

ARTICLE ALERT



INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER, U.S. EMBASSY, JAKARTA

Volume 1, January 2010

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Internet Freedom



Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton delivered remarks on Internet Freedom on Thursday, January 21, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. at the Newseum, in Washington, D.C.

Internet Freedom Essential to Human Rights, Economic Prosperity

"We want to put these tools in the hands of people who will use them to advance democracy and human rights, to fight climate change and epidemics, to build global support for President Obama's goal of a world without nuclear weapons, to encourage sustainable economic development that lifts the people at the bottom up. That's why today I'm announcing that over the next year, we will work with partners in industry, academia, and nongovernmental organizations to establish a standing effort that will harness the power of connection technologies and apply them to our diplomatic goals. By relying on mobile phones, mapping applications, and other new tools, we can empower citizens and leverage our traditional diplomacy. We can address deficiencies in the current market for innovation." Currently available at <http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/135519.htm>

Online Resources on Internet Freedom and New Media

Unrestricted, Secure Internet Access Critical, United States Says by Stephen Kaufman

Link <http://www.america.gov/st/democracyhr-english/2010/January/20100114172447esnamfuak0.2396814.html?CP.rss=true>

Societies Free of Internet Censorship Are Stronger, Obama Says by Stephen Kaufman

Link <http://www.america.gov/st/peacesec-english/2009/November/20091116114511esnamfuak0.1158716.html>

Media Making Change

Currently available at <http://www.america.gov/publications/ejournalusa.html#mmc>

Internet Freedom

Link <http://www.america.gov/internet-freedom.html>

21st Century Statecraft

Link: <http://www.state.gov/statecraft/>

Join the discussion

Blog: By the People

Internet Censorship: Bad for You, Bad for Business — 01/21/2010
Freedom, Religion, Politics: Where Do You Draw the Lines? — 01/15/2010
Currently available at : <http://blogs.america.gov/bythepeople/>

CO.NX on Twitter: @conx

Link: <http://twitter.com/conx>

About the IRC

The U.S. Embassy's Information Resource Center (IRC) in Jakarta is a specialized Reference and Research Library. Its goal is to provide accurate, up-to-date information to the public about topics such as U.S. foreign policy, legislation, social issues, economics and trade. High speed Internet computers, printer and photo copier are provided at the IRC for library users.

Books, articles, and websites described in the Article Alert present a diversity of views in order to keep our IRC users abreast of current issues in the United States. These items represent the views and opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official U.S. Government policy.

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eJournal USA is the U.S. State Department's monthly online magazine on just about everything you can imagine. Through eJournal USA facebook, we would love to hear what you have to say about our best stuff. So please feel free to tell us what you think. If you want to see more of our eJournals, go to: <http://www.america.gov/publications/ejournalusa.html>

Twitter



Link <http://twitter.com/americangov#popup>

Twitter is a free service that lets you keep in touch with people through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to one simple question: What's happening? Join today to start receiving America.gov's tweets.

DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

1. Connell, Christopher **ARE NEXT-GENERATION JOURNALISTS THE FUTURE FOR A PROFESSION IN TRANSITION?** (Carnegie Reporter, vol. 5, no. 3, Fall 2009, pp. 2-10)

The author, an independent journalist, focuses on News21, a multi-million-dollar experiment by Carnegie Corporation of New York and the James S. and John L. Knight Foundation, to determine if a new crop of journalists can awaken interest in news where older and more experienced journalists have failed. Connell believes

that to do this, they first need to study important issues, such as liberty and security, the role of religion in American life, the country's dramatically changing demographics, and then produce stories with all the multimedia tools that the digital age has to offer. Connell notes that this effort is taking place in a news environment in which entertainment dominates, and during recession that has seen the demise of several major newspapers and layoffs of reporters and editors. Available online at <http://carnegie.org/publications/carnegie-reporter/single/view/article/item/229/>

ECONOMIC SECURITY

2. Coleman, Isobel **THE BETTER HALF: HELPING WOMEN HELP THE WORLD** (Foreign Affairs, January/February 2010)

Coleman, Senior Fellow at the Council of Foreign Relations, writes that efforts to help women gain more economic and political power is more than a worthy moral crusade – it is probably the most effective means to promote development and stability around the world. In a review of Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn's new book, HALF THE SKY, Coleman remarks that it is now well-known among the international-development community that aid pro-

vided to women generates much greater benefits, because women are more likely to use it to improve their families' circumstances. Coleman notes that the fundamental challenge to improving the status of women is cultural -- Many people in the West too often ignore the problems confronting women in other parts of the world by dismissing, or even condoning, the oppressive practices there as those of a different culture ... Culture, in fact, is contested in every country, and societal norms are far from immutable." Currently available online at <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/65728/isobel-coleman/the-better-half>

U.S. SOCIETY & VALUES

3. Kramer, Paul A. **IS THE WORLD OUR CAMPUS? INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND U.S. GLOBAL POWER IN THE LONG TWENTIETH CENTURY** (Diplomatic History, vol. 33, no. 5, November 2009, pp. 775-806)

The author explores whether we should regard education only in terms of national interests or also in terms of potentially transnational group interests -- do we miss something if we focus on U.S. global power rather than the creation of a global elite? He suggests framing the issue of international education in terms of world history, class formation, capitalism, democracy, or globalization instead of in terms of history of U.S. foreign relations.

4. Theroux, Karen **STANDARDS FOR A NEW CENTURY** (Carnegie Reporter, vol. 5, no. 3, Fall 2009, pp. 28-34, 36)

The United States is preparing to switch from mostly local control of education to nationally aligned Common Core State Standards -- evidence-based, internationally benchmarked guidelines that are expected to transform teaching and learning across the country, allowing students uniform access to higher education and greater opportunity. Assessments and standards are inseparable, and innovation in testing and accountability is critical to transforming the education system. Available online at <http://carnegie.org/publications/carnegie-reporter/single/view/article/item/232/>

Religious Freedom Day, January 16



Each year, the President declares January 16th to be Religious Freedom Day, and calls upon Americans to "observe this day through appropriate events and activities in homes, schools, and places of worship." The day is the anniversary of the passage, in 1786, of the Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom.

Resources on Religious Freedom Day

Presidential Proclamation

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/presidential-proclamation-religious-freedom-day>

Blog: Talking Faith

Express your views on topics like freedom of faith and religious identity.

<http://blogs.america.gov/religion/>

eJournal USA: Freedom of Faith

This edition of eJournal USA examines how the nation adjusts to demographic changes to remain true to the principles of freedom of faith.

<http://www.america.gov/publications/ejournalusa/0808.html>

Reports

2009 Annual Report On International Religious Freedom

<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2009/index.htm>

Annual Report of The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom

<http://www.uscirf.gov/images/AR2009/final%20ar2009%20with%20cover.pdf>

ICRF Religious Freedom World Report: Indonesia
<http://www.religiousfreedom.com/>

Global Restrictions on Religion

<http://pewforum.org/newassets/images/reports/restrictions/restrictionsfullreport.pdf>

Religious Freedom and Freedom of Speech/Expression

U.S. Department of Education's Guidelines on Religious Expression in Public Schools

www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/religionandschools/prayer_guidance.html

Promoting Respect for Religious Differences

<http://www.america.gov/st/democracyhr-english/2010/January/20100107145323maduobbA0.3230249.html>

Uncomfortable Free Speech Part of Religious Freedom

<http://www.america.gov/st/democracyhr-english/2010/January/20100107122816maduobbA0.7642328.html>

Hate Speech Can Be Countered with Truth, Leadership

<http://www.america.gov/st/democracyhr-english/2010/January/20100111120321maduobbA0.8072016.html>

Freedoms of Religion and Speech Are Indivisible, Interdependent

<http://www.america.gov/st/democracyhr-english/2010/January/20100107145906maduobbA0.9937708.html>

Free Speech Must Be Balanced Against the Rights of Others

<http://www.america.gov/st/democracyhr-english/2010/January/20100107173951maduobbA0.7571833.html>

United States and Indonesia Staged First Interfaith Dialog



The United States and the Indonesian co-

sponsored a major interfaith conference in Jakarta, Indonesia during 25-27 January 2010. Influential religious leaders and civic organizations of different faiths met to discuss the topic of "Building Collaborative Communities: Enhancing Cooperation among People of Different Faiths." This was the first such conference held world-wide and presages a series of similar forums in other parts of the globe later this year.

Following up on President Obama's pledge to support increasing interfaith cooperation, this conference brought together top Indonesian religious leaders, prominent American religious figures, and a number of religious leaders from neighboring Asian countries. Several non-governmental organizations also participated. Participants focused on sharing best practices and enhancing collaboration in areas such as poverty alleviation, education, environmental protection, and local governance.

More info at:
<http://religionsforpeace.org/news/press/building-collaborative.html>

Information Resource Center
Public Affairs Section
U.S. Embassy Jakarta
Jl. Medan Merdeka Selatan 4-5
Jakarta Pusat 10110

Mailing Label

Phone: 021-350-8467
Fax: 021-350-8466
E-mail: ircjakarta@state.gov

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NOTICE TO ALL STATE ALUMNI

**The Embassy is looking for Alumni of all
U.S. government sponsored exchange programs.**

Please contact:

**Dudi Sukendar (SukendarDI@state.gov) or
Andum Purwanto (PurwantoAX@state.gov)**
with your updated contact information, including
e-mail, address and telephone numbers.

**NEXT ISSUE:
AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH 2010**

STATE ALUMNI
YOUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY