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SIGNIFICANT E-DOCUMENTS

FESTIVAL OF THINKERS: LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE. Knowledge@Wharton. November 2009.

The third Festival of Thinkers brought together an array of Nobel laureates, well-known intellectuals and students from the UAE and neighboring countries to celebrate what Shiekh Nahayan Mabarak Al Nahayan calls “the power and importance of thinking.” The event which took place November 1-4, 2009, in Abu Dhabi, focused on nine themes that are keys to shaping the future of the Middle East and the rest of the global community. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/papers/download/20091028_MiddleEastSpecialReport.pdf [PDF format, 11 pages].

http://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/papers/download/20091028_MiddleEastSpecialReport_AR.pdf In Arabic [PDF format, 11 pages].

HOW TO HALT THE SPREAD OF NUKES – PART I. YaleGlobal. Bennett Ramberg. November 9, 2009.

A key element of U.S. President Barack Obama’s foreign policy is nuclear disarmament, as evidenced by his personally shepherding the Security Council’s Resolution 1887, which seeks to halt the Bomb’s spread. However, according to the author, this resolution does little to reduce nuclear armaments, and, most importantly, fails to tackle the issue of states that seek to get the Bomb. The author proposes an “action template” with a definite timetable and specific measures, including suspending commerce and travel. Admittedly, approving such a process would be challenging, but the current system has failed repeatedly to stop cheating, note the progress of Iran, North Korea, and even Syria in their nuclear programs. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/how-halt-spread-nukes-part-i> [HTML format, various paging].

HOW TO HALT THE SPREAD OF NUKES – PART II. YaleGlobal. Bharat Karnad. November 11, 2009.

President Obama may be worthy of the Noble Peace Prize if he can achieve a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty on nuclear weapons. But many obstacles stand in his way. New nuclear weapon states, transfer of weapon technology, and the strategic exigencies of balancing the threat of U.S. military intervention all present serious hurdles to nuclear disarmament, according to the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/how-halt-spread-nukes-part-ii> [HTML format, various paging].

WATER AND AGRICULTURE: IMPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH. Center for Strategic & International Studies. John Briscoe et al. November 10, 2009.

At a time of mounting population pressures, environmental declines, and growing demand for water, the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) convened international leaders from government, the private sector, nongovernmental organizations, and academia to share their expertise in water, agriculture, and global development. In the realm of technology and innovation, contributing authors point to drip irrigation, drought-resistant plant breeding, wastewater treatment for irrigation reuse, and satellite-based assessments as promising tools to enhance water efficiency and agricultural production. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/091104_Peterson_Water&Agri_WEB.pdf [PDF format, 117 pages].

AID FOR AGRICULTURE: TURNING PROMISES INTO REALITY ON THE GROUND. Oxfam International. Jean-Denis Crola. November 5, 2009.

Since the beginning of the 1980s, the agricultural sector has gradually dropped down the list of priorities for state development aid in West Africa, as well as that of national policies. At the same time, more people in the region are going hungry, due in part to the recent hike in food prices. Basing on the reality on the ground in three West African countries, Ghana, Burkina Faso, and Niger, the report presents the major challenges and stakes that will determine the future development of the agricultural sector in the three countries studied. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/aid-for-agriculture-turning-promises-into-reality-report-12.11.09.pdf> [PDF format, 51 pages].

“AN ALLEYWAY IN HELL”: CHINA’S ABUSIVE “BLACK JAILS” Human Rights Watch. November 12, 2009.

Since 2003, large numbers of Chinese citizens have been held incommunicado for days or months in secret, unlawful detention facilities. These facilities, known informally as "black jails" or "black houses," are created and used primarily by local and provincial officials to detain petitioners who come to Beijing and provincial capitals seeking redress for complaints that are not resolved at lower levels of government. Public security officials in Beijing and other cities have not intervened to close the jails and, in at least some instances, have directly assisted black jail operators. The report details what happens to individuals once inside.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/china1109webwcover_1.pdf [PDF format, 57 pages].

CHINA’S ROLE IN THE “NEW ERA OF ENGAGEMENT” Council on Foreign Relations. Stewart M. Patrick. November 10, 2009.

China has benefited enormously from Western-dominated global structures, writes Stewart Patrick, and Washington now expects it to contribute more significantly to world order.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/20700/chinas_role_in_the_new_era_of_engagement.html?breadcru mb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fregion_issue_brief [HTML format, various paging].

TRANSFORMING THE REBOUND INTO RECOVERY. World Bank Working Paper. Ivailo Izvorski and Antonio Ollero. November 2009.

A vigorous economic rebound is under way in East Asia since the second quarter of 2009, following the sharp impact from the financial crisis and the global recession that began in late 2008. As much as the reduction in exports and industrial production across the region in the fourth quarter of 2008 and the first quarter of 2009 was unexpectedly swift and deep, so is the strength of the rebound, with doubts about green shoots dispelled in a matter of months and replaced by near-consensus views of a synchronized global rebound led by emerging East Asia, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www->

wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/11/11/000334955_20091111015034/Rendered/PDF/514980WP0REVIS10Box342032B01PUBLIC1.pdf [PDF format, 94 pages].

BOSNIA’S DUAL CRISIS. International Crisis Group. November 12, 2009.

The report recommends that the international community should take a firm decision to reinforce and transform its engagement in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) at the 18-19 November meeting of the Peace Implementation Council (PIC) or risk growing instability. Since the end of the war in

1995, Bosnia's leaders, supervised by the Office of the High Representative (OHR), have made slow progress towards creation of a functional common state. The conflict between Serb leaders and the OHR now risks creating a real crisis and undermining the functioning of the Bosnian state. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/europe/balkans/b57_bosnias_dual_crisis.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

IRAN, THE UNITED STATES, AND THE GULF: THE ELUSIVE REGIONAL POLICY. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Marina Ottaway. November 12, 2009.

Any effective U.S. diplomatic approach to Iran must involve other countries in the Gulf, but Washington will not succeed if it continues to strive for an anti-Iranian alliance, according to the study. While an overall security arrangement including all Gulf countries is not possible at this stage, a normalization of relations between Iran and its neighbors is an important and attainable step for reintegrating Iran into the international community, the author concludes.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/iran_us_gulf1.pdf [PDF format, 28 pages].

LEBANON'S UNSTABLE EQUILIBRIUM. U.S. Institute of Peace. Mona Yacoubian. November 2009.

In the wake of Lebanon forming a new government, U.S. Institute of Peace assesses how the country can ensure ongoing political progress and stability.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/lebanon_equilibrium_pb.pdf [PDF format, 10 pages].

PALESTINE: SALVAGING FATAH. International Crisis Group. November 12, 2009.

President Mahmoud Abbas's threat not to run in the next elections is only the latest sign of the crisis facing Fatah, the movement he heads. Fatah's challenge is to clearly define its agenda, how to carry it out and with whom. While Fatah has begun long-overdue internal reforms to revitalize the movement, much remains to be done. According to the report, in particular, Fatah's leaders need to clarify its political strategy if it is to play an effective role in leading Palestinians toward a two-state solution. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/middle_east___north_africa/arab_israeli_conflict/91___palestine___salvaging_fatah.pdf [PDF format, 39 pages].

ABORTION IN PAKISTAN. Guttmacher Institute. November 4, 2009.

Induced abortion is legal under very limited circumstances in Pakistan, yet it is commonly performed, according to the report. Because access to abortion is highly restricted, the majority of these procedures take place under clandestine, and often unsafe, conditions. As a result, many Pakistani women suffer from serious health complications that sometimes result in long-term disabilities and death. A major factor contributing to Pakistan's level of unsafe abortion is the country's low level of contraceptive use, which results in high levels of unintended pregnancy.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/IB_Abortion-in-Pakistan.pdf [PDF format, 6 pages].

CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING: BACKGROUND AND ISSUES FOR CONGRESS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. R. Eric Petersen. November 5, 2009.

Periodically, concerns have been raised about the number and variety of products created to document congressional activity. Other concerns focus on the process for authorizing and distributing printed government documents to Members of Congress, committees, and other officials in the House and Senate. The report provides an overview and analysis of issues related to the processing and distribution of congressional information by the Government Printing Office.

Subsequent sections address several issues, including funding congressional printing, printing authorizations, current printing practices, and options for Congress. Finally, the report provides congressional printing appropriations, production, and distribution data in a number of tables. http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40897_20091105.pdf [PDF format, 37 pages].

FAIRNESS 2.0: MEDIA CONTENT REGULATION IN THE 21st CENTURY. Cato Institute. Robert Corn-Revere. November 10, 2009.

Civil libertarians feared that a change of administrations would herald a revived Fairness Doctrine, a policy that previously permitted the government to oversee broadcast news coverage for "balanced views." A return to the Fairness Doctrine, however, now seems unlikely. It is very likely, however, that politicians from both the left and the right will try to extend government control over the media beyond current policies, according to the report.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cato.org/pubs/pas/pa651.pdf> [PDF format, 20 pages].

OBAMA'S AFGHANISTAN RATING DECLINES: A YEAR OUT, WIDESPREAD ANTI-INCUMBENT SENTIMENT. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. November 11, 2009.

The mood of America is glum, according to the Pew survey. Two-thirds of the public is dissatisfied with the way things are going in the country. Fully nine-in-ten say that national economic conditions are only fair or poor, and nearly two-thirds describe their own finances that way – the most since the summer of 1992. An increasing proportion of Americans say that the war in Afghanistan is not going well, and a plurality continues to oppose the health care reform proposals in Congress. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://people-press.org/reports/pdf/561.pdf> [PDF format, 34 pages].

UNIONS AND UPWARD MOBILITY FOR ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN WORKERS. Center for Economic and Policy Research. John Schmitt et al. November 2009.

Asian Pacific American (APA) workers are, with Latinos, the fastest growing group in the U.S. workforce and in organized labor. Since the late 1980s, APA workers have seen their representation in the ranks of U.S. unions almost double, from about 2.5 percent of all union workers in 1989 to about 4.6 percent in 2008. The report uses national data from the Current Population Survey (CPS) to show that unionization raises the wages of the typical APA worker by 9 percent compared to their non-union peers. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/unions-apa-2009-11.pdf> [PDF format, 13 pages].

AWAITING CLIMATE ACCORD, GOVERNMENTS TOY WITH DUBIOUS MEASURES. YaleGlobal. Doaa Abdel Motaal. November 6, 2009.

In the lead up to the Copenhagen Climate Summit in December, developed and developing nations are already preparing themselves for the outcome, a multilateral deal or not. This approach is bound to harm the prospects for reversing global warming, for fostering free trade, and for ensuring competition, according to World Trade Organization Counselor Doaa Abdel Motaal. Many countries plan to enact unilateral measures to prevent domestic industries from losing competitiveness and to stem "carbon leakage," the shift in emissions from countries that cap emissions to those that don't. If a congeries of unilateral measures get enacted, the potential for discord over tackling climate change is likely to become more pronounced. Such strife would do little to help the environment. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/awaiting-climate-accord-governments-toy-dubious-measures>

[HTML format, various paging].

CAN GLOBAL DE-CARBONIZATION INHIBIT DEVELOPING COUNTRY INDUSTRIALIZATION? Center for Global Development. Aaditya Mattoo et al. November 10, 2009.

According to the authors, most economic analyses of climate change have focused on the aggregate impact on countries of mitigation actions. They focus particularly on manufacturing output and exports because of the potential growth consequences. They also decompose the impact of an agreement on emissions reductions into three components: the change in the price of carbon due to each country's emission cuts per se; the further change in this price due to emissions tradability; and the changes due to any international transfers, private and public. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1423203/> [HTML format with a link].

ENERGY NEEDS AND EFFICIENCY, NOT EMISSIONS: RE-FRAMING THE CLIMATE CHANGE NARRATIVE. Center for Global Development. Nancy Birdsall and Arvind Subramanian. November 9, 2009.

The basic narrative on climate change between the rich and poor worlds has been problematic. The focus on emissions has made industrial countries inadequately sensitive to the unmet energy needs in developing countries. And it has led developing countries to adopt the rhetoric of recrimination and focus on the legacy of historical emissions by industrial countries. The ensuing blame game has led to the current gridlock, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1423191 [HTML format with a link].

RECONCILING CLIMATE CHANGE AND TRADE POLICY. Center for Global Development. Aaditya Mattoo et al. November 10, 2009.

There is growing clamor in industrial countries for additional border taxes on imports from countries with lower carbon prices. A key factor affecting the impact of these taxes is whether they are based on the carbon content of imports or the carbon content in domestic production. The study estimates suggest that the former action when applied to all merchandise imports would address competitiveness and environmental concerns in high income countries but with serious consequences for trading partners. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1423204/> [HTML format with a link].

REVIEWING AND VERIFYING INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE ACTION. World Resources Institute. Paul Joffe. November 11, 2009.

Climate change is a global issue that requires action from all countries. As the U.S. Congress develops a domestic climate and energy package, the United States seeks assurance that other countries will also act and a means to track the progress of commitments by verifying that actions have been implemented. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://pdf.wri.org/countdown_to_copenhagen_reviewing_and_verifying.pdf [PDF format, 2 pages].

BOLIVIA: CLIMATE CHANGE, POVERTY AND ADAPTATION. Oxfam International. Web posted November 3, 2009.

Bolivia is a country particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. In July 2009, a team of Oxfam researchers travelled to three areas of Bolivia, Trinidad in Beni, the Cochabamba valleys and Khapi under Mount Illimani, in La Paz, to take a snapshot of how poor families are experiencing the changing climate, and how they are adapting to it. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/bolivia-climate-change-adaptation-0911.pdf> [PDF format, 71 pages].

CLIMATE CHANGE: COMPARISON OF THE CAP-AND-TRADE PROVISIONS IN H.R. 2454 AND S. 1733. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Brent D. Yacobucci et al. November 5, 2009.

This report provides a comparison of the cap-and-trade provisions of H.R. 2454 and S. 1733. Most notably, there are six key differences between the bills: (1) the Senate bill has a more stringent emissions cap between 2017 and 2029; (2) the two bills allocate emissions allowances and auction revenue to different recipients at different levels; (3) the bills would treat offsets differently; (4) the House bill would establish extensive carbon market regulation (the Senate bill currently has a placeholder for this topic); (5) the House bill would establish a requirement that importers purchase special emission allowances for certain imports from countries without greenhouse gas controls (the Senate bill currently has a placeholder for this topic); and (6) both bills would limit the Environmental Protection Agency's authority to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act, although in different ways.

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40896_20091105.pdf [PDF format, 58 pages].

FACT SHEET: STACKING PAYMENTS FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES. World Resources Institute. Nicholas Bianco. November 12, 2009.

Payments for ecosystem services are becoming an increasingly important part of the U.S. business and regulatory landscape. As programs that provide payments for ecosystem services grow, policy makers will need to determine how these various payments should interact with each other. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://pdf.wri.org/factsheets/factsheet_stacking_payments_for_ecosystem_services.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

HOW TO EASE WOMEN'S FEAR OF TRANSPORTATION ENVIRONMENTS: CASE STUDIES AND BEST PRACTICES. Transportation Research Board. Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris et al. November 2009.

The report explores the safety needs of women who use transit, the extent to which transit agencies are meeting these needs, and programs and practices in the United States and abroad that address women's concerns about safe travel.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://transweb.sjsu.edu/mtportal/research/publications/documents/Sideris.pdf> [PDF format, 96 pages].

ISSUES IN TRADE AND PROTECTIONISM. Center for Economic and Policy Research. Dean Baker. November 2009.

There is widespread concern that the United States and the rest of the world are descending into a round of protectionism and a trade war reminiscent of what the world experienced in the Great Depression. Such concerns are both overblown and misplaced, according to the report. In the short term, the main concern in the United States and rest of the world should be to promote an increase in demand through whatever means necessary. For the longer term, there has been an excessive fixation on protection for merchandise trade.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/trade-and-protectionism-2009-11.pdf> [PDF format, 10 pages].

MOVING MUGABE'S MOUNTAIN: ZIMBABWE'S PATH TO ARREARS CLEARANCE AND DEBT RELIEF. Center for Global Development. Todd Moss and Benjamin Leo. November 13, 2009.

Zimbabwe is embarking on a long, complex, and difficult journey to rebuild its economy, which has been shattered by years of neglect and destructive government policies. If the final political hurdles are overcome, the new coalition government will be faced with making politically difficult decisions and addressing conclusively the economic ghosts of the past.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1423217/> [HTML format with a link].

CONFRONTING THE CHINA-U.S. ECONOMIC IMBALANCE. Council on Foreign Relations. Roya Wolverson. November 16, 2009.

China has stepped up its purchases of U.S. Treasuries in recent years, making it the biggest foreign holder of U.S. debt. By many expert accounts, this has fueled a relationship of dependency between the United States and China, whereby China has lent to the United States to help fuel its export industry, while U.S. consumers in turn have demanded more exports and further access to cheap credit. This relationship attracted increasing scrutiny in the aftermath of the global financial crisis as the United States' massive stimulus outlays and loose monetary and fiscal policies fueled doubts about the U.S. economy and the value of U.S. debt.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/20758/confronting_the_chinaus_economic_imbalance.html [HTML format. various paging].

OBAMA IN ASIA – PART I. YaleGlobal. Francois Godement. November 16, 2009.

President Obama continues his first trip to Asia this week provoking diverse responses from different parts of the world. The talk of a "strategic partnership" between China and the U.S. making a G2 has Europe scared. But, according to China specialist François Godement, there are too many differences between China and the U.S. to warrant the type of political convergence necessary for a G2 to work. Of note, the U.S. has reconfirmed its partnership with India and has indicated little interest in reducing its defense spending, much to Beijing's chagrin. China, on the other hand, has not changed its stance toward North Korea, even after two nuclear tests, and has continued its missile deployment across the Taiwan Straits.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/obama-asia-part-i> [HTML format, various paging].

OBAMA POPULAR IN JAPAN, CHINA AND SOUTH KOREA. Pew Global Attitudes Project. Juliana Menasce Horowitz. November 12, 2009.

As President Barack Obama embarks on his first trip to Asia with stops in Japan, China and South Korea, he is greeted by publics who are confident in his judgment regarding world affairs and who generally agree with his international policies.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1409/obama-asia-trip-popular-japan-china-south-korea> [HTML format, various paging].

BEHIND INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS OF INFANT MORTALITY: HOW THE UNITED STATES COMPARES WITH EUROPE. National Center for Health Statistics. Marian F. MacDorman and T.J. Mathews. November 2009.

Infant mortality is an important indicator of the health of a nation, and the recent stagnation, since 2000, in the U.S. infant mortality rate has generated concern among researchers and policy makers. The percentage of preterm births in the United States has risen 36% since 1984. The report compares infant mortality rates between the United States and Europe. [Note: contains

copyrighted material].

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db23.pdf> [PDF format, 8 pages].

THE CURRENT STATUS OF RELIGIOUS COEXISTENCE AND EDUCATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA. U.S. Institute of Peace. Renata Stuebner. November 2009.

Despite 15 years of sporadic efforts, religion today in Bosnia and Herzegovina is more of a hindrance than a help to promoting peaceful coexistence among the region's various ethnic and religious groups. Polarization and extremism make religions other than one's own even more distant, strange and threatening. Teaching culture of religions, history of religions and a comprehensive approach to different religions have not yet started to be implemented throughout the school system. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/religion_education_bosnia_herzegovina_pb.pdf [PDF format, 15 pages].

FIXING A FAILED STRATEGY IN AFGHANISTAN. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Gilles Dorronsoro. November 2009.

As the debate on future U.S. strategy draws to a close, the war in Afghanistan is spreading to the North, an area that had previously been relatively quiet, the balance of power in Afghanistan has shifted in the Taliban's favor, and the Afghan government continues to lose legitimacy in the eyes of the population and international community. In order to correct a failing strategy, the United States and its allies need to protect cities and reallocate more resources to the North, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/fixing_failed_strategy.pdf [PDF format, 46 pages].

AGING AND HEALTH: THE CHALLENGES OF ENTITLEMENT. Congressional Budget Office. Douglas W. Elmendorf. November 6, 2009.

Entitlement spending is often viewed as a long-term budget challenge, but in fact such spending contributes significantly to the budget challenge facing the country during the next 10 years as well as the more distant future. Congressional Budget Office estimates that, if current laws remained in place, the federal deficit would shrink sharply during the next few years but would remain a little more than 3 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) between 2013 and 2019.

http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/107xx/doc10707/11-06-09-CBO_Presentation-AgingAndHealth-TheChallengesOfEntitlementGrowth.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

ASSESSMENT FOR IMPROVEMENT: TRACKING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT OVER TIME. National Survey of Student Engagement. November 10, 2009.

A national survey shows that a variety of colleges and universities have shown steady improvement in the quality of undergraduate education, as measured by students' exposure to and involvement in effective educational practices. The report details results from a 2009 survey of 360,000 students attending 617 U.S. colleges and universities, and it includes a special look at trends in student engagement at more than 200 of those schools that had four to six year's worth of data going back to 2004. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://nsse.iub.edu/NSSE_2009_Results/pdf/NSSE_AR_2009.pdf [PDF format, 52 pages].

ATTACK OF THE UTILITY MONSTERS: THE NEW THREATS TO FREE SPEECH. Cato Institute. Jason Kuznicki. November 16, 2009.

Freedom of expression is looking less and less like a settled issue. Challenges to it have lately arisen from the right, from the left, from Muslim perspectives, and even in the name of protecting children online. These challenges seem to share an underlying concern, namely that we must

balance free expression against the psychic hurt that some expressions will provoke. Often these critiques are couched in language that draws or appears to draw, on the law and economics movement. Yet the cost-benefit analyses advanced to support restrictions on expression are incomplete, subjective, and self-contradictory, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cato.org/pubs/pas/pa652.pdf> [PDF format, 20 pages].

COMBATING NUCLEAR SMUGGLING. U.S. Government Accountability Office. Gene Aloise. November 17, 2009.

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) is responsible for addressing the threat of nuclear smuggling. Radiation detection portal monitors are key elements in the nation's defenses against such threats. DHS has sponsored testing to develop new monitors, known as advanced spectroscopic portal (ASP) monitors, to replace radiation detection equipment being used at ports of entry.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d10252t.pdf> [PDF format, 13 pages].

THE DEBT FINANCE LANDSCAPES FOR U.S. FARMING AND FARM BUSINESSES. U.S. Department of Agriculture. J. Michael Harris et al. November 16, 2009.

Income and wealth for farm businesses have changed noticeably this decade. Debt levels have been rising, asset levels have outpaced debt despite a recent fall in land prices, and equity has more than doubled for farm businesses. However, recent declines in farm income and falling land prices have raised concerns about the financial position of U.S. farms.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/AIS87/AIS87.pdf> [PDF format, 64 pages].

FAITH-BASED PROGRAMS STILL POPULAR. Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. November 16, 2009.

More than eight years after former President George W. Bush unveiled his faith-based initiative to make it easier for religious groups to receive government funding to provide social services, the policy continues to draw broad public support. But as was the case when Bush first announced the initiative, many Americans express concerns about blurring the lines between church and state. Currently, 69% of Americans say they favor allowing churches and other houses of worship, along with other organizations, to apply for government funding to provide social services such as job training or drug treatment counseling. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1412/faith-based-programs-popular-church-state-concerns> [HTML format, various paging].

HOUSEHOLD FOOD SECURITY IN THE UNITED STATES, 2008. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Mark Nord et al. November 16, 2009.

Eighty-five percent of American households were food secure throughout the entire year in 2008, meaning that they had access at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members. The remaining households (14.6 percent) were food insecure at least some time during the year, including 5.7 percent with very low food security—meaning that the food intake of one or more household members was reduced and their eating patterns were disrupted at times during the year because the household lacked money and other resources for food.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR83/ERR83.pdf> [PDF format, 66 pages].

MATHEMATICS LEARNING IN EARLY CHILDHOOD: PATHS TOWARD EXCELLENCE IN EQUITY. National Research Council. Christopher T. Cross et al. November 17, 2009.

Early childhood mathematics is vitally important for young children's present and future educational success. Research has demonstrated that virtually all young children have the capability to learn and become competent in mathematics. Furthermore, young children enjoy their early informal experiences with mathematics. Unfortunately, many children's potential in mathematics is not fully realized, especially those children who are economically disadvantaged. This is due, in part, to a lack of opportunities to learn mathematics in early childhood settings or through everyday experiences in the home and in their communities. Improvements in early childhood mathematics education can provide young children with the foundation for school success. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12519 [HTML format with links].

PROGRESS ENROLLING CHILDREN IN MEDICAID/CHIP: WHO IS LEFT AND WHAT ARE THE PROSPECTS FOR COVERING MORE CHILDREN? Urban Institute. Genevieve Kenney et al. November 2009.

The brief examines the characteristics of the children who were eligible for Medicaid/CHIP in 2007. The results show that while participation rates were high in both Medicaid and CHIP, some 5 million remained uninsured despite being eligible for coverage. Participation rates, which were found to vary across areas, have likely increased given recent declines in the number of uninsured children. The brief also shows that while interest in public coverage is high among low-income parents, many do not know that their child is eligible for Medicaid/CHIP, do not know how to apply, and/or find the application process difficult.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411981_Progress_Enrolling_Children_11_10.pdf [PDF format, 11 pages].

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS AND SPECTRUM RESOURCES: POLICY ISSUES FOR CONGRESS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Linda K. Moore. November 10, 2009.

Effective emergency response is dependent on wireless communications. To minimize communications failures during and after a crisis requires ongoing improvements in emergency communications capacity and capability. The availability of radio frequency spectrum is considered essential to developing a modern, interoperable communications network for public safety. Equally critical is building the radio network to use this spectrum. Opinions diverge, however, on such issues as how much spectrum should be made available for the network, who should own it, who should build it, who should operate it, who should be allowed to use it, and how it might be paid for.

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40859_20091110.pdf [PDF format, 40 pages].

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF BABY BOOMERS 42 TO 60 YEARS OLD IN 2006. [U.S. Census Bureau]. November 2009.

The Census Bureau provides its first profile of baby boomers in 13 years. The presentation provides a look at a variety of demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the baby boom generation, such as geographic distribution, marital status, educational attainment and income, and compares them with adults in younger and older age groups. The analysis uses data from a variety of sources, including the 2006 American Community Survey, 2006 population estimates, population projections and Census 2000.

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/age/2006%20Baby%20Boomers.pdf> [PDF format, 46 pages].

SPINOFF: INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM 2009. National Aeronautics and Space Administration. November 2009.

The Spinoff shows how NASA technology is being put to use in everyday life here on Earth. The latest Spinoff highlights 49 significant examples of how NASA innovations have been transferred to the commercial marketplace, resulting in healthcare advances, transportation breakthroughs, public safety initiatives, new consumer goods, environmental protection, computer technology, and industrial productivity. In honor of the 40th anniversary of the Apollo 11 lunar landing, this year's edition of Spinoff also recaps how Apollo continues to provide tangible benefits to the lives of people in the U.S. and around the world.

<http://www.sti.nasa.gov/tto/Spinoff2009/pdf/spinoff2009.pdf> [PDF format, 212 pages].

SWINE FLU AND SICK LEAVE: IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EMERGENCY INFLUENZA CONTAINMENT ACT WOULD SAVE JOBS. Heritage Foundation. James Sherk. November 16, 2009.

The Emergency Influenza Containment Act, currently being considered by the House Education and Labor Committee, requires employers who direct their employees to stay home because of a contagious illness -- such as the swine flu -- to provide those workers with paid sick leave. While this legislation responds to a genuine public health concern, it would also have unintended consequences: costing jobs and encouraging employers to keep sick employees at work. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.heritage.org/Research/Labor/upload/wm_2701.pdf [PDF format, 3 pages].

TEENS AND DISTRACTED DRIVING: TEXTING, TALKING AND OTHER USES OF THE CELL PHONE BEHIND THE WHEEL. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Mary Madden and Amanda Lenhart. November 16, 2009.

Over the summer of 2009, the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project conducted a survey of 800 teens ages 12-17 asking about their experiences with cell phone use in cars. All of the teens in our survey were asked about their experiences as passengers, and if they were age 16 or older and have a cell phone, they were also asked about their own actions behind the wheel including both talking and text messaging. The analyzes the findings.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://pewresearch.org/assets/pdf/teens-and-distracted-driving.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

WHERE WILL THE JOBS COME FROM? Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. Dane Stangler and Robert E. Litan. November 2009.

The report shows that newly created and young companies are the primary drivers of job creation in the United States. Kauffman's analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data showing that companies less than five years old created nearly two-thirds of net new jobs in 2007 could not be timelier. The distinction of firm age, not necessarily size, as the driver of job creation has many implications, particularly for policymakers who are focusing on small business as the answer to a dire employment situation. The report shows that most net job creation is generated by firms that are one to five years old. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.kauffman.org/uploadedFiles/where_will_the_jobs_come_from.pdf [PDF format, 17 pages].

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