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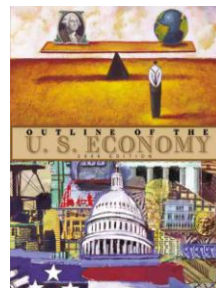
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<http://www.america.gov/publications/article-alert.html>

## **SIGNIFICANT E-DOCUMENTS**

A GLOBAL FUND FOR EDUCATION: ACHIEVING EDUCATION FOR ALL. Brookings Institution. David Gartner. August 31, 2009.

In order to realize the world’s commitment to ensuring education for all by 2015, important innovations and reforms will be needed in the governance and financing of global education. In 2008, Presidential Candidate Barack Obama committed to making sure that every child has the chance to learn by creating a Global Fund for Education. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has recently called for a new architecture of global cooperation that requires institutions to “combine the efficiency and capacity for action with inclusiveness.” A new Global Fund for Education should be an independent and inclusive multi-stakeholder institution that builds upon existing institutions and supports country-driven solutions, says the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. [http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2009/08\\_education\\_gartner/08\\_education\\_gartner.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2009/08_education_gartner/08_education_gartner.pdf) [PDF format, 5 pages].

THE MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION AND ECONOMIC SANCTIONS: A COMPARISON OF HONDURAS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. Center for Economic and Policy Research. Alexander Main and Jake Johnston. August 2009.

The brief looks at U.S. assistance to other countries through the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), in cases where the U.S. has cut the funding following political developments such as coups d’etat or alleged electoral irregularities. The brief notes that while the U.S. suspended MCC money within days following coups in both Mauritania and Madagascar, MCC commitments in Honduras, worth more than \$190 million, have not been put on hold after over 57 days following Honduras’ June 28, 2009 coup. The U.S. also froze MCC aid to Nicaragua just days following what the U.S. alleged were electoral irregularities in municipal elections. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/mcc-sanctions-2009-08.pdf> [PDF format, 4 pages].

WHAT THE 2008/2009 WORLD ECONOMIC CRISIS MEANS FOR GLOBAL AGRICULTURAL TRADE. U.S. Department of Agriculture. May Peters et al. August 20, 2009.

The global economic crisis that started in late 2008 has led to a sharp curtailment of international trade, including a short-term decline in the value of global agricultural trade of around 20 percent. After slowing, global agricultural trade will continue to grow in the future. The crisis is leading to a realignment of exchange rates, and the ultimate resolution of the crisis will depend on adjustments in the exchange value of the U.S. dollar. The U.S. agricultural sector would benefit from a depreciating dollar, which results in high export earnings, high agricultural commodity prices, increased production, and increased farm income.  
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/WRS0905/WRS0905.pdf> [PDF format, 32 pages].

SCENARIOS FOR SUDAN: AVOIDING POLITICAL VIOLENCE THROUGH 2011. U.S. Institute of Peace. Alan Schwartz. August 2009.

More political violence will be hard to avoid in Sudan, barring a quick change in current trends, according to the report. Much of the outcome hinges on the handling of issues that involve the 2011 referendum on whether the South secedes from Sudan. The lack of governance capacity in the South and failure to resolve tensions between the North and South are two major factors that could lead to future conflict if they are not addressed before the referendum, author Alan Schwartz finds. He runs through three scenarios for possible outcomes and recommends ways Sudan and international community can work to avoid such political violence in the coming years. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR228\\_0.pdf](http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR228_0.pdf) [PDF format, 12 pages].

UNITED STATES ACTIONS TO COUNTER PIRACY OFF THE HORN OF AFRICA. U.S. Department of State. September 1, 2009.

The United States Government, in concert with the American maritime industry and other concerned nations and international organizations, continues to work to prevent pirates operating in the waters off of the Horn of Africa from interfering with maritime commerce, endangering mariners, hindering the provision of humanitarian aid to East Africa, and further destabilizing this troubled region.  
<http://www.state.gov/t/pm/rls/fs/128540.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

WOMEN AND RADICALISATION IN KYRGYZSTAN. International Crisis Group. September 3, 2009.

Kyrgyzstan's increasingly authoritarian government is adopting a counter-productive approach to the country's growing radicalization. Instead of tackling the root causes of a phenomenon that has seen increasing numbers, including many women, joining groups such as Hizb ut-Tahrir (HT), it is resorting to heavy-handed police methods that risk pushing yet more Kyrgyz towards radicalism, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/asia/central\\_asia/176\\_women\\_and\\_radicalisation\\_in\\_kyrgyzstan.pdf](http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/asia/central_asia/176_women_and_radicalisation_in_kyrgyzstan.pdf) [PDF format, 39 pages].

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CONTRACTORS IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN: BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Moshe Schwartz. August 2009.

The Department of Defense (DOD) increasingly relies upon contractors to support operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The critical role contractors play in supporting such military operations and the billions of dollars spent by DOD on these services requires operational forces to effectively manage contractors during contingency operations. Some analysts believe that poor contract management has also played a role in abuses and crimes committed by certain contractors against local nationals, which likely has undermined U.S. counterinsurgency efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan. The report reviews steps Congress has taken to exercise oversight over DOD contracting, including contracting issues that have been the focus of hearings and legislation.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/R40764.pdf> [PDF format, 23 pages].

QUALITY OF LIFE IN URBAN NEIGHBORHOODS IN METROPOLITAN LIMA, PERU. Inter-American Development Bank. Lorena Alcazar and Raul Andrade. Web posted September 2009.

The paper presents the results of the estimations of a quality of life (QoL) index focusing on three dimensions: individual factors, urban factors, and civil society. The study was mainly based on results of a survey applied in three districts of Lima: La Victoria, Los Olivos and Villa El Salvador. These districts are relatively similar in terms of income, although Villa El Salvador has a larger percentage of poor households. Two findings stand out. First, variables related to participation in civil society are statistically significant in all specifications used. Second, in La Victoria and Los Olivos, QoL is determined largely by indicators in the individual sphere, while the civil society sphere is more important in Villa El Salvador. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?docnum=1668608> [PDF format, 65 pages].

ACCELERATED VEHICLE RETIREMENT FOR ECONOMY: "CASH FOR CLUNKERS"  
Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Brent D. Yacobucci and Bill Canis. August 2009.

In an attempt to boost sagging U.S. auto sales and to promote higher vehicle fuel economy, the President signed legislation on June 24, 2009—P.L. 111-32—establishing a program to provide rebates to prospective purchasers toward the purchase of new, fuel-efficient vehicles, provided the trade-in vehicles are scrapped. The report outlines the key provisions of the CARS program, discusses the initial impact of the program and some of the concerns raised by Senators. It also summarizes similar programs in other countries.

[http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40654\\_20090810.pdf](http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40654_20090810.pdf) [PDF format, 12 pages].

ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS: MEETING THE DEMAND FOR EFFECTIVE TEACHERS. National Center for Policy Analysis. Rebecca Garcia and Jessica Huseman. September 1, 2009.

Growing public school enrollment, an increase in the number of teachers retiring or leaving the profession and legislated limits on class size have made finding competent educators a growing challenge. In recent years, all 50 states and the District of Columbia have established alternative certification programs to help meet this challenge. The brief looks at the success rates. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.ncpa.org/pdfs/ba675.pdf> [PDF format, 2 pages].

BORDER PATROL: CHECKPOINTS CONTRIBUTE TO BORDER PATROL'S MISSION, BUT MORE CONSISTENT DATA COLLECTION AND PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT COULD IMPROVE EFFECTIVENESS. U.S. Government Accountability Office. August

The U.S. Border Patrol, part of the Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection (CBP), operates checkpoints on U.S. roads, mainly in the southwest border states where most illegal entries occur. As part of a three-tiered strategy to maximize detection and apprehension of illegal aliens, Border Patrol agents at checkpoints screen vehicles for illegal aliens and contraband. GAO work includes a review of Border Patrol data and guidance; visits to checkpoints and communities in five Border Patrol sectors across four southwest border states, selected on the basis of size, type, and volume, among other factors; and discussions with community members and Border Patrol officials in headquarters and field locations.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09824.pdf> [PDF format, 147 pages].

**BROKEN LAWS, UNPROTECTED WORKERS: VIOLATIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR LAWS IN AMERICA'S CITIES.** National Employment Law Project et al. Annette Bernhardt et al. September 2009.

The report exposes a world of work in which the core protections that many Americans take for granted: the right to be paid at least the minimum wage, the right to be paid for overtime hours, the right to take meal breaks, access to workers' compensation when injured, and the right to advocate for better working conditions, are failing significant numbers of workers. According to the report, the sheer breadth of the problem, spanning key industries in the economy, as well as its profound impact on workers, entailing significant economic hardship, demands urgent attention. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://nelp.3cdn.net/1797b93dd1ccdf9e7d\\_sdm6bc50n.pdf](http://nelp.3cdn.net/1797b93dd1ccdf9e7d_sdm6bc50n.pdf) [PDF format, 72 pages].

**CONGRESSIONAL FAVORABILITY AT 24-YEAR LOW.** Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. September 2, 2009.

Americans are extremely displeased with Congress, and there are already some signs that this could take a toll on the Democrats in the 2010 midterm elections. Currently, 37% express a favorable opinion of Congress, while 52% hold an unfavorable view. Positive opinions of Congress have declined by 13 points since April and are now at one of their lowest points in more than two decades of Pew Research Center surveys. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://people-press.org/reports/pdf/539.pdf> [PDF format, 36 pages].

**ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM: ENERGY CONSERVATION STANDARDS FOR REFRIGERATED BOTTLED OR CANNED BEVERAGE VENDING MACHINES.** U.S. Department of Energy. August 31, 2009.

The average energy use of the most common new cold beverage vending machines would be cut by about 42% according to the new national minimum standards. The move fulfills President Obama's February 5th pledge to complete five new efficiency standards by August. Energy efficiency and environmental groups lauded the new standards and DOE's prompt fulfillment of the President's commitment while lamenting the lack of energy-saving smart controls for vending machines that could have achieved even larger savings.

[http://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance\\_standards/commercial/pdfs/bvm\\_final\\_rule\\_notice.pdf](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance_standards/commercial/pdfs/bvm_final_rule_notice.pdf) [PDF format, 189 pages].

**FEMA'S SOURCING FOR DISASTER RESPONSE GOODS & SERVICES.** Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. August 2009.

When disaster strikes, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) must be prepared to quickly provide goods and services to help state and local governments respond to the disaster. Operational procedures that guide FEMA's disaster response call for a single-point ordering concept to provide goods and services efficiently and effectively, while minimizing the risk of duplication and waste. However, implementation of this concept has been limited owing to existing stovepipes, overreliance on the existing sourcing process, and poor integration of information technology systems, according to the report.

[http://www.dhs.gov/xoig/assets/mgmtrpts/OIG\\_09-96\\_Aug09.pdf](http://www.dhs.gov/xoig/assets/mgmtrpts/OIG_09-96_Aug09.pdf) [PDF format, 35 pages].

**FRACTURES IN THE FOUNDATION: THE LATINO WORKER'S EXPERIENCE IN AN ERA OF DECLINING JOB QUALITY.** National Council of La Raza. September 1, 2009.

Latino workers are the most likely to pay for violations of basic labor laws with their lives, according to the report. The report calls attention to the Latino occupational fatality rate, which is the highest of any demographic group. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.nclr.org/section/fractures\\_in\\_the\\_foundation/](http://www.nclr.org/section/fractures_in_the_foundation/) [HTML format with links].

THE HIGH COST OF HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS: WHAT THE NATIONL PAYS FOR INADEQUATE HIGH SCHOOLS. Alliance for Excellent Education. Web posted September 1, 2009.

If the high school students who dropped out of the Class of 2009 had graduated, the nation's economy would have benefited from nearly \$335 billion in additional income over the course of their lifetimes, according to the brief. Not only do high school dropouts earn less when they are employed, they are much more likely to be unemployed during the current economic recession, the brief finds. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://www.all4ed.org/files/HighCost.pdf> [PDF format, 6 pages].

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO PREVENT CHILDHOOD OBESITY. Institute of Medicine and National Research Council. Lynn Parker et al. September 1, 2009.

In the United States, 16.3 percent of children and adolescents between the ages of two and 19 are obese. The prevalence of obesity is so high that it may reduce the life expectancy of today's generation of children and diminish the overall quality of their lives. Local governments can play a crucial role in creating environments that make it easier for children to eat healthy diets and move more, according to the report. It presents a menu of recommended action steps for local government officials to consider in their efforts to prevent childhood obesity in their community. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=12674](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12674) [HTML format with links].

MEASURING THE EFFECTS OF THE BUSINESS CYCLE ON THE FEDERAL BUDGET: AN UPDATE. Congressional Budget Office. September 1, 2009.

According to Congressional Budget Office's projections, under current tax and spending policies, the budget deficit would increase from \$459 billion in 2008 to \$1.6 trillion in 2009 and then fall to \$1.4 trillion in 2010 and to \$921 billion in 2011. The size of the deficit is influenced both by policy changes and by the automatic responses of revenues and outlays to economic developments.  
[http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/105xx/doc10544/09-01\\_Update\\_BusinessCycle.pdf](http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/105xx/doc10544/09-01_Update_BusinessCycle.pdf) [PDF format, 6 pages].

OLDER AMERICANS ON THE GO: HOW OFTEN, WHERE, AND WHY? Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. Kelly Haverstock and Natalia A. Zhivan. September 2009.

The lore on whether older Americans move is mixed. On the one hand, the stereotype of retirement is that people flock to a warm climate such as Florida or Arizona. On the other hand, researchers have found that the home equity of older Americans changes very little over time, suggesting that they tend to stay put. The brief examine how often older households move, where they move, and why they move. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://crr.bc.edu/images/stories/Briefs/ib\\_9-18.pdf](http://crr.bc.edu/images/stories/Briefs/ib_9-18.pdf) [PDF format, 10 pages].

RECESSION TURNS A GRAYING OFFICE GRAYER. Pew Research Center. September 3, 2009.

The American work force is graying and not just because the American population itself is graying. Older adults are staying in the labor force longer, and younger adults are staying out of it longer. Both trends took shape about two decades ago. Both have intensified during the current recession. And both are expected to continue after the economy recovers. According to one government estimate, 93% of the growth in the U.S. labor force from 2006 to 2016 will be among workers ages 55 and older. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1330/american-work-force-is-graying> [HTML format, various paging].



SECURING THE BORDER FROM INVASIVES: ROBUST INSPECTIONS UNDER SEVERE UNCERTAINTY. Department of Resource Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst. L. Joe Moffitt et al. August 2009.

Two important features of agricultural quarantine inspections of shipping containers for invasive species at U.S. ports of entry are the general absence of economic considerations and the severe uncertainty that surrounds invasive species introductions, says the study. The study proposes and illustrates a method for determining an inspection monitoring protocol that addresses both issues. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://ageconsearch.umn.edu/bitstream/53127/2/ResEcWorkingPaper2009-6.pdf> [PDF format, 24 pages].

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS: FY 2001-FY2010. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Tiaji Salaam-Blyther. August 21, 2009.

A number of U.S. agencies and departments implement U.S. government global health interventions. Overall, U.S. global health assistance is not always coordinated. Exceptions to this include U.S. international responses to key infectious diseases. For example, U.S. programs to address HIV/AIDS through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), malaria through the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), and avian and pandemic influenza through the Avian Flu Task Force. Although several U.S. agencies and departments implement global health programs, the report focuses on funding for global health programs conducted by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), a key recipient of U.S. global health funding.

[http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40239\\_20090821.pdf](http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40239_20090821.pdf) [PDF format, 25 pages].

EDUCATION AT A GLANCE 2009: OECD INDICATORS. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. September 8, 2009.

Across OECD countries, governments are seeking policies to make education more effective while searching for additional resources to meet the increasing demand for education. The report enables countries to see themselves in the light of other countries' performance. It provides a comparable and up-to-date array of indicators on the performance of education systems and represents the consensus of professional thinking on how to measure the current state of education internationally. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/41/25/43636332.pdf> [PDF format, 472 pages].

THE GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS REPORT 2009-2010. World Economic Forum. Xavier Sala-i-Martin. September 8, 2009.

Switzerland tops the overall ranking in The Global Competitiveness Report 2009-2010. The United States falls one place to second position, with weakening in its financial markets and macroeconomic stability. Singapore, Sweden, and Denmark round out the top five. European economies continue to prevail in the top 10 with Finland, Germany and the Netherlands following suit. The United Kingdom, while remaining very competitive, has continued its fall from last year, moving down one more place this year to 13th, mainly attributable to continuing weakening of its financial markets. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.weforum.org/pdf/GCR09/GCR20092010fullreport.pdf> [PDF format, 492 pages].

MIGRATION AND THE GLOBAL RECESSION. Migration Policy Institute. Michael Fix et al. September 2009.

The global financial crisis that began in September 2008 can be viewed as having a deeper and more global effect on the movement of people around the world than any other economic downturn in the post-World War II era of migration, finds the report. It explores how the recession

has affected the movement of some of the world's more than 195 million migrants and their remittances in locations around the globe. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/MPI-BBCreport-Sept09.pdf> [PDF format, 131 pages].

SIX CRITICAL POINTS FOR SUDAN AND ITS FUTURE. U.S. Institute of Peace. Jon Temin. September 2009.

Over the past few months, much of the international attention devoted to Sudan has focused on the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), if and when nationwide elections will happen and the 2011 referendum on the status of southern Sudan. Yet, there are other aspects of the north-south dynamic deserving of discussion and strategic thinking that don't receive their due. The author examines six important issues and questions that require more consideration as the decisive events in Sudan's political history approach. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.usip.org/files/resources/six\\_points\\_sudan.pdf](http://www.usip.org/files/resources/six_points_sudan.pdf) [PDF format, 9 pages].

WATER SERVICE PROVISION FOR THE PERI-URBAN POOR IN POST-CONFLICT ANGOLA. International Institute for Environment and Development. Allan Cain and Martin Mulenga. Web posted September 2009.

One of the important challenges of post-war reconstruction is to provide more and better quality basic services, such as water. Previous attempts at upgrading main supply systems to accommodate peri-urban areas have been overwhelmed by the explosive demographic growth of Angola's major cities brought about by many years of civil war. The paper documents strategies developed by the informal private sector and local communities themselves to meet the demand for water services that the Angolan Government has been unable to provide. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://www.iied.org/pubs/pdfs/10577IIED.pdf> [PDF format, 63 pages].

WILL JAPAN FINALLY GET A CABINET THAT MAKES POLICY? YaleGlobal. Karel van Wolferen. September 10, 2009.

For all of Japan's economic prowess and impact on the rest of the world, in one area the country has remained relatively diffident: foreign policy. While reasons for such a stance lie in Japanese public opinion, an important factor is Japan's status as a virtual protectorate of the U.S. In the past, Japan rarely rocked the boat when it came to U.S. geopolitical and strategic goals, creating a situation where the world's second largest industrial power seemed non-existent on the world stage, according to the author. He believes that this will change with election of the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), which is intent on making policy decisions instead of leaving it in the hands of bureaucrats. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/will-japan-finally-get-cabinet-makes-policy> [HTML format, various paging].

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

Based on projections from the EIA September 2009, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) could earn \$559 billion of net oil export revenues in 2009 and \$675 billion in 2010. Last year, OPEC earned \$971 billion in net oil export revenues, a 42 percent increase from 2007. Saudi Arabia earned the largest share of these earnings, \$288 billion, representing 30 percent of total OPEC revenues. On a per-capita basis, OPEC net oil export earnings reached \$2,688 in 2008, a 40 percent increase from 2007.  
[http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/OPEC\\_Revenues/pdf.pdf](http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/OPEC_Revenues/pdf.pdf) [PDF format, 3 pages].

BEST EMPLOYERS FOR WORKERS OVER 50. American Association of Retired Persons. September 2009.



The biennial recognition program honors companies and organizations who value the 50+ workforce. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.aarp.org/money/work/best\\_employers/best\\_employers\\_list\\_2009/](http://www.aarp.org/money/work/best_employers/best_employers_list_2009/) [HTML format, various paging].

COMPETITION IN FEDERAL CONTRACTING: AN OVERVIEW OF THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kate M. Manuel. August 20, 2009.

The report describes the legal requirements pertaining to competition that presently apply to federal procurement contracts.  
[http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40516\\_20090820.pdf](http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40516_20090820.pdf) [PDF format, 39 pages].

CURRENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS: SUMMARY. Federal Reserve District. September 9, 2009.

Commonly known as the Beige Book, this report is published eight times per year. Each Federal Reserve Bank gathers anecdotal information on current economic conditions in its District through reports from Bank and Branch directors and interviews with key business contacts, economists, market experts, and other sources. The Beige Book summarizes this information by District and sector. An overall summary of the twelve district reports is prepared by a designated Federal Reserve Bank on a rotating basis.  
<http://www.federalreserve.gov/fomc/beigebook/2009/20090909/fullreport20090909.pdf> [PDF format, 48 pages].

ENGINEERING IN K 12 EDUCATION: UNDERSTANDING THE STATUS AND IMPROVING THE PROSPECTS. National Academy of Engineering and National Research Council. Linda Katehi et al. September 8, 2009.

Engineering education in K-12 classrooms is a small but growing phenomenon that may have implications for engineering and also for the other "STEM" subjects, science, technology, and mathematics, says the report. Specifically, engineering education may improve student learning and achievement in science and mathematics, increase awareness of engineering and the work of engineers, boost youth interest in pursuing engineering as a career, and increase the technological literacy of all students. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=12635](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12635) [HTML format with links].

FANNIE MAE AND FREDDIE MAC. U.S. Government Accountability Office. September 10, 2009.

Congress established Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac (the enterprises) with two key housing missions: (1) provide stability in the secondary market for residential mortgages (also in periods of economic stress) and (2) serve the mortgage credit needs of targeted groups such as low-income borrowers. The report discusses the enterprises' performance in meeting mission requirements, identifies and analyzes options to revise their structures, and discusses key transition issues.  
<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09782.pdf> [PDF format, 73 pages].

THE FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE AND CONTRACT SECURITY GUARDS: A STATUTORY HISTORY AND CURRENT STATUS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Shawn Reese. August 20, 2009.

The Federal Protective Service (FPS), within U.S. Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), is responsible for protecting federal government

property, personnel, visitors, and customers, including property leased by the General Services Administration (GSA). The report looks at the history and current status.  
[http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RS22706\\_20090820.pdf](http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RS22706_20090820.pdf) [PDF format, 8 pages].

FEDERAL S&E OBLIGATIONS TO THREE TYPE OF MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTIONS DECLINE IN FY 2007. National Science Foundation. Richard J. Bennof. September 8, 2009.

In fiscal year 2007, federal agencies gave less science and engineering (S&E) funding to academic institutions that primarily serve minority students, says the report. According to the report, historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) received \$406 million in federal S&E dollars in fiscal year 2007, their lowest annual funding total since fiscal year 2001. It was the second year in a row HBCUs saw a drop in funding of science and engineering programs, representing an 8.6 percent drop from the previous reporting year in inflation-adjusted dollars. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/infbrief/nsf09319/nsf09319.pdf> [PDF format, 8 pages].

INCOME, POVERTY, AND HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE IN THE UNITED STATES: 2008. Bureau of the Census. Carmen DeNavas-Walt et al. September 10, 2009.

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that real median household income in the United States fell 3.6 percent between 2007 and 2008, from \$52,163 to \$50,303. This breaks a string of three years of annual income increases and coincides with the recession that started in December 2007. The nation's official poverty rate in 2008 was 13.2 percent, up from 12.5 percent in 2007. There were 39.8 million people in poverty in 2008, up from 37.3 million in 2007. Meanwhile, the number of people without health insurance coverage rose from 45.7 million in 2007 to 46.3 million in 2008, while the percentage remained unchanged at 15.4 percent.  
<http://www.census.gov/prod/2009pubs/p60-236.pdf> [PDF format, 74 pages].

THE INTERNET AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Aaron Smith et al. September 2009.

Contrary to the hopes of some advocates, the internet is not changing the socioeconomic character of civic engagement in America, says the report. Just as in offline civic life, the well-to-do and well-educated are more likely than those less well off to participate in online political activities such as emailing a government official, signing an online petition or making a political contribution. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2009/The%20Internet%20and%20Civic%20Engagement.pdf> [PDF format, 66 pages].

NEW TOOLS FOR ASSESSING STATE AND LOCAL CAPABILITIES FOR COUNTERMEASURE DELIVERY. RAND Corporation. Christopher Nelson et al. September 10, 2009.

The report describes tools for assessing the readiness of state and local health departments to carry out countermeasure-delivery operations and provides an approach for measuring development for public health emergency preparedness that can be applied more broadly. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://rand.org/pubs/technical\\_reports/2009/RAND\\_TR665.pdf](http://rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/2009/RAND_TR665.pdf) [PDF format, 58 pages].

THE OBAMA PLAN: STABILITY & SECURITY FOR ALL AMERICANS. The White House. September 2009.

"It will provide more security and stability to those who have health insurance. It will provide insurance to those who don't. And it will lower the cost of health care for our families, our businesses, and our government," says President Obama.  
[http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/health\\_care/plan/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/health_care/plan/) [HTML format, various paging].

RECRUITING MINORITIES: WHAT EXPLAINS RECENT TRENDS IN THE ARMY AND NAVY?  
RAND Corporation. Beth J. Asch et al. September 8, 2009.

Since 2000, black representation among high-quality recruits in the Army has decreased, while Hispanic representation has increased; in the Navy, black representation has remained stable and Hispanic representation has increased. The authors conclude with a discussion of which policies are likely to be most effective in increasing high-quality enlistments among blacks, Hispanics, and whites. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2009/RAND\\_MG861.pdf](http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2009/RAND_MG861.pdf) [PDF format, 119 pages].

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL DISTRICTS: SCHOOL YEAR 2006-07 (FISCAL YEAR 2007). U.S. Department of Education. Web posted September 8, 2009.

The publication contains data on revenues and expenditures per pupil made by school districts for school year 2006-07. Median per pupil revenue and expenditure data are reported by state, as well as values at the 5th and 95th percentiles. Data for charter schools are reported separately. Revenues and expenditures for the 100 largest school districts are included, as well as federal revenues by program.  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2009/2009338.pdf> [PDF format, 32 pages].

SCHIZOPHRENIA. National Institute of Mental Health. September 2009.

Schizophrenia is a chronic, severe, and disabling brain disorder that has affected people throughout history. About 1 percent of Americans have this illness. Treatment helps relieve many symptoms of schizophrenia, but most people who have the disorder cope with symptoms throughout their lives. However, many people with schizophrenia can lead rewarding and meaningful lives in their communities. Researchers are developing more effective medications and using new research tools to understand the causes of schizophrenia. In the years to come, this work may help prevent and better treat the illness.  
<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/schizophrenia/schizophrenia-booklet-2009.pdf> [PDF format, 22 pages].

SCHOOL SAFETY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.: NEW DATA FOR THE 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR.  
The Heritage Foundation. David Muhlhausen et al. September 10, 2009.

To help policymakers and the public understand the issue of school safety in D.C. schools, the report uses 911 tape data of calls for crime and emergency incidents at the addresses of D.C. schools. The data presented in the report are limited to crime-related incidents reported to the MPD during the 2007-2008 school year, excluding the summer months. The figures reflect the level of crime-related incidents reported to the police during all hours of the day and night during the 2007-2008 school year. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.heritage.org/Research/Education/upload/wm\\_2609.pdf](http://www.heritage.org/Research/Education/upload/wm_2609.pdf) [PDF format, 3 pages].

UPDATED INTERIM RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE USE OF ANTIVIRAL MEDICATIONS IN THE TREATMENT AND PREVENTION OF INFLUENZA FOR THE 2009-2010 SEASON.  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. September 8, 2009.

The report provides updated guidance on the use of antiviral agents for treatment and chemoprophylaxis of influenza including 2009 H1N1 influenza infection and seasonal influenza, and assists clinicians in prioritizing use of antiviral medications for treatment or chemoprophylaxis for patients at higher risk for influenza-related complications.  
<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/recommendations.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

WHO IS IN THE OIL FUTURES MARKET AND HOW HAS IT CHANGED? James A. Baker III  
Institute for Public Policy. Kenneth B. Medlock III. August 26, 2009.

The study shows an investigation of the composition of traders in the oil futures market and how this composition has changed in recent. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://www.bakerinstitute.org/publications/EF-pub-MedlockJaffeOilFuturesMarket-082609.pdf>  
[PDF format, 18 pages].

WILL THE DEMAND FOR ASSETS FALL WHEN THE BABY BOOMERS RETIRES?  
Congressional Budget Office. September 2009.

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) produces regular reports on the state of the U.S. economy as well as 10-year and long-term projections of the nation's budget and economic outlook. In its analyses, CBO examines a range of developments that could have short- or longer-term consequences for the economy. In the decade to come, one such important development will be the retirement of a substantial proportion of the baby-boom generation—the segment of the nation's population born between 1946 and 1964, whose oldest members turned 62 in 2008.  
[http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/105xx/doc10526/09-08\\_Baby-Boomers.pdf](http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/105xx/doc10526/09-08_Baby-Boomers.pdf) [PDF format, 33 pages].

HOW NOT TO KILL THE OCEANS FOR FISH. YaleGlobal. Alex David Rogers. September 18, 2009.

The oceans and the seas, life givers to billions of people through sustenance and subsistence, are being quickly depleted of their fish through wasteful fishing methods, fisher overcapacity, and illegal fishing, writes the author. The degradation not only affects the sustainability of an important food source and the age-old industry of fishing, it also harms the largest ecosystem in the world as coral reefs become more fragile and dead zones proliferate due to lack of oxygen. But this decline can be forestalled, Rogers believes. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/how-not-kill-oceans-fish> [HTML format, various paging].

LOOKING INSIDE THE PERPETUAL-MOTION MACHINE: JOB AND WORKER FLOWS IN  
OECD COUNTRIES. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. September 15, 2009.

In the economic literature there is an increasing interest in the process of job creation and destruction as well of hirings and separations. Many studies suggest that idiosyncratic firm-level characteristics shape both job and worker flows in a similar way in all countries. Others argue that cross-country differences in terms of gross job flows are minor. However, these statements are usually based on the comparison of national estimates, typically collected on the basis of different definitions and collection protocols. By contrast, the paper uses cross-country comparable data on both job and worker flows to examine key determinants of these flows and of their cross-country differences. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.oilis.oecd.org/oilis/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00004E76/\\$FILE/JT03269626.PDF](http://www.oilis.oecd.org/oilis/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00004E76/$FILE/JT03269626.PDF) [PDF format, 61 pages].

NOAA: WARMEST GLOBAL SEA-SURFACE TEMPERATURES FOR AUGUST AND SUMMER.  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. September 16, 2009.

The world's ocean surface temperature was the warmest for any August on record, and the warmest on record averaged for any June-August (Northern Hemisphere summer/Southern Hemisphere winter) season according to data. The preliminary analysis is based on records dating back to 1880.  
[http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2009/20090916\\_globalstats.html](http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2009/20090916_globalstats.html) [HTML format, various paging].

OBAMA ADDRESSES MORE POPULAR U.N. Pew Global Attitudes Project. Richard Wike. September 21, 2009.

In recent years, the opening session of the U.N. General Assembly has frequently produced controversy. But controversies aside, the United Nations remains a quite popular institution throughout much of the world. Indeed, its image has improved in many nations over the last couple of years. This is especially true in the United States, where attitudes toward the U.N. are more positive than they have been since early in this decade. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1348/united-nations-global-opinion-more-popular> [HTML format, various paging].

PREVENTING VIOLENT CONFLICT: ASSESSING PROGRESS, MEETING CHALLENGES. U.S. Institute of Peace. Lawrence Woocher. September 2009.

The report examines the current status of conflict prevention as an international norm and the level of political commitment by world powers. The author finds it is not enough to merely prevent a relapse of war; the international community must make a greater effort to respond to warning signs as a way to preempt the eruption of deadly violence. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.usip.org/files/preventing\\_violent\\_conflict.pdf](http://www.usip.org/files/preventing_violent_conflict.pdf) [PDF format, 16 pages].

THE ROLE OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. Council on Foreign Relations. Rebecca Bloom and Lauren Vriens. September 17, 2009.

At the 2009 UN General Assembly, the world's deliberative body opens its sixty-fourth annual session. UN reform, the international financial situation, disarmament, and diseases will likely loom large. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.cfr.org/publication/13490/role\\_of\\_the\\_un\\_general\\_assembly.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby\\_type%2Fbackgrounder](http://www.cfr.org/publication/13490/role_of_the_un_general_assembly.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fbackgrounder) [HTML format, various paging].

WORLD DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2010: DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE. World Bank. September 15, 2009.

According to the report, developing countries can shift to lower-carbon paths while promoting development and reducing poverty, but this depends on financial and technical assistance from high-income countries, says a new World Bank report released today. High-income countries also need to act quickly to reduce their carbon footprints and boost development of alternative energy sources to help tackle the problem of climate change. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTWDR2010/Resources/5287678-1226014527953/WDR10-Full-Text.pdf> [PDF format, 365 pages].

WORLD INVESTMENT REPORT: TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT. United Nations. September 2009.

How have foreign direct investment (FDI) flows reacted to the current financial and economic crisis? How do traditional and new foreign investors – transnational corporations (TNCs) – affect agriculture, the basis of livelihood in many developing countries? These are two major issues analyzed in detail in World Investment Report 2009 (WIR09), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development's 19th annual report on FDI and TNCs. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/wir2009\\_en.pdf](http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/wir2009_en.pdf) [PDF format, 313 pages].



COUNTRY ANALYSIS BRIEF: AUSTRALIA. Energy Information Administration. September 2009.

Australia has significant petroleum, natural gas and coal reserves and is one of the few countries belonging to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) that is a significant net hydrocarbon exporter, exporting about two-thirds of its total energy production. Australia is the world's largest coal exporter and the fifth largest exporter of liquefied natural gas (LNG) in 2007, after Qatar, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Algeria. Australia's prospects for expanding these energy exports in the future are promising as Asian demand for both coal and LNG is rising. While Australia also exports crude oil and refined petroleum products, it is a net importer of oil.

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

THE RESISTANCE OF THE MONKS: BUDDHISM AND ACTIVISM IN BURMA. Human Rights Watch. September 21, 2009.

The report describes the repression Burma's monks experienced after they led demonstrations against the government in September 2007. It tells the stories of individual monks who were arrested, beaten and detained. Two years after Buddhist monks marched down the street of the detained opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, hundreds of monks are in prison and thousands remain fearful of military repression. Many have left their monasteries and returned to their villages or sought refuge abroad, while those who remained in their monasteries live under constant surveillance. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/burmamonks0909webwcover.pdf> [PDF format, 121 pages].

FACT SHEET ON U.S. MISSILE DEFENSE POLICY: A "PHASED, ADAPTIVE APPROACH" FOR MISSILE DEFENSE IN EUROPE. The White House. September 17, 2009.

President Obama has approved the recommendation of Secretary of Defense Gates and the Joint Chiefs of Staff for a phased, adaptive approach for missile defense in Europe. The approach is based on an assessment of the Iranian missile threat, and a commitment to deploy technology that is proven, cost-effective, and adaptable to an evolving security environment.

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/the\\_press\\_office/FACT-SHEET-US-Missile-Defense-Policy-A-Phased-Adaptive-Approach-for-Missile-Defense-in-Europe/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/FACT-SHEET-US-Missile-Defense-Policy-A-Phased-Adaptive-Approach-for-Missile-Defense-in-Europe/) [HTML format, various paging].

IMPROVING THE ENERGY PERFORMANCE OF BUILDINGS: LEARNING FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION AND AUSTRALIA. RAND Corporation. Charles P. Ries et al. September 20, 2009.

The study shows the review of recent European and Australian experience in the design and implementation of policies to improve energy efficiency of buildings and insights to aid U.S. designers of analogous policies. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical\\_reports/2009/RAND\\_TR728.pdf](http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/2009/RAND_TR728.pdf) [PDF format, 61 pages].

BARRIERS TO THE BROAD DISSEMINATION OF CREATIVE WORKS IN THE ARAB WORLD. RAND Corporation. Lowell H. Schwartz et al. September 21, 2009.

Within the Arab world, many creative works are being produced that could play a role in countering violent extremism. The book examines the substantial barriers to the broad dissemination of these creative works and suggests ways to overcome them. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2009/RAND\\_MG879.pdf](http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2009/RAND_MG879.pdf) [PDF format, 59 pages].

ACADEMIC MEDICAL CENTERS: THE TIPPING POINT. Deloitte. September 2009.

Academic Medical Centers (AMCs) are at a tipping point, according to the report. While driven to serve their tripartite mission of teaching, research and patient care, they are susceptible to myriad pressures that endanger their long-term viability. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.deloitte.com/assets/Dcom-UnitedStates/Local%20Assets/Documents/us\\_chs\\_AcademicMedicalCentersTheTippingPoint\\_062109.pdf](http://www.deloitte.com/assets/Dcom-UnitedStates/Local%20Assets/Documents/us_chs_AcademicMedicalCentersTheTippingPoint_062109.pdf) [PDF format, 26 pages].

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE FEDERAL WORK FORCE. U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. September 2009.

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) releases the annual report, which shows small increases in discrimination complaint filings against federal agencies and in average complaint processing time government-wide.

<http://www.eeoc.gov/federal/fsp2008/fsp2008.pdf> [PDF format, 397 pages].

BRINGING ELECTIONS INTO THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY: VOTER REGISTRATION MODERNIZATION. Pew Center on the States. Web posted September 2009.

America's current voter registration system is outdated, costly and inaccurate, according to the report. The report estimates that more than two million voters were unable to cast a ballot in the 2008 general election due to registration problems. It reviews the underperformance of the current voter registration system and recommends a 21st century, data-driven registration system. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/uploadedFiles/Voter\\_Registration\\_Modernization\\_Brief\\_web.pdf](http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/uploadedFiles/Voter_Registration_Modernization_Brief_web.pdf) [PDF format, 4 pages].

CHAIRMAN'S MARK: AMERICA'S HEALTHY FUTURE ACT OF 2009. U.S. Senate Committee on Finance. September 22, 2009.

After more than a year of preparation, and holding more than 40 health care events in the state, Montana's senior U.S. Senator Max Baucus introduces the America's Healthy Future Act, his landmark health care reform legislation that will lower costs and provide quality, affordable health care coverage for all Montanans and all Americans.

[http://finance.senate.gov/sitepages/leg/LEG%202009/091609%20Americas\\_Healthy\\_Future\\_Act.pdf](http://finance.senate.gov/sitepages/leg/LEG%202009/091609%20Americas_Healthy_Future_Act.pdf) [PDF format, 223 pages].

COAL ASH REPORTS. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. September 16, 2009.

This is the final contractor reports assessing the structural integrity of 17 impoundments and similar management units containing coal combustion residuals, commonly referred to as coal ash, at nine facilities. These 17 impoundments have a "high" or "significant" hazard potential rating. A high hazard potential rating is not related to the stability of those impoundments but to the potential for harm should the impoundment fail. A significant hazard potential rating means impoundment failure can cause economic loss, environmental damage, or damage to infrastructure.

<http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/nonhaz/industrial/special/fossil/surveys2/index.htm#reports> [HTML format with links].

THE ECONOMICS OF AGRICULTURAL AND WILDLIFE SMUGGLING. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Peyton Ferrier. September 16, 2009.

The United States bans imports of certain agricultural and wildlife goods that can carry pathogens or diseases or whose harvest can threaten wildlife stocks or endanger species. Despite these

bans, contraband is regularly uncovered in inspections of cargo containers and in domestic markets. This study characterizes the economic factors affecting agricultural and wildlife smuggling by drawing on inspection and interdiction data from USDA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and existing economic literature.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR81/ERR81.pdf> [PDF format, 55 pages].

FINAL AMENDMENTS TO NEW SOURCE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AND EMISSION GUIDELINES FOR HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, AND INFECTIOUS WASTE INCINERATORS. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. September 16, 2009.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is setting new limits that will affect most existing hospital, medical, and infectious waste incinerators. This final action will reduce about 390,000 pounds of several pollutants each year including acid gases, nitrogen oxides, and metals such as lead, cadmium, and mercury. EPA is also finalizing additional testing, monitoring, and inspection requirements.

[http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t1/fact\\_sheets/hmiwi\\_fr\\_fs091509.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t1/fact_sheets/hmiwi_fr_fs091509.pdf) [PDF format, 3 pages].

INTERIM REPORT OF THE INTERAGENCY OCEAN POLICY TASK FORCE. The White House Council on Environmental Quality. September 10, 2009.

The public meetings, roundtables, and website showcased a strong desire and enthusiasm among participants for a National Policy that provides clarity and direction regarding how the Nation will better care for the ocean, our coasts, and the Great Lakes. A valuable and wide diversity of interests were represented, and several key themes emerged.

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/assets/documents/09\\_17\\_09\\_Interim\\_Report\\_of\\_Task\\_Force\\_FINAL\\_2.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/assets/documents/09_17_09_Interim_Report_of_Task_Force_FINAL_2.pdf) [PDF format, 38 pages].

THE STATE OF HEALTH IN THE AMERICAN WORKFORCE: DOES HAVING AN EFFECTIVE WORKPLACE MATTER? Families and Work Institute. Kerstin Aumann and Ellen Galinsky. September 22, 2009.

In the midst of the most vigorous national health care debate in 15 years, and at a time of heightened economic insecurity, new data on employers show that the health of employed American workers is trending downward in a number of important areas. The report finds that only 28% of employees today report that their overall health is "excellent," down from 34% just six years ago. Perhaps surprisingly, men's overall health has declined more rapidly than women's. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://familiesandwork.org/site/research/reports/HealthReport.pdf> [PDF format, 46 pages].

ESTIMATING U.S. GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES TO ENERGY SOURCES: 2002-2008. Environmental Law Institute. September 2009.

The largest U.S. subsidies to fossil fuels are attributed to tax breaks that aid foreign oil production, according to the research. The study, which reviewed fossil fuel and energy subsidies for Fiscal Years 2002-2008, reveals that the lion's share of energy subsidies supported energy sources that emit high levels of greenhouse gases. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.elistore.org/Data/products/d19\\_07.pdf](http://www.elistore.org/Data/products/d19_07.pdf) [PDF format, 37 pages].

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL SUMMIT ON NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION AND NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT. The White House. September 24, 2009.

The President Obama makes statement on nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament at the United Nations Headquarters.

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/the\\_press\\_office/Remarks-By-The-President-At-the-UN-Security-Council-Summit-On-Nuclear-Non-Proliferation-And-Nuclear-Disarmament/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Remarks-By-The-President-At-the-UN-Security-Council-Summit-On-Nuclear-Non-Proliferation-And-Nuclear-Disarmament/) [HTML format, various paging].

RETURNED TO RISK: DEPORTATION OF HIV-POSITIVE MIGRANTS. Human Rights Watch. September 23, 2009.

The report describes cases in South Korea, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, South Africa, and the United States in which HIV-positive migrants were deported, and describes the need to develop policies guaranteeing uninterrupted treatment for this population [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/health0909webwcover.pdf> [PDF format, 32 pages].

SMALLER, SIMPLER AND MORE STABLE: DESIGNING CARBON MARKETS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND FINANCIAL INTEGRITY. Friends of the Earth. September 2009.

The carbon trading system that would be created by the energy bill that passed the House of Representatives in June would be complex, volatile and prone to gaming, concludes the report. It also finds that emerging proposals to regulate derivatives are necessary but not sufficient to ensure the integrity of carbon markets. Instead, the report concludes, if policymakers wish to use a cap-and-trade system as a tool to reduce global warming pollution, they must design the system to be much simpler, smaller, and more stable than current proposals. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.foe.org/sites/default/files/CarbonMarketsReport.pdf> [PDF format, 17 pages].

CHINA'S ARRIVAL: A STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR A GLOBAL RELATIONSHIP. Center for a New American Security. Linton Brooks et al. September 22, 2009.

According to the report, China's rise is one of the most significant geopolitical events in modern history, with important ramifications for U.S. interests, regional power balances, and the international order. As the Obama administration confronts a broad set of worldwide challenges, questions remain as to how the United States should engage China amidst uncertainty about its long-term intentions and how to balance this important relationship against concerns regarding China's behavior in the international community. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/CNAS%20China's%20Arrival\\_Final%20Report.pdf](http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/CNAS%20China's%20Arrival_Final%20Report.pdf) [PDF format, 184 pages].

COUNTRY ANALYSIS BRIEF: MALAYSIA. Energy Information Administration. September 2009.

Although Malaysia's oil fields are maturing, new offshore developments of both oil and gas are expected to increase aggregate production capacity in the near- to mid-term. Malaysia's western coast runs alongside the Strait of Malacca, an important route for seaborne energy trade that links the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

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

THAI WORKERS FLY TO SWEDEN WHERE THE WILD BERRIES ARE. YaleGlobal. Bertil Lintner. September 23, 2009.

Wet summer weather in Northern Sweden has affected not only the yield of wild berries growing there, but also the economic well-being of the berry pickers, which, in this case, happen to be temporary workers from Thailand. Journalist Bertil Lintner writes that in 2007, Sweden began to give Thais temporary work visas to pick berries, encouraging close to a five-fold increase in workers by 2009. It seemed like a win-win situation: jobs Swedes refuse to take were filled, and Thais earned a tidy sum. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/thai-workers-fly-sweden-where-wild-berries-are> [HTML format, various paging].

RAISING EDUCATION OUTCOMES IN GREECE. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Vassiliki Koutsogeorgopoulou. Web posted September 23, 2009.

Despite progress over the past decades, Greece's educational indicators lag behind those of other OECD countries. PISA scores are low, a large number of tertiary students study abroad, and attainment rates are low at all levels of education. Resources devoted to education are also modest. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.oalis.oecd.org/oalis/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00004F2E/\\$FILE/JT03269917.PDF](http://www.oalis.oecd.org/oalis/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00004F2E/$FILE/JT03269917.PDF) [PDF format, 36 pages].

ESCAPING THE "GRAVEYARD OF EMPIRES": A STRATEGY TO EXIT AFGHANISTAN. Cato Institute. Malou Innocent and Ted Galen Carpenter. September 2009.

Given the nature of the conflict in Afghanistan, a definitive, conventional "victory" is not a realistic option. Denying a sanctuary to terrorists who seek to attack the United States does not require Washington to pacify the entire country, eradicate its opium fields, or sustain a long-term military presence in Central Asia, according to the authors. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://www.cato.org/pubs/wtpapers/escaping-graveyard-empires-strategy-exit-afghanistan.pdf> [PDF format, 30 pages].

THE LENGTHENING LIST OF IRAN SANCTIONS. Council on Foreign Relations. Greg Bruno. September 23, 2009.

Decades of economic and diplomatic sanctions have failed to substantively alter the actions of the Iranian regime, especially regarding its nuclear program. But experts say they remain an important tool to isolate and pressure Iran. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.cfr.org/publication/20258/lengthening\\_list\\_of\\_iran\\_sanctions.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby\\_type%2Fbackgrounder](http://www.cfr.org/publication/20258/lengthening_list_of_iran_sanctions.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fbackgrounder) [HTML format, various paging].

2009-2010 ASSETS & OPPORTUNITY SCORECARD. Center for Economic Development. September 2009.

Individuals and families in Arizona, South Carolina and the Delta states of Mississippi, Louisiana and Arkansas lag behind the rest of the country in key aspects related to their financial stability, including measures of net worth, homeownership and housing affordability, business ownership, health insurance coverage and academic achievement, according to the scorecard. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://scorecard.cfed.org/> [HTML format, various paging].

AGRICULTURAL LAND TENURE AND CARBON OFFSETS. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Roger Claassen and Mitch Morehart. September 23, 2009.

The report examines the potential role that land ownership might play in determining the agricultural sector's involvement in carbon sequestration programs. By estimating the carbon sequestration potential of agricultural producers who own most of the land they operate, this report finds that land ownership should not be a constraining factor in agriculture's ability to provide carbon offsets. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/EB14/EB14.pdf> [PDF format, 6 pages].



THE CONFERENCE BOARD TASK FORCE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION. The Conference Board. September 21, 2009.

The study shows recommendations for corporate institutions to restore credibility and increase trust in pay practices and oversight. A significant regulatory reform debate has begun, and while government has important responsibilities, the Task Force believes that public companies and institutional shareholders also have a role and should take meaningful action to restore the trust that has been lost during the economic crisis. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.conference-board.org/pdf\\_free/ExecCompensation2009.pdf](http://www.conference-board.org/pdf_free/ExecCompensation2009.pdf) [PDF format, 40 pages].

DEFENSE CONTRACTING INTEGRITY. U.S. Government Accountability Office. September 22, 2009.

Until recently, ethics programs and practices of defense contractors were self-policed. Given the significant sums spent to acquire goods and services, the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) was amended twice starting in December 2007 to first mandate and later amplify contractor ethics program rules. GAO recommends actions aimed at improving oversight of ethics programs.  
<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09591.pdf> [PDF format, 49 pages].

FINAL MANDATORY REPORTING OF GREENHOUSE GASES RULE. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. September 22, 2009.

On January 1, 2010, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will, for the first time, require large emitters of heat-trapping emissions to begin collecting greenhouse gas (GHG) data under a new reporting system. This new program will cover approximately 85 percent of the nation's GHG emissions and apply to roughly 10,000 facilities.

Full Text:

<http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/downloads09/FinalMandatoryGHGPreamble.pdf> Preamble [PDF format, 591 pages].

<http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/downloads09/FinalMandatoryGHGReportingRule.pdf> Rule [PDF format, 711 pages].

FOOD INSECURITY IN HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN: PREVALENCE, SEVERITY, AND HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Mark Nord. September 2009.

Eighty-four percent of U.S. households with children were food secure throughout 2007, meaning that they had consistent access to adequate food for active, healthy lives for all household members. Nearly 16 percent of households with children were food insecure sometime during the year, including 8.3 percent in which children were food insecure and 0.8 percent in which one or more children experienced very low food security, the most severe food-insecure condition measured by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/EIB56/EIB56.pdf> [PDF format, 49 pages].

FROM THE CLASSROOM TO THE COMMUNITY: EXPLORING THE ROLE OF EDUCATION DURING INCARCERATION AND REENTRY. Urban Institute. Diana Brazzell et al. Web posted September 23, 2009.

The report synthesizes the Education Reentry Roundtable. It surveys the current landscape of correctional education, discussing both the educational needs of people involved in the criminal justice system and the programs being provided to meet those needs; reviews research on the effectiveness of correctional education and guiding principles for effective programming; discusses the issues involved in providing education in correctional settings and identifies some potential responses to these challenges. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411963\\_classroom\\_community.pdf](http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411963_classroom_community.pdf) [PDF format, 57 pages].

MORE BUDGET BELT-TIGHTENING MEANS MORE JOB LOSSES FOR STATES. Center for Economic and Policy Research. Matt Sherman. September 2009.

The paper looks at the problem of state budget shortfalls during the recession and calculates the number of jobs that would be lost, nationally and by state, if states utilize pro-cyclical spending cuts in an attempt to balance their budgets. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/state-budgets-2009-09.pdf> [PDF format, 4 pages].

MORE EXTREME WEATHER: IMPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE. National Wildlife Federation. September 18, 2009.

Global warming is making hot days hotter, rainfall and flooding heavier, storms stronger, and droughts more severe. As the Senate prepares to take up clean energy legislation, the National Wildlife Federation, Harvard Medical School, the NAACP, and the Apollo Alliance hosted a Congressional briefing to emphasize the public health and social justice issues that any legislation must address. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.nwf.org/extremeweather/pdfs/NWF\\_ExtremeWeather\\_report.pdf](http://www.nwf.org/extremeweather/pdfs/NWF_ExtremeWeather_report.pdf) [PDF format, 4 pages].

REMARKS BY THE FIRST LADY ON WHAT HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM MEANS FOR WOMEN AND FAMILIES. The White House. September 18, 2009.

The First Lady discusses health insurance issues often faced by the women for the families.  
[http://www.whitehouse.gov/the\\_press\\_office/Remarks-by-the-First-Lady-on-What-Health-Insurance-Reform-Means-for-Women-and-Families/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Remarks-by-the-First-Lady-on-What-Health-Insurance-Reform-Means-for-Women-and-Families/) [HTML format, various paging].

THE ROLE OF NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN LONG-TERM HUMAN RECOVERY AFTER DISASTER. RAND Corporation. Anita Chandra and Joie Acosta. September 23, 2009.

In the four years since Hurricane Katrina, volunteers and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) have been instrumental in supporting community efforts to recover and rebuild from the devastation in the Gulf States region. The period also provides a case study of the complex process of human recovery and the resource and policy constraints on NGO involvement in these efforts. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
[http://www.rand.org/pubs/occasional\\_papers/2009/RAND\\_OP277.pdf](http://www.rand.org/pubs/occasional_papers/2009/RAND_OP277.pdf) [PDF format, 34 pages].

SOCIAL NETWORKING AND CONSTITUENT COMMUNICATIONS: MEMBER USE OF TWITTER DURING A TWO-WEEK PERIOD IN THE 111<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Matthew Eric Glassman et al. September 21, 2009.

During the past 15 years, the development of new electronic technologies have altered the traditional patterns of communication between Members of Congress and constituents. Many Members now use e-mail, official websites, blogs, Youtube channels, and Facebook pages to communicate with their constituents--technologies that were either non-existent or not widely available 15 years ago. Members' use of Twitter can be divided into six categories: position taking, press or web links, district or state activities, official congressional action, personal, and replies.  
[http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40823\\_20090921.pdf](http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40823_20090921.pdf) [PDF format, 15 pages].

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE FUTURE IMPACTS OF STORM-SURGE DISASTERS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. Center for Global Development. Susmita Dasgupta et al. September 24, 2009.

As the climate changes during the 21st century, larger cyclonic storm surges and growing populations may collide in disasters of unprecedented size. As conditions worsen, variations in coastal morphology will magnify the effects in some areas, while largely insulating others. The authors explore the implications of sea-level rise and storm surges for 84 developing countries and 577 of their cyclone-vulnerable coastal cities with populations greater than 100,000. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1422836/> [HTML format with a link].

**DEMOCRACY ASSISTANCE: U.S. AGENCIES TAKE STEPS TO COORDINATE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS BUT LACK INFORMATION ON SOME U.S.-FUNDED ACTIVITIES.** U.S. Government Accountability Office. September 28, 2009.

In fiscal years 2006- 2008, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), which has primary responsibility for promoting democracy abroad, implemented democracy assistance projects in about 90 countries. GAO analyzed U.S. funding and evaluation documents, interviewed USAID, State, and NED officials in the United States and abroad, and reviewed specific democracy projects in 10 countries.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09993.pdf> [PDF format, 71 pages].

**POST-CONFLICT HEALTH RECONSTRUCTION: NEW FOUNDATIONS FOR U.S. POLICY.** U.S. Institute of Peace. Leonard S. Rubenstein. September 24, 2009.

The report examines how improving health systems in post-conflict countries can help promote peace and prevent renewed violence in those nations, and the implications of health reconstruction for U.S. policy. Rubenstein looks at the impact of armed conflict on health indicators in various hotspots around the world, and the underlying connection between health and U.S. policy towards countries in and emerging from conflict.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.usip.org/files/resources/post-conflict\\_health\\_reconstruction.pdf](http://www.usip.org/files/resources/post-conflict_health_reconstruction.pdf) [PDF format, 62 pages].

**PROGRESS TOWARD MEASLES CONTROL – AFRICAN REGION, 2001-2008.** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. September 25, 2009.

In 2001, the countries of the World Health Organization (WHO) African Region (AFR) became part of a global initiative with a goal of reducing the number of measles deaths by 50% by 2005, compared with 1999. The report summarizes the progress made during 2001–2008 toward improving measles control in AFR. During 2001–2008 estimated MCV1 coverage increased from 57% to 73%, SIAs vaccinated approximately 398 million children, and reported measles cases decreased by 93%, from 492,116 in 2001 to 32,278 in 2008.

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5837a3.htm?s\\_cid=mm5837a3\\_x](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5837a3.htm?s_cid=mm5837a3_x) [HTML format, various paging].

**CHALLENGES FOR CHINA AT SIXTY: PART I.** YaleGlobal. Pranab Bardhan. September 25, 2009.

China is in many ways a land of contradictions, confounding outside observers. And such contradictions are nowhere more obvious than in China's economy: a market-driven allocation of resources overseen by the Communist Party. But as Berkeley Economics Professor Pranab Bardhan notes, the contradictions lie at an even deeper level. Though Chairman Mao believed that contradictions were the nature of society, it is doubtful he would have imagined all the contradictions that obtain in China's society today, according to the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/challenges-china-sixty-%E2%80%93-part-i> [HTML format, various paging].

CHALLENGES FOR CHINA AT SIXTY: PART II. YaleGlobal. Frank Ching. September 28, 2009.

China, a significant beneficiary of globalization, is happy to go out into the world, but seems less willing to let the world come in, according to writer Frank Ching. In fact, China, which asserts that it does not interfere with the internal affairs of other countries, appears to do the exact opposite, especially with regard to issues surrounding alleged separatism in China. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/challenges-china-sixty-%E2%80%93-part-ii> [HTML format, various paging].

“WHO WILL TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED TO MY SON?” Human Rights Watch. September 27, 2009.

For the victims and relatives of victims who have won cases from Chechnya at the European Court, victory has been a mixed experience. While the applicants have received from the Russian government the financial compensation awarded in the court’s judgment, they continue to strive for justice for the crimes they and their loved ones have suffered and for knowledge about the fate of their killed or disappeared relatives, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/russia0909webwcover\\_1.pdf](http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/russia0909webwcover_1.pdf) [PDF format, 44pages].

<http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/russia0909ruwebwcover.pdf> In Russian [PDF format, 45 pages].

IRAQ’S NEW BATTLEFRONT: THE STRUGGLE OVER NINEWA. International Crisis Group. September 28, 2009.

The report focuses on the troubled northern governorate, where a conflict between Arabs and Kurds threatens to spiral out of control. While levels of violence have continued to drop in other parts of the country, Ninewa has seen a dramatic spike in attacks in recent months as the two groups compete for power and influence. Caught between them are vulnerable minority groups that have taken the brunt of casualties: scores have already died in large-scale, horrific attacks in the last two months. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/middle\\_east\\_\\_\\_north\\_africa/iraq\\_iraq\\_gulf/90\\_iraqs\\_new\\_battlefront\\_\\_\\_the\\_struggle\\_over\\_ninewa.pdf](http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/middle_east___north_africa/iraq_iraq_gulf/90_iraqs_new_battlefront___the_struggle_over_ninewa.pdf) [PDF format, 53 pages].

REDUCING DEMAND FOR POPPY INSIDE AND OUTSIDE AFGHANISTAN. Brookings Institution. Vanda Felbab-Brown. September 25, 2009.

Afghanistan's drug economy needs urgent attention, but it also needs a smart policy. Emphasizing rural development and legal livelihoods while interdicting drug traffickers and reducing demand worldwide are the best options, says the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/0925\\_afghanistan\\_countersnarcotics\\_felbabbrown.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/0925_afghanistan_countersnarcotics_felbabbrown.aspx) [HTML format, various paging].

ADVANCING THE NATIONAL PARK IDEA. U.S. Department of Interior. September 2009.

The report conveys the message that the National Park System is at a crossroads, facing challenges such as urgent environmental problems, a burgeoning population and critical needs in education. It calls for a new vision recognizing the interrelationships between human beings and the natural world and the need for a sustainable relationship between people and the planet.

[http://www.doi.gov/documents/Second\\_Century\\_Commission\\_Report.pdf](http://www.doi.gov/documents/Second_Century_Commission_Report.pdf) [PDF format, 52 pages].

HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM AND MEDICARE: MAKING MEDICARE STRONGER FOR AMERICA’S SENIORS. Healthreform.GOV. September 23, 2009.

Vice President Joe Biden and Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius hosts a town hall meeting with seniors in Silver Spring, Md., and releases the report. The report outlines how health insurance reform will help seniors and answers key questions about President Obama's health insurance reform plan.

<http://www.healthreform.gov/reports/medicare/medicare.pdf> [PDF format, 7 pages].

#### FEMA DISASTER HOUSING: FROM SHELTERING TO PERMANENT HOUSING.

Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Francis X. McCarthy. September 16, 2009.

For over three decades the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has provided temporary housing assistance to eligible victims of natural disasters. FEMA has responded to more than a thousand disaster and emergency events over this period, employing a number of options for meeting the needs of people who have lost their primary housing as a result of a disaster declared by the President. The cycle of help from sheltering provided by local organizations in the immediate aftermath, to the eventual repair and rebuilding or replacement of private homes and rental units, is the focus of the report.

[http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40810\\_20090916.pdf](http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40810_20090916.pdf) [PDF format, 30 pages].

#### HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT AND COMPLETION RATES IN THE UNITED STATES: 2007 COMPENDIUM REPORT. U.S. Department of Education. Emily Forrest et al. September 23, 2009.

The report includes discussions of many rates used to study how students complete or fail to complete high school. It presents estimates of rates for 2007 and provides data about trends in dropout and completion rates over the last three and a half decades (1972-2007) along with more recent estimates of on-time graduation.

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2009/2009064.pdf> [PDF format, 84 pages].

#### HISPANIC, HEALTH INSURANCE AND HEALTH CARE ACCESS. Pew Hispanic Center. Gretchen Livingston. September 25, 2009.

Six-in-ten Hispanic adults living in the United States who are not citizens or legal permanent residents lack health insurance. The share of uninsured among this group (60%) is much higher than the share of uninsured among Latino adults who are legal permanent residents or citizens (28%), or among the adult population of the United States (17%). [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/113.pdf> [PDF format, 5 pages].

#### THE INTERNET AS A DIVERSION. Pew Internet & American Life. Aaron Smith. September 2009.

Three-quarters of online economic users, those Americans who use the internet to keep up with news about the economic recession or their own personal finances, go online to relax and take their minds off of the recession, according to an April 2009 survey by the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2009/PIP-The-Internet-as-a-Diversion.pdf> [PDF format, 11 pages].

#### MILITARY RECRUITMENT ON HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE CAMPUSES: A POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. David F. Burrelli and Jody Feder. September 22, 2009.

In recent years, many academic institutions have enacted rules that protect individuals who are gay from discrimination on campus. As a result, some high schools and institutions of higher



education have sought to bar military recruiters from their campuses and/or to eliminate Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) programs on campus in response to the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) policy, which prohibits homosexual conduct by members of the armed services. These efforts, however, have largely been thwarted due to several laws that bar giving federal funds to campuses that block access for military recruiters.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/R40827.pdf> [PDF format, 15 pages].

**OVERLOOKED AND UNDERSERVED: THE CRISIS FACING AMERICA'S OLDER WORKERS.** Experience Works. September 2009.

The study of more than 2,000 low-income unemployed workers age 55 and older, 46 percent need to find jobs so they don't lose their homes or apartments, and approximately half, 49 percent, have been looking for work for more than a year. In July 2009, there were two million unemployed workers age 55 plus; the unemployment rate for this age group was the highest since the Bureau of Labor Statistics began tabulating data by age in 1948. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.experienceworks.org/site/DocServer/EW-ExecSummary\\_09-Final.pdf?docID=10381](http://www.experienceworks.org/site/DocServer/EW-ExecSummary_09-Final.pdf?docID=10381) [PDF format, 8 pages].

**PROTECT CHILDREN, NOT GUNS 2009.** Children's Defense Fund. September 23, 2009.

The report finds an increase in firearm deaths among children and teens for the second year in a row, after a decade of decline prior to 2005. Using the most recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDF's report shows that 3,184 children and teens were killed by firearms in 2006, a 6 percent increase from the previous year. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.childrensdefense.org/child-research-data-publications/data/protect-children-not-guns-report-2009.pdf> [PDF format, 24 pages].

**RISING SENIOR UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE NEED TO WORK AT OLDER AGES.** Urban Institute. Richard W. Johnson. September 28, 2009.

Unemployment rates for older workers reached record levels in 2009, partly because fewer workers eligible for early retirement benefits are dropping out of the labor force. Growing concerns about the adequacy of retirement savings and whether retirees will have enough money to live comfortably in later life appear to have discouraged early retirement. Instead, more older workers are now remaining in the labor force and searching for work after they lose their jobs. The need for older adults to keep working raises the imperative for new policies that help address the special challenges that older job seekers face. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.urban.org/uploadedpdf/411964\\_senior\\_unemployment.pdf](http://www.urban.org/uploadedpdf/411964_senior_unemployment.pdf) [PDF format, 19 pages].

## **HEALTH CARE REFORM**

**10 REASONS TO SUPPORT THE HEALTH CARE REFORM BILL.** Families USA. July 2009.

The report provides a quick rundown of the provisions in the health reform bills pending in Congress. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.familiesusa.org/assets/pdfs/health-reform/10-reasons-to-support-reform.pdf> [PDF format, 8 pages].

**ADMINISTRATIVE SOLUTIONS IN HEALTH REFORM.** National Academy of Public Administration. July 20, 2009.

Administrative issues should receive careful attention when health reform legislation is being drafted, according to report. The panel examines administrative functions that are central to a variety of health reform proposals, defines the choices, summarizes what is known about them, and makes specific recommendations. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.nasi.org/usr\\_doc/Administrative\\_Solutions\\_in\\_Health\\_Reform\\_July\\_2009.pdf](http://www.nasi.org/usr_doc/Administrative_Solutions_in_Health_Reform_July_2009.pdf) [PDF format, 77 pages].

ANALYSIS OF THE JULY DRAFT OF THE AMERICAN AFFORDABLE HEALTH CHOICES ACT OF 2009. Heritage Foundation. John Sheils and Randy Haught. July 23, 2009.

The analysis examines the impact the House health reform bill would have on private insurance when a government-run health plan is introduced in the marketplace. It finds that 88.1 million Americans could be transitioned out of their current plan as employers opt out of continuing their existing coverage. These Americans would lose the employer coverage they now have. The study also found that nationwide 103.9 million Americans would end up on the new government-run public plan. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.heritage.org/Research/HealthCare/upload/HouseBillHeritageRevised.pdf> [PDF format, 20 pages].

ARE AMERICAN HEALTHCARE COSTS GROWING UNUSUALLY FAST? NO. American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research. Andrew Biggs. July 9, 2009.

The Obama administration has pegged its healthcare reforms on the prospect of reducing the rate of healthcare cost growth, which the administration has termed “the real deficit” threat. A look at health data from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) provides some interesting context. Using OECD data, the author calculates the rate of “excess cost growth” for 23 countries over the period 1990-2006. Excess cost growth is the rate at which per capita health costs grow “in excess” economy-wide expansion. As it happens, the United States rate of excess healthcare cost growth from 1990-2006 is right about average among developed countries. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://blog.american.com/?p=2898> [HTML format, various paging].

BEYOND THE \$1.6 TRILLION STICKER SHOCK. Urban Institute. Linda J. Blumberg and John Holahan. July 21, 2009.

Recently, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated that the Senate Finance Committee's health reform plan would cost \$1.6 trillion over 10 years. The estimate left many in Washington and around the country with sticker shock. Authors Linda Blumberg and John Holahan place the estimate in context by showing that the costs of health reform are less than 1 percent of estimated GDP and a small fraction of expected health care spending for that period as well. They also contend that the costs associated with inaction are at least as big as those of directly addressing the problems we currently face. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411923\\_beyond\\_sticker\\_shock.pdf](http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411923_beyond_sticker_shock.pdf) [PDF format, 2 pages].

THE CASE FOR REAL HEALTH CARE REFORM. American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research. Joseph Antos. June 23, 2009.

Every decade or two, politicians embark on a crusade to reform the American health care system. Theodore Roosevelt pushed for national health insurance in his 1912 run for president under the Progressive party banner. More recently, Harry Truman, John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton advanced health insurance proposals in presidential campaigns or while in office. Johnson, building on the initiatives of his predecessor, oversaw the creation of Medicare and Medicaid. Barack Obama has taken on the task of major health reform

and, unlike his predecessors, he might succeed, according to the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/20090623-Antos.pdf> [PDF format, 17 pages].

THE ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF HEALTH CARE REFORM ON SMALL BUSINESSES AND THEIR EMPLOYEES. Executive Office of the President of the United States. July 25, 2009.

The report from the Council of Economic Advisers examines the health care challenges faced by small businesses and their employees as well as the benefits of health reform for small businesses and their employees.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/assets/documents/CEA-smallbusiness-july24.pdf> [PDF format, 20 pages].

THE ETHICS OF HEALTH CARE REFORM. Institute for Policy Innovation. Merrill Matthews. July 20, 2009.

The report adds a philosophical dimension to health care reform debate, stating that, of all reform alternatives, only the consumer driven health care model is both ethical and sustainable. "The consumer driven model is the only one that incorporates both our fundamental principle, patient control, and yet balances the consequence-oriented need for access to coverage and quality care that is financially sustainable over the long term," writes the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://ipi.org/IPI/IPIPublications.nsf/PublicationLookupFullTextPDF/7F68DCD97B1D1B93862575F600625568/\\$File/Ethics\\_of\\_Health\\_Care\\_Reform.pdf?OpenElement](http://ipi.org/IPI/IPIPublications.nsf/PublicationLookupFullTextPDF/7F68DCD97B1D1B93862575F600625568/$File/Ethics_of_Health_Care_Reform.pdf?OpenElement) [PDF format, 8 pages].

GETTING THE TREATMENT RIGHT. Manhattan Institute. David Gratzer. June 24, 2009.

David Gratzer, MD, is a physician born and trained in Canada. As the U.S. looks to reform its health care, he provides testimony on comparative health-care policy. He emphasizes that U.S. lawmakers should be cautious about borrowing reforms from other countries; Congress must reform the health-care system with made-in-America solutions. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.manhattan-institute.org/html/testimony\\_gratzer\\_6-24-09.htm](http://www.manhattan-institute.org/html/testimony_gratzer_6-24-09.htm) [HTML format, various paging].

HEALTH REFORM: FACT, NOT FICTION. New America Foundation. Joanne Kenen. July 22, 2009.

Four of the nation's top health care cost and quality experts from Dartmouth, the Institute of Healthcare Improvement, Brookings Engelberg Center and Harvard convened with health care providers, doctors, hospital executives etc., from 10 success story communities for a one-day conference in Washington, to discuss what works. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.newamerica.net/blog/new-health-dialogue/2009/health-care-reform-or-re-form-what-health-care-can-learn-ferryboat-13438> [HTML format, various paging].

HEALTH REFORM INTERESTS BUT CONFUSES PUBLIC. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. July 22, 2009.

The debate over revamping the nation's health care system is drawing increased public attention, according to the analysis. A third (33%) say they are following the health care debate very closely, up from 24% the previous week. And while news coverage of health care also increased over the past week, a sizable minority of Americans (45%) say the issue is receiving too little coverage. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1290/health-care-debate-news-coverage-important-interesting-confusing> [HTML format, various paging].

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SEEING THE BIG PICTURE ON HEALTH REFORM AND COST CONTAINMENT. Economic Policy Institute. Josh Bivens. July 27, 2009.

According to the author, reducing the growth rate of health care costs, will require a number of very specific policy interventions. Evidence from the international peers, U.S. domestic experience with publicly-financed versus private insurance, and simulations about the likely effects of future reform all back up the current reform proposals. He believes that President Obama understands the situation well. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.epi.org/analysis\\_and\\_opinion/entry/seeing\\_the\\_big\\_picture\\_on\\_health\\_reform\\_and\\_cost\\_containment/](http://www.epi.org/analysis_and_opinion/entry/seeing_the_big_picture_on_health_reform_and_cost_containment/) [HTML format, various paging].

## ARTICLES

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### DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

Bowden, Mark THE STORY BEHIND THE STORY (Atlantic Monthly, October 2009)

Unbiased journalism is being replaced by the work of “political hit men,” Bowden says, citing the televised treatment of Judge Sonia Sotomayor after she was nominated by Obama for the U.S. Supreme Court. The information on Sotomayor -- specifically the “make policy” and “Latina woman” comments -- wasn’t uncovered by journalists, but simply reprocessed by television news rooms from conservative web sites. The conservative Judicial Confirmation Network had gathered an “attack dossier” on each of the prospective Supreme Court nominees and had fed them all to the networks in advance, Bowden says. He decries the demise of the disinterested newspaper reporter: “What gave newspapers their value was the mission and promise of journalism -- the hope that someone was getting paid to wade into the daily tide of manure, sort through its deliberate lies and cunning half-truths, and tell a story straight.” Currently available online at <http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/200910/media>

Greenwald, Bruce; Knee, Jonathan; Seave, Ava THE MOGULS’ NEW CLOTHES (Atlantic, October 2009)

Even before the Internet upended their industry, big media companies were turning in poor performances and disappointing their shareholders. The four tenets of media industry wisdom — growth, globalization, content and convergence -- are myths, these authors insist. Growth has actually resulted in lower stock performance, and globalization doesn’t necessarily lead to higher profits. Creating superior content makes more money for the artists than for the media companies hosting their work. And finally, increased competition from multiple media sources and the Internet undercut the advantage traditional big media companies had of economies of scale and captive customers. The only real avenue to salvation that the traditional media industry has open is unglamorous: improving the efficiency of their operations. Currently available online at <http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/200910/moguls>

Chamary, J.V.; Hurst, Laurence D. HOW TRIVIAL DNA CHANGES CAN HURT HEALTH (Scientific American, June 2009)

Small changes to DNA that were once considered innocuous enough to be ignored are proving to be important in human diseases, evolution and biotechnology. Scientists long assumed that any DNA mutation that does not change the final protein encoded by a gene is effectively “silent.” Mysterious exceptions to the rule, in which silent changes seemed to be exerting a powerful effect on proteins, have revealed that such mutations can affect health through a variety of mechanisms. Understanding the subtler dynamics of how genes work and evolve may reveal further insights into causes and cures for disease. Preview available online at <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=the-price-of-silent-mutations>

Crossette, Barbara FACTORING PEOPLE INTO CLIMATE CHANGE (The Nation, September 14, 2009)

When the climate-change summit of world leaders convenes on September 22, it is very likely that the subject of women will not come up, notes the author. Although many governments pay lip service to population growth, few make the link between population and the environment. The subject of family planning is also taboo in many circles; one participant country in the climate talks has already sounded a warning to keep population off the table. The U.N. and many global NGOs and activists agree on the necessity to accept that population and climate change need to be part of an integrated policy, although making inroads into political thinking is a slow process. The author notes that U.S. officials can go to the talks, knowing that American public opinion overwhelmingly supports family planning programs worldwide, despite the attempts of some American politicians to polarize the issue. Available online at <http://www.thenation.com/doc/20090928/crossette>

Fahey, Jonathan WIND POWER'S WEIRD EFFECT (Forbes Magazine, September 7, 2009)

The news about wind power is mixed, notes the author. The good news is that, thanks to cheap wind energy, in some parts of the country when there is too much power on the grid, wholesale power prices are now dropping to zero or below at certain times of the day. The bad news is that wind turbines spin the most at night when demand is low and least during afternoons when power is needed. Some power plants are hard pressed to power down when wind power is at its highest. In the long run, the wind power boom could push daytime prices higher. To balance out fickle wind turbines, utilities will need electricity during peak times from gas-fired plants; that intermittent power will be expensive. Currently available online at <http://www.forbes.com/forbes/2009/0907/outfront-energy-exelon-wind-powers-weird-effect.html>

Kavulla, Travis AIDS RELIEF AND MORAL MYOPIA (New Atlantis, No. 24, Spring 2009)

The author, a Phillips Foundation journalism fellow and former Gates Scholar in African history at Cambridge, writes that Western aid organizations, which have pursued a mechanical approach to AIDS relief in Africa, emphasizing condom use and antiretroviral drugs, have had only mixed results in reducing the incidence of HIV/AIDS. What Western groups ignore, says Kavulla, is the social dimension, that Africans are “wont to view this disease ... as a moral calamity.” He notes that belief in the supernatural, that spiritual forces can be summoned to cause harm or bring good, is still very much alive in African life; these old beliefs have found form in evangelical Christianity, in particular Pentecostalism, which has been spreading rapidly throughout sub-Saharan Africa for years. Any successful effort to combat AIDS, writes Kavulla, will have to enlist the authority of the evangelical preachers and their large congregations. He notes that there is a precedent for such an effort -- in the 1930s, a religious fervor known as the Holy Spirit Movement sprung up in East and Central Africa, in response to a syphilis epidemic resulting from social upheaval in the early years of colonialism. The movement railed against sex outside the bounds of marriage, linking moral concerns to social concerns to great effect. Such a change is possible

again, notes Kavulla, but the Western donor community “must stop imposing its own agenda on Africa ... the sooner [it] reorients its policies to fit African realities, the better.” Currently available online at <http://www.thenewatlantis.com/publications/aids-relief-and-moral-myopia>

Kristof, Nicholas; WuDunn, Sheryl THE WOMEN'S CRUSADE (New York Times Magazine, August 23, 2009, pp. 28-39)

In many parts of the world, women are routinely beaten, raped or sold into prostitution; they are denied access to medical care and education, and have little or no economic and political power. Changing that could change everything, write the authors, saying that “the oppression of women worldwide is the human rights cause of our time.” Their liberation could help solve many of the world's problems, from poverty to child mortality to terrorism. The United Nations has estimated that there are five thousand honor killings a year, the majority in the Muslim world, while one percent of the world's landowners are women. Still, they note that things are changing; educating girls and empowering women can help fight power and extremism. For example, in Egypt, 98% of people say they believe that “girls have the same right to education as boys.” This is one of a series of articles in a special issue of the magazine entitled Saving The World's Women. Currently available online at <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/23/magazine/23Women-t.html#>

Mooney, Chris VACCINATION NATION (Discover, June 2009, pp. 58-65, 75)

Several recent court rulings that vaccines do not cause autism have done little to quiet the angry debate that began a decade ago, when a study first alleged that there was a connection between the use of a mercury compound, thimerosal, as a preservative in vaccines, and the growing incidence of autism among children. The anti-vaccine story has spread rapidly in the mass media and on the Internet, drawing many celebrity supporters. While there is still uncertainty on whether the reported increase in autism is merely due to increased attention to the condition or a range of environmental triggers, the vaccine-autism connection has been refuted by scientific research. The author notes that the scientific and medical community was slow to respond to the growing public reaction against vaccines, noting that “it's not hard to scare people, but it's extremely difficult to unscare them.” The greater threat, notes the author, is holding back vaccines. The great success of vaccines in eradicating diseases is a reason why the antivaccination sentiment has thrived; few people today remember the devastation caused by these scourges. The major challenge today, Mooney notes, is to maintain public support for vaccination programs and to “explore how science and so many citizens fell out of touch.” Available online at <http://discovermagazine.com/2009/jun/06-why-does-vaccine-autism-controversy-live-on>

Oplinger, Doug JOURNALISM AS A CIVIC PRACTICE (Connections: The Kettering Foundation's annual newsletter, 2009, pp. 14-15)

Even financially imperiled news organization can continue to be “chronicler and conscience” of their communities, says Oplinger. He uses the Akron (Ohio) Beacon Journal as an example. Without compromising its journalistic integrity, he writes, the newspaper collaborated with its media competitors and the city's special interests on a civic journalism project that explored, starting in 2006, the hopes and fears of America's “disappearing middle class.” The project blossomed into a long series of stories and several public events. “Collaborations such as the Beacon Journal's middle-class project may begin to rewrite the rules of engagement for civic journalism,” Oplinger writes. The project worked because it not only reported on the problem, but helped drive the discussion, he says. Available online at [http://www.kettering.org/media\\_room/periodicals/connections](http://www.kettering.org/media_room/periodicals/connections)

Peck, Morgan E. BUZZ OFF (Discover, vol. 30, no. 9, October 2009, pp. 38-41)

The possible stresses causing honeybee die-off, known as Colony Collapse Disorder, include pesticides, bacterial or viral infections and mite infestations. But recently scientists have focused on industrial agricultural practices that isolate bees from their natural habitat, forcing them to live



crowded together in unhealthy boxes where bees are given monotonous diets that deprive them of essential nutrients available in the wild. Bees are transported thousands of miles to pollinate similar kinds of crops and fed corn syrup in slack periods. Inbreeding also takes its toll. Some entomologists are establishing new hives with wild queens, settling them with beekeepers who allow bees to live naturally. Currently available online at <http://discover.coverleaf.com/discovermagazine/200910?pg=41#pg41>

Podger, Pamela THE LIMITS OF CONTROL (American Journalism Review, June/July 2009)

For journalists today, social networking sites are increasingly blurring the line between the personal and professional. This creates a host of ethics and etiquette questions for news organizations, which are crafting guidelines for the growing number of staffers using social networks. Generally speaking, the advice to journalists is to identify themselves as journalists, tell recipients they are using social networks in a professional capacity, and remain mindful that people will regard them as representatives of their news organizations. Amy Webb, principal consultant at Webmedia Group in Baltimore, says news organizations should be pondering the privacy and safety issues of a new crop of tools, including location-aware services. "When a New York Times reporter logs on to Facebook from his mobile phone, he's sharing a lot more information than his status updates. He's sharing the content he wrote and his location," Webb says. "There are safety and privacy issues around this." Currently available online at <http://www.ajr.org/Article.asp?id=4798>

Powell, Corey THE BIG HEAT (Discover, June 2009, pp. 38-43)

Global warming is at once the most alarming challenge and the most controversial. Despite the potential for catastrophic environmental outcomes, a large segment of the U.S. public still doubts that climate change will cause major harm, or that it is occurring at all. Discover Magazine editor-in-chief Powell moderates a discussion between four prominent climate scientists, who discuss the evidence that climate change is occurring. For them, the number of different events that are all happening simultaneously would be very hard to explain if not for global warming -- such as the loss of ice mass in both polar regions, the increasing acidification of the oceans, and the potential for widespread crop failures in many equatorial regions where crops are already being raised at temperatures close to their photosynthetic limits. They fear that it may be too late to make the needed changes if humanity waits until there is international cooperation; what is needed is leadership by the U.S. and Europe, and other nations will follow. Currently available online at <http://discovermagazine.com/2009/jun/30-state-of-the-climate-and-science>

Rieder, Rem DAYDREAM BELIEVERS (American Journalism Review, August/September 2009)

"America has become a country filled with people who stubbornly continue to believe what they want to believe, regardless of the facts," says Rieder, using as examples the persistence of people who refuse to believe Obama was born in the United States and those who believe that there are in fact provisions for "death panels" in health-care reform proposals. This situation makes it all the more critical for journalists to go beyond the "he-said, she-said" reporting of the past and not hesitate to reach firmly expressed conclusions -- with fairness, of course. Mainstream journalism has long been uncomfortable about making and expressing conclusions, but according to Rieder, "as long as that conclusion is based on carefully reported evidence, not ideology, there's no good reason not to do it." Currently available online at <http://ajr.org/Article.asp?id=4817>

Wolfe, Nathan HOW TO PREVENT THE NEXT PANDEMIC (Scientific American, April 2009)

An international network for monitoring the flow of viruses from animals to humans might help scientists head off global epidemics. Most human infectious diseases originated in animals. Historically, epidemiologists have focused on domestic animals as the source of these scourges,

But wild animals also have transmitted many diseases to us, including HIV. To address the threat posed by wild animals, researchers are studying the microbes of these creatures and the people who come into frequent contact with them. Such monitoring may enable scientists to spot emerging infectious diseases early enough to prevent them from becoming pandemics. Preview available online at <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=preventing-next-pandemic>

Woofenden, Ian APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE DEVELOPING WORLD (Home Power, No. 133, October/November 2009, pp. 80-85)

The author, a wind-energy consultant and Costa Rica coordinator for Solar Energy International, writes that, properly executed, renewable-energy technologies in the developing world can provide for sustainability and a higher quality of life, and enable developing-world communities to “avoid some of the poor development choices we in the ‘prematurely developed’ world have made.” Woofenden explores technologies that work best in many countries, such as solar cooking, which reduces the pressure on natural resources and time and effort spent gathering firewood; solar electricity, which can reliably power lights, schools and medical clinics without having to purchase candles or kerosene; methane biodigesters, for the microbial breakdown of manure into cooking gas; hydroelectricity, making use of running stream water to generate power; and solar water heating and purification. He writes that his own field, wind energy, is not always the best technology to use in many rural locations in developing countries, due to the lack of suitable sites and the greater need for regular maintenance and repair. The article includes online and print resources for further information.

## ECONOMIC SECURITY

Carney, Scott CUTTHROAT CAPITALISM (Wired, vol. 17, no. 7, July 2009, pp. 110-117)

In a graphics-heavy layout, the author describes the business model being used by Somali pirates in the Gulf of Aden. The rapidly escalating number of hijackings and ransom demands made of ship owners in this treacherous patch of ocean is based on carefully calculated business inputs, potential profits, and likely risks, according to the author’s research. The pirates who seize the ships, hold the crews, and demand the ransoms are usually Somali fishermen, who stand to make far more money as kidnappers. However, they only take home about 30 percent of the ransom; the largest share goes to the financiers on land, who underwrite the expeditions. The pay-offs are 100 times more than what they were in 2005, according to the author, who says there does not appear to be an end in sight. Running the risk of a ship hijacking and paying the ransoms, so far, seems a better alternative for international shipping companies, who otherwise would route their ships around the Cape of Good Hope, a much longer and expensive route with its own risks. Currently available online at [http://www.wired.com/politics/security/magazine/17-07/ff\\_somali\\_pirates](http://www.wired.com/politics/security/magazine/17-07/ff_somali_pirates)

Grant, Greg THE NEW THREAT TO OIL SUPPLIES: HACKERS (Foreign Policy, August 25, 2009)

Offshore drilling rigs are becoming increasingly computerized and remote-controlled, a trend that renders them vulnerable to sabotage, as proved by a recent case in California, involving a disgruntled contractor who hacked into the shore-to-rig communications system. Most new oil discoveries are in deep ocean waters, a very dangerous environment for “roughnecks”, and the expense of living quarters, feeding and evacuation has become prohibitively high, hence the move to remote-controlled rigs. While the rigs employ state-of-the-art robotics, the computer software controlling the rig is often decades old, notes the author. He notes that the possibility of cyberattack will only grow, as governments and companies around the world vie for ever-more

scarce global oil reserves. Currently available online at [http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2009/08/25/the\\_new\\_threat\\_to\\_oil\\_supplies\\_hackers](http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2009/08/25/the_new_threat_to_oil_supplies_hackers)

Kim, J.S. THE COMING CONSEQUENCES OF BANKING FRAUD (Seeking Alpha, posted September 9, 2009)

The author, an independent financial advisor and analyst, writes that the rally in Western stock markets in recent months has been the result of financial fraud, a “scheme executed by an elite global financial oligarchy ... to fool the world into believing that global economies are recovering.” Kim contends that the banking and financial establishment have engaged in transactions that have been kept secret from the public and “will have severe and negative consequences in the not-so-distant future,” and the blowback from these activities will exceed the downturn the world experienced in 2008. In view of the worsening economic data, the current stock market rally makes sense only when viewed through the prism of fraud, with the rise of computerized ultra-fast high-frequency proprietary trading programs, and the fact that much of the trading volume in recent weeks has been in only a handful of financial firms. He adds that all government-produced economic statistics “have been massively distorted towards the side of optimism and away from reality” during financial crisis, and this false front of optimism has been abetted by financial journalists. Currently available online at [http://seekingalpha.com/article/160619-the-coming-consequences-of-banking-fraud?source=article\\_sb\\_popular](http://seekingalpha.com/article/160619-the-coming-consequences-of-banking-fraud?source=article_sb_popular)

Kornell, Sam BIG STEP FORWARD LOST IN SHUFFLE (Miller-McCune, September 16, 2009)

The author notes that a “momentous bit of news slipped by more or less unnoticed, lost in the general hullabaloo over health care and the apparent deterioration of civil discourse sweeping the country” — the unveiling of the Obama administration’s plan to compel the U.S. automakers to increase the fuel-efficiency of new vehicles to over 35 miles per gallon by the year 2016. The plan, which would be enforced by the Environmental Protection Agency, would raise the efficiency standards by 5 percent a year. In view of the new evidence coming to light about climate change and looming future declines in global oil production, the author notes that “any serious national effort to increase fuel efficiency is a welcome development”, and that the new emissions standards, which will probably go into effect next year, “represent the most impressive step to reduce fossil fuel emissions in the history of American politics.” Currently available online at <http://www.miller-mccune.com/news/big-step-forward-lost-in-shuffle-1476>

Mihm, Stephen WHY CAPITALISM FAILS (Boston Globe, September 13, 2009)

The author, professor of history at the University of Georgia, notes that a hitherto obscure economist named Hyman Minsky, who died over a decade ago, has become recognized as the most prescient thinker about the current financial crisis. Minsky, who spent the latter part of his career in isolation and was little-known at the time of his death, argued that modern finance is inherently unstable, creating the conditions for its own downfall. Mihm notes that Minsky believed that the work of renowned economist John Maynard Keynes amounted to an admission that capitalism, far from tending toward equilibrium, was prone to collapse. Minsky was not a fatalist, though — he believed that it was possible to craft solutions that would ameliorate the worst effects of an economic crisis. He advocated for a “bubble-up” approach, in which money would be given to the poor and unskilled, and government would provide minimum-wage guarantees, an approach that Mihm concedes would not be very palatable today. Currently available online at [http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/ideas/articles/2009/09/13/why\\_capitalism\\_fails/?page=full](http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/ideas/articles/2009/09/13/why_capitalism_fails/?page=full)

Schweickart, David A NEW CAPITALISM – OR A NEW WORLD? (World Watch, vol. 22, no. 5, September-October 2009, pp. 12-19)

Schweickart, philosophy professor at Loyola University Chicago, argues that “we must move beyond capitalism if humanity is to flourish” – capitalism, as currently practiced, depends on nonstop growth to remain healthy, and discounts the natural resources and ecological systems

that it exploits. Schweickart proposes a system of democratized labor, in which businesses are communities, not legal entities that can be bought and sold, and democratized capital, in which financing is arranged through government taxation or public banks. He points to the Mondragon Corporacion Cooperativa in the Basque region of Spain, an enterprise already half a century old, as evidence that such an economy would be viable.

Zingales, Luigi CAPITALISM AFTER THE CRISIS (National Affairs, No. 1, Fall 2009, pp. 22-35)

Zingales, professor at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, writes that the nature of the financial crisis, and the government's response to it, threatens to undermine America's unique brand of capitalism, and move the country in the direction of state corporatism. Unlike much of the rest of the West, democracy in America predates industrialization, so by the latter half of the nineteenth century, the American public had high expectations for fairness in economic policy; the concept of anti-trust law is a prime example. He notes that the pro-market aspects of American capitalism have been eclipsed by the pro-business forces, those that promote the interests of existing businesses. The financial sector's increasing concentration and political muscle, and the government bailouts for the major financial firms, threatens to start a vicious cycle. Zingales believes that the U.S. capitalism is at a crossroads. One path is to enact genuine reforms, even if they do not serve the interests of Wall Street, but he sees the current administration taking the other path, consisting of cosmetic measures like limits on executive bonuses, while shoring up the positions of the large financial firms, making the economy more dependent on government.

## **INTERNATIONAL SECURITY**

Dunn, Lewis A. THE NPT: ACCESSING THE PAST, BUILDING THE FUTURE (Nonproliferation Review, vol. 16, no. 2, July 2009, pp. 143-172)

This article provides an analysis of the 1968 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty's (NPT) successes and failures to date. The author, who works as a senior vice-president for Science Applications International Corporation, also examines the prospects for the upcoming May 2010 NPT Review Conference. Ambassador Dunn suggests 15 possible steps to strengthen the treaty. He recommends pursuing three plans of action to establish a roadmap between the 2010 meeting and the next review conference in five years. The first plan would be organized around non-proliferation goals. Peaceful uses of nuclear energy would be the focus of the second plan. The last one would explore the broader ramifications of nuclear disarmament. Online link to PDF full text available at <http://cns.miis.edu/npr/162toc.htm> For a related event, see Dunn briefing at [http://cns.miss.edu/activities/060716\\_briefing\\_assessing\\_npt/index.htm](http://cns.miss.edu/activities/060716_briefing_assessing_npt/index.htm)

Gause, F. Gregory III ISLAMISTS AND THE GRAVE BELL (National Interest, September/October 2009)

The author, professor of political science at the University of Vermont and currently visiting professor of international affairs at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, writes that the recent elections in Lebanon and the events surrounding the elections in Iran have led many U.S. opinion-makers to argue once again that democracy in the Middle East will lead to the decline of Islamist regimes due to popular opposition. Gause notes that if most Arab countries had true democracy, Islamist parties would gain even more ground, in countries with authoritarian regimes that are U.S. allies. He believes that our interests are best served by promoting civil society in those countries whose leadership is resistant to change; the U.S. must walk a fine line between its desire to promote democracy, and its interests that are not always best served by pushing for

elections in the Middle East. Currently available online at <http://www.nationalinterest.org/Article.aspx?id=22036>

Gedmin, Jeffrey BOOM BOX USA: SURROGATE BROADCASTING AS A TOOL OF U.S. SOFT POWER (Foreign Affairs, vol. 88, no. 5, September-October 2009)

According to Gedmin, president of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, U.S. government-sponsored surrogate broadcasting of accurate and reliable news remains the most effective and cost-efficient way to promote democracy and advance U.S. security interests in countries lacking independent media. The objective of surrogate broadcasting programs, such as Radio Farda in Iran, is not to overthrow a foreign government -- "when informed citizens are free to choose," Gedmin writes, "they invariably choose freedom over tyranny and prefer decent, accountable government to the arbitrary whims of authoritarian leaders." Surrogate broadcasting plays a role in Afghanistan, countering the Taliban's own information war, and in Russia, where public opinion toward the U.S. and toward democracy is ambivalent. Currently available online at <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/65426/jeffrey-gedmin/boom-box-usa>

Green, Michael J. THE PERILOUS CASE OF KIM JONG-IL (National Interest, September/October 2009)

The author, senior adviser at the Center for Strategic and International Studies and associate professor of international relations at Georgetown University, writes that, lost amid the arguments over the details of the negotiations with North Korea is the fact that Pyongyang has deliberately made itself more dangerous over the past fifteen years. This is complicated by the fact that Kim Jong-Il is dying, and the son whom he has likely picked as his successor will not have the legitimacy to keep the Communist Party and the military in line. Green believes that we are unlikely to see a peaceful collapse of the North Korean regime; more likely is that there will be three dangerous stages, the first of which we are experiencing now, which is the growing bellicosity of the military which is trying to maintain discipline and control. Next will be the challenge of containing nuclear or chemical arsenals, dealing with the North's million-man army, and a massive humanitarian crisis as the regime collapses, and finally the U.S. will have the delicate task of managing competing regional interests in stabilizing the peninsula. Currently available online at <http://www.nationalinterest.org/Article.aspx?id=22030>

Joffe, Josef THE DEFAULT POWER (Foreign Affairs, vol. 88, no. 5, September-October 2009)

According to Joffe, co-editor of Die Zeit, predicting the demise of U.S. global dominance has been an intellectual sport for 50 years. Yet he argues that still no other country comes close to the United States' economic or military heft. Joffe doubts that China will eclipse the United States as a world power any time soon. "Alas, global standing is not measured by the low prices of nontradable goods, such as haircuts, bootlegged software, and government services," he says. Export dependence hurts China both by risky reliance on foreign customers and risky denial of domestic welfare. Even if China avoids internal upheaval, Joffe says, it faces the problem of a rapidly aging population. He doubts that Europe will eclipse the United States -- Europe lacks the will to use armed force as required by a global power. And the United States, alone among contending powers, shows the enlightened self-interest that breeds foreign influence, he says. Mullen, Michael G.

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION: GETTING BACK TO BASICS (Joint Force Quarterly, no. 55, Fourth Quarter 2009, pp. 2-4)

Adm. Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, writes that in the world of communication, "the lines between strategic, operational, and tactical are blurred beyond distinction . . . we have walked away from the original intent." He notes that our biggest problem is credibility, because the U.S. has not invested the time and resources to build trust or deliver on promises. In Afghanistan, the Taliban have become effective at governance, and in doing so, they erode the



legitimacy of the Afghan government. He says that strategic communication problems are really “policy and execution problems -- Each time we fail to live up to our values or don't follow up on a promise, we look more and more like the arrogant Americans the enemy claims we are.” The irony, says Mullen, is that we know better, and have only to look at our past – the post-World War II Marshall Plan did not need a “strat comm” plan or public opinion poll to rebuild Europe. Mullen is an avowed fan of Greg Mortenson, the author of *Three Cups of Tea*, who has built schools for girls in the Panjshir Valley of Pakistan. Mullen writes that we “must also be better listeners -- the Muslim community is a world we don't fully -- and don't always attempt to -- understand.” Available online at [http://www.ndu.edu/inss/Press/jfq\\_pages/editions/i55/1.pdf](http://www.ndu.edu/inss/Press/jfq_pages/editions/i55/1.pdf)

Pollack, Kenneth M. THE BATTLE FOR BAGHDAD (National Interest, no. 103, September/October 2009, pp. 8-17)

The author, director of the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution, notes that Iraqi Prime Minister el-Maliki has been deploying more of Iraq's nascent military power to the north and goading the army into regular provocations with the Kurdish militia. While el-Maliki has a legitimate reason for the Iraqi government to control all of Iraq's territory, Pollack argues that this is not the time to resolve this issue – more than one Iraqi-Kurdish confrontation nearly erupted into violence, and only the timely intervention of American units prevented bloodshed. Against this backdrop, the U.S. is increasingly becoming an impediment for el-Maliki; this not only complicates his election strategy, but is an affront to his own desire to see the Iraqi government regain control of the entire country. The reemergence of Iraqi nationalism has created two challenges for the U.S. -- it produces new risks for violence that American forces need to prevent, and it has led many Iraqi politicians to take public positions unsupportive of the American presence, even though most know that America's role as peacekeeper and mediator remains critical to Iraq's stability and progress. Currently available online at <http://www.nationalinterest.org/Article.aspx?id=22018>

Slawter, Bruce PAY TO PLAY (American Interest, September-October 2009)

The U.S. commercial nuclear power industry has languished for years, notes the author, a result of huge cost overruns on plants built in the 1970s and 1980s, and of notable accidents such as those at Three Mile Island and Chernobyl. The decline of expertise and research in the U.S. nuclear power industry is now translating into erosion of our ability to influence nonproliferation internationally, notes Slawter, as other countries, notably France, Japan, Russia and now China surpass the U.S. in certain areas of reactor development. Slawter notes that what is emerging is a “pay-to-play” arrangement -- in order to be recognized as a nuclear authority, countries have to invest in their own nuclear technology. He notes that President Obama has become increasingly pragmatic with respect to nuclear power, which will put him at odds with many of his Democratic supporters. In order to maintain the U.S. lead in safety and nonproliferation, Slawter writes that the Obama administration should redouble its efforts in conjunction with France and Japan to develop new-generation reactors, conduct further research into closing the nuclear fuel cycle, and strengthen existing international frameworks, and provide a global fuel repository, so that countries aspiring to nuclear energy do not develop a nuclear fuel cycle on their own. Available online at <http://the-american-interest.com/article-bd.cfm?piece=660>

Wheatcroft, Geoffrey CONTINENTAL DRIFTS (National Interest, no. 100, March/April 2009, 39-47)

Wheatcroft, a British journalist and author, notes that the Israeli incursion into Gaza at the beginning of 2009 highlighted the growing gulf between the U.S. and Europe. As judged by media coverage, the gap between American and European perceptions of the conflict was wider than ever, as if Gaza “might be two entirely different stories.” Despite sharing a common heritage, America and Europe have long diverged on matters of politics, war, religion and the social contract. The Cold War concealed a number of differences, and with the collapse of the Soviet Union, the author writes that “we should not be surprised to see the rifts turning into



chasms.” A major point of contention was the disparity in sharing the cost of the NATO alliance, an arrangement that fueled unprecedented economic prosperity in Western Europe, while the U.S. shouldered debt from military spending. Wheatcroft says that the demilitarization and civilianization of Europe may also be connected to the decline of religion in Europe, too. Europe has been bloodied by centuries of conflict fueled by religious passions, and endured the past century with two major wars, totalitarian regimes and millions of deaths, something America has been insulated from. “Europeans have had quite enough experience with violence to have rejected it consciously,” says Wheatcroft, suggesting that, after military debacles from Vietnam to Iraq, “is it possible that the Americans themselves will look eastward at Europe one day, and be tempted to wonder if that is the better future?” Currently available online at <http://www.nationalinterest.org/Article.aspx?id=20974>

Wilson, David (Maj.) A GLOBAL PROBLEM: CYBERSPACE THREATS DEMAND AN INTERNATIONAL APPROACH (Armed Forces Journal, July 2009)

Cyberspace has changed the way people communicate forever, the author writes, but with that change comes a host of new problems including identity theft, computer viruses, the defacement of websites and network intrusions. He says cyberspace has become “an entity unto itself, not controlled by anyone, but affecting all in one form or another.” Nations need to establish agreed-upon standards to help resolve problems plaguing cyberspace, including cybercrime. Wilson, who is chief of cyberlaw at the Army’s U.S. Space and Missile Defense Command, advocates setting up an international organization comprised of cyber-faring nations to oversee the borderless domain of international cyberspace. Such an organization would promote collaboration by governments and industry on software and filtering standards needed to block viruses and create an international firewall. He also calls for the creation of an international cyberspace convention to monitor the health of cyberspace and to deal with problems. Within that context, the author says an international Computer Emergency Response Group must be created. Available online at <http://www.armedforcesjournal.com/2009/07/4062667/>

## **U.S. SOCIETY & VALUES**

EUROPE’S WILD WILD EAST (American Theatre, vol. 26, no. 5, May-June 2009, pp. 25-35, 65-68)

In a five-article special series on theatre in post-Communist Europe, the authors describe a surge of new theatrical voices from the former Soviet Bloc countries. Profound changes have occurred in the twenty years since the fall of the Berlin Wall, not the least of which is that newfound artistic freedom met up with economic realities; the theatre has become yet another commodity, and subject to popular tastes now as much as it was to the dictates of the Communist Party. Says Czech novelist Ivan Klima, “we asked for freedom and you gave us the market.” The articles feature new work and playwrights, from Poland, the Balkans, Latvia and Belarus, where a renegade troupe risks arrests and jail time by performing underground.

Brinkley, Douglas TR’S WILD SIDE (American Heritage online, posted August 31, 2009)

In 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt commemorated the 10th anniversary of his charge up San Juan Hill in the Spanish-American War by creating 45 new national forests in 11 states. He believed that “something in the American wilderness experience,” including his experiences hunting in the West in the 1880s, “had given him an edge over the Spaniards” in Cuba, says Brinkley, a distinguished professor of history at Rice University. Similarly, Roosevelt’s Rough Riders had spent much of their lives in the mountains and plains of the Southwest -- cowboys,

military veterans, prospectors, hunters and lawmen. "There could be no better material for soldiers," he enthused. When Roosevelt assumed the presidency in 1901, he brought his love of nature, his doctrine of "the strenuous life," and his belief that "the American fighting spirit would only continue as long as outdoorsmen didn't get lazy and rest on their laurels." As a champion of conservation, Roosevelt added over 234 million acres to the public domain between 1901 and 1909. He used his executive power to save the Grand Canyon, Crater Lake, Devils Tower, Mesa Verde and the Dry Tortugas, and he initiated many innovative protocols for range management, wildfire control, land planning, recreation, hydrology and soil science throughout the American West. Adapted from Brinkley's book *THE WILDERNESS WARRIOR: THEODORE ROOSEVELT AND THE CRUSADE FOR AMERICA*. Currently available online at <http://www.americanheritage.com/articles/web/20090831-President-Theodore-Roosevelt-Cuba-Spanish-American-War-Splendid-Little-Conservatism-Douglas-Brinkley-California-Florida.shtml>

Hirschfeld, Neil TEACHING COPS TO SEE (Smithsonian, vol. 40, no. 7, October 2009)

When police officers investigate a crime scene or are on call, paying attention to detail and communicating accurately are critical. This article profiles Amy Herman, a New York art historian and lawyer who, after a harrowing experience on a police patrol while a law student, began teaching a course called "The Art of Perception" for police, designed to fine-tune their attention to visual details, using paintings from New York's Metropolitan Museum. The focus is not on the artist, title of the work or technique, but on describing what they see in the picture. Herman has conducted the course for several federal-government agencies, as well as the Scotland Yard in London. The author notes that their newly-attuned skills of observation have paid off in at least one high-profile case. Available online at <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/Teaching-Cops-to-See.html?c=y&page=1>

Hulstrand, Janet KA'IULANI: HAWAII'S ISLAND ROSE (Smithsonian.com, May 8, 2009)

This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of Hawaii's statehood. In this article, Hulstrand profiles Princess Ka'iulani, a little-known but pivotal figure in the history of Hawaii's annexation at the time of the Spanish-American War. Born into Hawaii's royal family, Ka'iulani, who was given the name "Island Rose" by visiting author and poet Robert Louis Stevenson, was sent to boarding school in England, but, by the time she returned, Hawaii was no longer an independent nation. In 1893, a group of American and British businessmen, backed by U.S. Marines, sought to overthrow the queen and annex Hawaii to the U.S.; Ka'iulani, only 17 at the time, sailed to New York to make a personal appeal to the American public to restore the Hawaiian government. The eloquence of her appeal attracted widespread publicity, and Ka'iulani was invited to visit President Grover Cleveland, who was quite critical of the takeover, and ordered the provisional government returned to the queen. However, President Cleveland was unable to prevent it; he served only one term, to be succeeded by President McKinley, who completed the annexation of Hawaii in 1898. After returning to Hawaii, Ka'iulani tragically died at age 23 -- but not before she succeeded in obtaining for her people the right to vote, in large part due to her ability to sway politicians and her gift to influence public opinion. Available online at <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/people-places/americas/Kaiulani-Hawaiis-Island-Rose.html>

Levy, Ariel NORA KNOWS WHAT TO DO (New Yorker, vol. 85, no. 20, July 6-13, 2009, pp. 60-66, 68-69)

Writer and motion picture director Nora Ephron is currently directing a film about famed chef Julia Child, starring Meryl Streep as the statuesque gourmet. Ephron first became well-known in the late nineteen-sixties, as a magazine journalist who wrote features about cultural institutions and media celebrities; in the early nineties, Ephron started directing her own movies. Her most successful since "Sleepless" was "You've Got Mail" (1998), loosely based on the Ernst Lubitsch movie "The Shop Around the Corner." In 2006, Ephron managed the almost impossible feat of becoming an "It" girl yet again, in her sixties, by publishing "I Feel Bad About My Neck," which

became a No. 1 best-seller, enhancing her glamour by writing about the distinctly dowdy subject of aging. About half of Ephron's movies have been firmly rejected by both critics and audiences, but the other half have become mainstays of their genre. In her latest, "Julie and Julia," Ephron wrote the screenplay based on two books about women, food and marriage: Julia Child's memoir "My Life in France," which traces her evolution from spirited Embassy wife to revered foodie; and the blogger Julie Powell's book about cooking her way through every recipe in Child's "Mastering the Art of French Cooking," in a single year. Powell's blog echoed Ephron's own experience in the kitchen when she was in her twenties, cooking "at least half the recipes in the first Julia," as she has written, and having "imaginary conversations" with Child in the process.

Moyer, Steve WHAT IF? (Humanities, vol. 30, no. 4, July/August 2009, pp. 32-36)

The author believes that it is difficult to take in all the ways that reading is changing in response to new technology. Bob Stein, co-director and founder of the Institute for the Future of the Book, is exploring how the digital revolution is transforming the way we read. One of Stein's recent projects was a kind of online book club in which seven women engaged in a close reading of Doris Lessing's THE GOLDEN NOTEBOOK, then commented online in the margins of the electronic book, by means of an open-source software called CommentPress. Moyer explores the changes in the book in the past thirty years, noting that there have been more advances in the evolution of the book than there had been in the past five centuries. Currently available online at <http://neh.gov/news/humanities/2009-07/WhatIf.html>

Theroux, Paul THE LONG WAY HOME (Smithsonian, Vol. 40, No. 6, September 2009, pp. 70-77)

Paul Theroux is one of the masters of travel writing, but he opens this article for Smithsonian admitting that he has never seen a great deal of his own country. He begins his cross-country road trip in Los Angeles, heading to his home in Cape Cod, Massachusetts with the plan that the journey is the destination. Along the way, he makes many of the iconic stops of the American road trip -- the Las Vegas strip, the Red Rocks of Arizona, the memorial to victims of the Oklahoma City terrorist attack, and the blues bars on Memphis' Beale Street. He finds barren deserts, ferocious weather, and pastoral scenes which he likens to similar places he has seen in distant countries. But at the end of his more than 5,400 kilometer journey, Theroux observes that he experienced "not a moment of alienation or danger, no roadblocks, no sign of officialdom, never a second of feeling I was somewhere different." Currently available online under the title "Taking the Great American Roadtrip" at <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/The-Long-Way-Home-USA.html>

Van Gelder, Sarah PARKER PALMER: KNOW YOURSELF, CHANGE YOUR WORLD (Yes! Magazine, Fall 2009)

In this interview, educator and author Parker Palmer notes that most of us lack an understanding of our inner lives; reflection, which should be the fourth "R" of education, is not taught in schools. Parker says that "every line of work is deepened by bringing all of our human capacities to bear on whatever we are doing, and that includes our inner sensibilities as well as our externally oriented knowledge and skill." Schools are often not a place that promotes personal development, a chief reason why fifty percent of teachers are gone within five years, due to burnout. Parker notes that people who become aware of their inner life also become aware of the disparity between their integrity and the manner in which institutions around them operate. He cites Wall Street and the financial crisis as a prime example of an environment in which few insiders were brave enough to speak out about what was happening. While the courage of individual whistle-blowers is important, real institutional change happens when groups of like-minded people come together and lend each other support. Institutions can seem like an unassailable colossus, says Parker, but "we can call them back to some semblance of humanity by reinventing them, because we invented them in the first place." Currently available online at <http://cms.yesmagazine.org/issues/learn-as-you-go/know-yourself-change-your-world/>

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