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It covers (1) U.S. Federal government documents, especially those from executive branch departments and those from the Congressional branch - - Committees, the U.S. General Accounting Office, and the Congressional Budget Office; (2) policy briefs from major private think tanks, especially those in Washington; and (3) major reports from national professional associations. A few new high quality, high relevance think tank-sponsored books are also listed.

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## Reports

### Item#1

The American Public on the 9/11 Decade: A Study of American Public Opinion. Anwar Sadat Chair, University of Maryland and Brookings Institution. Steven Kull and Shibley Telhami. September 8, 2011.

Six in ten Americans believe that the United States weakened its economy by overspending in its responses to the 9/11 attacks. In particular, respondents felt this was especially true of the U.S. mission in Iraq. Two out of three Americans perceive that over the decade since 9/11, U.S. power and influence in the world has declined. This view is highly correlated with the belief that the U.S. overspent in its post-9/11 response efforts - the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Since 9/11, American views of Islam have grown more negative. However, views of Arab and Muslim people are moderately warm, and majorities continue to feel that the attacks of 9/11 do not represent mainstream thinking within Islam and that it is possible to find common ground between Islam and the West.

*[Note: contains copyrighted material].*

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2011/0908\\_opinion\\_poll\\_telhami/0908\\_opinion\\_poll\\_telhami.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2011/0908_opinion_poll_telhami/0908_opinion_poll_telhami.pdf) [PDF format, 18 pages].

### Item#2

China's Emergence in the World Economy and Business Cycles in Latin America. Inter-American Development Bank. Ambrogio Cesa-Bianchi et al. September 2011.

The paper investigates how changes in trade linkages between China, Latin America, and the rest of the world have altered the transmission of international business cycles to Latin America. Evidence based on a GVAR model for five large Latin American economies shows that the long-term impact of a China GDP shock on the typical Latin American economy has increased by three times since the mid-1990s, while the long-term impact of a US GDP shock has halved, while the transmission of shocks to Latin America and the rest of emerging Asia GDP (excluding China and India) has not changed. These changes owe more changes in China's impact on Latin America's traditional and largest trading partners than to increased direct bilateral trade linkages boosted by the decade-long commodity price boom. These findings have important implications for both Latin America and the international business cycle.

*[Note: contains copyrighted material].*

<http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?docnum=36397788> [PDF format, 67 pages].

### Item#3

Education, Demand, and Unemployment in Metropolitan America. Brookings Institution. Jonathan Rothwell and Alan Berube. September 2011.

Inadequate demand and inadequate education, relative to available occupations, are both hampering economic recovery in U.S. metropolitan areas. With a still weakened private sector, strategic public investment and regional economic diversification can help address the first problem. Yet even when the economy recovers, longer-term "structural unemployment" will linger in some metropolitan areas because of mismatches between the supply of, and demand for, educated workers. Solutions to that problem include boosting educational attainment, enhancing the skills of workers, and increasing

demand for less educated workers by providing public goods needed by industries like manufacturing and the "green" economy.

*[Note: contains copyrighted material].*

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0909\\_skills\\_unemployment\\_rothwell/0909\\_skills\\_unemployment\\_rothwell.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0909_skills_unemployment_rothwell/0909_skills_unemployment_rothwell.pdf) [PDF format, 21 pages].

#### Item#4

European Parliament Should Back EU-U.S. Passenger Name Record Agreement. The Heritage Foundation. Sally McNamara. September 6, 2011.

The EU-U.S. passenger name record (PNR) agreement, implemented in the wake of 9/11, is an information-sharing program requiring that key pieces of data on travelers to the U.S. be provided to American authorities prior to their arrival in the U.S. This information must be provided under U.S. law, and in May 2004, the EU and the U.S. entered into a formal agreement stating that airlines operating U.S.-bound flights would provide U.S. authorities with travelers' data contained in their reservation systems before a flight's departure. The author urges that the U.S. must remain vigilant against terrorism. Since 9/11, there have been *at least* 39 foiled plots against the U.S., which Heritage Foundation analysts claim is a result of enhanced information sharing and intelligence gathering.

*[Note: contains copyrighted material].*

<http://www.heritage.org/Research/Reports/2011/09/EU-US-Passenger-Name-Records-and-the-European-Parliament> [HTML format, various paging].

#### Item#5

From Hyperpower to Declining Power: Changing Global Perceptions of the U.S. in the Post-Sept. 11 Era. Pew Global Attitudes Project. Richard Wike. September 7, 2011.

Early in the post-Sept. 11 era, the projection of American military strength led to pervasive fears of an unleashed, and unchecked, hyperpower. More recently, however, the global financial crisis has turned the spotlight to America's declining economic prowess and perceptions of a great power in decline.

*[Note: contains copyrighted material].*

<http://www.pewglobal.org/2011/09/07/from-hyperpower-to-declining-power/?src=prc-headline> [HTML format, various paging].

#### Item#6

The Great Unraveling: A Portrait of the Middle Class. Demos. September 8, 2011.

The American Dream used to mean that if you put in a hard day's work, you could expect good wages, benefits, and a better life for your kids. But the kinds of jobs that can provide a solid middle-class life in return for hard work are in short supply-unemployment remains high, earnings are volatile, and hard-won benefits are being lost. For the first time, the majority of Americans believe their children will not be better off than them. The future of the middle class, which has been the backbone of our nation's economy for more than half a century, is at risk, according to the report.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.demos.org/pubs/Final\\_Natl\\_brief.pdf](http://www.demos.org/pubs/Final_Natl_brief.pdf) [PDF format, 14 pages].

#### Item#7

Household Food Security in the United States in 2010. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Alisha Coleman-Jensen et al. September 7, 2011.

An estimated 85.5 percent of American households were food secure throughout the entire year in 2010, meaning that they had access at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members. The remaining households (14.5 percent) were food insecure at least some time during the year, including 5.4 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. The prevalence rate of very low food security declined from 5.7 percent in 2009, while the change in food insecurity overall (from 14.7 percent in 2009) was not statistically significant. The typical food-secure household spent 27 percent more on food than the typical food-insecure household of the same size and household composition. Fifty-nine percent of all food-insecure households participated in one or more of the three largest Federal food and nutrition assistance programs during the month prior to the 2010 survey.

<http://www.era.usda.gov/Publications/ERR125/ERR125.pdf> [PDF format, 37 pages].

#### Item#8

Is the Safety Net Catching Unemployed Families? Urban Institute. Austin Nichols and Sheila R. Zedlewski. September 13, 2011.

The vast majority of unemployed families received some help from core safety net programs in 2009. Among those experiencing unemployment, receipt of unemployment benefits doubled between 2005 and 2009. Enrollment in the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) also increased. Public Assistance played a limited role in unemployed families' lives. About 15 percent of low-work, unemployed families got no help from the safety net. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 clearly helped to strengthen the safety net. This extra help has mostly ended, leaving many families to contend with high unemployment and a frayed safety net.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412397-Is-the-Safety-Net-Catching-Unemployed-Families.pdf> [PDF format, 8 pages].

#### Item#9

Most Plan to Watch Obama Jobs Speech: Early Republican Debate Draws Strong GOP Interest. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. September 6, 2011.

Nearly six-in-ten Americans (58%) say they plan to watch President Obama's speech Thursday night to a joint session of Congress about his plans to spur job growth and help the struggling national economy. Not surprisingly, fewer plan to watch Wednesday night's debate in California among the candidates for

the 2012 Republican presidential nomination. Four-in-ten (40%) say they plan to watch the debate, while 57% say they do not plan to watch.

*[Note: contains copyrighted material].*

<http://people-press.org/files/legacy-pdf/09-06-11%20Plan%20to%20Watch%20FINAL.pdf> [PDF format, 4 pages].

#### Item#10

The Muslim-American Muddle. Brookings Institution. Peter Skerry. Fall 2011.

A decade after 9/11, America has reached a political and intellectual stalemate regarding the Muslims in its midst. Many Americans continue to fear their Muslim neighbors and fellow citizens, if not as potential terrorists then as terrorist sympathizers or, more generally, as the bearers of an alien culture shared by America's enemies.

*[Note: contains copyrighted material].*

[http://www.brookings.edu/articles/2011/09\\_muslim\\_americans\\_skerry.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/articles/2011/09_muslim_americans_skerry.aspx) [HTML format, various paging].

#### Item#11

Return of the Eurozone Crisis. Council on Foreign Relations. Christopher Alessi. September 7, 2011.

Sharp new fears of an escalation in eurozone debt troubles have intensified debate over whether to spur fiscal integration or risk a wider crisis with serious consequences for U.S. financial markets, experts say.

*[Note: contains copyrighted material].*

<http://www.cfr.org/financial-crises/return-eurozone-crisis/p25769> [HTML format, various paging].

#### Item#12

Social Media and Disasters: Current Uses, Future Options, and Policy Considerations. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Bruce R. Lindsay. September 6, 2011.

The development of new technologies that have emerged since the mid-1990s has led to Internet-based applications known as "social media" that enable people to interact and share information through media that were non-existent or widely unavailable 15 years ago. In the last five years social media have played an increasing role in emergencies and disasters.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/homesec/R41987.pdf> [PDF format, 13 pages].

#### Item#13

Ten Years After 9/11 - A World of Change. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Jessica Tuchman Mathews et al. September 8, 2011.

One year after 9/11, seventeen Carnegie experts assessed the significance of the attacks and their aftermath. Ten years after 9/11, the same Carnegie experts revisit their original findings and analyze the impact of the historic moment.

*[Note: contains copyrighted material].*

<http://carnegieendowment.org/2011/09/08/ten-years-after-9-11-world-of-change/51k9> [HTML format with a link].

#### Item#14

Views of Parties' Ideologies: More Now See GOP as Very Conservative. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. September 12, 2011.

Though voters' views of the ideologies of the political parties have shifted little since the summer of 2010, an increasing number see the Republican Party as very conservative, while slightly fewer see the Democratic Party as very liberal. In 2010, somewhat more, on balance, viewed the Democratic Party as very liberal than said the GOP was very conservative (26% vs. 18%). Currently, nearly identical percentages view the Democratic Party as very liberal and the Republican Party as very conservative (22%, 23% respectively).

*[Note: contains copyrighted material].*

[http://people-press.org/files/legacy-pdf/9-12-11%20Party%20Ideology\\_1.pdf](http://people-press.org/files/legacy-pdf/9-12-11%20Party%20Ideology_1.pdf) [PDF format, 8 pages].