



ARTICLE ROUND UP



The American Center Ho Chi Minh City is pleased to offer you **Article Round Up**, a monthly current events 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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FEBRUARY 2013

SPOTLIGHT: BLACK HISTORY MONTH

1. "Growing Up Colored"

Gates Jr., Henry Louis. *American Heritage*, Summer 2012, Vol. 62, Issue 2, 7 pages.

A personal narrative is presented in which the author discusses his memories of growing up as an African American in West Virginia in the 1950s.

2. "American Blues Music Formed by Pain to Cure Pain"

Stephen Kaufman. *IIP Digital*, 30 January 2013, 3 pages.

By design, blues music takes its name from a state of feeling depressed or melancholy. Its purpose, for both the performer and the listener, is to overcome those feelings and lift spirits. As legendary blues guitarist B.B. King describes it, "The blues is pain, but it's pain that brings joy."

Read more: <http://iipdigital.usembassy.gov/st/english/article/2013/01/20130129141599.html#ixzz2Ly6DIjny>

ECONOMICS

3. "The Inequality Challenge"

[Uri Dadush](#) and [Kemal Dervis](#). *Current History*, January 2013, 8 pages.

How does the inequality trend in the United States compare with other countries? The authors examine the trend of rising inequality and identify steps to meet the challenge.

4. "An Enduring Recession?"

[Herbert J. Gans](#). *Challenge*, January/February 2013, 16 pages.

What if the jobs market remains weak for the rest of the decade? And where will the pressure come from to create political programs directed at jobs? The author, the Robert S. Lynd Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Columbia University, discusses the possibility of the enduring Great Recession and its economic, social, and political effects.

5. "It's Economics, Stupid"

[Iqbal Z. Quadir](#). *Harvard International Review*, Winter 2013, 6 pages.

The author, the Founder and Director of the Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, discusses the use of mobile phone as a tool for economic advancement and the economic impact of mobile phones on low-income countries.

6. "Currency Manipulation, the US Economy, and the Global Economic Order"

[C. Fred Bergsten](#) and [Joseph E. Gagnon](#). *PIIE Policy Brief 12-25*, December 2012, 25 pages.

The authors examine foreign currency manipulation, the global economic rebalance, and the U.S. role in reducing or eliminating manipulators' intervention. He then offers four new policy measures against manipulators.

ASIA

7. "Five Ways John Kerry Can Transform US Foreign Policy Toward Asia"

[Matt Stumpf](#). *Asia Society*, February 5, 2013, 3 pages.

With its economic vitality and deep-seated security challenges, there is no region more important for American prosperity and security in the 21st century than Asia. At a potentially transformative time for the region, though, American and Asian leaders need to work together to set transformative goals. The author, Asia Society D.C. Office Director, offers five ways Secretary Kerry can start.

Read the full article: <http://asiasociety.org/blog/asia/five-ways-john-kerry-can-transform-us-foreign-policy-toward-asia>

8. "Asia's New Age of Instability"

[Michael Wesley](#). *National Interest*, November/December 2012, 9 pages.

The author, a non-resident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, discusses the U.S. foreign policy toward Asia from the late 20th century to 2012, with a particular focus on Asia's putative instability.

9. "Is an "ASEAN Community" Achievable?"

Ravichandran Moorthy and Guido Benny. *Asian Survey*, November/December 2012, 24 pages.

The authors examine the establishment of an Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Community and obstacles facing regional integration in Southeast Asia, focusing on how the people in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore view the concept of "community building," and the obstacles this initiative may encounter.

10. "Rich Donors, Poor Countries"

[M. A. Thomas](#). *Policy Review*, October/November 2012, 13 pages.

The author, an associate professor of international development at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at the Johns Hopkins University, discusses foreign aid donations given to developing countries, and why the government policies developed by wealthy nations cannot be replicated in poorer countries.

GLOBAL ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

11. "Renewable Energy and East Asia's New Developmentalism: Towards a Low Carbon Future?"

[Christopher M. Dent](#). *Pacific Review*, December 2012, 27 pages.

The author analyzes the promotion and expansion of East Asia's renewable energy sector as part of a new industrial policy paradigm and new developmentalism, and what the study of East Asian

policies on promoting renewable energy can tell about the region's broader approach to low carbon development.

12. "Global Warming: Faster Than Expected?"

[John Carey](#). *Scientific American*, November 2012, 6 pages.

The author, a former senior correspondent for Business Week, discusses the predicted rate of global warming, which could be affected by global feedback mechanisms such as the alteration of ocean currents due to meltwater, the release of carbon dioxide and methane from permafrost in Alaska and Siberia, and the global loss of ice.

13. "Good Gas Bad Gas"

Marianne Lavelle. *National Geographic*, December 2012, 19 pages.

Is methane the fuel of the future or a climate bomb? The author examines natural gas and global warming, focusing on the potential environmental dangers posed by using hydraulic fracturing to prospect natural gas resources in world.

14. "How We Could Blow the Energy Boom"

[Jeffrey Leonard](#). *Washington Monthly*, November/December 2012, 6 pages.

The author, CEO of the Global Environment Fund, discusses the surplus of natural gas extracted from shale rock in the United States and how it could lead to greater prosperity and a cleaner environment.

15. "A Billion People in the Dark"

[Kevin Bullis](#). *Technology Review*, November/December 2012, 7 pages.

The author discusses electricity generated through solar-powered microgrids in developing countries and how to bring energy services to off-grid communities.

16. "The Avian and Wildlife Costs of Fossil Fuels and Nuclear Power"

[Benjamin K. Sovacool](#). *Journal of Integrative Environmental Sciences*, December 2012, 24 pages.

The author, a visiting associate professor at Vermont Law School, examines the connection between wind energy and natural environment, focusing on the impact of wind compared to nuclear power and fossil-fuelled power systems energy on wildlife, particularly birds.

SOCIAL MEDIA

17. "Fake Online Reviews"

Corilee Christou. *Searcher*, November 2012, 10 pages.

The author discusses the growing number of online reviews and its influence on buying behavior and purchasing decisions of computer users and shoppers, and offers guidelines for identifying bogus reviews.

18. "The Rise of "Great Potential""

Aashika Damodar. *Harvard International Review*, Fall 2012, 5 pages.

The author discusses how powerful combinations of online and offline tactics have helped create sustained youth-led movements against gender-based violence, and attempts to open the parameters of what social media and connective technologies can do for youth and youth activists.

19. "In the Rear-View Mirror but Still On Our Minds"

[Colin Delany](#). *Campaigns & Elections*, November/December 2012, 2 pages.

The author, a founder of Epolitics.com, examines the use of digital media in the 2012 U.S. elections in spreading messages and engaging supporters, and the role played by data-mining and

microtargeting techniques in the presidential campaign.

EDUCATION

20. "Can Technology Replace Teachers?"

[Ian Quillen](#). *Education Digest*, December 2012, 7 pages.

The author discusses the U.S. educational debate over the replacement of teachers with a digital option, such as distance education and videoconferencing, noting the potential impact on educational quality.

21. "Online Educational Delivery Models: A Descriptive View"

[Phil Hill](#). *Educause Review*, November/December 2012, 10 pages.

What does the emerging landscape of educational delivery models look like? The author discusses factors in incorporating new online educational delivery models by universities and offers a descriptive view to capture the growing number of approaches enabled by educational technology.

22. "The Crisis in Higher Education"

[Nicholas Carr](#). *Technology Review*, November/December 2012, 8 pages.

Online versions of college courses are attracting hundreds of thousands of students and millions of dollars in funding. Has technology at last advanced to the point where the revolutionary promise of distance learning can be fulfilled? The author discusses distance learning and revolution in higher education.

LIBRARY TRENDS

23. "As Libraries Go Digital, Sharing of Data Conflicts with Tradition of Privacy"

[Marc Parry](#). *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, November 9, 2012, 5 pages.

The author discusses how technological innovations may affect the library patrons' rights to privacy, as concerns from scholars have prompted academic librarians to consider if tracking the reading habits of its patrons -- made available due to the advent of electronic books and readers-- through social media websites and the Internet may violate the privacy rights of individuals.

24. "Beyond Traditional Literacy Instruction"

David Cirella. *Computers in Libraries*, December 2012, 4 pages.

The author, a librarian at the West Haven Public Library in Connecticut, discusses the need for account-based literacy training curriculum to ensure that library patrons are equipped to protect their privacy, preserve their data, and have a sense of efficacy in the face of the digital migration of their personal information, communications, and data.