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- September/October 2011 -

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

REPORTS

2010 International Religious Freedom Report. U.S. Department of State. September 13, 2011.

Foreign Relations of the United States, 1969–1976, Volume XIII, Soviet Union, October 1970–October 1971. Office of the Historian, U.S. Department of State. October 2011.

Palestinian Initiatives for 2011 at the United Nations. Zanotti, Jim; Browne, Marjorie Ann. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. September 23, 2011.

The Palestinians: Background and U.S. Relations. Zanotti, Jim. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. August 30, 2011.

Unrest in Syria and U.S. Sanctions Against the Asad Regime. Sharp, Jeremy M.; Blanchard, Christopher M. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. September 22, 2011.

Arab Uprisings: The State of the Egyptian Revolution. Project on Middle East Political Science. September 7, 2011.

Iraq and US Strategy in the Gulf. Cordesman, Anthony H. Center for Strategic & International Studies. September 20, 2011.

Views expressed in the articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect U.S. government policies

Istanbul and Bonn Conferences: Building Blocks of the Afghan Transition Process. Sultan, Hodei. U.S. Institute of Peace. September 2011

Afghanistan Ten Years after 9/11: Counterterrorism Accomplishments while a Civil War Is Lurking?. Felbab-Brown, Vanda. The Brookings Institution. September 6, 2011.

Partners in Preventive Action: The United States and International Institutions. Stares, Paul B.; Zenko, Micah. Center for Preventive Action, Council on Foreign Relations. September 2011

The United States and India: A Shared Strategic Future. Council on Foreign Relations; Aspen Institute India. September 2011.

Rising Economic Powers and the Global Economy: Trends and Issues for Congress. Ahearn, Raymond J. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. August 22, 2011.

Making the Transition: From Middle-Income to Advanced Economies. Foxley, Alejandro; Sossdorf, Fernando. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. September 21, 2011.

Transatlantic Trends 2011. German Marshall Fund of the U.S.; Compagnia di San Paolo. September 14, 2011.

ARTICLES

Continuity and Change in the Obama Administration's National Security Strategy. Hemmer, Christopher. *Comparative Strategy*. July/August 2011.

After Bin Laden: Security Strategy and the Global Commons. Hart, Gary. *Survival*. August/September 2011.

American and European Responses to the Arab Spring: What's the Big Idea?. Dadush, Uri; Dunne, Michele. *The Washington Quarterly*. Fall 2011.

Transitions in the Arab World: Spring or Fall?. Sorenson, David S. *Strategic Studies Quarterly*. Fall 2011.

The Unbreakable Muslim Brotherhood: Grim Prospects for a Liberal Egypt. Trager, Eric. *Foreign Affairs*. September/October 2011.

Liberty, Democracy, and Discord in Egypt. Masoud, Tarek. *The Washington Quarterly*. Fall 2011.

The Difference Two Years Make. Biddle, Stephen. *The American Interest*. September/October 2011.

Provincial Reconstruction Teams in Eastern Afghanistan: Utility as a Strategic Counterinsurgency Tool. Kemp, Robert E. *Military Review*. September/October 2011.

Israel's Energy Security: Regional Implications. Gawdat, Bahgat. *Middle East Policy*. Fall 2011.

Women's Rights in the Muslim World and the Age of Obama. Nadimi, Peter P.; Wing, Adrien K. *Transnational Law & Contemporary Problems*. Summer 2011.

The Inevitable Superpower: Why China's Dominance Is a Sure Thing. Subramanian, Arvind. *Foreign Affair*s. September/October 2011.

The Black Hole of 9/11. Rothkopf, David J. *Foreign Policy*. August 29, 2011.

Russia, the 360-Degree Regional Power. Kuchins, Andrew C. *Current History*. October 2011.

Does the Euro have a Future?. Soros, George. *NY Review of Books*. October 13, 2011.

Taming and Reining in Cyberspace. Smith, Josh. *National Journal*. September 23, 2011.

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Living Within Our Means and Investing in the Future: The President's Plan for Economic Growth and Deficit Reduction. The White House. September 19, 2011.

Fact Sheet: The American Jobs Act. Office of the Press Secretary, The White House. September 8, 2011.

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

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Hispanic Media: Faring Better than the Mainstream Media. Guskin, Emily; Mitchell, Amy. Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. August 29, 2011.

How People Learn About Their Local Community. Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. September 26, 2011.

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All Over the Map. Lake, Eli. *The New Republic*. August 2011.

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Policing in the Post-9/11 Era. Walters, Jonathan. *Governing*. August 31, 2011.

The Plots that Failed: Intelligence Lessons Learned from Unsuccessful Terrorist Attacks Against the United States. Dahl, Erik. *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*. July 2011.

Reconsidering US Immigration Reform: The Temporal Principle of Citizenship. Cohen, Elizabeth F. *Perspectives on Politics*. Sep 2011.

New Campaign Technology Makes It a Small World, After All. Wilson, Reid. *The National Journal*. September 8, 2011.

In Memory's Mirror. Blight, David W. *The American Interest.* September/October 2011.

Gulf Coast Restoration: Can the Damaged Region Rebound?. Weeks, Jennifer. *CQ Global Researcher*. August 26, 2011.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

REPORTS

2010 International Religious Freedom Report
U.S. Department of State. September 13, 2011 [HTML format with links]
http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2010_5/index.htm

"The Department of State submits this report to the Congress in compliance with section 102(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act (IRFA) of 1998. A wide range of U.S. government agencies and offices will use the report to shape policy; conduct diplomacy;

and inform assistance, training, and other resource allocations. The Secretary of State will use the report to help determine which countries have engaged in or tolerated "particularly severe violations" religious freedom, otherwise known as countries of particular concern. This International Religious Freedom Report documents major developments with respect to religious freedom in 198 countries and territories from July-December 2010. The report reflects a broad understanding of universal religious freedom, one that includes the rights to hold private beliefs, including agnosticism or atheism, as well as the right to communal religious expression and education."

Foreign Relations of the United States, 1969–1976, Volume XIII, Soviet Union, October 1970–October 1971
Office of the Historian, U.S. Department of State. October 2011.
http://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1969-76v13

"This volume continues the practice established in the previous Foreign Relations volume on U.S.-Soviet relations and focuses on the relationship in the global context, highlighting the conflicts and collaboration between the two superpowers on foreign policy issues from October 1970 to October 1971. Beginning with the confrontation over the construction of a Soviet military base in Cuba, the volume documents the development of the Nixon administration's policy of détente and the crucial role of the private channel between Henry Kissinger, the President's Assistant for National Security Affairs, and Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin. The backchannel was key to making progress on the most problematic issues in U.S.-Soviet relations: Berlin, the war in Indochina, strategic arms limitation talks, Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union, and trade. It also allowed the two nations to avoid conflict and to cooperate on managing crises around the world, such as the Middle East dispute and the Indo-Pakistani conflict."

Palestinian Initiatives for 2011 at the United Nations
Zanotti, Jim; Browne, Marjorie Ann. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. September 23, 2011 [PDF format, 32 pages]
http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/174250.pdf

"Many Members of Congress are actively interested in the question of possible U.N. action on Palestinian statehood. Congress could try to influence U.S. policy and the choices of other actors through the authorization and appropriation of foreign assistance to the Palestinians, the United Nations, and Israel and through oversight of the Obama Administration's diplomatic efforts. Changes to aid levels may depend on congressional views of how maintaining or changing aid levels could affect U.S. leverage and credibility in future regional and global contexts. This report provides information on the U.N. framework and process for options being discussed, including overviews of the following topics: the United Nations and recognition of states, observer status in the United Nations, and the criteria and process for United Nations membership. The report also analyzes the prospects for avoiding U.N. action by reaching an Israel-PLO agreement to resume negotiations, as well as the possibility of a compromise U.N. resolution that could set forth parameters for future Israeli-Palestinian negotiations but stop short of addressing the question of Palestinian statehood beyond expressing aspirations." *Jim Zanotti is an Analyst in Middle Eastern Affairs at the CRS. Marjorie Ann Browne is an Specialist in International Relations at CRS.*

The Palestinians: Background and U.S. Relations
Zanotti, Jim. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. August 30, 2011 [PDF format, 37 pages]
http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/RL34074.pdf

"The report provides an overview of current issues in U.S.-Palestinian relations... Congress plays a significant role in U.S. policy toward the Palestinians. It has approved expanded levels of aid (a total of more than $2 billion) to the Palestinians since Palestinian Authority (PA) President Mahmoud Abbas appointed the politically independent technocrat Salam Fayyad as PA prime minister and dismissed Hamas from government shortly following its takeover of Gaza in 2007. This increased U.S. assistance supports internationally sponsored programs of PA security and economic reform and development— mainly in the West Bank— and humanitarian efforts in the Gaza Strip. With prospects existing in 2011 for both a Fatah-Hamas power-sharing arrangement within the PA (which was announced in April 2011 but is still pending implementation) and a Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)/PA effort to have the United Nations adopt a resolution on Palestinian statehood outside of the U.S.-mediated negotiating process with Israel expected in September 2011, some Members of Congress are questioning the continuation of U.S. budgetary, security, and/or developmental assistance to the Palestinians due to uncertainty over these possible contingencies." *Jim Zanotti is an Analyst in Middle Eastern Affairs at the CRS.*

Unrest in Syria and U.S. Sanctions Against the Asad Regime
Sharp, Jeremy M.; Blanchard, Christopher M. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. September 22, 2011 [PDF format, 24 pages].
http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/174252.pdf

"This report analyzes the current unrest in Syria and the U.S. response to the Syrian government's crackdown against demonstrators. It also provides background information on U.S. sanctions against the Asad regime and its supporters. A variety of U.S. legislative provisions and executive directives prohibit direct foreign assistance funding to Syria and restrict bilateral trade relations, largely because of the U.S. State Department's designation of Syria as a sponsor of international terrorism. On December 12, 2003, President George W. Bush signed the Syria Accountability Act, P.L. 108-175, which imposed additional economic sanctions against Syria. Syrian individuals and government officials are subject to targeted financial sanctions pursuant to executive orders relating to terrorism, proliferation, and regional security. Successive administrations have designated several Syrian entities as weapons proliferators and sanctioned several Russian companies for alleged weapons of mass destruction or advanced weapons sales to Syria… A long term concern to U.S. policymakers is the prospect of Syria becoming the locus of a new regional proxy war between Syria's ally Iran and Sunni Arab states such as Saudi Arabia and Jordan, with other neighbors, such as Turkey, Iraq, and Israel, intervening to secure their own national interests. The rise of a Sunni-led government in Damascus could upset regional perceptions of the sectarian balance of power and may have significant effects on sectarian dynamics in neighboring Lebanon. Some observers fear that even non-state actors (such as Lebanon's Hezbollah or Salafist Lebanese Sunni militia) could intervene in the Syrian unrest." *Jeremy M. Sharp is an Specialist in Middle Eastern Affairs at the CRS. Christopher M. Blanchard is an Analyst in Middle Eastern Affairs at the CRS.*

Arab Uprisings: The State of the Egyptian Revolution
Project on Middle East Political Science. September 7, 2011 [PDF format, 40 pages]
http://www.pomeps.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/POMEPS_BriefBooklet6_Egypt_web.pdf

"On January 25, Egyptian activists inspired by the fall of Tunisia's President Zine el-Abedine Ben Ali took to the streets chanting against President Hosni Mubarak. Eighteen turbulent, astonishing days later, the Egyptian military removed Mubarak from power. Seven months after Mubarak's fall, however, Egyptian activists are frustrated and the success of the revolution remains unclear. Where is the Egyptian revolution today? Hosni Mubarak, his sons, and top former regime officials are on trial. Parliamentary elections are scheduled for November. Changes have swept the country at all levels. But people nevertheless feel

despondent. The economy continues to struggle. Violence in the Sinai rattles nerves. The Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF) remains inscrutable and unaccountable. And activists find themselves under pressure." The Project on Middle East Political Science (POMEPS), based at the Institute for Middle East Studies at the George Washington University is a collaborative network which aims to increase the impact of political scientists specializing in the study of the Middle East in the public sphere and in the academic community.

Iraq and US Strategy in the Gulf
Cordesman, Anthony H. Center for Strategic & International Studies. September 20, 2011[Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 33 pages]
http://csis.org/files/publication/Iraq_and_US_Strategy_in_the_Gulf_14.9.11.pdf

"During the coming months, the US must reshape its strategy and force posture relative to Iraq and the Gulf States. It must take account of its withdrawal of most of its forces from Iraq, and whether or not it can give real meaning to the US-Iraqi Strategic Framework Agreement. It must deal with steadily increasing strategic competition with Iran, it must restructure its post-Iraq War posture in the Southern Gulf and Turkey, and define new goals for strategic partnerships with the Gulf states and its advisory and arms sales activity. It must decide how to best contain Iran, and to work with regional friends and allies in doing so. In the process, it must also reshape its strategy for dealing with key states like Egypt, Jordan, Turkey and Yemen." *Anthony H. Cordersman is Arleigh A. Burke Chair in Strategy at Center for Strategic and International Studies.*

Istanbul and Bonn Conferences: Building Blocks of the Afghan Transition Process
Sultan, Hodei. U.S. Institute of Peace. September 2011[PDF format, 4 pages]
http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB%20105.pdf

"The brief highlights two upcoming major conferences that will play a critical role in the future of Afghanistan. The Istanbul Conference slated for November 2, 2011 aims to bring to the discussion table issues relating to the transition in Afghanistan, including Afghan security, recruitment, training and equipment of Afghan security forces, as well as the reconciliation process. The conference will also focus on regional economic cooperation. The December "Bonn+10" Conference will convene more than 1,000 delegates from 90 nations, international organizations and the United Nations to discuss the transfer of responsibility for security to the Afghan government by 2014, international commitment to Afghanistan following this handover, and the political process vis-à-vis national reconciliation and the integration of former Taliban fighters."

Afghanistan Ten Years after 9/11: Counterterrorism Accomplishments while a Civil War Is Lurking?
Felbab-Brown, Vanda. The Brookings Institution. September 6, 2011.
http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0906_afghanistan_felbabbrown.aspx

"Ten years after 9/11 U.S. narrow counterterrorism objectives in Afghanistan seem to be satisfied. The success of the larger project – establishing a stable national government in Afghanistan capable of delivering essential public goods, including security, and having enough legitimacy to survive and anchoring it in a solid regional arrangement – however remains a huge question mark. The Afghan National Army is improving as a force capable of providing security to the Afghan population and assuring Kabul's writ; though whether the improvements are sufficient remains yet to be seen. But political trends and the quality of governance in Afghanistan continue to be deteriorating and are increasingly generating pressures toward civil war. Thus even increases in security may not lead to greater stability if Afghans' confidence in the future does not increase." *Vanda Felbab-Brown is a fellow in Foreign Policy at the Brookings Institution in the 21st Century Defense Initiative and the*

Latin America Initiative.

Partners in Preventive Action: The United States and International Institutions
Stares, Paul B.; Zenko, Micah. Center for Preventive Action, Council on Foreign Relations. September 2011 [Council Special Report #62][PDF format, 56 pages]
http://i.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/Intl_Preventive_Action_CSR62.pdf

"The unipolar moment, to the extent it ever existed, has now truly passed. The United States is part of a globalized world, in which the flows of goods, finance, people, and much more connect us to other countries as never before. But for all the myriad benefits globalization brings, it also means that the challenges of the coming decades—be they generated by resource competition, climate change, cybercrime, terrorism, or classic competition and rivalry—cannot be solved or even mitigated by one country alone. Countries will need to cooperate on policies that extend across borders to address issues that affect them all. In this Council Special Report, CFR scholars argue that the United States should increasingly look to international institutions—the United Nations and regional organizations like the European Union, the African Union, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations—as partners in conflict prevention and peacemaking worldwide. These organizations can serve as a platform for developing and enforcing international norms; provide a source of legitimacy for diplomatic and military efforts; and aggregate the operational resources of their members, all of which can increase the ease and effectiveness of American peacemaking efforts. The report explores the ways these institutions are already contributing to the creation and maintenance of peace, from the UN's conflict monitoring systems to the dispute resolution mechanisms at the Organization of American States and the nascent African Standby Force of the African Union, before turning to a series of recommendations on ways the United States can improve its interaction with these institutions and maximize their potential." *Paul B. Stares is the General John W. Vessey senior fellow for conflict prevention and director of the Center for Preventive Action (CPA) at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). Micah Zenko is a fellow for conflict prevention in the Center for Preventive Action.*

The United States and India: A Shared Strategic Future
Blackwill, Robert D.; Chandra,Naresh, Chairs. Council on Foreign Relations; Aspen Institute India. September 2011 [PDF format, 64 pages]
http://i.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/USIndia_jointstudygroup_IIGG.pdf

The Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) and Aspen Institute India (Aii) have cosponsored a U.S.-India Joint Study Group to identify the shared national interests that motivate the United States and India. This is their final report. The study group members addressed the most important geopolitical and geoeconomic issues facing both the United States and India today and for the foreseeable future: the rise of China, the conflict in Afghanistan, the future of Pakistan, the turmoil and transition of the Middle East, climate change and energy technology collaboration, economic cooperation during a period of global economic challenges, and opportunities for defense partnership. In each of these areas, study group members looked for ideas and policies that pushed the relationship forward, rather than settling on a vision of the relationship defined by the status quo. *Robert D. Blackwill is the Henry A. Kissinger senior fellow for U.S. foreign policy at the Council on Foreign Relations. Naresh Chandra is India's National Security Advisory Board chairman.*

Rising Economic Powers and the Global Economy: Trends and Issues for Congress
Ahearn, Raymond J. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. August 22, 2011 [PDF format, 45 pages]
http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41969.pdf

"A small group of developing countries are transforming the global economic landscape. Led by China, India, and Brazil, these rising economic powers pose varied challenges and

opportunities for U.S. economic interests and leadership of the global economy. They also raise significant policy issues for Congress, including the future direction of U.S. trade policy and negotiations, as well as for the multilateral economic institutions that have historically served as the foundation of an open and rules-based global economy. This report addresses ongoing shifts in global trade and finance and projected future trends resulting from the emergence of these economies. It is the first of a three-part CRS series that focuses on how the Rising Economic Powers are affecting U.S. interests and raising challenges for congressional oversight of U.S. international trade and financial policies." *Raymond J. Ahearn is an Specialist in International Trade and Finance at the CRS.*

Making the Transition: From Middle-Income to Advanced Economies
Foxley, Alejandro; Sossdorf, Fernando. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. September 21, 2011 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 42 pages]
http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/making_the_transition.pdf

"Middle-income countries can be defined as those that are halfway to becoming advanced economies. The issue that motivates this work is to explore the factors that increase the probability that they will attain the condition of advanced economies within a reasonable period of time. This study offers a comparative perspective that focuses on developed countries that had varying levels of success in the transition from middle-income economies to advanced economies in the last twenty years. The cases of Finland, South Korea, Ireland, Spain, and Portugal5 were selected because of the varied nature of the development paths they chose to speed up their transition to becoming advanced economies. Finland and South Korea can be catalogued as economies with overall successful trajectories… Finland and South Korea, set themselves apart from the rest by investing early in improving the quality of education and inducing high investment in research and development. By opening up to world trade and using tax incentives and access to subsidized credit, successful countries were able to attract foreign direct investment in high-technology sectors. And to allow for continued growth, Finland and South Korea were able to turn financial crises into opportunities to undertake much-needed economic reforms, this was only possible because there were broad political and social agreements on the essential elements for sustaining high growth rates." *Alejandro Foxley is a senior associate in the Carnegie International Economics Program and at the Corporación de Estudios para Latinoamérica (CIEPLAN) in Santiago, Chile. Fernando Sossdorf is a research assistant at CIEPLAN.*

Transatlantic Trends 2011
German Marshall Fund of the U.S.; Compagnia di San Paolo. September 14, 2011.
http://trends.gmfus.org/?page_id=3189 (Key Findings)
http://trends.gmfus.org/?page_id=3194 (Topline Data)

"The 10th annual Transatlantic Trends survey reveals that Americans may be turning their focus away from Europe, as a majority of U.S. respondents said that their national interests lie more with the countries of Asia than with the European Union. The survey shows that a slight majority of Americans (51%) feel that Asian countries, such as China, Japan, or South Korea, were more important to their country's national interests than were the countries of the EU (38%). On the other hand, 52% of those living in the EU countries polled thought that the United States was more important to their national interests than the countries of Asia (37%). This year‟s results mark a notable reversal in U.S. attitudes from 2004, when a majority of Americans (54%) viewed the countries of Europe as more important to their vital interests than the countries of Asia (29%). Transatlantic Trends 2011 is a comprehensive annual survey of American and European public opinion. Polling was conducted by TNS Opinion between May 25 and June 17, 2011, in the United States, Turkey, and 12 European Union member states: Bulgaria, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom."

ARTICLES

Continuity and Change in the Obama Administration's National Security Strategy
Hemmer, Christopher. *Comparative Strategy*. July/August 2011, pp. 268-277.

This article examines the Obama Administration's National Security Strategy (May 2010) and compares it with its predecessors. "While consistent with its predecessors in its definition of American interests, its stress on U.S. global leadership, and the importance of American values in its foreign policy, it differs from the strategy released by the George W. Bush Administration by offering a more complex view of the international threat environment, favoring multilateralism, stressing America's example over its military might, and in acknowledging the limits of American resources. The fundamental flaw of the current National Security Strategy, a flaw it shares with all its predecessors, is that it ignores concessions, tradeoffs, and hard choices inherent in American foreign policy… This essay will look at five key questions that confront any administration in attempting to execute American foreign policy, the answers to those questions offered by the Obama Administration's National Security Strategy, and how those answers compare to how his recent predecessors in office answered the same questions in their National Security Strategies. The five questions are: What are America's core national interests? What are the major threats to those interests? What is the proper role of the United States in international politics? What is the proper place of American values in its foreign policy? And what resources does the United States have to devote to foreign policy? The answers to these questions not only illuminate how President Obama's foreign policy compares with those of his predecessors, but they also provide guidance on what can be expected in American foreign policy for the rest of the Obama presidency." *Christopher Hemmer is a Professor and Deputy Chair in the Department of International Security Studies at the Air War College, Alabama.*

After Bin Laden: Security Strategy and the Global Commons
Hart, Gary. *Survival*. August/September 2011, pp. 19-25.

"The Cold War ended 20 years ago. NATO has yet to define a twenty-first century mission. New allies and new rivals are emerging. There are new security threats that do not lend themselves to military response and that cannot be addressed either by old alliances or by the United States alone, and the nature of warfare and the character of conflict themselves are changing. The United States' national predisposition, however, has been to rely on traditional institutions and policies and to use them to address unfolding history on its own timetable. America is also inclined to employ a simple, all-encompassing, central organizing principle as a substitute for a national strategy. During the second half of the twentieth century, that principle was containment of communism. After 9/11 it became war on terrorism. Unfortunately, the period in between, the largely peaceful and prosperous 1990s, was not used to develop a comprehensive strategic approach to an almost totally different new century that was emerging. Now, with the death of Osama bin Laden at the hands of US special forces in May 2011 marking a turning point – at the very least a symbolic one – in the 'war on terror', the United States has the opportunity to create the blueprint for a new strategic vision for the twenty-first century." *Gary Hart is Scholar in Residence, University of Colorado, chair of the American Security Project, co-chair of the US Commission on National Security for the 21st Century, and former member of the Senate Armed Services Committee.*

American and European Responses to the Arab Spring: What's the Big Idea?
Dadush, Uri; Dunne, Michele. *The Washington Quarterly*. Fall 2011, pp. 131-145.
http://www.twq.com/11autumn/docs/11autumn_Dadush_Dunne.pdf

"How can Europe and the United States support democratic transitions in a way that is acceptable to the Arab countries, effective in inducing genuine change, and affordable at a

time when both continents are confronting fiscal crises? The best instruments available are enhanced trade agreements that not only promote market access, but even more importantly maximize competitiveness-enhancing and job-promoting reforms in the Arab countries. The pre-uprising Western Policies—pressing recalcitrant Arab leaders to undertake top-down political reforms while building civil society capacity to generate bottom-up demand—have been overtaken by events in at least a significant minority of countries. There is now an explicit commitment to democratize, deeply-rooted in the general will of the people. The question is not whether, but how to do it." *Uri Dadush is Director of the International Economics Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Michele Dunne is Director of the Rafik Hariri Center for the Middle East at the Atlantic Council.*

Transitions in the Arab World: Spring or Fall?
Sorenson, David S. *Strategic Studies Quarterly*. Fall 2011, pp. 22-49.
http://www.au.af.mil/au/ssq/2011/fall/sorenson.pdf

"This article considers some of the reasons for the revolts that have occurred in numerous Arab countries and assesses some potential outcomes and implications, both for the Arab world and for the United States. Recent events raise a number of questions: Will democracy building become sustainable through the building of democratic institutions and popular support, or will incomplete democratic construction ultimately lead to disappointment and a possible democratic rejection?; Will corrections to the economic conditions that contributed to the waves of populism in the Arab world follow democratization and secular capitalism?; Will religious forces, initially marginalized in the popular revolutions, reassert themselves through democracy, and should that happen, will democracy survive possible religious radicalization?; How will the United States recraft its Middle East policies in the wake of the so-called Arab spring?". *Dr. David S. Sorenson is professor of international security studies at the US Air War College.*

The Unbreakable Muslim Brotherhood: Grim Prospects for a Liberal Egypt
Trager, Eric. *Foreign Affair*s. September/October 2011, pp. 114-126.

"The protesters who led Egypt's revolt last January were young, liberal, and linked-in.They were the bloggers who first proposed the demonstrations against Hosni Mubarak on Twitter; the Facebook based activists who invited their "friends" to protest… The political transition following their revolt, however, has dulled this optimism. The iconic youths of Tahrir Square are now deeply divided among nearly a dozen, often indistinguishable political parties, almost all of which are either too new to be known or too discredited by their cooperation with the previous regime. Concentrated within the small percentage of Internet-using, politically literate Egyptians, their numbers are surprisingly small. Meanwhile, the Muslim Brotherhood, which largely avoided the limelight during the revolt, is seizing the political momentum. The Brotherhood is Egypt's most cohesive political movement, with an unparalleled ability to mobilize its followers, who will serve it extremely well in a country still unaccustomed to voting. To understand the sources of the Brotherhood's political strength, and the reasons why it is unlikely to temper its ideology, it helps to take a close look at its organizational structure and the nature of its membership." *Eric Trager is the Ira Weiner Fellow at The Washington Institute for Near East Policy and a Ph.D. candidate in political science at the University of Pennsylvania, where his research focuses on Egyptian opposition parties.*

Liberty, Democracy, and Discord in Egypt
Masoud, Tarek. *The Washington Quarterly*. Fall 2011, pp. 117-129.
http://www.twq.com/11autumn/docs/11autumn_Masoud.pdf

"If hope was the dominant psychology of the protests that unseated Hosni Mubarak, then fear is proving to be that of their aftermath. The unity of the disparate forces that made

history during those 18 days in Tahrir Square has given way to discord. Optimism about Egypt's future and belief in the imminence of the country's return to glory appears to have yielded to a season of grim pessimism, as erstwhile allies impute dark plans to each other. And given that Egypt's revolution is decidedly not over, this dissension in the ranks of its revolutionaries bodes ill for the country's democratic future… The Egyptian revolution was always a pluralistic one made up of Islamists, leftists, liberals, and even disgruntled former members of the regime united most by what they opposed: the Mubarak regime, even if they opposed it for different reasons. It is perhaps to be expected that once the dictator was gone, the coalition would have trouble holding, especially since the fissures between its members had not been mended prior to the revolt. No Czech-style Civic Forum had been established, no grand accord had been reached among the various opposition camps outlining a unified vision for the Egypt they wanted to erect in autocracy's place." *Tarek Masoud is an assistant professor of public policy at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and a Carnegie Scholar.*

The Difference Two Years Make
Biddle, Stephen. *The American Interest*. September/October 2011.
http://www.the-american-interest.com/article.cfm?piece=1006

"It is not impossible to come up with an effective political strategy for governance reform. The Karzai government is utterly dependent on foreign support for survival, that support is massive, and ongoing security improvements provide a foundation enabling such a strategy. In principle it should be possible to design a strategy marshaling these assets in a program of quiet pressure for reform. Yet the West has so far failed to do so. Part of the reason lies in the difficulty of coordinating numerous allies: The coalition in Afghanistan consists of more than forty sovereign actors who often fail to work together. But a bigger problem is the tension between Afghan strategic requirements and American domestic politics." *Stephen Biddle is Roger Hertog Senior Fellow for Defense Policy at the Council on Foreign Relations.*

Provincial Reconstruction Teams in Eastern Afghanistan: Utility as a Strategic Counterinsurgency Tool
Kemp, Robert E. *Military Review*. September/October 2011, pp. 28-36.
http://usacac.army.mil/CAC2/MilitaryReview/Archives/English/MilitaryReview_20111031_art007.pdf

"The United States and its International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) partners have been engaging in counterinsurgency (COIN) in the area covered by Regional Command-East (RC-East) in Afghanistan for much of the last decade, with varying approaches, levels of resources, and results. One of the key players has been the provincial reconstruction teams (PRTs), civilian-military platforms designed to extend the reach of the government of Afghanistan and for other functions. What role have PRTs played in the positive COIN trends in this part of Afghanistan, and what have they done that may be detrimental? How do they fit into the recently modified COIN strategy? How might we apply them to insurgencies outside of Afghanistan?.This article has three sections and will focus primarily on the period from 2004 to 2008 (when I was there, with consideration of events since then). The first section will look at the utility of PRTs, focusing on governance, diplomatic efforts, and civilian-military coordination, with some observations on the strategic significance of these efforts. The second section examines the challenges the PRTs face in RC-East. The third section includes an overall assessment of their success or failure, and makes some recommendations on how they can operate more effectively." *Robert E. Kemp is a U.S. State Department Foreign Service officer. He was the action officer for local governance at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan, during the spring and summer of 2008, and the political advisor to the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team in eastern Afghanistan.*

Israel's Energy Security: Regional Implications
Gawdat, Bahgat. *Middle East Policy*. Fall 2011, pp. 25-34.

"Israel's energy outlook is highly idiosyncratic; with one of the most developed economies in the region, and a high standard of living, Israel requires secure and sustainable energy supplies. The Jewish state is located close to the rich oil- and gas-producing countries in the Persian Gulf and North Africa, yet political animosity has prevented any cooperation for most of the last several decades. Furthermore, worrying about antagonizing Arab producers (and later Iran), many international oil and gas companies were reluctant to start operations in Israel. These complicated geopolitical dynamics have left Israel with limited energy resources and forced it to depend on remote suppliers in Russia, Central Asia and Latin America, among others… This essay seeks to examine these recent developments in the eastern Mediterranean. In the first section, I discuss the changes in Israel's energy sector and the controversy over state taxes. In the second, I analyze the regional context — Lebanese and Turkish claims in the Levant basin. These claims and counterclaims aside, Israel is likely to move fast in developing these natural gas fields. Lebanon, Turkey, Egypt and Syria are likely to invest more resources in searching for oil and gas off their own shores. This is followed by an examination of the Egyptian gas pipeline. The analysis suggests that, rhetoric aside, Egyptian supplies will continue, but Israel will have to pay a higher price." *Dr. Gawdat Bahgat is a professor at the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies at the National Defense University in Washington, DC. He is the author, among other books, of Energy Security: An Interdisciplinary Approach (Wiley, 2nd ed. 2011).*

Women's Rights in the Muslim World and the Age of Obama
Nadimi, Peter P.; Wing, Adrien K. *Transnational Law & Contemporary Problems*. Summer 2011, pp. 431-463.

"Women around the world continue to face human rights abuses, condoned in part by deeply held patriarchal customs and religious practices, as well as insufficient resources and lack of political will. (1) The Muslim World is no exception. Muslim women face a variety of issues, including but not limited to poor access to education; (2) lack of career opportunities; (3) "domestic" and external violence; (4) forced marriages; (5) restricted participation in public life; (6) and unequal inheritance rights. (7) While most of the solutions to these problems must come from within each society, there can be a role for carefully constructed, culturally respectful foreign assistance. Through the Obama Administration's new approach towards international law and engagement with the Muslim World, the United States may be in a critical position to make a lasting impact on women's human rights issues. This article will first present suggestions on how the Obama Administration can improve women's rights in the Muslim World. Specifically, it will provide foreign policy recommendations that will socially, economically, and politically empower women. The article will place special emphasis on the need to provide financial support and other resources for programs in the Muslim World that will counteract violence against women. Second, it will recommend increasing access to, and improving the quality of, education for women in Muslim-majority countries. Third, it will emphasize the need to empower women economically by integrating them into the workforce. Finally, it will discuss the importance of women's participation in the political process and its role in improving women's rights in the Muslim World." *Adrien K. Wing is the Bessie Dutton Murray Professor at the University of Iowa College of Law. Peter P. Nadimi is a law research assistant at the University of Iowa.*

The Inevitable Superpower: Why China's Dominance Is a Sure Thing
Arvind Subramanian. *Foreign Affair*s. September/October 2011, var. pp.
http://www.piie.com/publications/papers/paper.cfm?ResearchID=1913

"Is China poised to take over from the United States as the world's leading economy? Yes,

judging by its GSP, trade flows, and ability to act as a creditor to the rest of the world. In fact, China's economic dominance will be far greater and come about far sooner than most observers realize… China's ascendancy in the future will also apply to many more issues than is recognized today. The Chinese economy will be larger than the economy of the United States and larger than that of any other country, and so will its trade and supplies of capital. The yuan will be a credible rival to the dollar as the world's premier reserve currency. What is more, the gap between China and the United States will be far greater than expected. In 2010, the U.S. National Intelligence Council assessed that in 2025, "the U.S. will remain the preeminent power, but that American dominance will be much diminished." This is unduly optimistic. My projections suggest that the gap between China and the United States in 2030 will be similar to that between the United States and its rivals in the mid-1970s, the heyday of U.S. hegemony, and greater than that between the United Kingdom and its rivals during the halcyon days of the British Empire, in 1870. In short, China's future economic dominance is more imminent and will be both greater and more varied than is currently supposed." *Arvind Subramanian is senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics and at the Center for Global Development. This article is adapted from his book Eclipse: Living in the Shadow of China's Economic Dominance (Institute of International Economics, 2011).*

The Black Hole of 9/11
Rothkopf, David J. *Foreign Policy*. August 29, 2011, var. pages.
http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2011/08/29/the_black_hole_of_911?page=full

"As we assess the legacy of the 10th anniversary of America's seminal terrorist attack, it's worth looking at 10 events from the past decade. One way to demonstrate that restoration of historical sensibility comes if we ask ourselves, looking back over the past 10 years, what other developments took place that exceed 9/11 in lasting importance? What events of the past decade will historians write of that will have them looking past or beyond the attack, its masterminds, or its immediate response? There are scores, I suspect. Here are just 10 that come to me off the top of my head: the American Response to 9/11; the Arab Spring; the Rebalancing of Asia; the Stagnation of the U.S. and Other Developed-World Economies; the Invention of Social Media; the Proliferation of Cell Phones and Hand-Held Computing Devices; the Crash of 2008; the Eurozone Crisis and the Crash of 2011-2012; the Failure to Address Global Warming; the Rise of China and the Other BRICs". *David Rothkopf is a visiting scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.*

Russia, the 360-Degree Regional Power
Kuchins, Andrew C. *Current History*. October 2011, pp. 266-271.

"Russia is the quintessential Eurasian great power. Its vast territory spans from Europe to East Asia, as well as reaching south geographically and culturally to parts of the Islamic world from the Middle East to the Caspian to Central Asia. Simply from a geographical standpoint, Russia borders and has long historical interaction with all of the remarkably diverse regions that constitute Eurasia. Indeed, Russia's national identity is bundled up with its unique role as a cultural, political, economic, and strategic link in the heart of Eurasia. Perhaps Turkey comes closest to perceiving itself in this manner, while also struggling to manage disparate influences from east, west, and south. As with Turkey, Russia's foreign policy has long been multi-vectored, attempting to radiate influence and power 360 degrees. The global economic crisis has had a deep impact on the Russian leadership and elite perceptions of Russian interests in ongoing shifts in the global balance of power. In short, Russian elites are more unsure about the capacity and durability of US power, but also less confident that the shifting global balance of power, in which China appears to be the principal beneficiary, redounds to Moscow's favor. As a result, the Russian leadership's almost knee-jerk inclination to identify America as the primary global threat to Russian interests—in light of NATO expansion, competition in the post-Soviet space, expanded missile defense, and other such developments—has diminished." *Andrew C. Kuchins is a*

senior fellow and director of the Russia and Eurasia program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Does the Euro have a Future?
Soros, George. *NY Review of Books*. October 13, 2011, var. pp.
http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2011/oct/13/does-euro-have-future/

"The euro crisis is a direct consequence of the crash of 2008. When Lehman Brothers failed, the entire financial system started to collapse and had to be put on artificial life support. This took the form of substituting the sovereign credit of governments for the bank and other credit that had collapsed. At a memorable meeting of European finance ministers in November 2008, they guaranteed that no other financial institutions that are important to the workings of the financial system would be allowed to fail, and their example was followed by the United States. Angela Merkel then declared that the guarantee should be exercised by each European state individually, not by the European Union or the eurozone acting as a whole. This sowed the seeds of the euro crisis because it revealed and activated a hidden weakness in the construction of the euro: the lack of a common treasury. The crisis itself erupted more than a year later, in 2010. There is some similarity between the euro crisis and the subprime crisis that caused the crash of 2008. In each case a supposedly riskless asset—collateralized debt obligations (CDOs), based largely on mortgages, in 2008, and European government bonds now—lost some or all of their value." *George Soros is Chairman of Soros Fund Management LLC and the Open Society Foundations.*

Taming and Reining in Cyberspace
Smith, Josh. *National Journal*. September 23, 2011, var. pp.
http://www.nationaljournal.com/magazine/taming-and-reining-in-cyberspace-20110915

"The Internet has indeed revolutionized politics and government, but it has hardly transcended laws and regulations. From blocking online poker to tracking the cyber footprints of suspected terrorists, governments are exercising more power over—and through—the Internet than ever before… China's government demonstrated years ago that it could restrict access to the Web and stifle online political criticism. But Western governments are becoming more intrusive too, often motivated by popular goals: fighting child pornography; tracking criminals and terrorists; preventing cyberattacks and fighting cyberwars; and helping political opposition groups in countries such as Libya and Iran evade government repression… The first half of 2011 saw unprecedented action from the highest levels of government and international organizations. In May, the White House composed its first-ever International Strategy for Cyberspace, designed to coordinate Internet efforts among federal agencies. Also in May, the Group of Eight leading industrial nations convened a gathering of tech leaders in Paris and released a communiqué calling for tighter regulation of the Internet. On June 29, the international Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development issued a set of principles that called, in part, for ISPs and other intermediaries to monitor more online content. And in July, the Defense Department released its first plan for cyberspace, declaring the Internet a domain for war." *Josh Smith covers technology policy as a staff reporter for National Journal.*

U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY AND TRENDS

REPORTS

Living Within Our Means and Investing in the Future: The President's Plan for Economic Growth and Deficit Reduction
The White House. September 19, 2011 [PDF format, 80 pages]

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/jointcommitteereport.pdf

President Obama unveiled a plan for economic growth and deficit reduction that details how to pay for the American Jobs Act while also paying down the debt over time. The plan, which was sent to the Congressional Joint Committee on Deficit Reduction, offers a balanced approach to further reduce the U.S. deficit. "The plan, which will reduce the deficit by $4 trillion, includes many of the proposals the President has previously discussed -- closing tax loopholes for oil companies and hedge fund managers and asking the very wealthiest and special interests to pay their fair share. It also includes difficult spending cuts and making adjustments to strengthen programs like Medicare and Medicaid for future generations. As part of the plan, the President is also calling on Congress to undertake comprehensive tax reform to simplify the system, make it more fair and efficient, and lay a stronger foundation for economic growth."

Fact Sheet: The American Jobs Act
Office of the Press Secretary, The White House. September 8, 2011.
http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/09/08/fact-sheet-american-jobs-act

"The economic security of the middle class has been under attack for decades. That's why President Obama believes we need to do more than just recover from this economic crisis – we need to rebuild the economy the American way, based on balance, fairness, and the same set of rules for everyone from Wall Street to Main Street. We can work together to create the jobs of the future by helping small business entrepreneurs, by investing in education, and by making things the world buys. The President understands that to restore an American economy that's built to last we cannot afford to outsource American jobs and encourage reckless financial deals that put middle class security at risk. To create jobs, the President unveiled the American Jobs Act – nearly all of which is made up of ideas that have been supported by both Democrats and Republicans, and that Congress should pass right away to get the economy moving now."

Education, Demand, and Unemployment in Metropolitan America
Rothwell, Jonathan; Berube, Alan. The Brookings Institution. September 2011 [PDF format, 21 pages]
http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0909_skills_unemployment_rothwell/0909_skills_unemployment_rothwell.pdf

"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. This report examines education gaps and industry demand in the nation's 100 largest metropolitan areas. Metropolitan areas are a natural unit of analysis given that they offer the best approximation of a regional labor market. Moreover, the wide variation in metropolitan area economic performance provides a basis for analyzing the factors that explain that variation. After explaining the methodology, the report examines in turn the contribution of education gaps and weak industry demand to levels and recent changes in metropolitan unemployment rates. It concludes with a discussion of the implications of these findings for public policy." *Alan Berube is a Fellow and Research Director of the Metropolitan Policy Program at the Brookings Institution. Jonathan Rothwell is a Senior Research Analyst at the Metropolitan Policy Program at Brookings.*

The Entrepreneurship Gender Gap: Women Entrepreneurs as Economic Drivers
Mitchell, Lesa. Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. September 28, 2011 [Note: contains copyrighgted material] [PDF format, 15 pages]
http://www.kauffman.org/uploadedFiles/Growing_the_Economy_Women_Entrepreneurs.pdf

"This paper explores the intersection of two issues that often are thought of separately: the need for sustained economic recovery in the United States, and the status of women's entrepreneurship. Research has shown that startups, especially high-growth startups, are the keys to job creation and leadership in new industries. With nearly half of the workforce and more than half of our college students now being women, their lag in building high-growth firms has become a major economic deficit. The nation has fewer jobs—and less strength in emerging industries—than it could if women's entrepreneurship were on par with men's. Women capable of starting growth companies may well be our greatest under-utilized economic resource." *Lesa Mitchell is vice president of the Kauffman Foundation's initiatives focused on advancing innovation.*

What It Means to be an American: Attitudes in an Increasingly Diverse America Ten Years after 9/11
Jones, Robert; Cox, Daniel; Dionne, E. J.; Galston, William A. Brookings Institution; Public Religion Research Institute. September 6, 2011 [PDF format, 45 pages]
http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/reports/2011/0906_american_attitudes/0906_american_attitudes.pdf

"Ten years after September 11th, Americans continue to grapple with issues of security, tolerance, religious freedom, and pluralism—matters that lie at the heart of what it means to be American. The youngest generation of Americans is the most ethnically and religiously diverse generation in the country's history, and the growing diversity in this generation and in society as a whole is challenging Americans' commitment to these core principles. This report and the underlying major national public opinion survey behind it examine several critical subject areas that have been prominent in American public life over the last ten years. The introduction considers Americans' perceptions of safety, freedom, and international reputation in the wake of the U.S. response to September 11th. The first section examines basic attitudes towards racial, ethnic, and religious minorities in the country, including changing views about discrimination and reverse discrimination. The next section takes up attitudes toward Islam and Muslim Americans and a range of related issues about the place of Muslim Americans in society and the different way in which Americans evaluate violence committed by self-identified Christians and Muslims. Finally, the last section investigates a much older central part of the American story: attitudes towards immigrants and immigration policy." *Robert P. Jones is the CEO and founder of Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI). Daniel Cox is Director of Research and co-founder of PRRI. William Galston holds the Ezra K. Zilkha Chair in the Brookings Institution's Governance Studies Program. E.J. Dionne is a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, a syndicated columnist for the Washington Post, and University Professor in the Foundations of Democracy and Culture at Georgetown University.*

All Immigration Is Local: Receiving Communities and Their Role in Successful Immigrant Integration.
Jones-Correa, Michael. Center for American Progress. September 20, 2011 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 53 pages]
http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/09/pdf/rci.pdf

"Historically, immigrant integration has focused on immigrants—on changing immigrant behavior to facilitate their incorporation into the host society by encouraging language learning or naturalization, for example. Accordingly, service providers working with immigrants typically emphasize programs for English language acquisition, citizenship

preparation, or integration of immigrants into the workplace. But positive community relations require the concerted action of both immigrant and native-born residents. How can we expect immigrants to integrate successfully if they feel unwelcome or if their neighbors are not prepared to accept them? And how can we expect their neighbors to welcome them if no effort is made to manage the confusion, fear, and anxiety these neighbors feel about the changing nature of community life?. This report is a call to action for such engagement—for reorienting discussions around immigration to local integration challenges and for proactively bridging the gaps between native and newcomer. It builds on the first meeting of the Receiving Communities Initiative, a gathering of leading academics, practitioners, advocates, and local, state, and national officials in Washington D.C. in December 2010, to examine the role of receiving communities in immigrant integration and reinvigorate immigrant integration in America. The goal of this report is to help local communities wrestling with the challenges of immigrant settlement. It focuses on helping them identify programs they can emulate and build on, and encouraging national, state, and local policymakers, as well as philanthropic and civic actors, to focus more attention and resources on immigrant-receiving communities as well as immigrants." *Michael Jones-Correa is Professor of Government at Cornell University.*

Hispanic Heritage Month 2011: Update on the Economic Well-Being of the Latino Population
Joint Economic Committee, U.S. Congress. September 15, 2011 [PDF format, 3 pages]
http://jec.senate.gov/public//index.cfm?a=Files.Serve&File_id=69f69196-7bf4-410f-a4d4-57af985dda6e

"The U.S. Hispanic community was hit hard by the Great Recession. Its story is one of industry employment and geography, with Hispanic workers disproportionately employed in some of the sectors hardest hit during this recession - construction and leisure and hospitability. In addition, Hispanic or Latino workers are more likely to live and work in the Sunbelt states - such as California, Nevada, and Florida - that saw their unemployment rates soar during the recession. Combined, these factors had a significant impact on the economic well-being of Hispanic households in the United States. Now, more than three years after the start of the recession, Hispanics are less likely to be employed and more likely to be living in poverty than they were before the recession began in December 2007. In addition, median income among Hispanic households has dropped by more than 7% since 2007. However, recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the U.S. Census Bureau show that, while the Hispanic community is undoubtedly still suffering from the enduring effects of the severe economic downturn, there are promising signs that the community's economic footing is no longer slipping."

The Great Unraveling: A Portrait of the Middle Class
Demos. September 8, 2011 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 14 pages]
http://www.demos.org/publication/great-unraveling

"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." Demos is a non-partisan public policy research and advocacy organization."

A System Approach to Building a World-Class Teaching Profession: The Role of Induction
Haines, Mariane. Alliance for Excellent Education. October 4, 2011[Note: contains

copyrighted material] [PDF format, 19 pages]
http://www.all4ed.org/files/TeacherInduction.pdf

"About 15 percent of the American workforce of 3.5 million teachers either moves or leaves the profession each year. The size of the teaching force coupled with the high annual turnover rates seriously compromises the nation's capacity to ensure that all students have access to skilled teaching. If the dominant teacher workforce policies and practices remain unchanged, then the aspirations of the common core standards and aligned assessments will simply continue a legacy of unfulfilled reforms." This brief addresses the need for coherent incentives and structures to change the very culture of how teachers are supported. According to this document, a new paradigm is needed to construct a consistent vision of quality teaching--one that is anchored in a system of performance assessments and leveraged through the design of clinically based preservice programs, comprehensive induction, and collaborative professional learning."*Mariana Haynes, PhD, is a senior fellow at the Alliance for Excellent Education*.

The Budget Control Act of 2011: Effects on Spending Levels and the Budget Deficit
Labonte, Marc; Levit, Mindy R. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. September 16, 2011[PDF format, 32 pages]
http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R42013.pdf

"The Budget Control Act of 2011 (BCA) was signed into law by President Obama on August 2, 2011 (P.L. 112-25). In addition to increasing the debt limit, the BCA contained a variety of measures intended to reduce the deficit by at least $2.1 trillion over the FY2012-FY2021 period, including statutory caps on discretionary spending and the establishment of a Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction to identify further budgetary savings of at least $1.2 trillion over 10 years… The BCA was enacted in response to congressional concern about unsustainable growth in the federal debt and deficit. The federal budget has been in deficit (spending exceeding revenue) since FY2002, but became significantly larger in FY2009. That year, the deficit topped $1 trillion for the first time ever, and it is estimated to remain above $1 trillion in FY2011. Relative to the overall size of the economy, budget deficits from FY2009 to FY2011 have been significantly larger than in any other year since World War II. This report focuses on how the BCA will affect spending and the budget deficit through the "first round" effects, related to discretionary spending caps and student loan provisions, and the "second round" effects of additional deficit reduction, related to the work of the Joint Committee. The report also examines short and long run effects of deficit reduction on the economy." *Marc Labonte is an Specialist in Macroeconomic Policy at the CRS. Mindy R. Levit is an Analyst in Public Finance at the CRS.*

Electronic Government: Performance Measures for Projects Aimed at Promoting Innovation and Transparency Can Be Improved
U.S. Government Accountability Office. September 23, 2011 [PDF format, 101 pages]
http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11775.pdf

"Congress enacted the Electronic Government (E-Gov) Act in 2002 to promote better use of the Internet and other information technologies (IT), thereby improving government services for citizens, internal government operations, and opportunities for citizen participation in government. Among other things, the act established the E-Gov Fund to support projects that expand the government's ability to carry out its activities electronically. The act also created the Office of Electronic Government within the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The Administrator of this office is to assist the OMB Director in approving projects to be supported by the E-Gov Fund. The General Services Administration (GSA) is responsible for administering the fund and notifying Congress of how the funds are to be allocated to projects approved by OMB. GAO was asked to (1) identify and describe the projects supported by the E-Gov Fund, including the distribution of

fiscal year 2010 funds among the projects and their expected benefits; and (2) for selected projects, identify their progress against goals."

Hispanic Media: Faring Better than the Mainstream Media
Guskin, Emily; Mitchell, Amy. Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. August 29, 2011.
http://stateofthemedia.org/2011/hispanic-media-fairing-better-than-the-mainstream-media/?src=prc-headline

"Spanish-language media remain important to a changing, more acculturated, and more U.S.-born Hispanic population in the United States. And in the last year, Spanish-language media tended to fare better overall than their mainstream English-language counterparts. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, the nation's Latino population grew to more than 50 million, more than double its size in 1990, and up 46.3% since 2000.1 It is also the nation's youngest ethnic group. The median age of Latinos is 27, while for non-Hispanic whites it is 42 and for non-Hispanic blacks it is 32. Among Latinos, a majority are bilingual. However, as births have become more important for Hispanic population growth than the arrival of new immigrants, the nation's Latino population is also becoming more U.S.-born. All of these factors could pose a threat to Spanish-language media operations. Hispanic newspapers overall lost circulation in 2010, but not nearly to the extent of the English-language press. The total number of Spanish-language newspapers remained stable. The story in television was even more positive. Univision, the largest Spanish-language network by far, continued to grow, reaching audience sizes that compete with the three major English-language broadcast networks (ABC, CBS and NBC). In 2011, it also announced the launch of a 24-hour Spanish-language news station. Radio is growing as well. The number of Spanish-language radio stations increased in 2010, and more Spanish-language radio companies began measuring for Arbitron, the standard method of rating radio stations." *Amy S. Mitchell is Deputy Director for the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. She is involved in all aspects of the PEJ, with a primary focus on designing, managing and writing the Project's in-depth research reports. Emily Guskin is a research analyst at the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism.*

How People Learn About Their Local Community
Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. September 26, 2011 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [HTML format, various paging]
http://www.journalism.org/analysis_report/local_news

"Contrary to much of the conventional understanding of how people learn about their communities, Americans turn to a wide range of platforms to get local news and information, and where they turn varies considerably depending on the subject matter and their age, according to the survey. Most Americans, including more tech-savvy adults under age 40, also use a blend of both new and traditional sources to get their information."

ARTICLES

All Over the Map
Lake, Eli. *The New Republic*. August 2011, var. pp.

"The Republican foreign policy consensus has collapsed. Which candidate's worldview will prevail? [] most of the 2008 candidates didn't deviate much from the hawkish, democracy-promoting, nation-building foreign policy vision of George W. Bush. John McCain stood squarely with the president. Rudy Giuliani, too, made clear that he hoped to remake the world in America's image. Of all the major candidates, Romney's views were probably the least well-defined and the most complicated. But, to the extent that he had misgivings about Bush's foreign policy, he mostly kept it behind closed doors--and, in public, largely

toed the Bush line. In the last few years, however, new insurgents began to emerge within the party, and new ideas moved to the center of the debate. The result is not simply that Republican candidates are, on the whole, less inclined to support democratization and nation-building this time around. It's that the very terms of the GOP foreign policy discussion have changed--or rather imploded entirely, leaving in their wake a difficult-to-parse ideological brew of policy disagreements and competing instincts. Making sense of this situation is especially complicated because most of the candidates, with the exception of Romney, are just beginning to form foreign policy teams. Still, that doesn't mean their ideas about the world remain a blank slate. If you spend enough time talking to their official and unofficial advisers, it is possible to develop a sense of where Romney and Michele Bachmann and Tim Pawlenty and Rick Perry fit within the newly fractious world of Republican foreign policy--and what they might do if they win."

Debt: The Shame of Cities and States
Keller, Morton. *Policy Review*. October 2011, var. pp.
http://www.hoover.org/publications/policy-review/article/93501

"The core problem is the massive, rapidly growing fiscal burden of current debt and future obligations spawned by public employee pensions and health care. It has become a touchstone public issue. In June 2011, the Hoover Institution's David Brady and Michael McConnell convened a State and Municipal Fiscal Default Workshop, designed to subject the crisis to concentrated, expert examination. Participants included leading bankruptcy and contract law-school professors, political scientists and historians, and a number of professionals who manage state and local government finance. The crisis stems from the rise of pension and health care provisions for public employees. In the past, these were commonly seen as fringe benefits. Today they are most often regarded as entitlements. There is a wealth of political and governmental meaning in that verbal shift. The United States was long notable for its failure to provide such benefits for employees of any sort, private or public. They were more common in Europe, the product of old feudal and new socialist influence. As in so much modern American history, the Great Depression and the Second World War was the great divide. Widespread private-pension and health care coverage came with the war. In the decades after 1945, these provisions grew from inexpensive fringe benefits to ever more costly entitlements in the public as well as the private sector. Out of this emerged the present crisis." *Morton Keller is Spector Professor of History emeritus at Brandeis University, and chairs Hoover's Working Group on Critical Junctures in Government and Politics. His most recent book is The Unbearable Heaviness of Government: The Obama Administration in Historical Perspective (Hoover Press, 2010).*

Disunited: Are Our States Moving in Separate Directions?
Brownstein, Ronald; Bland, Scott. *National Journal*. July 22, 2011, var. pp.
http://www.nationaljournal.com/politics/disunited-are-our-states-moving-in-separate-directions--20110722

"Legislatures in red and blue states are enacting very different kinds of laws. Is that for the good? After the 2010 election expanded Indiana Republicans' control of the state Senate and provided them a majority in the state House, GOP lawmakers joined with Republican Gov. Mitch Daniels to briskly advance a long list of conservative priorities. Together they adopted tough measures on illegal immigration (including legislation similar to Arizona's controversial enforcement bill); expanded the school-voucher program; limited collective bargaining by teachers; and overrode local restrictions that prevent gun owners from carrying their weapons in many public buildings. To much fanfare, Republicans defunded Planned Parenthood and enacted a raft of constraints on abortion, including a ban on the procedure after 20 weeks of pregnancy—a provision that critics say violates the constitutional right to abortion that the Supreme Court established under Roe v. Wade in 1973. Two hundred miles to the west, in Springfield, Ill., the Legislature has marched,

nearly as rapidly, in the opposite direction. Illinois Democrats have moved aggressively to leverage a 2010 election that maintained their party's control of the state House and Senate and installed Democratic Gov. Pat Quinn for a full term. While devising a budget to salve the desperate fiscal condition, Illinois Democrats made permanent the state's longtime moratorium on the death penalty." *Ronald Brownstein, a two-time finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for his coverage of presidential campaigns, is National Journal Group's Editorial Director. Scott Bland is a research assistant for National Journal.*

Policing in the Post-9/11 Era
Walters, Jonathan. *Governing*. August 31, 2011.
http://www.governing.com/topics/public-justice-safety/policing-post-911-era.html

"Most fundamentally, 9/11 forever changed the mission of police departments in the nation's larger metropolitan areas. With the exception of a handful of police professionals in cities like New York, Los Angeles and the District of Columbia, "Nobody in American policing was focused on international terrorism prior to 9/11," says William J. Bratton, who headed up the New York City and Los Angeles police departments, and is currently co-chair of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Homeland Security Advisory Council. In the aftermath of 9/11, two challenges became blatantly obvious. First, the emerging terrorism threat was going to require more local police involvement. Second, there was an increasing number of homegrown terrorists. "You had several pressures occurring that have brought the local police more into the area of terrorism," Bratton says. "It was now not only 'homeland security.' It was increasingly 'hometown security.'" *Jonathan Walters is the Executive Editor of Governing. He has been covering state and local public policy and administration for more than 30 years.*

The Plots that Failed: Intelligence Lessons Learned from Unsuccessful Terrorist Attacks Against the United States
Dahl, Erik. *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*. July 2011, pp.621-648.

"This article asks the questions, why do terrorist plots fail? And in particular, what kinds of intelligence and security efforts are most useful in preventing them? The lessons from these disrupted plots suggest that much of the debate over the use of intelligence to combat terrorism is misguided. The conventional wisdom holds that in most cases the information needed to prevent an attack is already available, and that the problem is not a lack of intelligence collection, but a lack of effective analysis that prevents authorities from "connecting the dots." This was the view following the 9/11 attacks, and it was a finding of the White House review of the Christmas Day bombing attempt. But the history of failed attacks shows that the conventional wisdom is wrong. Most plots are disrupted not when a highly skilled analyst detects subtle clues that link otherwise insignificant bits of data, but when intelligence and law enforcement agencies obtain very precise information about specific plots being planned by specific groups. And this precise intelligence is most often developed by ground-level, domestic intelligence and security efforts, rather than by the sorts of exotic espionage and foreign intelligence efforts that tend to dominate discussions of intelligence and terrorism." *Erik J. Dahl is a professor at the National Security Affairs Department of the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA.*

Reconsidering US Immigration Reform: The Temporal Principle of Citizenship
Cohen, Elizabeth F. *Perspectives on Politics*. Sep 2011, pp. 575-583.

"The uncertain political status of America's millions of undocumented immigrants and their children has exposed deep and ongoing disagreement about how US citizenship should be accorded to foreign-born persons. I identify the principle of jus temporis, a law of measured calendrical time, that has worked in concert with jus soli and consent to construct citizenship law since the nation's founding. Jus temporis translates measured durations of

time such as "time in residence" or "time worked" into entitlement to rights and status. It creates temporal algorithms in which measured calendrical time plus additional variables (e.g., physical presence, education, or behavior) equals consent to citizenship. I explore recent scholarly references to temporal principles and trace the history of how jus temporis was invoked by the nation's first Supreme Court jurisprudence on citizenship and the first Congressional debates about immigration and naturalization. Scholarly convergence on the principle of jus temporis as well as its originalist pedigree imbue this principle with the potential to resolve contemporary disagreements about the rights and status of foreign-born persons in the US." *Elizabeth F. Cohen is Associate Professor of Political Science at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University.*

New Campaign Technology Makes It a Small World, After All
Wilson, Reid. *The National Journal*. September 8, 2011, var. pp.
http://www.nationaljournal.com/member/magazine/new-campaign-technology-makes-it-a-small-world-after-all-20110908

"The partisan gap in America is growing. Republicans and Democrats on Capitol Hill inherently distrust each other, and the ever-expanding ranks of independent voters outside the Beltway don't trust anyone who clings to a party orthodoxy. From our education level to our income to our social standing, we are becoming a more stratified society—and, philosophically, the layers are increasingly growing apart. And yet, the world is somehow getting smaller. We can communicate just as easily with people who live across the globe as with those who live down the block. The definition of "neighbor" seems to be changing. We can call, text, e-mail, post on a Facebook wall, direct-message on Twitter—and now we can link up on Google+. We can even, heaven forbid, write a letter. This paradox of a divided and yet interconnected world is changing the way candidates win elections. Campaign tacticians are, in essence, returning to the basics, to a system where the political machines control their wards. Today, however, the wards are defined less by geography than by social boundaries and networks. The pace of technology and the advent of new tools to organize, survey, and mine populations enable a single campaign organization—whether based in Chicago or Austin or Boston—to keep more accurate tabs than ever before on the population that will render an electoral judgment in 2012. And these tools grow in sophistication every year." *Reid Wilson is editor-in-chief of National Journal Hotline, and contributes analysis of the national political environment in his weekly column, On The Trail.*

In Memory's Mirror
Blight, David W. *The American Interest.* September/October 2011.
http://www.the-american-interest.com/article.cfm?piece=1005

As we take stock of Civil War memory at this sesquicentennial, we have to ask why it still has such a hold on our national imagination. Why doesn't it simply go away now that all those who fought in the war have been dead for at least half a century? What gives the personalities and drama of this epoch such 21st-century resonance? Why is the Confederacy still so interesting to so many people? Haven't we had at least two "Reconstructions" that solved these issues? Didn't Barack Obama's improbable rise to the Presidency in 2008, as Thomas Friedman wrote in the New York Times on the morning after the election, mean that the "Civil War was over?." *David W. Blight is Class of '54 Professor of American History at Yale University and author of Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory (Harvard University Press, 2002).*

Gulf Coast Restoration: Can the Damaged Region Rebound?
Weeks, Jennifer. *CQ Global Researcher*, August 26, 2011, pp. 677-700.

"A year after BP's Deepwater Horizon drilling rig exploded, killing 11 workers and spewing almost 5 million barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico, researchers are still assessing the

damage. Much visible oil has been cleaned up, but dozens of dead dolphins and sea turtles have washed ashore, and some residents say exposure to toxic chemicals during the cleanup made them sick. While fish have been given a clean bill of health, demand for local seafood is lagging, and thousands of claims for lost income are pending. BP is likely to owe billions of dollars in penalties, money that could help restore the region's oil-damaged environment. But experts say eroding wetlands and pollution in the Mississippi Delta — caused by industrial activity and misguided flood-prevention efforts — also demand attention. Restoring the Gulf's unique ecological resources, many advocates say, will also strengthen communities — crucial in a region that has long suffered from poverty and economic inequality." *Jennifer Weeks is a freelance writer who specializes in energy, the environment, science and technology.*

Views expressed in the articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect U.S. government policies