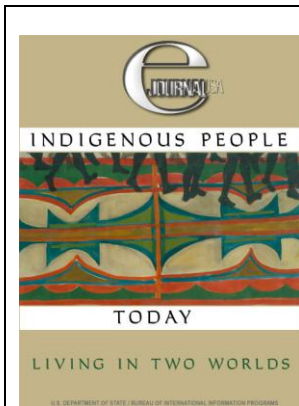




AMERICAN INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER Ankara, Turkey

E-Documents June 2009 – Issue 5

■ Electronic Journals – all e-journals



Indigenous People

The June 2009 edition of eJournal USA provides insight into Native Americans and other indigenous peoples. Articles provide historical background and look at issues surrounding their languages and culture, their legal status, and how they are networking around the world.

■ IIP Publications – all publications



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SIGNIFICANT E-DOCUMENTS

PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY THROUGH STIMULUS PACKAGES AND PUBLIC JOB CREATION. Levy Economics Institute of Bard College. Rania Antonopoulos. June 2009.

Beyond loss of income, joblessness is associated with greater poverty, marginalization, and social exclusion; the current global crisis is clearly not helping. The author explores the impact of both joblessness and employment expansion on poverty, paying particular attention to the gender aspects of poverty and poverty-reducing public employment schemes targeting poor women. The author presents the results of a Levy Institute study that examines the macroeconomic consequences of scaling up South Africa's Expanded Public Works Programme by adding to it a new sector for social service delivery in health and education. [Note: contains copyright material]. http://www.levy.org/pubs/ppb_101.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

NORTH KOREA COLLAPSE SCENARIOS. Brookings Institute. Michael E. O'Hanlon. June 2009.

Regime change in North Korea is inevitable, according to the report. It is impossible for analysts to know how or when the current leadership will cease to rule the country; a stable and incremental evolution to a more humane regime is hoped for, but we cannot rule out the possibility of a sudden collapse of the North Korean state. Such a scenario is only one of many, and it is probably not even the most likely one, but North Korea's continued development of nuclear devices makes the cost of mishandling a possible collapse so high that all contingencies must be planned for. [Note: contains copyright material]. http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/06_north_korea_ohanlon.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

TUNNELS, GUNS AND KIMCHI: NORTH KOREA'S QUEST FOR DOLLARS – PART I. Yale Global. Bertil Lintner. June 9, 2009.

Recent suggestions by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton that North Korea could be re-listed as a state sponsoring terrorism raises the prospect of further tightening the economic noose around

the regime. North Korea has got nuclear weapons but needs funds to keep the regime afloat. Yet, normal trading partners are loathe to transact with the pariah state subject to international sanctions. Hence Pyongyang's search for innovative means to earn hard currency [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/display.article?id=12442> [HTML format, various paging].

HAMAS: IDEOLOGICAL RIGIDITY AND POLITICAL FLEXIBILITY. U.S. Institute of Peace. Paul Scham and Osama Abu-Irshaid. June 2009.

Hamas's landslide victory in the Palestinian parliamentary elections of January 2006 came as an unwelcome and unexpected shock to both Middle Eastern and international regimes, with the organization winning nearly 58 percent of the Palestinian Legislative Council seats. On the one hand, the authors make a case for recognizing that Hamas has, in certain respects, changed and has sent signals regarding its possible coexistence with Israel. On the other hand, they conclude that Hamas might never "recognize" Israel in the conventional sense and that, since Hamas apparently cannot be eliminated, attempts to engage it must take into account its commitment to the strictures of shari'a. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://library.usip.org/articles/1012237.1112/1.PDF> [PDF format, 24 pages].

IRAN AND THE CHALLENGES TO MIDDLE EAST SECURITY. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Anthony H. Cordesman et al. June 9, 2009.

Iran presents a wide range of potential challenges to the security of the Middle East. This does not mean that Iran plans to start new conflicts in the region or will actively seek to achieve its objectives by force. At the same time, however, Iran is actively seeking to expand its influence, and is now the most serious threat to the security of energy exports in the Gulf region, says the report. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.csis.org/media/isis/pubs/090608_iranupdate.pdf [PDF format, 116 pages].

OPEC OIL EXPORT REVENUES. Energy Information Administration. June 2009.

Based on projections from the EIA June 2009 Short-Term Energy Outlook (STEO), members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) could earn \$530 billion of net oil export revenues in 2009 and \$620 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.

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

PRESIDENTIAL POWER IN IRAN. Council on Foreign Relations. Greg Bruno and Jamal Afridi. June 10, 2009.

Iran's Supreme Leader remains the regime's ultimate authority but the spirited campaign for the country's June 12 presidential election has raised new interest in the role and power of the head of state. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/19593/presidential_power_in_iran.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublicatio n%2Fby_type%2Fbackgrounder [HTML format, various paging].

REBUILDING GAZA: PUTTING PEOPLE BEFORE POLITICS. Oxfam International. June 2009.

In June 2009 the blockade on the Gaza Strip enters its third year. The intense closure policy, coupled with the government of Israel's recent military operation 'Cast Lead', has had a devastating impact on the lives and livelihoods of one and a half million Gazans, pushing them further into poverty and aid dependency. Parties to the conflict and the international community

have, to varying degrees, prioritized their own political objectives over people's rights and needs, leaving Gazans sitting on the ruins of their homes, according to the report. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/bn-rebuilding-gaza-0906.pdf> [PDF format, 12 pages].

RISING TEMPERATURES, RISING TENSIONS: CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE RISK OF VIOLENT CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST. International Institute for Sustainable Development. Oli Brown and Alec Crawford. May 2009.

Climate models are predicting a hotter, drier and less predictable climate in the Middle East—a region already considered the world's most water-scarce and where, in many places, demand for water already outstrips supply. For Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory, climate change threatens to reduce the availability of scarce water resources, increase food insecurity, hinder economic growth and lead to large-scale population movements. This could hold serious implications for peace in the region, according to the report. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.iisd.org/pdf/2009/rising_temps_middle_east.pdf [PDF format, 42 pages].

NARCO-TERRORISM IN PERU: THE RETURN OF SHINING PATH. Heritage Foundation.

James M. Roberts and Edwar Enrique Escalante. June 9, 2009.

Peru is a good friend of the United States and needs U.S. help to defeat this new challenge in dealing with drug related terrorism, according to the report. Consequently, President Obama should direct the establishment of a U.S.-Peru partnership. Congress should provide emergency funding for this partnership and also help Peru by approving pending U.S. free trade agreements with Colombia and Panama, which, along with the recently approved agreement with Peru, will strengthen U.S. ties to—and the economy of—the Andean region. The U.S. and Peruvian governments should not underestimate the problems posed by the re-emergence of Shining Path, concludes the report. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.heritage.org/Research/LatinAmerica/upload/wm_2473-2.pdf [PDF format, 3 pages].

2008 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL ACTIVITY SUMMARIZED: RECEIPTS NEARLY DOUBLE 2004 TOTAL. U.S. Federal Election Commission. Judith Ingram et al. June 8, 2009.

Financial activity of 2008 presidential candidates and national party convention committees increased 80% in receipts over the 2004 presidential election, totaling more than \$1.8 billion. The Republican presidential nominee, Sen. John McCain (AZ), received \$84.1 million in public funds to conduct his general election campaign and raised an additional \$46.4 million for legal and accounting expenses. The Democratic presidential nominee, then-Sen. Barack Obama (IL), raised a total of \$745.7 million in private funds for his primary nomination and general election campaign. It was the first time in the history of presidential public financing that a major party nominee declined to accept public funds for the general election.
<http://www.fec.gov/press/press2009/20090608PresStat.shtml> [HTML format with links].

ACCESS TO JUSTICE: REPORT ON SUPREME COURT NOMINEE JUDGE SONIA SOTOMAYOR. Alliance for Justice. June 9, 2009.

According to the report, "Judge Sonia Sotomayor has a careful, cautious and reasoned approach to access to justice issues. Her rulings are well within the legal mainstream." The report further notes, "Judge Sotomayor shows no bias for or against plaintiffs. She shows sensitivity toward persons bringing claims, but always grounds her decision-making on the law and binding

authority.” [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.afj.org/check-the-facts/supreme-court-watch/alliance-for-justice-sototmayor-access-to-justice-report.pdf> [PDF format, 14 pages].

THE CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY: REPOWERING JOBS, BUSINESSES AND INVESTMENTS ACROSS AMERICA. Pew Charitable Trusts. June 2009.

The number of jobs in America’s emerging clean energy economy grew nearly two and a half times faster than overall jobs between 1998 and 2007, according to the report. Pew found that jobs in the clean energy economy grew at a national rate of 9.1 percent, while traditional jobs grew by only 3.7 percent between 1998 and 2007. Pew developed a data-driven definition of the clean energy economy and conducted hard count across all 50 states of the actual jobs, companies and venture capital investments that supply the growing market demand for environmentally friendly products and services. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/uploadedFiles/Clean_Economy_Report_Web.pdf [PDF format, 61 pages].

CONSERVATIVES SHIFT IN FAVOR OF OPENLY GAY SERVICE MEMBERS. Gallup. Lymari Morales. June 5, 2009.

Americans are six percentage points more likely than they were four years ago to favor allowing openly gay men and lesbian women to serve in the military, 69% to 63%. While liberals and Democrats remain the most supportive, the biggest increase in support has been among conservatives and weekly churchgoers — up 12 and 11 percentage points, respectively. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.gallup.com/poll/120764/Conservatives-Shift-Favor-Openly-Gay-Service-Members.aspx?CSTS=alert> [HTML format, various paging].

COST ESTIMATE FOR THE AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT OF 2009. Congressional Budget Office. June 5, 2009.

Congressional Budget Office and the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) estimate that over the 2010-2019 period enacting this legislation would increase federal revenues by about \$846 billion and increase direct spending by about \$821 billion. In total, those changes would reduce budget deficits (or increase future surpluses) by about \$24 billion over the 2010-2019 period.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/102xx/doc10262/hr2454.pdf> [PDF format, 40 pages].

DIPLOMAS COUNT 2009 - BROADER HORIZONS: THE CHALLENGES OF COLLEGE READINESS FOR ALL STUDENTS. Education Week and Editorial Projects in Education Research Center. June 11, 2009.

The report shows a cautiously optimistic picture of high school graduation trends, finding that the national graduation rate has improved over the past decade, though a recent one-year downturn, the first significant annual decline in that 10-year period, raises cause for concern. The report also points out that there is no firm consensus among states, schools, and policymakers on what it means to be ready for postsecondary education or how to measure college readiness. It investigates one of the most critical issues facing the nation’s educational and economic future, the challenge to prepare all students for college. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/toc/2009/06/11/index.html> [HTML format with links].

FAST FORWARD: KEY ISSUES IN MODERNIZING THE U.S. FREIGHT-TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM FOR FUTURE ECONOMIC GROWTH. RAND Corporation.

Richard Hillestad et al. June 9, 2009.

Efficient movement of freight within the United States and across its borders is a critical enabler of future U.S. economic growth and competitiveness, according to the authors. Such efficiency is now threatened by capacity bottlenecks, inefficient use of some components of the freight infrastructure, interference with passenger transport, the system's vulnerability to disruption, and the need to address important emission and energy constraints. They conclude with a discussion of the need to modernize the freight-transportation system and the overarching issues this involves. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2009/RAND_MG883.pdf [PDF format, 163 pages].

FEDERAL ENERGY AND FLEET MANAGEMENT. U.S. Government Accountability Office. June 2009.

The U.S. transportation sector relies almost exclusively on oil; as a result, it causes about a third of the nation's greenhouse gas emissions. Advanced technology vehicles powered by alternative fuels, such as electricity and ethanol, are one way to reduce oil consumption. The federal government set a goal for federal agencies to use plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, vehicles that run on both gasoline and batteries charged by connecting a plug into an electric power source, as they become available at a reasonable cost.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09493.pdf> [PDF format, 53 pages].

HEALTH DISPARITIES: A CASE FOR CLOSING THE GAP. Healthreform.GOV. June 9, 2009.

U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius released a report on health disparities in America and participated in a White House Health Care Stakeholder Discussion on the importance of reform that reduces disparities that exist in our current health care system. The report also notes that 40 percent of low-income Americans do not have health insurance. About one-third of the uninsured have a chronic disease, and they are six times less likely to receive care for a health problem than the insured. In contrast, only 6 percent of high-income Americans lack insurance. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.healthreform.gov/reports/healthdisparities/disparities_final.pdf [PDF format, 5 pages].

JUNE OVERSIGHT REPORT: STRESS TESTING AND SHORING UP BANK CAPITAL. Congressional Oversight Panel. June 9, 2009.

Like the case of the family conducting its own stress test of personal finances, the usefulness of the bank stress test results depends upon the methods used and the assumptions that went into conducting the examinations. To help assess the stress tests, the panel engaged two internationally renowned experts in risk analysis, Professor Eric Talley and Professor Johan Walden, to review the stress test methodology.

<http://cop.senate.gov/documents/cop-060909-report.pdf> [PDF format, 168 pages].

LATE HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS: CHARACTERISTICS, EXPERIENCES, AND CHANGES ACROSS COHORTS. National Center for Education Statistics. Ben Dalton et al. Web posted June 10, 2009.

The report presents information about selected characteristics and experiences of high school sophomores in 2002 who subsequently dropped out of school. It also presents comparative data about late high school dropouts in the years 1982, 1992, and 2004. The findings address only dropping out in late high school and do not cover students who dropped out before the spring of

10th grade. For this reason, the reported rates are lower than those based on the students' entire high school or earlier school career.

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2009/2009307.pdf> [PDF format, 71 pages].

MASSACHUSETTS MIRACLE OR MASSACHUSETTS MISERABLE: WHAT THE FAILURE OF "MASSACHUSETTS MODEL" TELLS US ABOUT HEALTH CARE REFORM. Cato Institute. Michael Tanner. June 9, 2009.

When Massachusetts passed its pioneering health care reforms in 2006, critics warned that they would result in a slow but steady spiral downward toward a government-run health care system. Three years later, those predictions appear to be coming true, says the author. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.cato.org/pubs/bp/bp112.pdf> [PDF format, 12 pages].

PROSECUTING AND DETAINING TERROR SUSPECTS IN THE U.S. CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation. June 9, 2009.

Since the 1990s, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York (SDNY) has investigated and successfully prosecuted a wide range of international and domestic terrorism cases—including the bombings of the World Trade Center and U.S. Embassies in East Africa in the 1990s. More recent cases include those against individuals who provided material support to al Qaeda and other terrorist groups, as well as against international arms trafficker Monzer al Kassar and the Somalian pirate charged in the hijacking of the Maersk Alabama.

<http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel09/terrorfactsheet060909.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

REPORT OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION ON THE NOMINATION OF JUDGE SONIA SOTOMAYOR TO BE ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT. American Civil Liberties Union. June 8, 2009.

In accordance with ACLU Policy 519, this report summarizes the civil liberties and civil rights record of Judge Sonia Sotomayor, who was nominated by President Obama on May 26, 2009, to replace Justice David Souter as an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.aclu.org/pdfs/scotus/sotomayor_report.pdf [PDF format, 88 pages].

SCHUMER UNVEILS NEW ANALYSIS SHOWING SOTOMAYOR'S MODERATE RECORD ON IMMIGRATION CASES. U.S. Senate. June 9, 2009.

U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer (D-NY), the chairman of the Senate Immigration Subcommittee, released an analysis of Judge Sonia Sotomayor's judicial record on immigration-related cases, showing she ruled against asylum claims 83 percent of the time, a rate that places President Obama's Supreme Court nominee squarely in the judicial mainstream. Schumer said the figures, which had not previously been compiled, undercut attempts by Sotomayor's critics to paint her as a judge whose decision-making is influenced by factors other than the rule of law.

http://schumer.senate.gov/new_website/record_print.cfm?id=314152 [HTML format, various paging].

IRAN ELECTIONS. U.S. Institute of Peace. June 15, 2009.

Iranian officials declared Mahmoud Ahmadinejad the official winner of the presidential election on June 13, but opponents insist the vote was rigged. Iran's Interior Ministry said Ahmadinejad won 62.6 percent of the vote, with the reformist candidate and lead challenger, Mir Hussein Moussavi, taking just under 34 percent. Turnout was a record 85 percent, according to the Interior Ministry. An U.S. Institute of Peace expert assesses the developments and answers questions about the

Iranian election. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.usip.org/on_the_issues/iran_elections.html [HTML format, various paging].

REACTING TO IRAN'S DISPUTED PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OUTCOME. Brookings Institution. Suzanne Maloney. June 14, 2009.

Saturday's declaration that Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad had won a landslide victory for a second term moved the country's perennially unpredictable politics into uncharted territory, according to the report. The patently implausible outcome sparked disbelief, defiance, and violent reprisals on the streets, jeopardizing the stability and legitimacy of the Islamic regime and complicating U.S. President Barack Obama's efforts to engage directly with Tehran as a means of blunting its nuclear ambitions. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/0614_iran_election_maloney.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

RECONSTRUCTION UNDER FIRE: UNIFYING CIVIL AND MILITARY COUNTERINSURGENCY. RAND Corporation. David C. Gompert et al. June 15, 2009.

Effective civilian relief, reconstruction, and development work can help convince people to support their government against insurgency. Knowing this, insurgents will target such work, threatening both those who perform it and those who benefit from it. The authors set out to learn how civilian counterinsurgency, civil COIN: essential human services, political reform, physical reconstruction, economic development, and indigenous capacity-building, could be conducted more safely in the face of active insurgency, when it can do the most good. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2009/RAND_MG870.pdf [PDF format, 159 pages].

SCIENTISTS FIND WHALES MORE ENDANGERED IN EXXON, BP AND ROSNEFT OIL AREAS. World Wildlife Fund. June 11, 2009.

Oil and gas exploration by energy giants Exxon, BP and Rosneft is seriously threatening one of the world's most critically endangered whales, according to a panel of top scientists in the report. The scientists found that in 2008 there was a large decrease in the number of whales in their annual feeding area near the shore during a period of loud industrial activity, including a seismic survey. This is significant because if the whales are displaced from this primary annual feeding area, they will have less success reproducing, according to the report. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.panda.org/?166681/Scientists-find-whales-more-endangered-in-Exxon-BP-and-Rosneft-oil-areas> [HTML format, various paging].
http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wgwap_6_report_final.pdf Meeting Report [PDF format, 46 pages]

THE DIFFUSION OF FOREIGN CULTURAL PRODUCTS: THE CASE ANALYSIS OF JAPANESE COMICS (MANGA) MARKET IN THE US. Center for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies, Princeton University. Takeshi Matsu. Spring 2009.

The paper outlines the historical development of the U.S. manga, Japanese comics, industry from the 1980s through the present in order to address the question why foreign cultural products become popular in offshore markets in spite of cultural difference. It focuses on local publishers as "gatekeepers" in the introduction of foreign culture. By selecting proper titles, censoring them, and establishing age rating systems, publishers sought to avoid the stigma attached to American mainstream comics and establish the legitimacy of manga as acceptable entertainment. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.princeton.edu/~artspol/workpap/WP37-Matsui.pdf> [PDF format, 30 pages].

CRISIS RESPONSE IN LATIN AMERICA: IS THE “RAINY DAY” AT HAND? Inter-American Development Bank. Eduardo Fernandez-Arias and Peter J. Montiel. June 2009.

The paper examines the countercyclical policy options available to Latin American countries in the face of the current global economic crisis, concluding that most of the major countries in the region appear to possess the fiscal space, as measured by credible fiscal sustainability and debt headroom, to run prudent countercyclical fiscal deficits. Those countries should undertake a constrained fiscal expansion focused on productive public spending and financed by “rainy day” funds, large stocks of foreign exchange reserves that they have accumulated during recent years, rather than by market borrowing, says the authors. [Note: contains copyright material]. <http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?docnum=2024179> [PDF format, 46 pages].

TAKING STOCK: 2005 NORTH AMERICAN POLLUTANT RELEASES AND TRANSFERS. Commission for Environmental Cooperation. June 2009.

Ninety percent of the 5.5 billion kilograms of toxic pollutant releases and transfers reported in North America in 2005 can be traced to about 30 substances from 15 industrial sectors across the United States, Canada and Mexico. The report represents the most complete picture of pollution reporting from North American industrial facilities ever assembled. [Note: contains copyright material]. http://www.cec.org/files/PDF/POLLUTANTS/TS05_en.pdf [PDF format, 116 pages].

THE ARTS 2008: MUSICAL & VISUAL ARTS. National Center for Education Statistics. Shelley Keiper et al. June 15, 2009.

The report presents the results of the 2008 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) arts assessment. It was administered to a nationally representative sample of 7,900 eighth-grade public and private school students. Approximately one-half of these students were assessed in music, and the other half were assessed in visual arts. [Note: contains copyright material] <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/main2008/2009488.pdf> [PDF format, 40 pages].

THE BEIGE BOOK. Federal Reserve Board. June 10, 2009.

Reports from the twelve Federal Reserve District Banks indicate that economic conditions remained weak or deteriorated further during the period from mid-April through May. However, five of the Districts noted that the downward trend is showing signs of moderating. Further, contacts from several Districts said that their expectations have improved, though they do not see a substantial increase in economic activity through the end of the year, according to the report. <http://www.federalreserve.gov/FOMC/Beigebook/2009/20090610/FullReport.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

DEPRESSION IN PARENTS, PARENTING, AND CHILDREN: OPPORTUNITIES IN IMPROVE IDENTIFICATION, TREATMENT, AND PREVENTION. National Research Council and Institute of Medicine. June 2009.

Health and social service professionals who care for adults with depression should not only tackle their clients’ physical and mental health, but also detect and prevent possible spillover effects on their children, says the report. To achieve this new family-focused model of depression care, federal and state agencies, nonprofits, and the private sector will have to experiment with nontraditional ways of organizing, paying for, and delivering services, said the committee that wrote the report. [Note: contains copyright material]. http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12565 [HTML format with link to PDF file].

DID THE 2008 TAX REBATES STIMULATE SHORT-TERM GROWTH? Congressional Budget Office. June 2009.

In preparing its economic forecast published in September 2008, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated that 40 percent of the tax rebates issued in the spring and summer under the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-185) would be spent within six months, raising the growth of consumption in the second and third quarters of 2008 by 2.3 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively, and reducing it by 1.0 percent in the fourth quarter, when the distribution of the rebates was expected to end. However, analysts disagree about the economic impact of tax rebates.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/96xx/doc9617/06-10-2008Stimulus.pdf> [PDF format, 4 pages].

EMERGING HEALTH CARE ISSUES: FOLLOW-ON BIOLOGIC DRUG COMPETITION. Federal Trade Commission. June 2009.

The report examines whether the price of biologic drugs, products manufactured using living tissues and microorganisms, could be reduced by competition from so-called “follow-on biologics” (FOBs). FOBs are like generic drugs, but with significant differences. Biologics are increasingly used to treat arthritis, cancer, diabetes, and other diseases. No pathway currently exists for such FOBs to enter the market and compete with their pioneer counterparts. The FTC’s Report concludes that providing the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) with the authority to approve such FOBs would be an efficient way to bring these lower-priced drugs to market.

<http://www.ftc.gov/os/2009/06/P083901biologicsreport.pdf> [PDF format, 120 pages].

THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION’S ROLE IN SAFETY OVERSIGHT OF AIR CARRIERS. U.S. Department of Transportation. Calvin L. Scovel III. June 10, 2009.

On June 10, 2009, the Inspector General testified before the Senate Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security regarding the Federal Aviation Administration’s (FAA) role in the oversight of air carriers. The Inspector General noted that while FAA has made progress toward improving aspects of its safety oversight, there are still vulnerabilities that must be addressed, especially in five critical areas: risk-based inspections, repair stations, aging aircraft, disclosures of safety violations made through the Aviation Safety Action Program, and internal reviews of whistleblower complaints.

http://www.oig.dot.gov/StreamFile?file=/data/pdffdocs/IG_Senate_Testimony-FAAs_Role_in_Safety_Oversght_of_Air_Carriers.pdf [PDF format, 15 pages].

THE FUTURE OF LONG-TERM CARE: WHAT IS ITS PLACE IN THE HEALTH REFORM DEBATE? Urban Institute and Brookings Institution. Howard Gleckman. June 15, 2009.

More than 10 million Americans require long-term care supports and services. Yet the system for delivering and paying for this assistance is deeply flawed. While most of the frail elderly and those with disabilities prefer assistance at home, many must live in nursing homes to receive Medicaid benefits, care coordination for those with multiple chronic illnesses is poor, and the system for financing care impoverishes many middle-income families. The national health reform debate allows policymakers to reconsider long-term care as well. The paper assesses proposals to restructure the delivery and financing of long-term care services. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411908_longterm_care.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

MULTIPLE CHOICE: CHARTER SCHOOL PERFORMANCE IN 16 STATES. Center for Research on Education Outcomes, Stanford University. June 2009.

The report by the Center for Research on Education Outcomes (CREDO) at Stanford University found that there is a wide variance in the quality of the nation's several thousand charter schools with, in the aggregate, students in charter schools not faring as well as students in traditional public schools. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://credo.stanford.edu/reports/MULTIPLE_CHOICE_CREDO.pdf [PDF format, 57 pages].

OBAMA ADMINISTRATION TAKES UNPRECEDENTED STEPS TO REDUCE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF MOUNTAINTOP COAL MINING, ANNOUNCES INTERAGENCY ACTION PLAN TO IMPLEMENT REFORMS. Executive Office of the President, Council on Environmental Quality. June 11, 2009.

Obama Administration announced that they are taking unprecedented steps to reduce the environmental impacts of mountaintop coal mining in the six Appalachian states of Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia through a coordinated approach between the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of the Interior (DOI) and Army Corps of Engineers. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/Press_Releases/June_11_2009/ [HTML format, various paging].

PAID SICK DAYS DON'T CAUSE UNEMPLOYMENT. Center for Economic and Policy Research. John Schmitt et al. June 2009.

Critics of legislation requiring employers to provide paid sick days frequently argue that these measures will lead to job loss and raise the national unemployment rate. However, the report shows that the experience of 22 countries with the highest level of social and economic development, as measured by the Human Development Index, suggests that there is no statistically significant relationship between national unemployment rates and legally-mandated access to paid sick days and leave. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/psd-ur-2009-06.pdf> [PDF format, 5 pages].

PUTTING WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE DISPARITIES ON THE MAP: EXAMINING RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES AT THE STATE LEVEL. Kaiser Family Foundation. June 2009.

The report documents the persistence of disparities on 25 indicators between white women and women of color, including rates of diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, AIDS and cancer, as well as insurance coverage and health screenings. It also documents disparities in the factors that influence health and access to care, such as income and education. Women of color fared worse than white women on most measures and in some cases the disparities were stark. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.kff.org/minorityhealth/upload/7886.pdf> [PDF format, 112 pages].

THE STATE OF MUSIC ONLINE: TEN YEARS AFTER NAPSTER. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Mary Madden. June 15, 2009.

In the decade since Napster's launch, selling recorded music has become as much of an art as making the music itself. The music industry has been on the front lines of the battle to convert freeloaders into paying customers, and their efforts have been watched closely by other digitized industries, newspapers, book publishing and Hollywood among them, who are hoping to staunch their own bleeding before it's too late, according to the report. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2009/The-State-of-Music-Online_-Ten-Years-After-Napster.pdf [PDF format, 18 pages].

STATE TRANSPORTATION ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT MISSION GROWTH. National Governors Association. Tara Butler. June 9, 2009.

States are using a range of existing, new and innovative strategies to address transportation issues associated with significant growth in the missions at many military bases across the country, according to the issue brief. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0906MISSIONGROWTH.PDF> [PDF format, 25 pages].

THE US FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC CRISIS; WHERE DOES IT STAND AND WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? Business and Public Policy, Brookings Institution. Martin Neil

Baily and Douglas J. Elliott. June 15, 2009.

The economy is showing signs that it is likely bottoming out and heading toward a weak recovery, but the nation need to keep optimism and keep policy actions in check, argue Martin Baily and Douglas Elliott. Many risks remain for both the banking system and the larger economy, and they argue for increased focus on existing financial rescue plans and the banking sector. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2009/0615_economic_crisis_baily_elliott/0615_economic_crisis_baily_elliott.pdf [PDF format, 26 pages].

OBAMA'S MIDDLE CHALLENGE – PART I. Yale Center for the Study of Globalization. June 16, 2009.

The author analyzes Obama's speech, which he thinks could prove to be a pivotal moment in Middle East politics. At the least, it shows a new U.S. empathy for the plight of the Palestinians and a new stance toward the Israelis not shown before by an American president. It recognizes the need for a Palestinian state and calls for an end to Israeli settlements. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/display.article?id=12469> [HTML format, various paging].

PRESIDENTIAL POWER IN IRAN. Council on Foreign Relations. June 17, 2009.

The author points out that no incumbent has lost a presidential election in post-Revolution Iran, and despite allegations of vote rigging and fraud in the wake of the June 2009 race, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has so far avoided the historical distinction of being the first. But some observers had speculated the sitting president would face a tough reelection bid, and news of Ahmadinejad's [land-slide victory](#) brought hundreds of thousands of opposition supporters into the streets of Tehran demanding a new vote. As a result, many experts believe that public support for Iran's unique form of government—a mix of clerical rule and elected leadership—has been eroded. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.cfr.org/publication/19593/presidential_power_in_iran.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fbackgrounder [HTML format, various paging].

WHAT IF AHMADINEJAD REALLY WON? Brookings Institution. June 16, 2009.

As demonstrations continue in the wake of the Iranian election, Djavod Salehi-Isfahani writes from Tehran that the concentration of protests in Iran's large urban areas is not a coincidence: rural and small town voters may prioritize different social and political issues than their young, urban counterparts. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/0616_iran_election_salehi_isfahani.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

DISCRIMINATION, DENIAL, AND DEPORTATION: HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES AFFECTING MIGRANTS LIVING WITH HIV. Human Rights Watch. June 18, 2009.

The scale of global migration is vast and growing, according to the report. The International Organization for Migration has estimated that 192 million people globally, or 3 percent of the world's population, live outside of their country of birth. Since the emergence of the HIV epidemic, migrant populations have received considerable recognition from the international community in the context of risk, spread, and prevention of HIV/AIDS. However, despite the long recognition of migration's relationship to HIV vulnerability, states have largely failed to ensure that internal and international migrants have access to HIV treatment. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/health0609webwcover.pdf> [PDF format, 30 pages].

ENABLING ADAPTATION: PRIORITIES FOR SUPPORTING THE RURAL POOR IN A CHANGING CLIMATE. World Resources Institute. Manish Bapan et al. June 2009.

Effective climate adaptation requires an enabling environment, one that grants the poor the rights, resources and access they need to sustain and benefit from ecosystems, governments and markets, according to the authors. Development experience provides important lessons for fostering such enabling environments, including principles of good governance that provide the rural poor with control of the ecosystems on which they depend. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://pdf.wri.org/issue_brief_enabling_adaptation.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

GLOBAL STATUS REPORT ON ROAD SAFETY: TIME FOR ACTION. World Health Organization. June 15, 2009.

Approximately 1.3 million people die each year on the world's roads, and between 20 and 50 million sustain non-fatal injuries. The report assesses the road safety situation in 178 countries, using data drawn from a standardized survey. The results show that road traffic injuries remain an important public health problem, particularly for low-income and middle-income countries. Pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists make up almost half of those killed on the roads, highlighting the need for these road users to be given more attention in road safety programs. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2009/9789241563840_eng.pdf [PDF format, 301 pages].

NANO & BIOCIDAL SILVER. Friends of the Earth. Rye Senjen. June 11, 2009.

The report details the growing public health threat posed by nano-silver particles in consumer products. Silver has long been known to be a potent antimicrobial agent. However, its use has exploded in recent years, in medical applications and also in many consumer products, including children's toys, babies' bottles, cosmetics, textiles, cleaning agents, chopping boards, refrigerators and dishwashers. Much of the silver used in these products today is manufactured at the nano-scale, meaning it is present in extremely tiny particles that behave differently than larger particles and are especially potent. Studies suggest that the widespread use of nano-silver poses serious health and environmental risks and that it could promote anti-bacterial resistance, undermining its efficacy in a medical context. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.foe.org/sites/default/files/Nano-silverReport_US.pdf [PDF format, 48 pages].

MAPPING THE ARABIC BLOGOSPHERE: POLITICS, CULTURE, AND DISSENT. Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University. Bruce Etling et al. June 2009.

The report uses a unique methodology that blends link analysis, term frequency analysis, and human coding of individual blogs to investigate the online discussions taking place across the Middle East and North Africa. Moreover, personal life and local issues are the most important

topics of discussion: most bloggers write mainly personal, diary-style observations, but when writing about politics, bloggers tend to focus on issues within their own country, says the authors. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/sites/cyber.law.harvard.edu/files/Mapping_the_Arabic_Blogosphere.pdf [PDF format, 62 pages].

NORTH KOREA'S NUCLEAR AND MISSILE TESTS AND THE SIX-PARTY TALKS: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? Brookings Institution. Richard C. Bush. June 17, 2009.

In testimony before Congress on June 17, Richard Bush describes how North Korea's recent nuclear and missile tests have transformed the challenge faced by the international system. Dr. Bush testified that it is now clear that North Korea bases its security on nuclear weapons, and the hope that it will abandon the nuclear option has disappeared. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/testimonies/2009/0617_north_korea_bush/0617_north_korea_bush_written.pdf [PDF format, 10 pages].

CARE TO CARE?: ASSESSING THE CHALLENGES OF INTEGRATING MIGRANT WOMEN INTO EUROPE'S LABOUR FORCE. RAND Corporation. Jennifer Rubin et al. June 16, 2009.

The study aims to increase the understanding of the labor market outcomes of migrant women in the European Union given European economic and social agendas for growth, equality and social cohesion, and to examine the impact of policies on these outcomes. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/2009/RAND_RB9430.pdf [PDF format, 3 pages].

MEKONG DOLPHINS ON THE BRINK OF EXTINCTION. World Wildlife Fund. June 18, 2009.

Pollution in the Mekong River has pushed the local population of Irrawaddy dolphins to the brink of extinction, the report shows. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.panda.org/?167001/Mekong-dolphins-on-the-brink-of-extinction> [HTML format, various paging].

"BLACK CARBON" CHOKES CHILEAN TOWNS. World Watch Institute. Jane Zhou. June 16, 2009.

Firewood use in the world's poorest regions contributes to local pollution, public health concerns, and climate change. Even Chile, South America's most prosperous country, is struggling to overcome the effects of black carbon. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.worldwatch.org/node/6157> [HTML format, various paging].

COSTA RICA: BACKGROUND AND U.S. RELATIONS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Peter J. Meyer. June 2009.

The United States and Costa Rica have long enjoyed close relations as a result of the countries shared commitments to strengthening democracy, improving human rights, and advancing free trade. The countries have also maintained strong commercial ties, which are likely to become even more extensive as a result of the implementation of CAFTA-DR. Costa Rica and the United States have worked together on a number of other issues as well, such as conserving Costa Ricas tropical forests and combating narcotics trafficking.
http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40593_20090602.pdf [PDF format, 14 pages].

THE MULTILATERAL RESPONSE TO THE GLOBAL CRISIS: RATIONALE, MODALITIES, AND FEASIBILITY. Inter-American Development Bank. Eduardo Fernandez-Arias et al. June 2009.

The paper reviews the case for a strong multilateral response to the global crisis in emerging markets (EMs). It discusses modalities and feasibility of intervention and its associated risks, depending on country circumstances of fiscal space and liquidity needs. The specific role of Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) in ensuring the development effectiveness of the fiscal response is also discussed. The paper concludes by highlighting the international financial architecture issues raised by the global crisis that cannot be addressed immediately but will need to be dealt with once the current crisis has been tamed. [Note: contains copyright material]. <http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?docnum=2029094> [PDF format, 27 pages].

THE 2009 HEALTH CONFIDENCE SURVEY: PUBLIC OPINION ON HEALTH REFORM VARIES. Employee Benefit Research Institute. July 2009.

The report indicates that Americans have already formed strong opinions regarding various aspects of health reform, even before details have been released regarding various key factors. These issues include health insurance market reform, the availability of a public plan option, mandates on employers and individuals, subsidized coverage for the low-income population, changes to the tax treatment of job-based health benefits, and regulatory oversight of health care. [Note: contains copyright material]. http://www.ebri.org/pdf/briefspdf/EBRI_IB_7-2009_HCS_09.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

FINANCIAL REGULATORY REFORM: A NEW FOUNDATION. U.S. Department of Treasury. June 2009.

Over the past two years the country has faced the most severe financial crisis since the Great Depression. Americans across the nation are struggling with unemployment, failing businesses, falling home prices, and declining savings. These challenges have forced the government to take extraordinary measures to revive our financial system so that people can access loans to buy a car or home, pay for a child's education, or finance a business says the report. http://www.financialstability.gov/docs/regs/FinalReport_web.pdf [PDF format, 89 pages].

HOME BROADBAND ADOPTION 2009. Pew Internet & American Life Project. John Horrigan. June 17, 2009.

An April 2009 survey by the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project shows 63% of adult Americans now have broadband internet connections at home, a 15% increase from a year earlier. April's level of high-speed adoption represents a significant jump from figures gathered by the Project since the end of 2007 (54%). The growth in home broadband adoption occurred even though survey respondents reported paying more for broadband compared to May 2008. Last year, the average monthly bill for broadband internet service at home was \$34.50, a figure that stands at \$39.00 in April 2009. [Note: contains copyright material]. <http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2009/Home-Broadband-Adoption-2009.pdf> [PDF format, 50 pages].

INFLUENZA PANDEMIC: INCREASED AGENCY ACCOUNTABILITY COULD HELP PROTECT FEDERAL EMPLOYEES SERVING THE PUBLIC IN THE EVENT OF A PANDEMIC. U.S. Government Accountability Office. June 16, 2009.

GAO surveyed the 24 agencies employing nearly all federal workers to gain an overview of government wide pandemic influenza preparedness efforts and found that a wide range of pandemic planning activities are under way. However, as of early 2009, several agencies

reported that they were still developing their pandemic plans and their measures to protect their workforce. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09404.pdf> [PDF format, 48 pages].

METROMONITOR: TRACKING ECONOMIC RECESSION AND RECOVERY IN AMERICA'S 100 LARGEST METROPOLITAN AREAS. Brookings Institution. June 2009.

Beneath the constant drumbeat of headline numbers emanating from Washington on U.S. jobs, national unemployment, GDP, and home prices lies a complex, diverse set of 366 metropolitan economies. While no metro area has been immune from the current economic downturn, the pain is unevenly distributed. Some have felt only modest effects, and a few show early signs of recovery, while others are undergoing a wrenching restructuring that may fundamentally alter their economic trajectory. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2009/06_metro_monitor/06_metromonitor.pdf [PDF format, 21 pages].

NEW JERSEY, VIRGINIA AND OTHER STATES OF FLUX. Fair Vote. Rob Richie and Paul Fidalgo. June 11, 2009.

The field is set for highly competitive gubernatorial elections this fall in Virginia and New Jersey. In handicapping the electoral prospects of the gubernatorial candidates, some of our smartest politicians are assuming that a state's presidential results are a major indicator of who will lord over the statehouse. The hard numbers show that presidential elections can be close to irrelevant when it comes to projecting results in gubernatorial elections, according to the analysis. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.fairvote.org/?page=27&pressmode=showspecific&showarticle=252> [HTML format, various paging].

WOMEN MORE LIKELY TO BE DEMOCRATS, REGARDLESS OF AGE. Gallup. June 12, 2009.

A new Gallup analysis of almost 150,000 interviews conducted from January through May of this year sheds new light on the substantial gender gap that exists in American politics today. Not only are women significantly more likely than men to identify as Democrats, and less likely to identify as independents, but -- with only slight variation -- this gap is evident across all ages, from 18 to 85, and within all major racial, ethnic, and marital-status segments of society. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.gallup.com/poll/120839/Women-Likely-Democrats-Regardless-Age.aspx> [HTML format, various paging].

ARTICLES

DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

Benjamin, Dave PROTECTING THE PROTECTORS: NGO ACTION AND THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT (International Journal on World Peace, vol. 26, no. 1, March 2009, pp. 31–50)

According to Benjamin, assistant professor of international political economy at the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and international nongovernmental organizations (INGOs) are facing increasing threats as internal conflict in states rises. Benjamin says that as NGOs and INGOs play a bigger role in shaping international humanitarian policy, they become more vulnerable. Because NGOs have no official ties to any government, Benjamin says they cannot rely on protection by the UN or under international law. Benjamin also notes that NGOs can fall prey to internal conflicts, and often fall into the habit of promoting reforms based on Western economic models and can overlook local, older social structures and norms. He notes that NGOs and INGOs walk a fine line between humanitarian intervention and cultural chauvinism; they are playing an increasingly important role in shaping the framework for countries with internal conflicts. Despite the pitfalls, Benjamin says NGOs and INGOs have great potential for “preserving the peace, protecting the vulnerable, and securing humanity’s common future,” and for this reason, they should be afforded the same protections as states and individuals.

Chen, Ingfei THE SOCIAL BRAIN (Smithsonian, Vol. 40, No. 3, June 2009, pp. 38-43)

A spindle-shaped nerve cell found only in certain regions of the brain may be the key to what separates humans from most of the animal kingdom. Known as the von Economo neuron, it may also strengthen the link between humans and a select group of other social animals, including elephants, great apes, certain whales and bottle-nosed dolphins. By comparing the occurrence of this cell in humans and other species that possess it, neuroscientist John Allman of the California Institute of Technology hopes to learn more about social behavior and its evolution among species. The von Economo cell is larger than most brain cells, and Allman thinks its first evolutionary assignment was to move impulses around big-brained creatures. In time, the scientist theorizes the demands of social interaction required the cell to take on the job of managing those activities. If he’s right, and the brains of humans and animals sharing the von Economo cells followed the same evolutionary path, that means these creatures have the same specialized brain wiring for empathy and social interaction as humans. Currently available online at www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/The-Social-Brain.html

Moaveni, Azadeh ROXANA SABERI AND HOW JOURNALISM WORKS IN IRAN (Time, June 1, 2009)

Western media sees Iran in black and white, but there are many nuances in understanding how Iran really works, the author says. A case in point is the Iranian-American journalist Roxana Saberi, who was arrested in Iran on charges of espionage, but then freed. Moaveni, who has reported in Iran since 1999, acknowledges that she has had to deal with an Iranian government “minder” who monitors all her activities -- but she has come to accept that her minder represents “a troubled government composed of both pragmatic and hard-line factions.” The hardliners, she says, view all journalists as essentially spies; but the fact that the government still allows so many foreign journalists to visit and operate out of Iran is a sign of pragmatism. Moaveni warns that having valid press credentials issued by the Iranian government is essential -- something Saberi

ignored. "Reporting on the powerful, whether in the world of finance, the White House, or the Islamic Republic of Iran, is always a fraught enterprise," Moaveni says. Even in Washington, D.C., she says, there is "a complex power game involved in cultivating close access to the knowledgeable and influential. Of course a journalist who flouts the rules in Washington will risk access rather than imprisonment, but that's just one more benefit of living in a society with the luxury of nuance." Currently available online at <http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1902080,00.html>

Vaccari, David A. PHOSPHORUS FAMINE: THE THREAT TO OUR FOOD SUPPLY (Scientific American, June 2009)

Phosphorus, an underappreciated resource and a key component of fertilizers, is still decades from running out. But the author warns that we must act now to conserve it, or future agriculture could collapse. Mining phosphorus for fertilizer is consuming the mineral faster than geologic cycles can replenish it. The U.S. may run out of its accessible domestic sources in a few decades, and few other countries have substantial reserves, which could also be depleted in about a century. Excess phosphorus in waterways helps feed algal blooms, which starve fish of oxygen, creating "dead zones." Reducing soil erosion and recycling phosphorus from farm and human waste could help make food production sustainable and prevent algal blooms. Currently available online at <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=phosphorus-a-looming-crisis>

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Brooks, Stephen; Wohlforth, William RESHAPING THE WORLD ORDER: HOW WASHINGTON SHOULD REFORM INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS (Foreign Affairs, vol. 88, no. 2, March-April 2009, pp. 49-63)

The authors, academics at Dartmouth College, propose a strategic approach rather than a recipe for reform and present the case for Washington leading the reform process. They believe that the existing architecture is out of sync with today's world of rising powers and new challenges; as interdependence among countries intensifies and the list of global problems that the U.S. can't resolve on its own grows, the benefits of international institutions will increase. Despite the fact that the Bush administration has squandered much goodwill in the past eight years, the U.S. has the means and the motive to spearhead the foundation of a new institutional order. It should follow a strategy that highlights the benefits of the institutional revisions, links the proposed order to the current one, and uses the United States' position of influence to persuade other governments to sign on to reform.

Eberstadt, Nicholas DRUNKEN NATION: RUSSIA'S DEPOPULATION BOMB (World Affairs, Vol. 171, no. 4, Spring 2009, pp. 51-62)

The relentless depopulation of Russia amounts to an ethnic self-cleansing, says the author, a scholar at the American Enterprise Institute. The process threatens to reshape life and society, diminish the prospects for economic development, and affect country's potential influence on the international stage. This trend, which began in 1992, constitutes the longest period of population decline in modern Russian history. With the collapse of Soviet rule, Russia has seen a drastic change in childbearing patterns and living arrangements described by Eberstadt as "withering away" of the family itself that has produced low levels of fertility. In addition, high premature mortality rates are of a scale akin to results of a devastating war, he says. The high death rates are a result of serious epidemics of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, as well as with an upsurge of cardiovascular disease and fatal injuries from alcohol abuse. As Russian authorities have mainly ignored the nation's human resources crisis in their strategic plans, the country's economic and

democratic future is in jeopardy. Currently available online at <http://www.worldaffairsjournal.org/2009%20-%20Spring/full-Eberstadt.html>

Engler, John FORGING A SECOND AMERICAN CENTURY (Forbes, May 28, 2009)

In this series of stories called "Made in America," Engler, former three-term Michigan governor and current president of the National Association of Manufacturers, argues that American manufacturing will survive. The United States, he notes, remains the world's largest manufacturing nation, accounting for more than 19.5 percent of global manufacturing output. Although 1.5 million manufacturing jobs have been lost, more than 12 million remain and manufacturing represent 11.6 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product. The bad news is that higher taxes, energy and regulatory costs place U.S. manufacturers at a disadvantage compared to their foreign competitors. The good news is that competition hones better manufacturing processes, and, as manufacturing become more automated, lower labor costs in places like China and India are less important in the competitive picture. Currently available online at <http://www.forbes.com/2009/05/27/john-engler-manufacturing-business-america.html>

Gregory, Sean ARE SHOPPERS FED UP WITH THE RECESSION? (Time, June 1, 2009)

"Recession fatigue" may have set in, and consumers are out shopping again, according to this report; recent surveys done by WSL Strategic Retail, a consulting firm, show that fewer consumers are reporting that they are cutting purchases. WSL's CEO Wendy Liebmann reports that people seem to have cut back as much as they can. They're "tired of watching every little penny and are ready to break out a little," she said. But Liebmann stresses that her data doesn't predict a recovery. Unemployment is still high, and job anxiety remains a powerful brake on consumer spending. Currently available online at <http://www.time.com/time/business/article/0,8599,1901902,00.html>

Klare, Michael IT'S OFFICIAL – THE ERA OF CHEAP OIL IS OVER (The Nation, posted June 11, 2009)

Every summer, the Energy Information Administration (EIA) of the U.S. Department of Energy issues its International Energy Outlook, a data-packed assessment of the global energy situation. This year's report contained a statement of great significance: the EIA predicts a sharp drop in future global oil production. Klare notes that the EIA, which in past years has scoffed at the notion of impending global petroleum shortages, is now finally coming around to the conclusion that many experts have been warning about for years – that the era of cheap and plentiful oil is drawing to a close. While the EIA predicts that production of unconventional fuels will increase to fill the shortfall, Klare and others are doubtful that they will bridge the gap, given the large investments required and the tremendous adverse environmental impact. The EIA's report also highlights the insatiable demand for energy in Asia, and the fact that China will before long overtake the U.S. as the world's largest energy consumer, at which point it will be in a position to influence global energy policy and markets. Available online at <http://www.thenation.com/doc/20090629/klare>

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Bandow, Doug FORGETTING PYONGYANG (National Interest, Web Exclusive, May 27, 2009)

The author, a senior fellow at the Cato Institute, asserts that North Korea's recent nuclear test "has little practical importance." Noting that North Korea has been a nuclear state for some time, Bandow suggests that the tests may be linked to internal politics, since Kim Jong-il is not well and

his succession has hardly been assured. Our main objective should be to avoid, not trigger, a conflict with the North – to wait out its eventual demise. President Obama and Secretary Clinton overstated the danger from the North’s tests, which “changed nothing and threatened no one.” The U.S. should encourage China to use its influence to promote internal regime change. Barring that, the administration should express an interest in forging a more positive relationship with the North and should be open to both formal and informal bilateral discussions – but only if Pyongyang reciprocates. Further North Korean provocations should be met with “bored contempt rather than excited concern;” the U.S. should also step back and allow Beijing, Seoul, and Tokyo to take the lead in dealing with the North, since they are more directly threatened by Pyongyang. “North Korea is a nightmare, but a far worse one for other nations than America.” Currently available online at <http://www.nationalinterest.org/Article.aspx?id=21524>

Douville, Alex J. BEYOND THE WATER’S EDGE: THE ROLE OF EX-PRESIDENTS IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY (Georgetown Journal of International Affairs, vol. 10, no. 1, Winter/Spring 2009, pp. 57-62)

Ex-presidents are increasingly asserting a more active role in foreign policy due to the relatively young age at which they retire, longer life expectancies, and the reach of the Internet and 24-hour communications networks. The author, director of policy studies at the Center for the Study of the Presidency in Washington, D.C. says that the ongoing engagement of these men is good and may contribute to the future success of foreign policy. The reach of former presidents is broader these days because many recent officials, including Jimmy Carter, have established policy centers in their names giving them a solid platform from which to exert influence. Sitting presidents are also making use of their predecessors to handle delicate diplomatic missions and to raise funds for humanitarian disasters. “Former presidents can also circumvent the animosity that plagues traditional channels of U.S. foreign policy,” Douville writes, “championing American ideals by acting as unofficial ‘Goodwill Ambassadors.’” While their influence is valuable, he says, their activities should be coordinated with current administrations whenever possible.

Forest, James J. F. INFLUENCE WARFARE AND MODERN TERRORISM (Georgetown Journal of International Affairs, vol. 10, no. 1, Winter/Spring 2009, pp. 81-89)

The author, Director of Terrorism Studies and associate professor in the Combating Terrorism Center at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, examines the sophisticated use of different forms of communication by al-Qaeda on the Internet. Using Web sites, blogs, videos, and other Internet tools, al-Qaeda attempts to convince their audiences that the righteousness of their cause justifies their violent attacks. A challenge for the U.S. is to develop a new information strategy that will undermine and discredit al-Qaeda’s rationales for violence. The U.S. must use all available media, including the Internet, to craft and deliver messages that discredit al-Qaida’s violent ideology. American efforts in strategic communication are currently scattered across many overlapping government entities and should be more centrally coordinated.

Fosson, Adam CONFLUENCE OF EVIL: THE SMUGGLING-TERRORISM NEXUS (HSToday, vol. 5, no. 12, December 2008, pp. 24-29)

There is a growing connection between counterfeit consumer items, tobacco smuggling, narcotics trafficking and foreign terrorist organizations. This is because terrorism takes a large investment and these illegal operations provide sources of cash. The sustainability of these income sources is also crucial to jihadists because they perceive their jihad as a long-term fight. The merging of terrorist organizations and groups that carry out illegal activities makes them even more dangerous as each gains more skill sets and improves their capabilities. In order to stay ahead of both groups, American initiatives must evolve and expand to collect and share information both internally and abroad. This article is currently available on the Internet at: <http://www.hstoday.us/content/view/6239/92/>

Jalali, Ali A. WINNING IN AFGHANISTAN (Parameters, vol. 39, no. 1, Spring 2009, pp. 5-21)

Jalali, former Interior Minister of Afghanistan and now Professor at the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies at the National Defense University, discusses the past failures and the future necessities in what is now America's primary foreign-policy priority. Jalali sees problems ahead with regard to the upcoming plans for more U.S. troop involvement, noting that "since 2001 the situation in Afghanistan has evolved from a relatively simple post-conflict setting into a complex threat environment marked by terrorism, insurgency, and the many challenges of nation-building." Jalali notes that the goals of the Afghans, the Obama Administration and the international community are often at cross-purposes. The terrorist presence means that Afghan and international forces will have to simultaneously tackle the challenges of counterterrorism, counterinsurgency, and nation-building. He writes that the focus of the administration's new Afghanistan strategy should include eliminating the ability of the insurgency to use Pakistan as a base, building support among the Afghan tribes and local communities and assisting the Afghan government in establishing the rule of law and combating corruption. Available online: www.carlisle.army.mil/usawc/Parameters/09spring/jalali.pdf

Shinn, David H. AFRICA: THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA COURT THE CONTINENT (Journal of International Affairs, vol. 62, no. 2, Spring/Summer 2009, pp. 37-53)

The United States and China are the most important actors in Africa and share similar goals, writes Shinn, an adjunct professor at George Washington University and former Foreign Service officer. Both seek raw materials such as oil, political and economic support in world forums from African countries, and to increase exports as Africa's economy grows. Despite these similarities, the U.S. and China have different strategies of dealing with Africa, and can learn from each other. The U.S. should approach African governments with more humility, have more personal contact with its leaders, and contribute more security personal to United Nations peacekeeping operations in Africa. China should speak more forcefully with African leaders about corruption, poor governance and human rights abuses, and expand its contact with Africa's civil society, labor unions, non-government organizations and opposition political parties. China should also join the United States in training Africans to take part in peacekeeping operations, and be more open about its aid and investment in Africa. Finally, the United States and China should cooperate to benefit each other and African nations, in areas including peacekeeping operations, energy development, public health, environmental practices, and building Africa's export capacity. Currently available online at <http://www.allbusiness.com/economy-economic-indicators/economic-conditions-decline/12324932-1.html>

U.S. SOCIETY & VALUES

Dempsey, Jason; Shapiro, Robert THE ARMY'S HISPANIC FUTURE (Armed Forces & Society, vol. 35, no. 3, April 2009, pp. 526-561)

Using data from the CITIZENSHIP & SERVICE: 2004 SURVEY OF ARMY PERSONNEL, a probability sample of active duty soldiers and officers, this study examines key questions concerning success in the military for racial and ethnic minorities. It focuses on the degree to which Hispanics are integrated into the Army and compares the experiences of Hispanics to the experiences of whites and blacks. After assessing why Hispanics join the Army and choose their occupational specialties, the study looks at how Hispanics perceive Army life, their personal experiences with discrimination, and the progress of the Army in the area of racial and ethnic integration. By comparing the attitudes of Hispanics to those of whites and blacks, it explores the

degree to which race and ethnicity influence life in the Army and the implication of this for the military's future.

Fischer, Karin INTERNATIONALLY, THE BUSINESS OF EDUCATION IS BOOMING
(Chronicle of Higher Education, Vol. 55, No. 38, May 29, 2009, pp. A1, A31-A32)

Despite the global economic downturn, the business of education is booming. The number of students who study outside their home countries is projected to grow from three million this year to eight million by 2025, and most U.S. colleges and universities not only lack the capacity to deal with the rising numbers but probably cannot efficiently create the needed capacity. Instead, they are turning to the rapidly-growing business sector that provides services to international educators – everything from medical evacuations for sick students to recruitment, internships and evaluation of foreign academic credentials. U.S. colleges also need help with the 1.25 million foreign-educated people who come to the U.S. each year and the many more they hope to recruit. Most of the U.S.-bound students used to be coming for study at the graduate level, but now colleges are seeking undergraduates, “who typically pay full tuition,” Fischer says. To find such students, colleges are paying companies for marketing plans, advertising materials, international recruitment tours and fairs, and similar services.

Zellman, Gail et al. MEETING FAMILY AND MILITARY NEEDS THROUGH MILITARY CHILD CARE (Armed Forces & Society, vol. 35, no. 3, April 2009, pp. 437-459)

This article summarizes results from a child care survey of military families conducted by the RAND Corporation in 2004 and draws policy implications for the military child-care system. The article describes the military child-care system, discusses the policy objectives of the system, and summarizes survey results that clarify the degree to which the Department of Defense is meeting its child-care goals. The authors find evidence that despite its high quality, the military child-care system fails to optimize readiness and retention of military members because these goals do not drive system policies or operations. The article offers suggestions for improving.

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