

# DOCUALERT

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*The materials cover international relations, U.S domestic policies and trends.*

## **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY**

### **REPORTS**

#### **2008 COUNTRY REPORTS ON ADVANCING FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY**

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, U.S. Department of State. May 23, 2008.

<http://2001-2009.state.gov/g/drl/rls/afdr/2008/index.htm>

Pursuant to the Advancing Democratic Values Act of 2007, the Department of State has prepared this report on U.S. efforts to promote democracy and human rights in nondemocratic countries and countries undergoing democratic transitions worldwide. "Partnerships with NGOs are essential to the development and success of free societies and play a vital role in ensuring accountable government and democratic change. Upon consultation with NGOs, and in keeping with the Act's definition of nondemocratic and democratic transition countries, we have reported on our priority efforts in 106 countries. The specific activities we highlighted in this report--bilateral programs, public diplomacy, multilateral initiatives, cooperation with international and indigenous organizations, and assistance programs--are meant to be illustrative, not exhaustive, of the full range of U.S. undertakings in the human rights and democracy fields. As the report shows, we have concentrated our efforts on practical ways to strengthen the core elements that must be present in countries around the globe if human rights and democratic principles are to be exercised and protected effectively: (1) free and fair electoral processes, with a level playing field to ensure genuine competition; (2) good governance, with representative, transparent, and accountable institutions operating under the rule of law, including independent legislatures and judiciaries; and (3) robust civil societies, including human rights and democracy defenders, independent media, and labor unions."

#### **TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS REPORT 2008**

Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, U.S. Department of State. June 2008.

<http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2008/>

The Department of State is required by law to submit a Report each year to the U.S. Congress on foreign governments' efforts to eliminate severe forms of trafficking in persons. This Report is the eighth annual TIP Report. It is intended to raise global awareness, to highlight efforts of the international community, and to encourage foreign governments to take effective actions to counter all forms of trafficking in persons. The 2008 TIP Report represents an updated, global look at the nature and scope of modern-day slavery and the broad range of actions being taken by governments around the world to confront and eliminate it. This Report is a diplomatic tool for the U.S. Government to use as an instrument for continued dialogue and encouragement and as a guide to help focus resources on prosecution, protection, and prevention programs and policies.

### **REDISCOVERING THE MEDITERRANEAN: A TRANSATLANTIC PERSPECTIVE ON SECURITY AND STRATEGY**

Lesser, Ian. German Marshall Fund of the United States. May 2008 [PDF format, 8 pages]

<http://www.gmfus.org//doc/LesserMedPolicyBrief%20FINAL.pdf>

This policy paper is based on an analysis prepared for the Sixth International Seminar on Security and Defense in the Mediterranean, organized by Fundacio CIDOB and the Spanish Ministry of Defense, Barcelona, November 5-6, 2007. The author argues that "the American presence in the Mediterranean is longstanding, but despite 200 years of engagement in the region, the American perspective on the Mediterranean remains distinctive and diffused. The European Union and key European partners have Mediterranean strategies in place. Functional issues, above all counterterrorism and energy security, are central to the emerging American debate over Mediterranean strategy. Yet, the perspective from Washington is still driven largely by bilateral relationships and specific flashpoints around the Mediterranean basin, rather than a comprehensive approach. Could this change? The short answer is yes. The strategic environment in the Mediterranean will be shaped by trends already visible, including the return of Russia and the emergence of China as regional players. But the environment may also be transformed by potential shocks or "wildcards" capable of recasting the outlook for security and insecurity across the region." Dr. *Ian Lesser is Senior Transatlantic Fellow at German Marshall Fund of the U.S. in Washington DC. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Atlantic Council of the U.S. and the International Institute for Strategic Studies.*

### **U.S.-LATIN AMERICA RELATIONS: A NEW DIRECTION FOR A NEW REALITY**

Independent Task Force, Council on Foreign Relations. May 2008 [PDF format, 108 pages] [http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/LatinAmerica\\_TF.pdf](http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/LatinAmerica_TF.pdf)

"This report makes clear that the era of the United States as the dominant influence in Latin America is over. Countries in the region have not only grown stronger but have expanded relations with others, including China and India. U.S. attention has also focused elsewhere in recent years, particularly on challenges in the Middle East. The result is a region shaping its future far more than it shaped its past. The Council on Foreign Relations established this Independent Task Force to take stock of these changes and assess their consequences for U.S. policy toward Latin America. The Task Force finds that the long-standing focus on trade, democracy, and drugs, while still relevant, is inadequate. Recommends reframing policy around four critical areas—poverty and inequality, public security, migration, and energy security—that

are of immediate concern to Latin America's governments and citizens." The chair of the task force is Charlene Barshefsky is senior international partner at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP (WilmerHale) in Washington, DC. The project director is Shannon K. O'Neil is the fellow for Latin America studies at the Council on Foreign Relations and Julia E. Sweig served as senior adviser for this Task Force report. She is the Nelson and David Rockefeller senior fellow for Latin America studies and director of Latin America studies at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR).

### **CONFRONTING CLIMATE CHANGE A STRATEGY FOR U.S. FOREIGN POLICY**

Independent Task Force, Council on Foreign Relations. June 2008 [PDF format, 137 pages]

[http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/Climate\\_ChangeTF.pdf](http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/Climate_ChangeTF.pdf)

"Against the backdrop of increasing attention to energy and climate change in the presidential campaigns, recent failure of the Senate to advance the Lieberman-Warner climate bill, and preparations for this summer's G8 summit, this CFR-sponsored Independent Task Force recommends an overhaul of U.S. domestic and foreign policy to confront the challenge. The report says that the United States must leverage ambitious, comprehensive, and equitable action at home to advance an effective policy abroad. It lays out a U.S. negotiating strategy for a global climate accord, outlining what the United States should be willing to offer and what it should expect others, including the rapidly emerging economies, to do in return." The Task Force is directed by David M. Rubenstein Senior Fellow for Energy and Environment Michael A. Levi and advised by Adjunct Senior Fellow David G. Victor. It comprises a coalition of twenty-nine prominent individuals from business, the environmental community, industry, labor, and academia and includes prominent officials from the Bush and Clinton administrations who have long been on opposing sides of the climate change debate."

### **STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP: FRAMEWORK FOR A 21ST CENTURY NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY**

Phoenix Initiative, Center for a New American Security. July 2008.

[http://www.cnas.org/attachments/contentmanagers/2788/SlaughterDaalderJentleson\\_StrategicLeadership\\_July08.pdf](http://www.cnas.org/attachments/contentmanagers/2788/SlaughterDaalderJentleson_StrategicLeadership_July08.pdf)

"This report is the product of over three years of discussions and debate on everything from fundamental assumptions about the nature of the international order in the 21st century to U.S. policy toward the Middle East. The report breaks away from such traditional concepts as containment, engagement, and enlargement and rejects standard dichotomies of realist power politics versus liberal idealism. It starts from a set of U.S. national interests as old as the nation itself and asks how we can safeguard and pursue those interests in this 21st century world. Without pretense of answering all questions and addressing all issues, the report offers bold and genuinely new thinking about America's role in such a world. The next president of the United States must forge a new national security strategy in a world marked by enormous tumult and change and at a time when America's international standing and strategic position are at an historic nadir. Many of our allies question our motives and methods; our enemies doubt American rhetoric and resolve. Now, more than at any time since the late 1940s, it is vital to chart a new direction for America's global role." The Phoenix Initiative is a collective effort to provide an intellectual and policy framework for the next administration. The group initially came together three years ago to discuss on a regular basis the state of the world, America's place in it,

and the best ways for advancing America's interest and values. This initiative is promoted by scholars like Ivo H. Daalder, Senior Fellow of the Brookings Institution; Anne-Marie Slaughter, Dean of the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University; Bruce Jentleson, professor of Public Policy Studies and Political Science at Duke University et al.

### **AMERICA AND THE EMERGING IRAQI REALITY: NEW GOALS, NO ILLUSIONS**

Laipson, Ellen. The Century Foundation. Web posted June 10, 2008 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 28 pages]

<http://www.tcf.org/publications/internationalaffairs/laipson.pdf>

The author argues that the United States needs to move quickly to reset its Iraq policy goals, arguing that U.S. strategic goals in the Middle East region require a change in Iraq policy regardless of how Iraq's internal political scenario plays out. According to the report, elections in both Iraq and the U.S. over the next eighteen months could significantly change the landscape for U.S. policy toward Iraq. A new U.S. administration could find itself dealing with different Iraqi political leaders than those collaborating with President Bush, possibly taking more stringent positions on the U.S. military presence in the country. According to Laipson, the United Nations can be expected to play a more prominent role, despite resistance from some member states and career professionals at U.N. headquarters who object to U.N. implementation of a controversial U.S. policy yet fear new chaos in Iraq should the United States pull back too abruptly. The international community may find that a reduced American presence creates a more congenial space in which impartial U.N. representatives can operate. The author argues that the United States, which has been the catalyst for various meetings of donors and neighbors during the occupation, should provide strong financial and other support for U.N.-led efforts in Iraq, she proposes. *Ellen Laipson is president and CEO of the Henry L. Stimson Center. After nearly twenty-five years of government service, her key positions included vice chair of the National Intelligence Council (NIC), special assistant to the U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations, and director for Near East and South Asia on the National Security Council staff.*

### **QUICKLY, CAREFULLY, AND GENEROUSLY: THE NECESSARY STEPS FOR A RESPONSIBLE WITHDRAWAL FROM IRAQ**

Task Force for a Responsible Withdrawal from Iraq, Commonwealth Institute. June 2008 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 34 pages]

<http://www.comw.org/pda/fulltext/taskforceresponsiblewithdrawal.pdf>

"March 2008, the Task Force for a Responsible Withdrawal from Iraq convened 14 experts on Iraq and the region at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University to answer this charge: The President has announced that a complete military withdrawal from Iraq will take place over the next 12-18 months. What concrete policy steps can the US government take, immediately and during the withdrawal, to encourage peace and stability in Iraq? In the course of the March 7 workshop, and in prior and subsequent consultations and literature reviews, we compiled a set of initiatives for meeting US and international responsibilities to Iraq, beginning with an early and expeditious removal of US military forces and bases and their associated private contractors from the country. Iraq is a traumatized and politically fragmented country. Neighboring states may be tempted to intervene in Iraq's internal conflicts to protect their own interests. The United States and the international community bear a responsibility to contribute to the alleviation of

suffering and the advancement of stability and peace in Iraq. It was the consensus of the expert Advisory Group that there is little the United States can do to achieve those goals as long as it maintains an open-ended military presence in Iraq. In the context of withdrawal, however, there are many measures the United States and international community can take to maximize the chances for progress. The United States can quickly carry out a full military withdrawal from Iraq, carefully pursue diplomatic remedies for the Iraq crisis, and generously give to help rebuild Iraq in the long run."

#### **TURKEY AS A U.S. SECURITY PARTNER**

Larrabee, F. Stephen. Rand Corporation. June 2008 [PDF format, 46 pages]

[http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2008/RAND\\_MG694.pdf](http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2008/RAND_MG694.pdf)

"Turkey has long been an important U.S. ally, but especially with the end of the Cold War, the relationship has been changing. Divergences between U.S. and Turkish interests have grown, in part because of Turkey's relationships with its neighbors and the tension between its Western identity and its Middle Eastern orientation. Further, relations with the European Union have also deteriorated of late. As a result, Ankara has come to feel that it can no longer rely on its traditional allies, and Turkey is likely to be a more difficult and less predictable partner in the future. While Turkey will continue to want good ties to the United States, it is likely to be drawn more heavily into the Middle East by the Kurdish issue and Iran's nuclear ambitions. Consequently, the tension between Turkey's Western identity and Middle Eastern orientation is likely to grow even more." *F. Stephen Larrabee is Distinguished Chair in European Security at the Rand Corporation.*

#### **TURKEY'S SHIFTING DYNAMICS: IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S.-TURKEY RELATIONS**

Flanagan, Stephen J.; Brannen, Samuel J. Center for Strategic and International Studies. June 6, 2008 [PDF format, 37 pages]

[http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/080606\\_turkeyshiftingdyn.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/080606_turkeyshiftingdyn.pdf)

"For more than half a century, a sound relationship with Turkey has been central to U.S. interests in Eurasia and the Middle East and to creating new strategic opportunities for the United States and its NATO allies. Yet, fundamental changes in that country and neighborhood have altered how Turks view and pursue their interests. At the same time, Turkey's relations with the United States have been strained by the Iraq War and its aftermath. Ankara's relations with its neighbors are in flux. Turkey's bid for membership in the European Union has slowed, and relations with Russia have warmed. These developments in Turkey's domestic and external affairs have led some to question whether Turkey will drift from its Euro-Atlantic moorings over the next decade. Avoiding further strains and revitalizing U.S.-Turkey relations will require a new strategic framework that reflects the changing geopolitical dynamics and allows both more effective pursuit of enduring common interests and management of areas where policy preferences and interests diverge. This report reviews the major shifts in U.S.-Turkey relations since 1989, with particular focus on events of the past year. It offers an assessment of Turkey's evolving internal dynamics, worldview, and relations with its neighbors. It then advances some preliminary recommendations for managing U.S.-Turkey relations over the coming decade." *Stephen Flanagan is senior vice president and director of the International Security Program at Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) where he holds the Henry A. Kissinger Chair in National Security Policy.*

*Samuel J. Brannen is a fellow with the CSIS International Security Program. He is a frequent media commentator and has appeared on CNN, Fox News, Al Jazeera, and NPR.*

### **SECURING PAKISTAN'S TRIBAL BELT**

Markey, Daniel. Center for Preventive Action, Council on Foreign Relations. July 2008 [Council Special Reports No. 36][PDF format, 78 pages]

[http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/Pakistan\\_CSR36.pdf](http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/Pakistan_CSR36.pdf)

"Pakistan constitutes one of the most important and difficult challenges facing U.S. foreign policy. Pakistan is the world's second-most populous Muslim-majority country, with nearly 170 million people. It shares borders with Afghanistan, where U.S. and allied forces are struggling to promote stability amid a continuing insurgency, and India, with which it has fought a series of conflicts. Pakistan's nuclear arsenal and history of abetting proliferation put it in a position to dilute global efforts to stem the spread of nuclear materials and weapons. And it is host to local extremist groups, the Taliban, and global terrorist organizations, most notably al-Qaeda. The relationship between the United States and Pakistan has long been characterized by cooperation and recrimination alike. Pakistan is a strategic friend of the United States, but one that often appears unable or unwilling to address a number of vexing security concerns. Few dimensions of dealing with Pakistan are the source of as much frustration as the tribal areas bordering Afghanistan, the subject of this report. The author analyzes the unique challenges of this region, which has long been largely outside Pakistani government control. He argues that the U.S. must work with Islamabad to confront security threats and improve governance and economic opportunity in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), something that could reduce militancy. The report lays out a cooperative, incentives-based strategy for the United States that would aim to increase the capacity of the Pakistani government and its security institutions, foster political and economic reform, and build confidence in the bilateral relationship." *Daniel Markey is a senior fellow for India, Pakistan, and South Asia at the Council on Foreign Relations. From 2003 to 2007, he held the South Asia portfolio on the policy planning staff at the U.S. Department of State.*

### **DEALING WITH DAMASCUS: SEEKING A GREATER RETURN ON U.S.-SYRIA RELATIONS**

Yacoubian, Mona; Lasensky, Scott. Council on Foreign Relations [Council Special Report No. 33] June 2008 [PDF format, 60 pages]

[http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/Syria\\_CSR33.pdf](http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/Syria_CSR33.pdf)

The authors provide guidance for U.S. policy toward Syria on questions concerning Lebanon, Israel-Syria peace talks, and Iraq, and offer informed history and thoughtful analysis of the country and its external behavior. "The U.S. government faces two fundamental choices regarding its policy toward Syria: continued isolation or serious engagement. Of the two, engagement could do more to further U.S. interests in the region. A policy of U.S. engagement with Syria could be pursued via one of two approaches: (1) conditional engagement that builds and expands engagement, issue by issue, in response to appropriate Syrian responses; or (2) a "grand bargain" approach, à la North Korea or Libya, that puts all issues on the table in order to reach a comprehensive settlement." *Mona Yacoubian is a special adviser to the Muslim World Initiative at the United States Institute of Peace. Scott Lasensky, a senior research associate at the United States Institute of Peace, is*

*coauthor of Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace: American Leadership in the Middle East (with Daniel Kurtzer, 2008).*

### **ASIA–SHAPING THE FUTURE**

Paal, Douglas H. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace [Policy Brief No. 62] June 26, 2008 [PDF format, 8 pages]

[http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/pb62\\_paal\\_final.pdf](http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/pb62_paal_final.pdf)

In this new policy brief, the author presents key steps the United States should take to advance its interests in “rising Asia.” The recommendations for the next U.S. president are: Decide early on clear U.S. strategic objectives in the region, and signal to China where constructive cooperation will lead; appoint a high-level advocate for Asia, a clear signal to the region of its importance; prioritize the bewildering alphabet of organizations and venues to achieve those objectives; Consider inviting China and India to join the G8; anticipate greater Chinese and Indian military and trade capabilities by developing new multilateral security and economic arrangements in the region; avoid coalitions based on common values or democracy, Asia is too diverse and complicated for them to succeed; ditch the “war on terror” rhetoric, which has proved divisive and counterproductive. *Douglas H. Paal is the director of the Carnegie China Program based in Washington and Beijing. Paal was the special assistant to President George H. W. Bush for National Security Affairs and senior director for Asian Affairs on the National Security Council, where he had also served during the Reagan administration.*

### **WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?: BEST AND WORST PRACTICES IN FOREIGN AID**

Easterly, William; Pfutze, Tobias. Global Economy and Development Program, Brookings Institution. June 2008 [PDF format, 34 pages]

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2008/06\\_foreign\\_aid\\_easterly/06\\_foreign\\_aid\\_easterly.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2008/06_foreign_aid_easterly/06_foreign_aid_easterly.pdf)

“Foreign aid from official sources to developing countries amounted to \$103.6 billion in 2006. There have been fierce debates about how effective this aid has been or could be in the future. This study focuses on “best practices” of the way in which aid is given. First, it discusses best practice for an ideal aid agency and the difficulties that aid agencies face because they are typically not accountable to their intended beneficiaries. Second, it considers the transparency of aid agencies and other dimensions of aid practice. Forty-eight aid agencies are compared along these dimensions, distinguishing between bilateral and multilateral ones. The rankings are presented as an illustrative exercise to move the aid discussion forward.” *William Easterly is visiting fellow with the Global Economy and Development Program at the Brookings Institution. He is also professor of Economics and Co-Director of the Development Research Institute at New York University. Tobias Pfutze is a Ph.D. student in Economics at New York University.*

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: U.S. OVERSEAS MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

O'Hanlon, Michael. Center for a New American Security. June 2008 [PDF format, 64 pages]

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2008/06\\_military\\_ohanlon/06\\_military\\_ohanlon.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2008/06_military_ohanlon/06_military_ohanlon.pdf)

"The next American president will inherit an overseas military base realignment process begun in the first term of the George W. Bush administration. This realignment, guided by an effort known as the Global Posture Review (GPR), was perhaps former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld's chief intellectual and policy accomplishment during his six-year tenure at the Pentagon. Unlike his likely warfighting legacy, particularly in regard to Iraq, the GPR is on generally sound conceptual foundations. A successful outcome for the Global Posture Review, roughly halfway implemented as of mid-2008, will depend on the next U.S. administration refining numerous rough edges of the current plan — and redefining the broader national security policy context in which any base realignment will inevitably be viewed. The GPR's objectives are to enhance American military capability and flexibility for the so-called long war on terror, to deal with major shifts in the global alignment of power in Asia, to keep traditional partnerships strong while building up new partnerships with countries of Eastern Europe and Africa and parts of Central Asia, and to improve the quality of life for American military personnel." *Michael O'Hanlon is a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution and a senior advisor to the Center for a New American Security.*

## ARTICLES

### **RETHINKING THE NATIONAL INTEREST AMERICAN REALISM FOR A NEW WORLD**

Rice, Condoleezza. *Foreign Affairs*. July/August 2008.

<http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20080701faessay87401-p0/condoleezza-rice/rethinking-the-national-interest.html>

"What is the national interest? This is a question that I took up in 2000 in these pages. That was a time that we as a nation revealingly called "the post-Cold War era." We knew better where we had been than where we were going. Yet monumental changes were unfolding -- changes that were recognized at the time but whose implications were largely unclear. And then came the attacks of September 11, 2001. As in the aftermath of the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, the United States was swept into a fundamentally different world. We were called to lead with a new urgency and with a new perspective on what constituted threats and what might emerge as opportunities. What has not changed is that our relations with traditional and emerging great powers still matter to the successful conduct of policy. Thus, my admonition in 2000 that we should seek to get right the "relationships with the big powers" -- Russia, China, and emerging powers such as India and Brazil -- has consistently guided us. As before, our alliances in the Americas, Europe, and Asia remain the pillars of the international order, and we are now transforming them to meet the challenges of a new era. What has changed is, most broadly, how we view the relationship between the dynamics within states and the distribution of power among them. As globalization strengthens some states, it exposes and exacerbates the failings of many others -- those too weak or poorly governed to address challenges within their borders and prevent them from spilling out and destabilizing the international order. In this strategic environment, it is vital to our national security that states be willing and able to meet the full range of their sovereign responsibilities, both beyond their borders and within them. This new reality has led us to some significant changes in our policy." *Condoleezza Rice is U.S. Secretary of State.*

## **BUILDING A NEW ATLANTIC ALLIANCE: RESTORING AMERICA'S PARTNERSHIP WITH EUROPE**

Rubin, James P. *Foreign Affairs*. July/August 2008.

"On the surface, transatlantic relations are in far better shape today than they were during the run-up to the Iraq war. But it would be a mistake to underestimate the depth of the wounds Washington's reputation has suffered. Today, the United States lacks concrete European support on vital issues, and European confidence in U.S. leadership has collapsed. Fortunately, both the Democratic and the Republican presidential candidates recognize how much harm has been done and have vowed to restore the United States' standing in the world. The 2008 presidential election provides an opportunity for a fresh start in U.S.-European relations. Then, it should launch a diplomatic initiative to win closer cooperation from European allies in exchange for substantial changes in U.S. policies toward Afghanistan and Iran and on issues such as climate change and the war on terrorism." *James P. Rubin is an Adjunct Professor at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. He served as Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs from 1997 to 2000.*

## **EUROPE'S ROLE IN NATION BUILDING**

Dobbins, James. *Survival*. June/July 2008, pp. 83-110.

"When the Cold War ended, nation building became a growth industry. For the UN, this meant an eight-fold increase in the frequency with which it launched new peacekeeping operations after 1989. The United States, for its part, has led another half-dozen multinational interventions since it helped liberate Kuwait in 1991. European troops, police, civilian advisers and money have contributed to nearly all these US- and UN-led operations. Until recently, however, missions were dominated by decisions made in New York or Washington. Beginning in the late 1990s a third source of direction began to emerge, as European governments began to organize and lead such missions, individually or collectively. Despite continuing difficulties, European institutions for the management of civil-military operations have developed to the stage where more than brief, tentative experiments can be embarked upon with some confidence. The greatest challenges faced by the EU are not in the efficacious employment of armed force, but rather in formulating and applying the broader political-military strategy which must underlie it. Outside of Europe, the most efficient way for European governments to contribute to international peace operations will be to assign national contingents directly to UN peacekeeping missions. It is, thus, time for European governments, militaries and populations to get over the trauma of Srebrenica and related UN failures in the Balkans in the early 1990s, take on board the subsequent improvement in the UN's performance, and begin once again to do their share in manning, as they are already doing in paying for, these efforts." *James Dobbins is director of the International Security and Defense Policy Center at the RAND Corporation. He is former Assistant Secretary of State for Europe and American Special Envoy for Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, Kosovo and Afghanistan.*

## **IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA, SECURITY IS OVERTAKING DEVELOPMENT AS WASHINGTON'S TOP POLICY PRIORITY**

Cohen, Herman J. *American Foreign Policy Interests*. March 2008, pp. 88-95.

"The global war on terror, as well as China's massive economic interventions, is having a significant impact on U.S. policy in Africa. As a result, for the first time in

60 years, the traditional U.S. emphasis on economic development in Africa has begun to lose the top-priority policy status that had been accorded to it for more than half a century. The history of U.S. policy toward Sub-Saharan Africa since the end of European colonialism (1957–1975) reveals a consistent emphasis on economic development as Washington's highest policy objective. This policy priority was maintained despite the challenges of the cold war, the Middle East conflict, and apartheid in South Africa. But the policy is changing. Since the beginning of President George W. Bush's second term, the historic U.S. concentration on development in Africa is slowly being eclipsed by the worldwide war on terror. To complicate matters further, state-supported Chinese entrepreneurs have inundated Africa with funded projects to expand infrastructure in exchange for long-term commodity supply contracts." *Herman J. Cohen was deputy assistant secretary of state for intelligence and research from 1980 to 1984; senior director for Africa on the National Security Council, 1987 to 1989; and assistant secretary of state for Africa, 1989 to 1993.*

### **HOW AMERICAN TREATY BEHAVIOR THREATENS NATIONAL SECURITY**

Chayes, Antonia Handler. *International Security*. Summer 2008, pp. 45–81.

Chayes asserts that current U.S. treaty behavior is antiquated in an era of globalization and interdependence, and has produced growing concern among both allies and less friendly nations. The U.S. has generated confusion and anger abroad on such fundamental issues as nuclear proliferation, terrorism, human rights, civil liberties, environmental disasters, and commerce. The author emphasizes that such a climate is not conducive to international cooperation in the conduct of foreign and security policy. Among U.S. actions that have caused concern are the failure to ratify several treaties; the attachment of reservations, understandings, and declarations before ratification; the failure to support a treaty regime once ratified; and treaty withdrawal. The author argues that the structural and historical reasons for American treaty behavior are deeply rooted in the U.S. system of government and do not merely reflect superpower arrogance. According to Chayes, the world confronts too many global problems that will take for longer to solve, and probably cannot be solved, without the United States. This article seeks to widen as well as inform a debate that becomes particularly important in light of upcoming negotiations in two sensitive areas—the International Criminal Court and climate change—that will confront a new U.S. president is inaugurated in 2009. *Antonia Chayes is Visiting Professor of International Politics and Law in the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University.*

### **THE NEW POWERHOUSES: THINK TANKS AND FOREIGN POLICY**

Wiarda, Howard J. *American Foreign Policy Interests*. March 2008, pp. 96-117.

"In the course of testing the hypothesis that the think tanks play an important role in American foreign policymaking may well become further instruments of the divisiveness, fragmentation, and disarray that now characterize American foreign policymaking, this analysis not only explains what think tanks are and do but also provides a fascinating history of how American foreign policymaking has evolved since the post-World War II era, highlighting steps that have led to its outsourcing and privatization. Think tanks are major new actors on the foreign policy scene, and they have become increasingly influential. The phenomenon of the think tank as well as its role in international affairs is a new one (the last 40 years) and therefore has not so far been adequately treated in the literature on American politics and foreign

policy. Yet it can be argued that the major United States think tanks are every bit as influential in shaping American foreign policy as the political parties, interest groups, and other institutions surveyed in this article. The think tanks have taken their place among the most important foreign policy actors in Washington, D.C." *Howard J. Wiarda is the Dean Rusk Professor of International Relations and head of the Department of International Affairs at the University of Georgia.*

### **AMERICA'S LIBERAL ILLIBERALISM: THE IDEOLOGICAL ORIGINS OF OVERREACTION IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY**

Desch, Michael C. *International Security*. Winter 2008, pp. 7-43.

[http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/files/IS3203\\_pp007-043\\_Desch.pdf](http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/files/IS3203_pp007-043_Desch.pdf)

The author writes that the U.S. has come under fire from critics at home and abroad for its tough tactics in the war against terrorism, and for the invasion of Iraq. Criticism has centered on the doctrine of preventive war, on enhanced surveillance measures to track down terrorists at home, and tough measures used in questioning certain suspects. In this article, the author examines the paradox, pointing out that restraints on domestic liberties have accompanied America's wars against various tyrants in the past. In effect, he argues, the consensus that supports the administration's tough line on terror comes from classic Liberal philosophy itself, stemming from the philosophic doctrine of Immanuel Kant. This doctrine, he points out, has repeatedly impelled the American foreign policy establishment to take stern measures against tyranny, even if the measures themselves seemed illiberal. The author points out that the Bush administration is acting in the historic Liberal tradition by demonizing terrorists, and that the war in Iraq has generated little resistance within the establishment, even if many deplore its tactics. *Michael C. Desch is Professor and Robert M. Gates Chair in Intelligence and National Security Decision-Making and director of the Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs at the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University.*

### **MCCAIN'S CHOICE**

Chollet, Derek; Goldgeier, James. *National Interest*. July/August 2008, var. pages.

<http://www.nationalinterest.org/Article.aspx?id=18692>

"Neoconservatives and realists are battling to set the GOP's foreign-policy agenda—and the future of American diplomacy hangs in the balance. Who's on what side, what does each one want, and what can we expect if John McCain beats Barack Obama? Inside the struggle for the foreign-policy soul of the Republican Party. In the aftermath of the Bush administration, particularly the impact of the war in Iraq, conservative politicians and policy intellectuals are again debating the nature of the global order, the purpose and use of American power, and what, if anything, is required to legitimize the exercise of that power, particularly military force. What is striking is the extent to which the divide between the two broad groupings in the McCain campaign (the pragmatists or realists on one hand and the idealists or neoconservatives on the other) resembles the divisions that had emerged in the closing days of the George H. W. Bush administration." *Derek Chollet is a senior fellow at the Center for a New American Security. James Goldgeier is a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations and a professor at George Washington University. They are coauthors of America Between the Wars: From 11/9 to 9/11 (PublicAffairs, 2008).*

## **IRAQ'S LONG-TERM IMPACT ON JIHADIST TERRORISM**

Byman, Daniel L.; Pollack, Kenneth M. *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. July 2008, pp. 55-68.

"This article argues that the problems facing Iraq could have tremendous consequences for the broader "war on terror," particularly if they return to or exceed levels seen at the height of the violence in 2006. Salafi militants, followers of an extreme interpretation of Islam who want to use violence to unite Muslims under religious rule, have been fighting in Iraq and may use the country as a base for operations and attacks elsewhere in the region. In addition, refugees from Iraq might spread terrorism, radicalize neighboring populations, and contribute to strife and instability throughout the region. While a U.S. troop withdrawal may inspire fewer young men to take up terrorism against the United States, it would also increase militants' operational freedom in Iraq itself, allowing terrorist groups to recruit, train, and plan with relative impunity. As a result, if the United States withdraws from Iraq without leaving behind a stable Iraqi government, it should still maintain a regional military presence and help bolster other regimes in the Middle East from the threat of terrorism from Iraq." *Daniel L. Byman is Senior Fellow of Foreign Policy at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy, Brookings Institution. Kenneth M. Pollack is Director of Research at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy, Brookings Institution.*

## **"HOMEGROWN" TERRORISTS: THEORY AND CASES IN THE WAR ON TERROR'S NEWEST FRONT**

Kohlmann, Evan F. *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. July 2008, pp.95-109.

"The realities of a globalized society now allow international terrorist organizations like Al Qaeda to dramatically expand their potential reach by courting sympathizers in dark corners around the world and teaching them how they can best serve al Qaeda's interests—without necessarily visiting an actual military training camp or even speaking directly with Al Qaeda. In fact, despite their somewhat haphazard outward appearance, homegrown terrorist cells often possess a remarkable shared connection through reliance on particular Al Qaeda training manuals, audio and video recordings, and even Internet chat forums. Recent law enforcement investigations have uncovered a surprisingly sophisticated network of budding terrorist "entrepreneurs" lurking in a host of major cities across Europe and North America." *Evan F. Kohlmann is an NBC News terrorism analyst and a senior investigator at the Nine Eleven Finding Answers (NEFA) Foundation. He has served as a private consultant in terrorism matters for government agencies in the United States, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Australia, and the United Kingdom.*

## **A STRATEGY FOR FIGHTING INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIST TERRORISTS**

Sageman, Marc. *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. July 2008, pp. 223-231.

"The U.S. strategy for combating international Islamist terrorists must be based on an understanding of the terrorists' behavior and the process of radicalization to violence. This process includes four dimensions: a sense of moral outrage, interpreted in a specific way, which resonates with one's personal experiences, and is channeled through group dynamics, both face-to-face and online. The threat has evolved over the past decade. The process of radicalization continues in a hostile

physical environment, but it is enabled by the Internet, resulting in a disconnected, decentralized social structure. The threat of this "leaderless jihad" is self-limiting because of its confining structure and the lack of appeal of its utopian ideal." *Marc Sageman, forensic psychiatrist, sociologist, and former CIA case officer, is an independent consultant, who is director of research at ARTIS and the first scholar in residence at the New York Police Department. He is the author of Understanding Terror Networks (University of Pennsylvania Press 2004) and Leaderless Jihad (University of Pennsylvania Press 2008).*

### **NO SIGN UNTIL THE BURST OF FIRE: UNDERSTANDING THE PAKISTAN-AFGHANISTAN FRONTIER**

Johnson, Thomas H.; Mason, M. Chris. *International Security*. Spring 2008, pp. 41-77.

The authors assert that the Pakistan-Afghanistan border area has become the most dangerous frontier on earth and the most challenging for U.S. national security interests. "The portion of the border region that is home to extremist groups such as the Taliban and al-Qaida coincides almost exactly with the area overwhelmingly dominated by the Pashtun tribes. The fact that most of Pakistan's and Afghanistan's violent religious extremism, and with it much of the counterterrorism challenge to the U.S., are contained within a single ethno-linguistic group, has not been fully grasped by U.S. policymakers. The threat to long-term U.S. security interests in this area is neither an economic problem, nor a religious problem, nor a generic "tribal" problem. It is a unique cultural problem. In both southern Afghanistan and the tribal areas of Pakistan, rather than seeking to "extend the reach of the central government," which simply foments insurgency among a proto-insurgent people, the United States and the international community should be doing everything in their means to empower the tribal elders and restore balance to a tribal/cultural system that has been disintegrating since the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979." *Thomas H. Johnson is Research Professor in the Department of National Security Affairs and Director of the Program for Culture and Conflict Studies at the Naval Postgraduate School. Mr. Chris Mason is Senior Fellow at the Center for Advanced Defense Studies. He served as a political officer on the Pakistan-Afghanistan border and is recently retired from the U.S. Foreign Service.*

### **THE POST-9/11 AMERICAN CONUNDRUM: HOW TO WIN THE WAR OF IDEAS IN THE WORLD OF ISLAM**

Ahrari, Ehsan. *Mediterranean Quarterly*. Spring 2008, pp.82-98.

"In America's global war on terrorism, phrases like 'the war of ideas,' 'campaign to win the hearts and minds of Muslims,' and 'public diplomacy' describe important themes. Although the United States had grown accustomed to conducting highly successful public diplomacy to win the war of ideas during the Cold War, its record in this realm in the post-9/11 era has been far from impressive. In this essay, the author describes the new challenge and spells out possible ways of gaining an upper hand in this 'war.'" *Ehsan Ahrari is professor of counterterrorism at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies in Honolulu, Hawaii.*

### **A BETTER APPROACH TO FOREIGN AID**

Muzinich, Justin; Werker, Eric. *Policy Review*. June/July 2008.

<http://www.hoover.org/publications/policyreview/19462329.html>

"Frustration with U.S. foreign aid is widespread. The left complains that the United States does not provide enough money to developing countries. The right laments that aid is an inefficient use of resources. Both sides are to some degree correct. While the United States distributed \$ 23 billion in 2006 — more than any other country — it was still very little for the billion people living on less than one dollar a day. And for every dollar given to sub-Saharan Africa, less than 44 cents reached the ground, partially because of inefficient spending and corruption. Given the justifiable frustration with the current system, there have been surprisingly few attempts to fundamentally alter the architecture of foreign aid. Suggestions for change usually take the form of either advocating for more aid or calling for a different distribution of existing resources. This focus on either growing the pie or distributing it differently takes as a premise that the current system of government-to-government aid is the best way forward. We suggest a different path. Rather than providing aid according to the wishes of foreign governments, the United States should provide incentives to encourage corporations and individuals to distribute development dollars." *Justin Muzinich lives in New York and works for a hedge fund. Eric Werker is assistant professor in the Business, Government & International Economy unit at Harvard Business School.*

#### **CLIMATE POLICY ARCHITECTURE FOR THE POST-KYOTO WORLD**

Aldy, Joseph E.; Stavins, Robert N. *Environment*. May/June 2008, pp7-18.

"The global, long-term nature of climate change necessitates a robust climate policy architecture that can provide the basis for multilateral and national actions. [...] The next step in building international climate policy should be broader than the Kyoto Protocol, both in terms of the number of countries with obligations and perhaps the suite of policies to be employed. An important challenge is determining whether a bottom-up approach is superior to a top-down approach." In this article the author proposes targets and timetables with emphasis on economics of emissions trading to be discussed at the next international agreement on global climate change in Copenhagen, Denmark in December 2009. *Joseph E. Aldy is a fellow at Resources for the Future in Washington, DC. Robert N. Stavins is the Albert Pratt Professor of Business and Government at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, director of the Harvard Environmental Economics Program, and co-director of the Harvard Project on International Climate Agreements.*

#### **DEMOCRATIZATION AND THE VARIETIES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Mansfield, Edward D.; Pevehouse Jon C. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. April 2008, pp. 269-294.

In this article, the authors argue that states have particular reason to seek international organizations ( IO) membership during the process of democratization. "Scholars of international relations have devoted remarkably little attention to the issue of why and when states enter international organizations (IOs). In the midst of a democratic transition, state leaders have trouble making a credible commitment to sustain reforms, since they can benefit from impeding liberalization. The absence of such a commitment can undermine the democratic transition. Gaining membership in an IO can publicize and enhance the credibility of leaders' commitments to democratic reforms. However, not all IOs are equally useful in this regard. Some are forums for addressing broad political problems within a particular geographical region or the world as a whole. Other organizations cover standards in areas such as human

rights and environmental protection that democratic states value. For the government of a democratizing state, joining this type of organization helps to lock in democratic reforms and renders it harder for future governments to reverse these reforms." *Edward D. Mansfield is Hum Rosen Professor of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania. Jon C. Pevehouse is an associate professor at the Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago.*

## **U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY AND TRENDS**

### **REPORTS**

#### **THE INTERNET AND THE 2008 ELECTION**

Pew Internet and American Life Project. June 15, 2008 [PDF format, 27 pages]

[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_2008\\_election.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_2008_election.pdf)

"Three online activities have become especially prominent as the presidential primary campaigns have progressed: First, 35% of Americans say they have watched online political videos--a figure that nearly triples the reading the Pew Internet Project got in the 2004 race. Second, 10% say they have used social networking sites such as Facebook or MySpace to gather information or become involved. This is particularly popular with younger voters: Two-thirds of internet users under the age of 30 have a social networking profile, and half of these use social networking sites to get or share information about politics or the campaigns. Third, 6% of Americans have made political contributions online, compared with 2% who did that during the entire 2004 campaign. Online activism using social media has also grown substantially since the first time we probed this issue during the 2006 midterm elections. Yet despite the growth in the number of people who are politically engaged online, internet users express some ambivalence about the role of the internet in the campaign. On one hand, 28% of wired Americans say that the internet makes them feel more personally connected to the campaign, and 22% say that they would not be as involved in the campaign if not for the internet. At the same time, however, even larger numbers feel that the internet magnifies the most extreme viewpoints and is a source of misinformation for many voters."

#### **RACE, IMMIGRATION AND AMERICA'S CHANGING ELECTORATE**

Frey, William. The Brookings Institution. February 28, 2008 [PDF format, 31 pages]

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2008/0227\\_demographics\\_frey/0227\\_demographics\\_paper%20and%20table\\_frey.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2008/0227_demographics_frey/0227_demographics_paper%20and%20table_frey.pdf)

"One of the most profound changes in America's demography this century will be its shifting race and ethnic makeup. The rise of immigration from Latin America and Asia, the higher fertility of some minorities and the slow growth of America's aging white population will have profound impacts on the nation's demographic profile, with important implications for the electorate. The significance of these changes on identity politics, new racial coalitions and reactions to immigration have already been seen in the 2008 presidential sweepstakes. Yet, these shifts are only the tip of the iceberg of what can be expected in future election cycles as Hispanic, Asian, and Black Americans make up ever larger shares of the electorate. This report discusses the shifts playing out in 2008, but with an eye toward what they will mean in the

future." *William Frey is a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution's Metropolitan Policy Program and a Research Professor at the University of Michigan Population Studies Center.*

### **THE DEBATE OVER NON-CITIZEN VOTING: A PRIMER**

Renshon, Stanley. Center for Immigration Studies. April 2008 [PDF format, 12 pages]

<http://www.cis.org/articles/2008/back408.pdf>

"The debate over non-citizen voting has been slowly gathering momentum out of the public view for some time. While most Americans have been understandably preoccupied with terrorism, Iraq, the economy, illegal immigration, and other issues, a steady drumbeat of advocacy has been gathering force trying to legitimize and implement the idea that the United States should allow new immigrants to vote without becoming citizens. Advocates of this position use many arguments — about fairness, representation, teaching democracy, increasing participation, expanding democracy, being welcoming to immigrants, the large number of Hispanics who are not yet citizens, and so on. They buttress their claims with the fact that several foreign countries now allow immigrants to vote in local elections, that some American states and territories once allowed it, and that some localities allow it now. This last fact, that there are several municipalities in the United States that currently allow non-citizens to vote in local elections, may come as somewhat of a surprise. The best known of these is Takoma Park, Md., which introduced the practice in 1992, although its legality has never been tested in the courts. In addition, legislation has been formally introduced in a number of cities, including New York City and Washington, D.C.,<sup>2</sup> and in at least two states — New York and Minnesota — to allow non-citizens to vote in local elections." *Stanley Renshon has been a Center for Immigration Fellow since 1999. Mr. Renshon is also a professor of political science, coordinator of the Interdisciplinary Program in the Psychology of Social and Political behavior at the City University of New York Graduate Center.*

### **A REPORT ON THE 2008 PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION ADS: ADS MORE NEGATIVE THAN PREVIOUS YEARS**

West, Darrell M. The Brookings Institution. July 2 2008.

[http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2008/0630\\_campaignads\\_west.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2008/0630_campaignads_west.aspx)

Television advertisements attract a lot of discussion during political campaigns, yet many voters are unhappy with the quality of information in ads and the tone of political discourse. The author looks at campaign ads in the 2008 presidential nomination season and finds they were more negative than in previous races. He also picks some of the best, and some of the worst. *Darrell M. West is the vice president and director of Governance Studies at the Brookings Institution. His studies include campaigns and elections, political advertising, mass media, public opinion, technology policy and electronic government.*

### **THE CHANGING NEWSROOM: WHAT IS BEING GAINED AND WHAT IS BEING LOST IN AMERICA'S DAILY NEWSPAPERS?**

Project for Excellence in Journalism. July 21, 2008.

<http://journalism.org/node/11961>

"The headlines about the newspaper business have been unrelenting—cutbacks in staffing, declining revenues and more. At the same time, technological advances are

breeding new opportunities. As they cut back while also building online, what is disappearing from newspapers and what is being added? This new PEJ report, based on a survey of editors and personal interviews from across the country, offers answers. The analysis is divided into six main areas: Cutbacks, which examines the depth of staff reductions and how larger and smaller newspapers have been affected; Changing Content, which looks at what topics are losing space and resources, which are growing and which are holding steady; The Changing Newsroom, which charts the transformation of newsroom skills, demands and culture; The Influence of the Web, which studies the enormous impact newspaper websites are having on newsrooms and on daily newspaper journalism; Citizen in the Newsroom, which explores the growing influence and impact of journalism produced by non-professional journalists; and The Future, which weighs the implications of smaller newsrooms, greater innovation, more financial pressures and the struggle to monetize the web."

### **EVALUATING THE POTENTIAL FOR A RECESSION IN 2008**

Labonte, Marc. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. May 13, 2008 [PDF format, 24 pages]

[http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34484\\_20080513.pdf](http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34484_20080513.pdf)

"The U.S. economy has faced some bad news lately. The housing boom has come to an abrupt halt, and housing sales and house building have been falling at double digit rates. Financial institutions have written off large losses because of falling asset values, particularly for mortgage-backed securities. It is therefore not surprising that consumer confidence is at a five-year low. A look at the available data suggests that economic growth has slowed considerably, but it is too soon to tell if the economy has entered a recession. Recessions are defined as prolonged and sustained declines in economic activity, so by definition, a persistent downturn cannot be identified until it has persisted. Given the lags between policy changes and their effects on the economy, the economy has not yet felt the full impact of the stimulus package and the Federal Reserve's actions. Therefore, it is still too early to tell." *Marc Labonte is an Specialist in Macroeconomic Policy at the Government and Finance Division of the CRS.*

### **THE ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN'S IMPACT ON MIDDLE-AGED AND OLDER AMERICANS**

Love, Jeffrey. American Association of Retired Persons. May 2008 [PDF format, 34 pages]

[http://assets.aarp.org/rgcenter/econ/economy\\_survey.pdf](http://assets.aarp.org/rgcenter/econ/economy_survey.pdf)

The study findings show that 81 percent of respondents say the economy is in fairly bad or very bad condition and 75 percent feel the economy is getting worse. Over one-fourth of respondents said they are having trouble paying their mortgage or rent and one-third have stopped putting money into their retirement accounts. More than one-fourth of all workers 45+ have postponed plans to retire. As the economy slows and prices rise, most middle-aged and older respondents report that they are having difficulty paying for food, gas, utilities, and medicine, and are responding to the situation by cutting luxuries and postponing major purchases and travel. *Jeffrey Love is the Director of Strategic Issues Research at the American Association of Retired Persons.*

### **JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE GREEN ECONOMY**

Pollin, Robert; Wicks-Lim, Jeannette. Political Economy Research Institute, University

of Massachusetts. June 2008 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 15 pages]

[http://www.bluegreenalliance.org/atf/cf/%7B3637E5F0-D0EA-46E7-BB32-74D973EFF334%7D/NRDC\\_report\\_May28.pdf](http://www.bluegreenalliance.org/atf/cf/%7B3637E5F0-D0EA-46E7-BB32-74D973EFF334%7D/NRDC_report_May28.pdf)

This report provides a snapshot of what kinds of jobs are needed to build a green economy in the United States. The six green strategies examined by the report are: building retrofitting, mass transit, energy-efficient automobiles, wind power, solar power, and cellulosic biomass fuels. The report shows that the vast majority of jobs associated with these six green strategies are in the same areas of employment that people already work in to-day, in every region and state of the country. It is clear that millions of U.S. workers will all benefit from the project of defeating global warming and transforming the United States into a green economy. *Robert Pollin is co-director of Political Economy Research Institute (PERI) and Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Jeannette Wicks-Lim is Assistant Research Professor at PERI.*

### **THINKING AHEAD ABOUT OUR IMMIGRANT FUTURE: NEW TRENDS AND MUTUAL BENEFITS IN OUR AGING SOCIETY**

Myers, Dowell. Immigration Policy Center. January 2008 [PDF format, 12 pages]

<http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/images/File/infocus/Thinking%20Ahead%201-08.pdf>

"There are two stories now being told about immigration and the future of America. Each has some basis in fact, although one is based on newer trends and is more optimistic than the other. These stories differ in their answers to three crucial questions: whether immigration to the United States is accelerating out of control or is slowing; how much immigrants are assimilating into American society and progressing economically over time; and how important immigrants are to the U.S. economy. The pessimistic story-in which immigration is portrayed as increasing dramatically and producing a growing population of unassimilated foreigners-draws upon older evidence. But more recent data and analysis suggest a far more positive vision of our immigrant future. Immigration has not only begun to level off, but immigrants are climbing the socio-economic ladder, and will become increasingly important to the U.S. economy as workers, taxpayers, and homebuyers supporting the aging Baby Boom generation." *Dowell Myers is Professor of Urban Planning and Demography in the School of Policy, Planning, and Development, and director of the Population Dynamics Research Group, at the University of Southern California. This report is drawn from his new book, Immigrants and Boomers: Forging a New Social Contract for the Future of America (Russell Sage Foundation, 2007).*

### **HOMETOWN ASSOCIATIONS: AN UNTAPPED RESOURCE FOR IMMIGRATION INTEGRATION?**

Somerville, Will et al. Migration Policy Institute. July 2008. [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 24 pages]

<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/Insight-HTAs-July08.pdf>

"Hometown associations (HTA), the organizations that immigrants create for social, economic development, and political empowerment purposes, play an important – and underexamined – role in immigrant integration. Though policymakers focus chiefly on the associations' development potential, the report recommends cooperative interventions to strengthen their immigrant integration capacity. The

associations can be helpful mechanisms for immigrant socialization, acting as organized points of contact and coordination between the immigrants, the host government and other institutions. Hometown associations' immigrant-integration capacity could be strengthened with limited, collaborative interventions by government and non-government partners – for example, by offering leadership training, outreach to immigrant communities or improved government services for immigrants. Noting the lack of data on associations' existence and operations, the report also recommends that organizations and governments aiming to work with hometown associations undertake a collaborative data collection effort to enhance possible partnerships." *Will Somerville is a senior policy analyst for the Migration Policy Institute's International Program.*

### **STATE STRATEGIES TO REDUCE CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY**

Golonka, Susan; Hoffman, Linda. Center for Best Practices, National Governors Association. Web posted June 23, 2008 [Note: contains copyrighted material][PDF format, 20 pages]

<http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0806POVERTYBRIEF.PDF>

"Poverty has long-term social and economic costs for children and families, communities, and states. In 2006, more than 13 million children lived below the federal poverty level. Children who grow up poor are more likely to earn less as adults, complete fewer years of formal education, and face more health issues than children living in higher-income families. Poverty has large repercussions for states and the nation, with childhood poverty alone estimated to cost the U.S. economy approximately \$500 billion annually. The study examines the long-term social and economic costs of poverty for children and families, communities and states. It also explores several policy and program options to reduce the negative consequences of poverty for children and increase opportunities for families to achieve economic success." *Susan Golonka is Program Director at the Social, Economic, & Workforce Programs Division of the Center for Best Practices of the National Governors Association. Linda Hoffman is senior policy analyst.*

### **ANNUAL ENERGY OUTLOOK 2008**

Energy Information Administration. June 2008.

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/aeo/>

This report presents projections and analysis of US energy supply, demand, and prices through 2030. The projections are based on results from the Energy Information Administration's National Energy Modeling System. The AEO2008 includes the reference case, additional cases examining energy markets, and complete documentation. "Trends in energy supply and demand are affected by many factors that are difficult to predict, including energy prices, U.S. and worldwide economic growth, advances in technologies, and future public policy decisions both in the United States and in other countries. As noted in *AEO2007*, energy markets are changing in response to readily observable factors, which include, among others: higher energy prices; the growing influence of developing countries on worldwide energy requirements; recently enacted legislation and regulations in the United States; changing public perceptions on issues related to emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases (GHGs) and the use of alternative fuels and; and the economic viability of various energy technologies."

## **U.S. RELIGIOUS LANDSCAPE SURVEY**

Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life. June 23, 2008.

<http://religions.pewforum.org/pdf/report2religious-landscape-study-key-findings.pdf>

This survey finds that most Americans have a non-dogmatic approach to faith. A majority of those who are affiliated with a religion, for instance, do not believe their religion is the only way to salvation. And almost the same number believes that there is more than one true way to interpret the teachings of their religion. This openness to a range of religious viewpoints is in line with the great diversity of religious affiliation, belief and practice that exists in the United States, as documented in a survey of more than 35,000 Americans that comprehensively examines the country's religious landscape. The survey also shows that more than half of Americans say religion is very important in their lives, attend religious services regularly and pray daily. The Landscape Survey confirms the close link between Americans' religious affiliation, beliefs and practices, on the one hand, and their social and political attitudes, on the other. Indeed, the survey demonstrates that the social and political fault lines in American society run through, as well as alongside, religious traditions. The relationship between politics and religion in the United States is particularly strong with respect to political ideology and views on social issues such as abortion and homosexuality, with the more religiously committed adherents across several religious traditions expressing more conservative political views. On other issues included in the survey, such as environmental protection, foreign affairs, and the proper size and role of government, differences based on religion tend to be smaller.

## **HIGHER EDUCATION AND COLLEGES: A COMPARISON BETWEEN ENGLAND AND THE USA**

King, Madeleine et al. Council for Industry and Higher Education. Web posted June 16, 2008 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 28 pages].

[http://www.aacc.nche.edu/Content/ContentGroups/Headline\\_News/June\\_2008/cihe\\_report.pdf](http://www.aacc.nche.edu/Content/ContentGroups/Headline_News/June_2008/cihe_report.pdf)

"United Kingdom and United States colleges play distinctive roles in delivering higher level learning that reaches students from diverse backgrounds, focus on meeting local needs and is vocational in its emphasis. In the U.S., this distinctiveness is lauded and forms part of an integrated approach across many States. The success of U.S. Community Colleges is a system of funding by transferable credit which is responsive to local need and which facilitates roll-on roll-off participation. In the U.K., these inherent strengths are less appreciated. In England, this non-linear progression is still viewed as 'dropping out' rather than 'dropping in'.

## **ARTICLES**

### **THE 2008 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES: WHAT IN AMERICA'S NAME IS GOING ON?**

Cook, Charles. *The Washington Quarterly*. Summer 2008, pp. 194-204.

[http://twq.com/08summer/docs/08summer\\_cook.pdf](http://twq.com/08summer/docs/08summer_cook.pdf)

"The 2008 presidential race has already featured more surprises and greater volatility than any since 1968. A look back at the spring presidential campaigns and a look ahead to what should be a similarly wild and turbulent general campaign in the general campaign in the fall." *Charles E. Cook Jr. is a political analyst for NBC*

*News and editor and publisher of the Cook Political Report, a Washington-based, nonpartisan. He writes weekly columns for National Journal and CongressDaily AM.*

### **MICHIGAN: THE DEPRESSED STATE**

Simendinger, Alexis. *National Journal*. June 28, 2008.

As part of an ongoing series, National Journal is examining the current status of potential swing states. In this issue, the author writes about Michigan, saying, "when things appear bleak elsewhere in the nation, they can seem desperate in Michigan." A state heavily reliant on the auto-industry, Michigan has been hard hit by economic troubles and foreclosures. It is considered to have one of the worst economies in the nation. Simendinger examines what Michigan residents are looking for in a president through the eyes of a family with a long history of supporting candidates from both parties. While it is clear the people of Michigan are unhappy with the state of the economy, it is unclear which party they "blame" for this, which is why it is difficult to predict which candidate will win. The article also reviews the presidential candidates' messages to Michigan voters.

### **BARACK'S CHOPS**

Ehrenhalt, Alan. *Governing*. July 2008, online edition.

<http://www.governing.com/articles/0808assess.htm>

"If Barack Obama becomes president, he will have spent more time serving as a state legislator (eight years) than anyone who has occupied the White House since Abraham Lincoln. In fact, he will be very close to the all-time record. John Tyler spent nine years in the Virginia House of Delegates. Nobody else has put in anywhere near that much time in a state legislative body." This article explains why a U.S. senator's experience might not trump a state senator's on a presidential candidate's résumé. *Alan Ehrenhalt has served as executive editor of Governing since 1991.*

### **THE EVOLUTION OF JOHN MCCAIN**

Whitford, David. *Fortune*. July 7, 2008, pp. 56-62.

"This article examines Republican presidential candidate John McCain's plan to fix the economy. How does a tough, uncompromising former prisoner of war - a self-described maverick who built his political reputation on straight talk - handle competing demands for limited resources during hard times, meanwhile keeping the ideologues in his own party at bay?" *David Whitford is an editor at large at FORTUNE magazine.*

### **THEY CROSS THE DIVIDE**

Marx, Claude R. *Politics*. May 2008, pp. 36-40.

"This article focuses on U.S. Presidents who crossed party lines and politics in U.S. Congress to work on their legislative agenda. President Harry Truman worked with Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Arthur Vandenberg to get Congress to pass the Marshall Plan. President Lyndon Johnson forges alliances with key Republican leaders, including Republican Senator Everest Dirksen of Illinois. President Bill Clinton cooperated with Republican House Speaker Newt Gingrich on issues related to budget and taxation." *Claude R. Marx is author of a chapter on media and politics in The Sixth Year Itch, edited by Larry Sabato.*

### **AMERICAN MUSLIMS AND THE USE OF CULTURAL DIPLOMACY**

Kanjwal, Hafsa. *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs*. Summer/Fall 2008, pp. 133-139.

The author argues that one of our major challenges will be to address the growing mutual suspicion, fear, and misunderstanding between Western and Muslim societies. Cultural diplomacy should take precedence over public relations diplomacy, and the American Muslim community needs to develop a sophisticated cultural presence before it can be coherent on a civic or political level to create a cohesive and accessible American Muslim identity. There is a large percentage of Americans who are Muslim but feel they have been left out of the "core," which is often preoccupied on theological issues. Through case studies, the author highlights cultural material being produced by the American Muslim community, such as MuslimGirl Magazine, and Musa Syeed, the young American Muslim filmmaker who produced the award-winning documentary "A Son's Sacrifice." *Hafsa Kanjwal is a 2008 graduate of the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. She has served on the board of the Muslim Students Association at Georgetown University.*

### **WHATEVER HAPPENED TO IRAQ?**

Ricchiardi, Sherry. *American Journalism Review*. June/July 2008, pp. 20-27.  
<http://www.ajr.org/Article.asp?id=4515>

"Americans and the American press have lost interest in the Iraq war, says Ricchiardi; coverage has dropped dramatically, both on television and in print. Iraq has been shoved out of the headlines in part because of the U.S. economic downturn and the contentious presidential primaries. In addition "war fatigue" has set in: the accounts of suicide bombings and brutal sectarian violence are repetitive and hard to translate to U.S. audiences. In addition, keeping correspondents on the ground in Baghdad is getting to be too expensive for many news agencies. But all this may change after the U.S. presidential elections, when a new administration will have to grapple with a controversial conflict that is costing U.S. taxpayers an estimated \$12.5 billion per month."

### **THE LONG ROAD TO HEALTH REFORM REQUIRES BIPARTISAN LEADERSHIP**

Ferguson, Christine C, et al. *Health Affairs*. May/June 2008, pp. 711-717.

"The United States appears headed toward another national debate about health system reform. Worry about access and health system deficiencies has reached critical mass, and polls indicate that health care leads the domestic agenda for the 2008 elections. This debate, like previous debates, will succeed or fail in Congress. We highlight key elements of recent sagas in health legislation and offer advice to the next president and Congress for improving the likelihood of a successful outcome in 2009-10: (1) make health reform a top legislative priority; (2) be leaders, not partisans; and (3) develop broad policy consensus but leave the policy details to Congress." *Christine Ferguson is an associate research professor at the Department of Health Policy of the George Washington University in Washington, DC.*

### **WHAT WE'RE IN FOR: PROJECTED ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE NEXT RECESSION**

Schmitt, John; Baker, Dean. *Challenge*. May/June 2008, pp.27-42 .

"The deflation of the largest and longest-lasting housing bubble in U.S. history made it all but inevitable that the United States would enter a recession in 2008. The past several months have seen a remarkable degree of consensus across most of the economics profession around the need for substantial short-term economic stimulus, with the hope of avoiding a recession or, in the likely event that that is not possible, of making the recession shorter and more shallow." The author describes how bad recession could get and use the last three recessions to come up with the range of possibilities. *John Schmitt is a senior economist and Dean Baker is co-director at the Center for Economic and Policy Research in Washington*

### **THE GROWTH SOLUTION**

Schramm, Carl; Litan, Robert E. *The American*. July/August, 2008.

<http://www.american.com/archive/2008/july-august-magazine-contents/the-growth-solution>

"Huge domestic challenges confront our next presidents (none of which is fully resolvable by a single president): ensuring greater access to and affordability of healthcare, addressing our looming entitlements crisis, making significant headway against poverty, and restraining man-made climate change. By the policies they champion, our future presidents can have an important impact on how rapidly our economy grows. Continued growth in per capita incomes, generated through ongoing improvements in productivity, is what drives improvements in living standards. Faster growth also will give us more resources to address each of our major domestic and foreign policy challenges. A quick look back through American history reveals that many of the most important radical innovations in the past—the telegraph, telephone, radio, television, automobiles, airplanes, computers and the software that operates them, and many of our current Internet-based successes (Google, Amazon, eBay)—have been introduced and commercialized first by entrepreneurs. What all of us, regardless of our political affiliation, should want in our next presidents and in our other governmental officials, therefore, is an understanding of the need to promote policies that will best foster the entrepreneurial spirit that drives radical innovation." *Carl Schramm is president and CEO of the Kauffman Foundation. Robert E. Litan is vice president for research and policy at the foundation. This article highlights themes from their next book, "Better Capitalism" (to be published by Yale University Press)*

### **IDENTITY PROBLEMS**

Carney, Eliza Newlin. *National Journal*. July 5, 2008.

[http://www.nationaljournal.com/njmagazine/nj\\_20080705\\_1814.php](http://www.nationaljournal.com/njmagazine/nj_20080705_1814.php)

"Post-9/11 efforts to outfit virtually all Americans with more-reliable identification have been fraught with headaches. The Real ID Act of 2005 has spawned a mini-rebellion at the state level. Ten states--Alaska, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Maine, Montana, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Washington--have enacted statutes declaring that they will not comply with the federal law. Meanwhile, new ID rules for travelers crossing into the U.S. have been caught up in administrative snafus, prompting criticism from Congress that bungling federal agencies are hurting commerce, trade, and tourism. Whatever the ideal model in the long run, America's ID policy is at a crossroads. Americans may eventually embrace a national ID card, as Britons have done recently. Or, U.S. citizens may find themselves carrying multiple smart cards with different uses, as privacy experts prefer. In the meantime, ID wars are breaking out on many fronts."

## **THE GREEN GAP**

Sheppard, Kate. *American Prospect*. May 2008, pp. 18-21.

"The city of Richmond, California, is wracked by poverty and violence, and is home to oil refineries and industrial sites with a long history of pollution and chemical spills. In an effort to reverse the city's toxic legacy, the municipal government is sponsoring Richmond BUILD, a program in which inner-city youths enroll for job training in energy efficiency, solar power and "green" construction. The program highlights a fundamental change that is taking place in the environmental movement in the U.S.: environmental- and social-justice advocates are coming up with proposals to overhaul the fossil-fuel-powered economy and, at the same time, overcome the country's economic and racial divides. Low-income inner-city neighborhoods are most affected by toxic environmental pollution, yet have never been brought into the environmental movement, which has traditionally been the preserve of affluent well-educated Americans preoccupied with wilderness preservation. The environmental justice movement has been spearheaded by individuals such as Van Jones, co-founder of the Oakland, Calif.-based Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, who early on saw the potential of the "green" economy for inner-city youths. Says Jones, "we're going to have to have a major shift in the U.S. economy and culture in order to not just achieve sustainability, but survivability."

## **HAVE YOU GOOGLED YOUR TEACHER LATELY? TEACHERS' USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES**

Carter, Heather; Foulger, Teresa; Ewbank, Ann Dutton. *Phi Delta Kappan*. May 2008.

"Social networking sites have become so popular that some young teachers do not seem to recognize the need to exercise care before they post on popular sites such as MySpace, FaceBook or YouTube. The authors, all of whom are involved in teacher education at Arizona State University, recognize that social networking is a potentially beneficial tool for educators and cite some of the ways in which experienced teachers have used it to enhance instruction, to establish deeper relationships with students or to remind students of deadlines and quizzes. But the inability of some to understand that teachers are held to a higher standard of moral behavior than the general population has resulted in a growing number of incidents that are affecting the entire profession, as careers are ruined by a nude photo, intemperate remarks about professional frustrations, reference to sex or alcohol or use of profanity. State certification procedures often mandate that teachers shall not "engage in conduct which would discredit the teaching profession." The Ohio Education Association is now strongly discouraging its members from joining social networking sites. U.S. courts, while recognizing the free speech rights of teachers, balance those rights against the ability of the government employer to maintain an efficiently-run organization. The authors want teacher preparation and in-service programs to make all teachers aware of the public nature of the Internet and of the negative impact exposing their personal lives can have on their careers." *Heather L. Carter is a clinical assistant professor in the College of Teacher Education and Leadership at Arizona State University, Phoenix. Teresa S. Foulger is an assistant professor and Ann Dutton Ewbank is education liaison librarian at Arizona State University, Glendale.*

*Views expressed in the articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect U.S. government policies.*