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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

ARE FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS CONTAGIOUS? National Bureau of Economic Research. Richard Baldwin and Danny Jaimovich. June 2010.

The paper presents a new model of the domino effect which is used to generate an empirical index of how “contagious” FTAs are with respect to third nations. The report finds that contagion is present in the data and is robust to various econometric specifications and samples.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/bYKvCj> [PDF format, 35 pages].

#### Item#2

BUILDING A U.S. COAST GUARD FOR THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY. Center for American Progress. Lawrence J. Korb et al. June 9, 2010.

The authors outline challenges facing the Coast Guard and how the federal government can work to address them. The report demonstrates that meeting all the sets of challenges, as set out on the report, is crucial to the defense of our nation and the security and safety of not just our coastal waterways but also Coast Guard operations in international waters.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/9JAaSL> [PDF format, 58 pages].

#### Item#3

THE BUSINESS CASE FOR CLIMATE LEGISLATION. Pew Center on Global Climate Change. June 2010.

In recent years, leading businesses have emerged as some of the strongest advocates for passage of national climate and energy legislation that mandates reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The analysis explains why an unprecedented number of businesses are supporting passage of clean energy and climate legislation.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/aelp46> [PDF format, 16 pages].

#### Item#4

HIDDEN DISADVANTAGE: ASIAN AMERICAN UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE GREAT RECESSION. Economic Policy Institute. Algernon Austin. Web posted June 2, 2010.

Asian Americans experience a complex mix of advantages and disadvantages in finding employment. Asian Americans in the labor force are advantaged in that a large share of them have bachelor's and advanced degrees. In contrast, they also have a larger share of workers than whites without high school

diplomas. Asian Americans with bachelor's degrees only have a higher unemployment rate than whites with bachelor's degrees. Asian American high school dropouts, however, are more successful than white dropouts at finding work. These advantages and disadvantages sum to a net disadvantage for Asian American workers.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/dwwVnY> [PDF format, 11 pages].

#### Item#5

HOW MUCH OF THE WORLD'S ELECTRICITY SUPPLY IS GENERATED FROM WIND AND WHO ARE THE LEADING GENERATORS? Energy Information Administration. June 16, 2010.

Worldwide wind power generation exceeded 200 billion kilowatt hours in 2008, which is equivalent to the annual electricity consumption of over 18 million average households in the United States. Wind generation increased by about 25% from 2007 to 2008, and has more than tripled since 2003. This growth is mostly due to capacity increases in the United States, China, India, and Western Europe. Despite this growth, the world still generated less than 1% of its total electricity from wind power in 2008.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/adbkj> [HTML format, various paging].

#### Item#6

MARRIED FATHERS: AMERICA'S GREATEST WEAPON AGAINST CHILD POVERTY. The Heritage Foundation. Robert Rector. June 16, 2010.

The mainstream media, liberal politicians, activists, and academia bewail child poverty in the U.S. But in these ritual lamentations, one key fact remains hidden: The principal cause of child poverty in the U.S. is the absence of married fathers in the home. According to the U.S. Census, the poverty rate in 2008 for single parents with children was 35.6 percent. The rate for married couples with children was 6.4 percent. Being raised in a married family reduces a child's probability of living in poverty by about 80 percent.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/cUdqCD> [HTML format, various paging].

#### Item#7

NORTH KOREA: U.S. RELATIONS, NUCLEAR DIPLOMACY, AND INTERNAL SITUATION. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Emma Chanlett-Avery and Mi Ae Taylor. May 26, 2010.

North Korea has been among the most vexing and persistent problems in U.S. foreign policy in the post-Cold War period. The U.S. has never had formal diplomatic relations with the Democratic People's

Republic of Korea (the official name for North Korea). Negotiations over North Korea's nuclear weapons program have consumed the past three U.S. administrations, even as some analysts anticipated a collapse of the isolated authoritarian regime. North Korea has been the recipient of billions of dollars of U.S. aid and the target of dozens of U.S. sanctions. The report provides background information on the nuclear negotiations over North Korea's nuclear weapons program that began in the early 1990s under the Clinton Administration.

Full Text.

<http://go.usa.gov/3mT> [PDF format, 17 pages].

#### Item#8

OBAMA MORE POPULAR ABROAD THAN AT HOME, GLOBAL IMAGES OF U.S. CONTINUES TO BENEFIT. Pew Global Attitudes Project. June 17, 2010.

U.S. favorability ratings remain high in Western Europe and have increased markedly in China and Russia. But opinions remain negative in many Muslim nations. Mexican views of the U.S. tumbled following passage of Arizona's immigration law. Confidence in Obama is high across much of the world, but support for his handling of specific policies is less widespread. With the exception of China, India and Brazil, people nearly everywhere say their national economy is doing poorly.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/d3VbFU> [PDF format, 176 pages].

#### Item#9

THE OIL SPILL AND AMERICAN CONSUMERS, BP'S OTHER ACCOMPLICE. Brookings Institution. Charles K. Ebinger and Kevin Massy. June 17, 2010.

As Tony Hayward, BP's beleaguered chief executive, made the trek up to Capitol Hill today to appear before the House Energy Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, he faced variations on a familiar line of questioning. What was BP, a foreign company, doing cavorting around in U.S. waters, blithely drilling holes miles beneath the surface without so much as a back-up plan if things went wrong?

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/cQZV4x> [HTML format, various paging].

#### Item#10

POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL ON SEA TURTLES. Oceana. Elizabeth Griffin Wilson. June 10, 2010.

The report finds the Deepwater Horizon oil spill extremely dangerous for sea turtles inhabiting the Gulf of Mexico. Specifically, sea turtles can become coated in oil or inhale volatile chemicals when they surface to breathe, swallow oil or contaminated prey, and swim through oil or come in contact with it on nesting beaches. "Sea turtles can suffer both internal and external injuries from contact with oil or chemical dispersants," says the author. "In addition to regulating bycatch in commercial fisheries and

protecting critical habitat areas, the U.S. government can now add ‘preventing future oil spills’ to its list of essential sea turtle protections.”

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/a8WZkl> [PDF format, 14 pages].

#### Item#11

THE RUSSIA FACTOR IN TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONS AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR U.S.-EU-RUSSIA COOPERATION. Brookings Institution. Manfred Huterer. Web posted June 8, 2010.

In November 2009, Germany celebrated the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. Germany’s reunification and the collapse of the Soviet Union ended the Cold War. And yet two major pieces of unfinished cold war business remain, two decades after the fall of communism: Fitting Russia into a pan-European security framework and finding a place for the other post-Soviet states. The assumption that a democratizing Russia would quickly integrate into Western structures has proven wrong. The difficulty of anchoring Russia into Euroatlantic structures has been affected by the fact that Russia has proved to be one of the most divisive issues within the EU 27.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/aDpeU5> [PDF format, 37 pages].

#### Item#12

TRACKING ECONOMIC RECESSION AND RECOVERY IN AMERICA’S 100 LARGEST METROPOLITAN AREAS. Brookings Institution. Howard Wial and Richard Shearer. June 14, 2010.

Two and a half years after the Great Recession began, the nation’s economic recovery remains jobless and seems more fragile than ever. Inflation-adjusted gross domestic product (GDP) grew at a moderate 3.0 percent annual rate in the first quarter of 2010, down from a 5.6 percent annual growth rate in the last quarter of 2009. Housing markets weakened, and the expiration in April of federal homebuyer tax credits could lead to further weakness later this year, says the authors.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/aFp3Hr> [PDF format, 23 pages].