



ARTICLE ROUND UP



The American Center Ho Chi Minh City is pleased to offer you **Article Round Up**, a monthly current awareness publication of the American Center, Public Affairs Section, U.S. Consulate General, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. It offers abstracts of approximately 25 current articles and policy briefs from leading American journals. The views expressed in the articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect U.S. government policies.

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SEPTEMBER 2012

SPOTLIGHT: THE 67TH SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. President Obama's Address at 67th U.N. General Assembly

"We must affirm that our future will be determined by people like Chris Stevens, and not by his killers," President Obama says in his opening remarks as he addresses the 67th session of the U.N. General Assembly in New York.

2. "Top Five Statements Obama Should Make to U.N."

[Ambassador Terry Miller](#), et al. *Heritage Issue Brief#3739*, September 24, 2012, 2 pages. With anti-American protests continuing throughout the Islamic world and setbacks to key U.S. foreign policy goals, the authors offer five suggestions, which are core challenges for advancing the causes of freedom, peace, and prosperity, for President Obama to address the U.N. General Assembly on September 25th.

Full text is currently available at: <http://goo.gl/L52sc>

3. "The United Nations and the Future of Global Governance"

[Gordon S. Smith](#), et al. *Council on Foreign Relations*, September 24, 2012, 6 pages. The sixty-seventh UN General Assembly, now under way, is expected to address issues like the rule of law at the national and international levels, and the Palestinian Authority's bid for non-member state recognition. Four experts contribute their thoughts about the role of the United Nations and the future of global governance.

Full text is currently available at: <http://goo.gl/dGBOF>

ECONOMICS DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA

4. "Asia's Role in Twenty-First-Century Global Economic Governance"

Srinivasa Madhur. *International Affairs*, July 2012, 17 pages. Can Asia play a much bigger role in shaping global economic governance in the twenty-first century than it did in the latter half of the twentieth? What challenges would Asian countries face in playing such a role? The author discusses challenges that Asian policy-makers would need to address if they were to enable the region to play a much bigger role in shaping global economic governance.

5. "Working on, Through and Around the State: The Deep Marketization of Development in the Asia-Pacific"

[Toby Carroll](#). *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, August 2012, 27 pages.

The author, a senior research fellow at Centre on Asia and Globalization, explores an important new push by international financial institutions towards broadening and deepening capitalist social relations in the developing countries in ways well beyond Washington Consensus structural adjustment or even post-Washington Consensus forms of institutionally-oriented "participatory neo-liberalism."

GLOBAL ECONOMY

6. "How to Prevent Other Financial Crises"

[Nassim Nicholas Taleb](#) and [George A. Martin](#). *The SAIS Review of International Affairs*, Winter-Spring 2012, 12 pages.

The authors analyze the varied behaviors, ideas and effects that in combination created a financial meltdown, and discuss the players responsible for the consequences and the best risk-management rule.

7. "How to Succeed in Business: And Why Washington Should Really Try"

[Alexander Benard](#). *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2012, 11 pages.

The author, Director of Gryphon Partners, examines U.S. commercial diplomacy and how to help U.S. firms compete with China's state-owned corporations for private-sector dominance in emerging markets.

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

8. "Head of State"

[Susan B. Glasser](#). *Foreign Policy*, July/August 2012, 10 pages.

What Hillary Clinton has actually been up to as Secretary of State? Will she run in the presidential election in 2016? Here is an exclusive interview with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton about the art of diplomacy in the Twitter era, her advocacy of a strategic U.S. "pivot" to Asia, and her accomplishments in the last four years.

U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2012

9. "Republican Elites and Foreign Policy Attitudes"

[Joshua W. Busby](#) and [Jonathan Monten](#). *Political Science Quarterly*, Spring 2012, 38 pages.

The authors discuss the foreign policy attitudes of those which they call the elites of the U.S. Republican Party in the latter 20th century and early 21st century.

10. "Obama and Romney: The Path to the Presidency"

[Jon Decker](#). *Policy Review*, August/September 2012, 13 pages.

The author, a media fellow at the Hoover Institution, discusses the 2012 U.S. presidential election campaigns of President Barack Obama and former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney in the pursuit of votes in the U.S. Electoral College.

11. "Can Obama Be Beaten?"

James W. Thomson. *USA Today Magazine*, July 2012, 2 pages.

With the high unemployment and economic problem, does U.S. President Barack Obama have a chance of being re-elected in the 2012 election? The author, a freelance writer, discusses the factors that will determine the winners and losers.

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

12. "Living High"

[Sarah Williams Goldhagen](#). *The New Republic*, June 7, 2012, 4 pages.

Can a high-rise, high density residential tower ever become more than an oversized packing crate for people, or even a desirable place to live for anyone but the super-rich? The author, a historian of modern and contemporary architecture, examines the challenges of high-rise residential buildings and architectural designs for innovative residential-tower complexes in Asia.

13. "A Global Synthesis Reveals Biodiversity Loss as a Major Driver of Ecosystem Change"

[David U. Hooper](#), et al. *Nature*, June 7, 2012, 4 pages.

The authors examine how the effects of species loss on productivity and decomposition are of comparable magnitude to the effects of many other global environmental changes, using two approaches -- meta-analysis of effect sizes from biodiversity experiments, plus direct comparison of effect sizes from factorial experiments that examine both biodiversity loss and other global change factors.

HEALTH

14. "Can Technology Save Breakfast?"

Corby Kummer. *Smithsonian*, June 2012, 12 pages.

Focusing on breakfast cereals, the author discusses the potential of technology to create less processed foods, closer to their natural state, and explores the possibility of a reduction in artificial coloring.

15. "Waiting to Explode"

[Fred Guterl](#). *Scientific American*, June 2012, 6 pages.

The author, an executive editor of *Scientific American*, explores the debate about restrictions on research versus open inquiry that was sparked by the creation of a genetically engineered bird influenza virus with the potential to spread easily among human beings.

JOURNALISM AND SOCIAL MEDIA

16. "This Isn't CNN"

[Daniel Foster](#). *National Review*, July 30, 2012, 2 pages.

The author discusses why viewership for the CNN cable-television network has fallen dramatically and the challenge from social media when covering breaking news stories.

17. "The Voice of God is Dead"

[Jena Heath](#). *American Journalism Review*, March/April 2012, 6 pages.

The author, a veteran news editor, discusses the role of tone and voice in newswriting as a result of the influence of the Internet, the use of innovative techniques in journalistic writing, the danger of political bias on the part of reporters, and U.S. public opinion regarding journalistic objectivity.

18. "The Call of the Future"

[Tom Vanderbilt](#). *The Wilson Quarterly*, Spring 2012, 5 pages.

The author of the 2008 book *Traffic: Why We Drive the Way We Do (and What It Says About Us)* discusses the potential social impact of the Internet and mobile technology as means of communication as of 2012, and how smart phones interrupt personal interaction.

19. "The Facebook Fallacy"

[Michael Wolff](#). *Technology Review*, August 2012, 3 pages.

The author, a contributing editor to *Vanity Fair*, discusses online advertising and Facebook, focusing on how the nature of people's behavior on the Web and of how they interact with advertising, as well as the character of those ads themselves and their inability to command attention, has meant a marked decline in advertising's impact.

EDUCATION

20. "7 Things You Should Know About Educational Design Research"

Thomas C. Reeves. *EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative (ELI)*, August 6, 2012, 2 pages.

Educational design research (EDR) addresses educational problems in real-world settings and has two primary goals: to develop knowledge and to develop solutions. EDR tends to evolve through three main phases—analysis, design, and evaluation—each of which may be repeated multiple times. EDR is particularly powerful because it addresses real needs in the here-and-now through the development of a solution to a problem, while also generating knowledge that can be used in the future. It can offer researchers and practitioners the opportunity to produce interventions of real value—tools, approaches, theories, and products—tested in the field and shown to be effective.

21. "Learning Analytics: Moving from Concept to Practice"

Malcolm Brown. *EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative (ELI)*, July 19, 2012, 5 pages.

This ELI Brief describes the evolution of learning analytics (LA) over the past year, drawing on two major recent conferences devoted to the theme of learning analytics: the ELI 2012 Spring Focus Session (SFS) and the second Learning Analytics and Knowledge conference. The paper discusses the ways in which LA differs from other kinds of analytics; different kinds of indicators and their relative predictive value; visualizations of the findings from and LA program; and the kinds of interventions that might be included in an effective analytics initiative.

22. "Why Online Education Won't Replace College--Yet"

[David Youngberg](#). *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, August 17, 2012, 3 pages.

The author, an assistant professor of economics at Bethany College, explores the role of online courses in higher education and the consortium of universities offering them in a project called Massive Open Online Courses, which is provided through a technology company Udacity, and discusses the need for higher education to adapt to online models.

23. "Top-Ten IT Issues 2012"

[Susan Grajek](#) and [Judith A. Pirani](#). *Educause Review*, May/June 2012, 13 pages.

The authors explore the 10 major information technology issues for 2012 in higher education including issues that are essential for strategic success, those that grow in significance, and those that need high human and financial resources.

LIBRARY TRENDS

24. "The Library of Utopia"

[Nicholas Carr](#). *Technology Review*, June 2012, 7 pages.

As Google's ambitious book-scanning program is foundering in the courts, the author, a contributing writer, discusses a universal online library and its challenge, focusing on the Digital Public Library of America, launched by a Harvard University-led group and its effort to put literary heritage online.

25. "Strategic Information about Database Content"

[Marydee Ojala](#). *Online*. May/June 2012, 3 pages.

The author, an editor of *Online*, discusses the features and advantages of subscription databases for information professionals, focusing on some of the most notable databases including EBSCO, Factiva, ProQuest and LexisNexis.