/images/reports/funding/funding.pdf> [PDF format, 18 pages].

U.S. PUBLIC DIPLOMACY: KEY ISSUES FOR CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT. U.S. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE. May 27, 2009.

While the prior administration issued a national communication strategy in June 2007, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 requires that the President issue a new comprehensive strategy by December 2009 to guide interagency efforts. The issues discussed in the enclosures to this report should be considered in the development of the new strategic plan, related agency and country-level plans, and other areas such as State’s human capital and security policies.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09679sp.pdf> [PDF format, 43 pages].

ARTICLES

DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

Thompson, Clive MAN-MADE NOISE MAY BE ALTERING EARTH'S ECOLOGY (Wired, vol. 16, no. 6, June 2008)

The author notes that noise from human activities, such as aircraft, highway traffic and construction is not just an aesthetic nuisance – it is becoming a serious environmental issue. In a wilderness environment, the distinctive sounds of the various species of animals use different frequencies in the acoustic spectrum, and their mating calls or warning cries can be heard without interfering with those of other species. The author notes that some researchers believe that this is how they can coexist so well. Noise from human activities can interfere with various acoustic frequencies, compromising species' ability to communicate and making them vulnerable to predation. This is possibly a factor in many species' decline worldwide. Available online at http://www.wired.com/science/planetearth/magazine/16-06/st_thompson

Wolfshenk, Joshua WHAT MAKES US HAPPY (Atlantic Monthly, June 2009)

For more than 70 years, Harvard University researchers have been collecting data on a group of its male students to gain some insights into the keys to “successful living.” The collected data of what is known as the Grant Study, passed from one generation of researchers to another, amounts to a rare kind of longitudinal study. Wolfshenk is the first journalist to comb through the accumulated files and draw some conclusions about whether the data does what it set out to do. The primary researcher on the study for more than forty years says the lives of the 268 subjects, half of whom are now deceased, “were too human for science, too beautiful for numbers, too sad for diagnosis and too immortal for bound journals.” On a more tangible level, researcher George Vaillant did identify a number of factors that seemed to mark a healthy transition from middle age to a healthy old age: education, stable marriage, not smoking, not abusing alcohol, some exercise, and healthy weight. Of those who had most of these factors in their favor at age 50, half arrived at the age of 80 as happy and well. Currently available online at <http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/200906/happiness>

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Bourne Joel K., Jr. THE END OF PLENTY: THE GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS (National Geographic, June 2009)

This special report reviews in-depth the problem of how to feed a world that is consuming more food than farmers have been producing. The combination of several factors has led to the current global food crisis. Populations in many poor countries are burgeoning, and consumers in countries experiencing new economic growth are eating more meat. There are growing demands for grain for food, animal feed and fuel. Global warming has restrained growth in yields by depleting water and soil resources. As a result, food prices have risen dramatically, and global grain reserves have dropped to record lows; the author notes that these factors ensure that food prices are not coming down soon. Although controversial, some are calling for another “green revolution”, involving new seed varieties and environmentally-sound uses of fertilizer, pesticides and irrigation; it must include Africa, Bourne writes, and in half the time of it took for the first

revolution that led to a reduction in widespread hunger in Asia in the 1960s and 1970s. An increasing awareness of the importance of agricultural development has led to more investing in that area by international donors and by some countries -- like Malawi -- whose leaders want to turn their nations into surplus producers. Currently available online at <http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2009/06/cheap-food/bourne-text>

Cowen, Tyler LAST MAN STANDING (Wilson Quarterly, vol. 33, no. 2, Spring 2009, pp. 55-58)

The author, a professor of economics at George Mason University, believes that although America's relative decline in global affairs has been foretold many times, it never quite seems to happen. Today, the rest of the world is looking to the U.S. to pull it out of a recession (or depression), even though many blame us for having started it. The truth is that the worse things get for the world as a whole, the more the U.S. gains in relative power and influence. The U.S. has more demographics than many countries; with its relatively unified system of governance, the U.S. Federal Reserve can simply print money to fund bailouts, and even if that is an ugly alternative, the government's ability to act underpins the credibility of the system as a whole. The European Central Bank (ECB) is explicitly banned from creating more euros for bank bailouts; the Swiss central bank could, but the prospect of the resulting inflation and rapid depreciation of the Swiss franc makes this an unappealing choice, especially for a country that has marketed itself as a financial haven. It's not widely recognized that Europe, because of its systemic weaknesses, already has required implicit bailouts by the U.S. European financial institutions are prominent on the list of creditors of the failed insurance company AIG. Few U.S. financial regulators would say it openly, but one reason why the Fed rescued AIG was that it knew that European regulators could not handle the fallout from an AIG collapse. Currently available online at http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=wq.essay&essay_id=517090

Fukuyama, Francis A SENSE OF UNREALITY (American Interest, May-June 2009)

The author writes that there is a "pervasive sense of unreality" in Washington about the scale of the economic crisis facing the U.S. and the rest of the world. The current administration's economic policy team seems to be operating, says Fukuyama, on the assumption that the problem facing the financial system is one of illiquidity and not of insolvency, and that their task is to prop up the banks until their toxic assets can be fairly valued. The problems run deeper than that, says Fukuyama, resulting from years of Americans consuming and spending more than they were saving or producing, and trillions of dollars from abroad fueling the rapid increase of debt. He points out that this is a non-partisan crisis – both Republicans and Democrats were complicit in the deregulation of the financial sector that enabled the explosion of the shadow banking economy. The crisis is primarily a failure of U.S. public policy, writes Fukuyama, and "now that the public sector is cleaning up behind them, we need to move from astonishment to a different model of capitalism if we are to fix our own economy and regain a shred of credibility on the world stage." Currently available online at <http://www.the-american-interest.com/article.cfm?piece=604>

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Corchado, Alfredo A FIGHTING CHANCE (Wilson Quarterly, vol. 33, no. 2, Spring 2009, pp. 18-23)

The author, Mexico bureau chief for The Dallas Morning News and currently Nieman fellow at Harvard University, believes that as Mexico steps up its war against the brutal drug cartels, leaders on both sides of the border face tough questions about how to combat a problem that threatens the very fabric of Mexico's democracy. Mexico is proving that the war on drugs is unwinnable as long as Americans fail to curb their consumption of narcotics. The deepening economic recession has already left more than 350,000 Mexicans unemployed, and jobs that

were once plentiful in the U.S. are scarce, drawing more people into the underground economy. More than 90 percent of the weapons in Mexico and the bulk of the cash drug proceeds smuggled into Mexico are of U.S. origin. The illicit cash is used to bribe law enforcement officials, politicians, journalists, even administrators of homeless shelters, where cartels often hide their hit men. The corruption extends to the U.S. side of the border, where a growing number of law enforcement officials have been arrested for complicity. Currently available online at http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=wq.essay&essay_id=518996

Coutu, Diane SMART POWER: GREAT LEADERS KNOW WHEN HARD POWER IS NOT ENOUGH (Harvard Business Review, vol. 86, no. 11, November 2008, pp. 55-59)

In this interview with Joseph Nye, former American government official as well as former dean of Harvard University's John F. Kennedy's School of Government, the author, senior editor at HBR, discusses challenges ahead for the U.S., including combining hard power, characterized by coercion, and "soft" power, which relies on attraction. The combination of hard and "soft" power results in smart power, a tool used to mobilize people around agendas that look beyond current problems. Although some men have used smart power, it is particularly difficult for women to lead with it, since there is often pressure for them to prove they are not "soft". Power is a tool, with clear communication serving as one of its most effective instruments.

Fair, C. Christine TIME FOR SOBER REALISM: RENEGOTIATING U.S. RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN (Washington Quarterly, vol. 32, no. 2, April 2009, pp. 149-172)

The author, a senior political scientist with the RAND Corporation, asserts that the U.S. has largely failed in its efforts to help Pakistan become a stable, prosperous, and democratic state that supports U.S. interests in the region, including combating Islamist militancy, supporting a secure Afghanistan, and preventing further nuclear proliferation. An important reason for this lack of success is that "the main U.S. programs misdiagnose the various problems they seek to affect." An example is the assumption that the Pakistani government supports the various plans that have been put forward to develop the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), despite much evidence to the contrary. Analysts have proposed a number of approaches to improve the situation and encourage more Pakistani cooperation with the U.S., including 1) mitigating the trust deficit caused by the American perception that Islamabad has a history of "saying one thing and doing another" and the Pakistani perception of the U.S. as an unreliable partner, 2) addressing Pakistan's regional security concerns, particularly its fears of an Afghanistan allied with India, and 3) civilianizing a militarized state. The U.S. needs to lessen its dependence on Pakistan, provide assistance that strengthens Pakistan's ability to govern itself and to wage counterinsurgency and counterterrorism operations effectively, and support Pakistani civil society. Online link to PDF full text at <http://www.twq.com/09april/index.cfm?id=343>

Kang, David C. KIM III (National Interest, web exclusive, posted May 28, 2009)

According to the author, director of the Korean Studies Institute at the University of Southern California, North Korea's recent nuclear and missile tests have been conducted as much for domestic reasons as to send messages to the United States. Kim Jong-Il's poor health has led to internal maneuvering over the succession, and there is no clear heir. This uncertainty has led to a lack of both long-term planning and strategic vision within the governing class and an incentive for nationalistic activities by the various factions. Kang believes that the Obama administration has responded properly by not overreacting, since bellicose rhetoric from the United States would only benefit hardliners in Pyongyang. Currently available online at <http://www.nationalinterest.org/Article.aspx?id=21528>

Milani, Abbas OBAMA'S EXISTENTIAL CHALLENGE TO AHMADINEJAD (Washington Quarterly, vol. 32, no. 2, April 2009, pp. 63-78)

Comparing the relationship between the U.S. and Iran to that of the Capulets and Montagues, the author points out that, for thirty years, Iran has partially defined itself in opposition to the U.S. The election of Barack Obama defies Tehran's stereotypical view of America. Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is vulnerable in the upcoming election, due to mismanagement of the Iranian economy and the reduced price of oil. There are also at least three fissures in Iran's politics: a power struggle between Ayatollahs Khamenei and Rafsanjani, a theological split regarding the role of the clergy in government, and the role of the Revolutionary Guards, which have become the wildcard of the country's domestic politics. The regime is feeling insecure because of its isolation from the majority of the population, who feel disenfranchised, economically deprived, and viewed internationally as a pariah nation. A coalition of forces is developing around three principal ideas – the status quo is untenable, democracy is the only viable answer, and the violent overthrow of the regime is neither possible nor desirable. Says Milani, "nothing is more dangerous for the regime than the idea of normalized relations with a U.S. government that acts as a responsible but powerful member of the international community, and not its master; war helps the mullahs and prudent U.S. policy hurts them." The Obama administration should, therefore, "reach out to Iran to promote nonproliferation and democratic processes." Online link to PDF full text at <http://www.twq.com/09april/index.cfm?id=337>

U.S. SOCIETY & VALUES

DuBois, Lisa A. UNCLE SAM: SCIENTIST (Lens, Winter 2009, pp. 4-9)

During the past century, America reached the pinnacle of science and technology, thanks in no small measure to its immigrant spirit, diversity and genius for innovation. The U.S. outstripped all other countries in the number of science-related Nobel prizes awarded, in bringing new biotechnical products to the market, and in the amount of money spent on basic research. However, at the beginning of the 21st century, America's position of strength can no longer be taken for granted, hindered by the triple-whammy of reduced federal funding for basic research, a flagging biotech industry, and a public education system rife that is failing to turn on young people to careers in the sciences. The author believes that this can be changed if new federal investment in basic research can shore up a struggling economy. DuBois fears that, without investment in science and education, the United States will become a second-rate country. Currently available online at <http://www.mc.vanderbilt.edu/lens/article/?id=214>

Knapp, Jeffrey LEGAL RESEARCH: AN INTRODUCTION TO KEY ONLINE AND PRINT SOURCES (Choice, vol. 46, no. 8, April 2009, pp. 1439//1449)

The author, a librarian with Pennsylvania State University, Altoona, offers a basic overview of the legal process, a collection of resources for finding primary and secondary sources of legal information, resources for understanding the legal process, and resources specifically tailored for legal research. The essay is divided into two parts -- focusing on how a law is made and recorded, and aids in researching the law. Law reviews and legal periodical articles provide interpretation of the law as well as detailed articles on particular legal topics. These interpretations may be found through indexes (e.g. Index to Legal Periodicals). There are also a number of specialized finding tools that enable one to search for relevant materials in primary authorities, like the index volumes for statutes and regulations compilations. Shepard's Citations provides references to when cases and law review articles were cited by another source. Computer databanks (Lexis, Westlaw) and the free Thomas (from the Library of Congress) provide the legal profession with quick and efficient tools to do research. State and specialty law collections pulling together diverse types of authority are now appearing on CD-ROM and the Internet and today, foreign law and international law are included in many legal portals. The

study of law is a highly inter-disciplinary endeavor that requires invaluable resources for the study of many of its subjects. Law and governmental sources are the foundation upon which we base our civic knowledge.

Mahbubani, Kishore CAN AMERICA FAIL? (Wilson Quarterly, vol. 33, no. 2, Spring 2009, 48-54)

The author, dean of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore, believes that the massive crises that the U.S. is now experiencing are partly the product of three systemic failures. First, American society is afflicted with "groupthink," having accepted the proclamations of economic gurus such as Alan Greenspan and Robert Rubin that unregulated financial markets would naturally deliver economic growth and serve the public good. Second is the erosion of the notion of individual responsibility, as Americans cannot see how their individual actions have undermined, rather than strengthened, their society. Third is the inability of American society to see how the abuse of power has created many of the problems the U.S. now confronts abroad. The author sees the American people losing confidence in their ability to compete with Chinese and Indian workers. At the moment of their country's greatest economic vulnerability in many decades, few Americans dare to speak the truth and say that the U.S. cannot retreat from globalization; both the American people and the world would be worse off. However, as globalization and global capitalism create new forces of "creative destruction," America will have to restructure its economy and society in order to compete. Currently available online at http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=wq.essay&essay_id=518042

Pope, Victoria FLIGHT OF THE WASP (American Heritage, vol. 59, no. 1, Spring 2009, pp. 62-69)

A pioneering group of aviators known as the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP), comprising 1,000 women flyers who served as an Army auxiliary during World War II. It was created to make up for a shortage of male pilots, and proved that female pilots could serve in the military, surprising many Pentagon officials who doubted their capabilities. The program was emblematic of the many cultural changes ushered in by America's entry into World War II. The WASP recruits amassed a stellar record of flying such challenging aircraft as B-17s, B-25s and B-29s, but as author Victoria Pope notes, the program "might have come too soon for an Army establishment ... that was still wary about women in the military." Despite these accomplishments, there was strong public resistance to the idea of women pursuing military careers, and as the war drew to a close, the WASP program was terminated. The WASP flyers launched a campaign for full military recognition, and after three decades, their efforts paid off. In 1976, the U.S. Air Force announced it would accept women cadets into its corps. In 1977, Congress passed legislation formally honoring WASP contributions during World War II. Two years later, the secretary of the Air Force announced a further step toward recognition: Members of the WASP program were now considered to be veterans. Currently available online at <http://www.americanheritage.com/articles/web/20090406-Women-Military-World-War-II-Women-WWII-Military-Air-Force-Military-Aircraft-WASP-Private-Pilot-Military-Shuttle-Service.shtml>

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