



EARTH DAY, APRIL 22nd, 2008



Wellington - Earth Day, 2007

The Earth Day Network was founded by the organizers of the first Earth Day in 1970, Earth Day Network (EDN) promotes environmental citizenship and year round progressive action worldwide.

EDN seeks to grow and diversify the environmental movement worldwide, and to mobilize it as the most effective vehicle for promoting a healthy, sustainable planet. We pursue these goals through education, politics, events, and consumer activism.

The Network's programs and activities seek to **Promote Civic Engagement; Broaden the Meaning of "Environment"; Mobilize Communities; Introduce Groundbreaking Environmental Education Programs**, eg. GREEN Schools Campaign; and **Support Earth Day Events and Actions around the World.**

Earth Day, April 22 is the largest secular holiday in the world, now celebrated by more than one billion people.

In 2007, Earth Day Networks' (EDN's) international members organized 10,000 Earth Day events outside the United States, disseminating information on a wide variety of environmental challenges, and demonstrating the power of Earth Day to rally millions of people behind our environmental welfare.

[Earth Day in a Box](#)
[Environmental Education K-12](#)

[Environmental Fact Sheets](#)

[Climate Change Solutions Campaign](#)
[Water for Life Campaign](#)

What is your organization doing to support Earth Day this year?

SPOTLIGHT is produced monthly by the American Reference Center, Office of Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy Wellington.

It offers abstracts of current articles from U.S. publications and by U.S. authors, highlighting significant issues in international or U.S. domestic affairs. Views expressed in the articles cited are those of authors and do not necessarily reflect U.S. government policies.

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

America's Role in the World: Foreign Policy Choices for the Next President by Thomas Pickering et al. *Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University*, March 2008. 100p.

Presidential leadership in America is about making choices. This report examines the geopolitical and domestic American environment in which decisions will be made. It is divided into five parts: the geo-political environment; America's "capacity" to provide global leadership - the constraints on America's decision-making that will constrict presidential choices; the spectrum of potential debate about the "lessons" of the Iraq War for America's future decisions; and the fundamental choices that will help determine America's future role in the world. [ARTICLE 207](#)

America the Resilient by Stephen E. Flynn in *Foreign Affairs*, March/April.

A climate of fear and a sense of powerlessness caused by the threats of terrorism and natural disasters are undermining American ideals and fueling political demagoguery. Flynn says rebuilding the resilience of American society is the way to reverse this and respond to today's challenges. [ARTICLE 208](#)

Keeping Faith With our Common Values by John Howard. *American Enterprise Institute*, Web posted 6 March.

Former Australian Prime Minister John Howard delivered the "2008 Irving Kristol Lecture" at AEI's annual dinner and spoke of the political, cultural, and economic ties between the U.S. and Australia. [ARTICLE 209](#)

The U.S. Military Index in *Foreign Policy*, March/April.

FOREIGN POLICY and the Center for a New American Security surveyed more than 3,400 active and retired officers at the highest levels of command about the state of the U.S. military. They see a force stretched dangerously thin and a country ill-prepared for the next fight. [ARTICLE 210](#)

What Makes a Terrorist by Alan Krueger in *The American*, November/December.

It's not poverty and lack of education. Krueger says that the evidence suggests that terrorists care about influencing political outcomes, and are often motivated by geopolitical grievances. [ARTICLE 211](#)

How to Break a Terrorist in *Foreign Policy*, April/May.

How do you make a terrorist talk? Veteran FBI interrogator Jack Cloonan has broken some of Al-Qaeda's toughest operatives. In this special interview with **FP**, he shares some of his methods for making a terrorist tell all. [ARTICLE 212](#)

Iran Eyes the China Card by Kayhan Barzegar. Op-Ed, *PostGlobal*, A Conversation on Global Issues with David Ignatius and Fareed Zakaria, 2 February.

China's presence in Iran and the Middle East might be a potential threat for the United States given its current regional policies - but it is also an opportunity for emerging nations like Iran. [ARTICLE 213](#)

New Iran IAEA Report: Reading Between the Lines by Graham Allison. *Belfer Center*, 28 February.

Allison earmarks six unanswered questions on Iran's nuclear program on the recently released report. [ARTICLE 214](#)

Us and Them: The Enduring Power of Ethnic Nationalism by Jerry Muller in *Foreign Affairs*, March/April.

Americans generally belittle the role of ethnic nationalism in politics. But it corresponds to some enduring propensities of the human spirit; it is galvanized by modernization, and one way or another, it will drive global politics, says Muller. [ARTICLE 215](#)

Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Weapons and Missiles: Status and Trends by Paul Kerr. *CRS*, Web posted 3 March. 31p.

The total number of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons in the world is shrinking as the major powers scale back their inventories through unilateral reductions and arms control. But other countries and groups are still seeking to acquire these weapons. The United States has long recognized the dangers inherent in the spread of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons. This report analyzes the potential threat patterns around the globe. [ARTICLE 216](#)

Managing Migration: the Global Challenge by Phillip Martin, et. al. in the *Population Bulletin*. *Population Reference Bureau*, Web posted 4 March. 24p.

The number of international migrants is at an all-time high. There were 191 million migrants in 2005, which means that 3% of the world's people left their country of birth or citizenship for a year or more. This study found that most migrants are not welcomed unconditionally into the countries to which they move. [ARTICLE 217](#)

The Status of U.S. Efforts in Afghanistan by Jeffrey Hamre et al. *CSIS*, 27 February. 27p.

A transcript of a discussion between R. Nicholas Burns, U.S. Undersecretary for Political Affairs; Col. David Lamm, former Chief of Staff, Combined Forces in Afghanistan, et. al. on the status of the American effort. [ARTICLE 218](#)

Dissent and Strategic Leadership of the Military Professions by Don Snider. *Strategic Studies Institute of the U.S. Army War College*, Web posted, 4 March. 46p.

Looks at the three critical trust relationships of the military profession - those with the American people, those with civilian and military leaders at the highest levels of decision-making, and those with the junior corps of officers and noncommissioned officers of the armed forces. [ARTICLE 219](#)

Chemical and Biological Defense: DOD and VA Need to Improve Efforts to Identify and Notify Individuals Potentially Exposed During Chemical and Biological tests. *GAO*, Web posted 28 February. 49p.

Examines decisions by the Department of Defense with regard to identifying individuals who may have been exposed to chemical or biological substances during various tests since World War II. [ARTICLE 220](#)

Hugo Chavez, the FARC, and Threats of War by Ray Walser. *Heritage*, 4 March, 2008. 3p.

The reaction of Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez to a recent bilateral incident and his order to militarize the Colombia - Venezuela frontier threaten to escalate the incident into a full-blown regional crisis. [ARTICLE 221](#)

Beyond Hollywood and the Boardroom: Celebrity Diplomacy by Andrew Cooper in *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs*, Summer/Fall.

The ability of personalities such as Angelina, Bono, and Bill Gates to gain access to world leaders is becoming increasingly recognized if not fully understood by the international affairs community. Through their activism on the world stage a self-selected cast of celebrities have begun to have an impact on policy, shaping the agenda on a range of global humanitarian issues. [ARTICLE 223](#)

The West Must Back Full Independence for Kosovo by Nile Gardner. *Heritage*, 15 February.

Gardner believes that it is important that the West remains united in fully supporting Kosovo's efforts to gain complete independence from Serbia. He says that Western powers must stand up to any threats coming from Belgrade and Moscow and support Kosovo's full membership within the United Nations, as a sovereign state. [ARTICLE 224](#)

Secure Border Initiative: Observations on the Importance of Applying Lessons Learned to Future Projects by Richard Stana. *GAO*; testimony before *House Committee on Homeland Security*, 27 February. 26p.

On February 22, 2008, DHS announced final acceptance of Project 28, a \$20.6 million project to secure 28 miles along the southwest border, and is now gathering lessons learned to use in future technology development. [ARTICLE 225](#)

The Connection has Been Reset by James Fallows in *The Atlantic Monthly*, March.

Foreign visitors attending the Olympics in Beijing may be pleasantly surprised by what will seem to be easy access to the Internet. They shouldn't be deceived, says Fallows, Atlantic's national correspondent reporting from Beijing. "What the Olympic-era visitors will be discovering is not the absence of China's electronic control but its new refinement – and a special Potemkin-style unfettered access that will be set up just for them, and just for the length of their stay," Fallows writes. [ARTICLE 226](#)

Time for Kurdish Realism by Michael O'Hanlon et al. *Brookings Institution*, 9 February.

Increasingly, Iraq's Kurds appear to be interfering with efforts to foster political accommodation among their country's major sectarian groups. Since Iraq's future hinges on establishing such a spirit of compromise. The authors warn that this trend has potentially grave implications for Iraq, its neighbors and the United States. [ARTICLE 227](#)

Homeland Security: DHS Has Taken Actions to Strengthen Border Security Programs and Operations, but Challenges Remain by Richard Stana. *GAO*, 6 March. 25p.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has stressed the importance of effective inspections and trained CBP supervisors and officers in interviewing travelers at U.S. ports of entry. Weaknesses in travel inspection procedures and lack of physical infrastructure have hampered CBP's ability to inspect travelers thoroughly and detect fraudulent documents. As of December 2007, actions taken to meet the initiative's requirements include selecting technology to be used at land ports of entry and developing plans to train officers to use it.

[ARTICLE 228](#)

Constitutional Limits on Hate Crime Legislation by Alison Smith. *CRS*, 20 February. 6p.

Federal and state legislators recognize the special concerns and effects of hate crimes. Although there is some federal legislation in place, many states have enacted some form of ethnic intimidation law or bias-motivated sentence-enhancement factors in attempts to curtail hate crimes. Several United States Supreme Court cases provide the framework in which states must legislate to ensure the constitutionality of hate crime legislation. After these landmark cases, the real questions for states involve identifying permissible ways to curtail hate crimes without infringing on any constitutionally protected rights.

[ARTICLE 229](#)

Us and Them: The Enduring Power of Ethnic Nationalism by Jerry Muller in *Foreign Affairs*, March-April.

According to Muller, professor of history at the Catholic University of America, persistent ethnic nationalism does not happen by chance, it is inevitable in the continued development of nation-states. The fact that "ethnic and state boundaries now largely coincide has meant that there are fewer disputes over borders or expatriate communities," Muller says, "leading to the most stable territorial configuration in European history." In existing multiethnic countries where ethnic violence erupts, partition into separate nation-states may be the most humane lasting solution.

[ARTICLE 230](#)

International Illegal Trade in Wildlife: Threats and U.S. Policy by Liana Sun Wyler, et. al. *CRS*, 3 March. 49p.

Global trade in illegal wildlife is estimated to be worth at least \$5 billion annually. Some of the most lucrative illicit wildlife commodities include tiger parts, caviar, ivory, rhino horn, and exotic birds and reptiles. Demand for illegally obtained wildlife is growing. International wildlife smuggling presents several potential environmental and national security threats to the United States.

[ARTICLE 231](#)

Securing the High Seas: America's Global Maritime Constabulary Power by Mackenzie M. Eaglen, et. al. *Heritage Foundation Maritime Security Working Group; Heritage*, 12 March. 25p.

This report identifies the roles and missions that are related to global maritime constabulary power, describes the respective roles of allied nations and the private sector, and recommends a division of responsibilities between the Navy and the Coast Guard.

[ARTICLE 232](#)

Some International Relations online resources which may be of interest:

[Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, 2007 / New Zealand](#) *U.S. Dept of State*, 11 March.

[Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment](#) *U.S. Dept of State*, 28 February (covers the 6 months since June 2007 annual report).

[Moving Forward in 2008: The U.S.-East Asia Relationship](#) Briefing by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill at the Foreign Press Center, *U.S. Dept of State*, 19 March.

[China-U.S. Relations: Current Issues and Implications for U.S. Policy](#) by Kerry Dumbaugh. *CRS*, 17 March.

[Declaration and Principles: Future U.S. Commitments to Iraq](#) Hearing before subcommittees of the U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs, March 4, 2008. For transcripts, scroll down.

[Ready, Aim, Foreign Policy: How the Pentagon's Role in Foreign Policy is Growing, and Why Congress - and the American Public - Should be Worried](#) *Latin America Working Group Education Fund*, March. 16p.

[A Struggle for Survival: Trafficking of North Korean Women](#) Address by Mark P. Lagon, Director, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, *U.S. Dept of State*, at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, 3 March.

[Olympic Pressure on China. Backgrounder](#) by Carin Zissis and Preeti Bhattacharji. *Council on Foreign Relations*, 11 March.

[Pakistan's Constitution. Backgrounder](#) by Jayshree Bajoria. *CFR*, 6 March.

[**Iranian Influence in the Levant, Iraq, and Afghanistan**](#) by Frederick W. Kagan. *AEI*, 19 February.

[**Military Space Programs**](#) Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services*, 4 March.

[**Why Iraqis Cannot Agree on an Oil Law. Backgrounder**](#) by Lionel Beehner and Greg Bruno. *CFR*, 22 February.

[**U.S. Policy Options in Post-Election Pakistan**](#) Hearing before the *U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations*, 28 February. The witness is U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John D. Negroponte.

[**With Castro Stepping Down, What's Next for Cuba and the Western Hemisphere?**](#) Hearing before the *Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs*, 5 March. [Transcripts](#), and scroll down.

[**U.S.-Cuba Relations. Backgrounder**](#) by Stephanie Hanson. *CFR*, 21 February.

[**Strengthening National Security Through Smart Power - a Military Perspective**](#) Hearing before the *U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations*, March 5, 2008

[**Status of Forces Agreements and UN Mandates: What Authorities and Protections Do They Provide to U.S. Personnel?**](#) Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs*, 29 February. [Transcripts](#), and scroll down.

[**The Evolution of Cyber Warfare**](#) Backgrounder by Greg Bruno. *Council on Foreign Relations*, 27 February.

[**Operation Iraqi Freedom: Strategies, Approaches, Results, and Issues for Congress**](#) *CRS* report, 22 February.

[**How Large is China's Economy? Does it Matter?**](#) *CRS*, 13 February.

[**Development and Reform of the Iraqi Police Forces**](#) by Tony Pfaff. *Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College*, January.

[**The New Middle East**](#) *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*, February. 48p. [News Release](#)

[**The Egypt-Gaza Border and Its Effects on Israeli-Egyptian Relations**](#) by Jeremy Sharp. *CRS*, 1 February.

[**Military Power of the People's Republic of China 2008: Annual Report to Congress**](#) *U.S. Dept of Defense*, 2008. 66p.

[**Kosovo: The Balkans' Moment of Truth?**](#) Remarks by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Daniel Fried to the *U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations*, March 4

[**Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Weapons and Missiles: Status and Trends**](#) by Paul Kerr. *CRS*, 20 February.

[**U.S. Nuclear Weapons: Changes in Policy and Force Structure**](#) by Amy Woolf. *CRS*, 23 January.

[**Nonstrategic Nuclear Weapons**](#) by Amy Woolf. *CRS*, 16 January.

[**Current Trends in Islamist Ideology**](#) Volume 6. *Hudson Institute*, 2008.

[**Iran, Terrorism, and Weapons of Mass Destruction**](#) by Daniel Byman in *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, 2008. [Summary](#)

[**The Department of Homeland Security's R&D Budget Priorities for Fiscal Year 2009**](#) Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on Science and Technology*, 6 March.

[**U.N. Convention Against Torture \(CAT\): Overview and Application to Interrogation Techniques**](#) by Michael John Garcia. *CRS* 25 January.

[**Safe at Home: A National Security Strategy to Protect the American Homeland, the Real Central Front**](#) *Center for American Progress*, 25 February.

[**Aviation Security: Background and Policy Options for Screening and Securing Air Cargo**](#) *CRS*, 25 February.

POLITICS / GOVERNMENT

Mickey Goes to Washington by Jeffrey Birnbaum in the *Washington Post Magazine*, 17 February.

Today, there are at least 261,000 lobbyists, twice as many as eight years ago, while fees paid to individual registered lobbyists have also doubled to more than \$2 billion a year. [ARTICLE 233](#)

The High Wire Act of Barack Obama by Shelby Steele in *Hoover Digest*, #1, 2008.

Shelby Steele on a black presidential candidate—and what his campaign says about the country. [ARTICLE 234](#)

Presidential Fundraising in 2007 Doubles 2003 *Campaign Finance Institute*, 11 February.

The presidential candidates raised a combined total of nearly \$552 million in 2007 for the 2008 primaries, according to year-end reports filed with the Federal Election Commission on January 31. This more than doubles the previous off-year record of \$273 million that the 2004 candidates raised in 2003. [ARTICLE 235](#)



Women in Politics: Making a Difference in the U.S.A. *U.S. Dept of State, Office of International Information Programs*, 2008.

This e-journal offers the stories of women who believed that they could make a difference by participating in politics and government, and forged ahead to do so. They are not famous, like U.S. presidential candidate Hillary Clinton, and they are not serving at the top, like Presidents Michelle Bachelet of Chile or Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf in Liberia. But, just like Bachelet, Clinton, and Johnson-Sirleaf, they have overcome obstacles to get where they are. They have acquired experience in running for election, being an effective policy-maker, and in persuading elected officials to support their cause.

Some Politics/Government online resources which may be of interest:

Preliminary Analysis of the President's Budget Request for 2009 *CBO*, 3 March.

2008: A Political Odyssey -Experts in demography, politics, and public opinion spoke at a recent joint *American Enterprise Institute/Brookings Institution* conference about how demographic shifts may affect the 2008 election – and elections beyond.

Contributions to Party Committees Rise for Democrats and Decline for Republicans News release, *Federal Election Commission*, 6 March.

The Caucus System in the U.S. Presidential Nominating Process Backgrounder by Joanna Klonsky. *CFR*, 3 March.

Youth Radio: Election 2008 - Youth Radio is following Election 2008 around the country, through the perspectives of young people who are getting a close-up view of the process. Check out their thoughts, and watch for more to come.

A Primer on Voting-by-Mail - Voting-by-mail is relatively new on the U.S. electoral landscape... Advocates for mail balloting argue that because of its strong democratic tradition, the United States should continue to eradicate barriers to the franchise, and make voting easier through mail-in elections.

Oregon's Vote-by-Mail Guide - In 2000 Oregon became the first state in the nation to conduct a presidential election entirely by mail. This brochure includes general information on how vote by mail works, a list of frequently asked questions, vote by mail facts and figures, etc.

Public Divided on Whether Obama Has Necessary Experience - The most recent *USA Today*/Gallup poll finds 46% of Americans saying Barack Obama has the experience necessary to be President.

Automated Political Telephone Calls ("Robo Calls") in Federal Campaigns: Overview and Policy Options *CRS*, 7 February.

More Than Half of Americans Never Read Political Blogs - For every political persuasion, it seems like there is at least a handful of political blogs which chart attitudes and opinions on campaigns, issues and candidates relevant to that political leaning.

Over Half of Americans Say They Tend Not to Trust the Press - During this political primary season, the media, especially cable news networks, have seen a large increase in viewers, listeners and/or readers. But, do people actually trust the media?

TRADE/ECONOMY

Child Labor: Why We Can't Kick Our Addiction by Megha Bahree in *Forbes*, 25 February.

Although there are national and international laws against it, child labor remains a global phenomenon. Companies with stores in the U.S. such as GapKids and Macy's, Ikea, Lowe's and Home Depot all claim to have strict policies against selling products made by children, yet such products continue to appear on their shelves. Bahree writes that child labor is "a fact of a global economy, and will continue to be, as long as Americans (and Europeans) demand cheap goods -- and incomes in emerging economies remain low."

ARTICLE 236

Reducing Preventable Mortgage Foreclosures Speech by Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman, Federal Reserve Board, 4 March.

The Chairman of the Fed looks at the causes of the distress in the mortgage sector, and also the key question -- "What can be done in this environment to reduce preventable foreclosures?"

ARTICLE 237

Some Trade/Economics online resources which may be of interest:

2008 Trade Policy Agenda and 2007 Annual Report of the President of the United States on the Trade Agreements Program USTR, March 2008. Please note: 473p. **Press release** 4 March.

Monetary Policy and the State of the Economy Hearing before the *U.S. House Committee on Financial Services*, 26 February.
Further hearing was held on 27 February, 2008

The State of the Banking Industry Hearing before the *U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs*, 4 March.

Subprime Rescue Plans: Backdoor Bank Bailouts by Dean Baker. *Center for Economic and Policy Research*, March 2008. 9p.

Free Trade, Free Markets: Rating Congress A web feature from the *Cato Institute*, showing the voting record of members of Congress on trade-related issues from the 105th Congress onward.

Implications of Globalization for the Conduct of Monetary Policy Speech by Donald L. Kohn, vice chairman, Board of Governors of the *U.S. Federal Reserve*, in Paris, 7 March.

Comments on Stylized Facts of Globalization and World Inflation Remarks by Richard W. Fisher, President and CEO, *Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas*, in Paris, 7 March.

The Current Financial Challenges: Policy and Regulatory Implications Speech by Timothy Geithner, President and CEO, *Federal Reserve Bank of New York*, 6 March.

Early Lessons from Recent Financial Turmoil Remarks - Eric S. Rosengren, Pres. & CEO, *Fed. Reserve Bank of Boston*, 6 March.

CEO Pay and the Mortgage Crisis Hearing before the *U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform*, 7 March.

Trade and Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for Workers: Current Issues and Legislation CRS, 20 February.

Foreign Investment: Laws and Practices Regulating Foreign Investment in 10 Countries GAO, February. (Looks at the foreign investment reg. policies of Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Japan, The Netherlands, Russia, UAE and the U.K.)

European Union? -- U.S. Trade and Investment Relations: Key Issues CRS, 14 February.

The Mortgage Meltdown: Implications for Credit Availability Discussion by Eric S. Rosengren, President and CEO, *Federal Reserve Bank of Boston*, 29 February.

Banks and Thrifts Earned \$105.5 Billion in 2007 FDIC news release, 26 February. **The FDIC's Quarterly Banking Profile**

Getting Ahead or Losing Ground: Economic Mobility in America *Brookings Institution and Pew Charitable Trusts*, 2008. 120p.

Foreign Government Investment in the U.S. Economy and Financial Sector Hearing before subcommittees of the *U.S. House Committee on Financial Services*, 5 March.

Poaching American Security: Impacts of Illegal Wildlife Trade Hearing - *U.S. House Comm. on Natural Resources*, 5 March.

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT / RESOURCES

A Changing Climate: The Road Ahead for the United States by Todd Stern & William Antholis in *Washington Quarterly*, Winter.

The next U.S. President must adopt an aggressive policy to address global climate change, according to these authors who are with the Center for American Progress and the Brookings Institution respectively. They recommend that the President engage in a "layered diplomacy," with a focus on a core group of nations responsible for a majority of world emissions. The authors' most emphatic point is that the threats of global warming are too imperative to ignore: "These daunting risks should impel us to take aggressive action to insure the world against grave harm", they write. Article one of CLIMATE POLICY CROSSROADS series in this issue. **ARTICLE 238**

Arctic Meltdown by Scott Borgerson in *Foreign Affairs*, March/April.

Thanks to global warming, the Arctic icecap is rapidly melting, opening up access to massive natural resources and creating shipping shortcuts that could save billions of dollars a year. But there are currently no clear rules governing this economically and strategically vital region. Unless Washington leads the way toward a multilateral diplomatic solution, the Arctic could descend into armed conflict.

ARTICLE 239

Federal Pollution Control Laws: How They Are They Enforced? By Robert Elsworth. *CRS*, 20 February. 48p.

Elsworth provides an overview of the statutory framework, key players, infrastructure, resources, tools, and operations associated with enforcement and compliance of the major pollution control laws and regulations administered by EPA. It also outlines the roles of federal (including regional offices) and state regulators, as well as the regulated community. **ARTICLE 240**

One Nation Under Elvis: An Environmentalism for Us All by Rebecca Solnit in *Orion*, March/April.

Solnit uses American country music to illustrate the disdain that many in the U.S. environmentalist movement have had toward minorities, the poor and many rural dwellers. She notes that this elitism has turned away many segments of America that would otherwise have been natural allies and played into the hands of entrenched economic interests; and that the ethos that nature is a place where one vacations or retreats to, but where one does not work or live, has colored the outlook of the U.S. environmental movement ever since. **ARTICLE 241**

Some environmental online resources which may be of interest:

President Bush attends Washington Internat. Renewable Energy Conference 2008, 5 March /White House Fact Sheet

Remarks - U.S. Deputy Sec. of State Negroponte at Washington International Renewable Energy Conference, 4 March.

Advancing the Use of Renewable Energy Worldwide. Fact sheet *U.S. Dept of State*, 3 March.

ECOTRUST: The Ecotrust Mission: To Build Salmon Nation - Citizens of Salmon Nation want to live in a place where economic, ecological, and social conditions are improving, where a "conservation economy" is emerging.

ERS Bioenergy Research Plans *USDA Economic Research Service*, 2008.

Pricing Carbon: Saving Green: Pricing Carbon to Lower Emissions, Taxes, and Barriers to Green Technology *David Suzuki Foundation*, 2008. **Summary**

Federal Pollution Control Laws: How Are They Enforced? *CRS*, 20 February.

Surface Transportation: Restructured Federal Approach Needed for More Focused, Performance-Based, and Sustainable Programs *GAO*, March. 91p.

Climate Change: Competitiveness Concerns and Prospects for Engaging Developing Countries Hearing before the *Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce*, 5 March.

Climate Change and Vulnerable Societies: A Post-Bali Overview Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs*, 27 February. **Transcripts**, and scroll down. (Focuses especially on small Pacific island nations)

The Bali Agreements and Forests by Ross Gorte. *CRS*, 13 February.

BUSINESS/LABOR

The Principles of Entrepreneurship *U.S. Dept. of State. IIP, 2008.*

Economists and business people differ in their definitions of entrepreneurship. Most, however, agree that entrepreneurship is vital for stimulating economic growth and employment opportunities in all societies. This is particularly true in the developing world, where successful small businesses are the primary engines of job creation and poverty reduction. This page introduces the first eight of what eventually will be a series of 21 one-page primers on the fundamentals of entrepreneurship. It discusses the essentials for building and running a business from the planning stages to marketing a product.

ARTICLE 242

Fast 50: The World's Most Innovative Companies by Chuck Salter in *Fast Company*, March.

Writers from the magazine *Fast Company* identify 50 companies that are moving forward in innovative ways. Some companies are included on the list for their new patents granted this year, others for innovative management techniques, or new products brought to market. Tata made the list for trying to bring a \$2500 car to India and GE for re-engineering the CF34 jet engine. Communications and computer firms are represented as well as niche retailers. Google is first on the list and the authors describe what makes Google an innovative company through profiles of Google managers.

ARTICLE 243

Lone Star Rising by Joel Kotkin in *The American*, March/April.

How a combination of ambition, entrepreneurship, trade, and tolerance made Houston America's booming opportunity city. Kotkin also looks at what makes a city great.

ARTICLE 244

The Future of the Future: Overcoming the Resistance to Change by Art Murray, on *KMWorld*, 27 Sept., 2007.

ARTICLE 245

The Most Important Hire You Will Ever Make by Melanie Lindner on *Forbes.com*, 20 March.

There are now some 1.3 million Americans who identify themselves as childcare providers, in both facilities and in private homes. A recession might put a few nannies out of work as strapped couples tighten their purse strings, but that's still a big number--about four nannies for every 100 families with at least one child, according to the latest figures from the U.S. Census Bureau. As with any important investment decision, nabbing a good nanny takes time, money and focus. Finding a good fit is critical--after all, look at what's riding on the decision.

ARTICLE 246

The Greening of U.S. Corporations – e-journal, *IIP, U.S. Dept. of State*, April 2008.



This issue of *eJournal USA* delves into what those familiar with the history of the environmental movement in the United States might see as a surprising trend — the way U.S. corporations in recent years have embraced environmentally friendly ways of doing business. What prompts a corporation to “go green”?

“We looked across our company and recognized that a focus on environmental technology could be a big business initiative for the company,” said Jeffrey Immelt, the chief executive of General Electric, a leader in this field. “The concept we worked on at the time was this notion that green is green.” So the environment has become a business opportunity, a chance to increase profits, the core of any business enterprise. But the story of converting corporations to green policies is more complex than that.

Some business/labor online resources which may be of interest:

Hearing on Design Law: Are Special Provisions Needed to Protect Unique Industries? Hearing before a subcommittee of the *U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary*, 14 February.

Paid Family Leave at Fortune 100 Companies: A Basic Standard but Still Not the Gold Standard *JEC*, March. 25p.

Unemployment in a Volatile Economy: How to Secure Families and Build Opportunity Hearing before the *U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions*, 6 March.

AMERICAN SOCIETY

Justice and Law Enforcement:

One in 100: Behind Bars in America Jennifer Warren, et. al. [*Pew Center on the States, Public Safety Performance Project*], 28 February. 37p.

Three decades of growth in America's prison population has quietly nudged the nation across a sobering threshold: for the first time, more than one in every 100 adults is now confined in an American jail or prison. According to figures gathered and analyzed by the Pew Public Safety Performance Project, the number of people behind bars in the United States continued to climb in 2007, saddling cash-strapped states with soaring costs they can ill afford and failing to have a clear impact either on recidivism or overall crime.

[ARTICLE 247](#)

[Constitutional Limits on Hate Crime Legislation](#) CRS, 20 February.

[School-Associated Student Homicides - United States, 1992-2006](#) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, 18 January.

Aging and Retirement:

[A Statistical Profile of Older Americans Aged 65+](#) Admin. on Aging, U.S. Dept of Health & Human Services, 6 February. 2p.

[The Maturing of America: Getting Communities on Track for an Aging Population](#) National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (and others), 2007 (?). 36p. [Summary](#)

[End-of-Life Care: Key Components Provided by Programs in Four States](#) GAO, December 2007.

Health:

[Technological Change and the Growth of Health Care Spending](#) CBO, January. [Charts](#)

[America's 50 Best Hospitals - the second annual ranking](#) by HealthGrades, February 2008.

[News release](#)

[Retiring Retirement](#) in *The Futurist*, March/April.

In this interview, life-cycle expert Maddy Dychtwald says that planning for life past 65 is more important now than ever before.

[ARTICLE 248](#)

Drugs:

[2008 International Narcotics Control Strategy Report](#) U.S. Dept of State, 29 February.

[National Drug Control Strategy: 2008 Annual Report](#) White House, March. 79p. [Fact Sheet](#)

Population, Immigration and Citizenship:

[Immigrants Joining the Mainstream](#) U.S. Dept of State, Office of International Information Programs, *eJournal USA*, February.

[U.S. Population Projections: 2005-2050](#) Pew Research Center, 11 February. 55p.

[Managing Migration: The Global Challenge](#) Population Reference Bureau, *Population Bulletin*, March.

Philanthropy and Volunteering:

[A Nation of Givers](#) by Arthur C. Brooks in *The American*, March/April.

A look at giving in the USA.

[ARTICLE 249](#)

[Highlights of Foundation Giving Trends](#) [2008 edition]. *The Foundation Center*, February.

[Press release](#)

[Volunteering in the United States, 2007](#) Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept of Labor, 23 January. 12p.

EDUCATION

What Keeps Good Teachers in the Classroom?: Understanding and Reducing Teacher Turnover. *Alliance for Excellent Education*, February. 9p.

This brief explores the costs associated with teachers leaving the profession and their schools, the characteristics of those likely to leave, and what can be done to prevent unnecessary and costly turnover. [Press release](#) [ARTICLE 250](#)

Going for the Gold by Barry Newstead in *Education Next*, Spring.

Secrets of successful schools.

[ARTICLE 251](#)

Social Exclusion and the Gender Gap in Education by Maureen Lewis et al. *World Bank*, Web posted 20 March. 40p.

Despite a sharp increase in the share of girls who enroll in, attend, and complete various levels of schooling, an educational gender gap remains in some countries. This paper argues that one explanation for this gender gap is the degree of social exclusion within these countries, as indicated by ethno-linguistic heterogeneity, which triggers both economic and psycho-social mechanisms to limit girls' schooling. [ARTICLE 252](#)

Some education online resources which may be of interest:

Visas for Foreign Scholars and Students Hearing before the *Subcommittee on Research and Science Education, U.S. House Committee on Science and Technology*, 7 February.

Foreign Students in the United States: Policies and legislation *CRS*, 10 December.

Education and the Asian Surge: A Comparison of the Education Systems in India and China *RAND*, 2008. 55p.

The Final Report of the National Mathematics Advisory Panel *U.S. Dept of Education*, March. Note: 120p.

The Top 101 Web Sites for Teachers by Tim Stahmer, an instructional technology specialist with Fairfax County Public Schools, VA

Current-Generation Youth Programs: What Works, What Doesn't, and at What Cost? by Megan K. Beckett. *RAND*, 2008. [Brief Summary](#) / [Longer Summary](#)

Improving the Child Welfare System Hearing before a subcomm. of U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means, 27 February.

Children's Rights: International and National Laws and Practices *Law Library of Congress*.

THE ARTS & CULTURE

In Your Face by Pernilla Holmes in *ARTnews*, June 2007.

Portraiture in undergoing a renaissance.

[ARTICLE 253](#)

A Brief History of Chocolate Amanda Bensen on *Smithsonian.com*, 1 March.

The bittersweet story of this ancient treat.

[ARTICLE 254](#)

Q at the Castle by Kenneth R. Fletcher on *Smithsonian.com*, 1 March.

Why the Smithsonian Institution can't get enough of American music's top artist-entrepreneur, Quincy Jones who has been involved in many of music's great moments of the last 50 years. [ARTICLE 255](#)

Classical Music Thrives in America The classical music genre in America is still very much alive and increasingly inventive. Symphony orchestras and classical performers have turned to the Internet to introduce new and younger audiences to the world of classical music. Listeners are downloading not just the latest hit recordings, but also live classical concerts and opera performances via the Internet.

Kennedy Center to Showcase Artistic Traditions of Arab World by Michael Bandler on *America.gov*, 24 March. This three-week festival is scheduled to open in Washington in February 2009.

MEDIA & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The State of the News Media, 2008: An Annual Report on American Journalism Pew Research Center Project for Excellence in Journalism, 17 March.

The state of the American news media is troubled and the problems seem different than those many experts have predicted. Some have tended to see technology “democratizing” the media and pushing traditional journalism into decline. But more and more it appears that the biggest problem is the decoupling of news and advertising as the latter has not fully migrated with the consumer to the online sites.

ARTICLE 256

Maybe It's Time to Panic by Carl Sessions Stepp in *American Journalism Review*, April/May.

It isn't about whether journalism will survive, or even whether they will have jobs. Why news organizations have to act much more boldly if they are to survive.

ARTICLE 257

Nonprofit News by Carol Guensburg in *American Journalism Review*, February/March. 8p.

With traditional news organizations continuing to trim their budgets and reduce their staffs, long-term, labor-intensive investigative and enterprise journalism are more frequently made possible by funding from foundations and nonprofits, writes Guensburg, herself a former newspaper reporter who now writes for a nonprofit organization. She observes that foundations are interested in compensating for what they see as diminished coverage of civic issues. And as paid advertising abandons print journalism for the Internet, news organizations are eager for new revenue.

ARTICLE 258

The Journal-ist: In the Lead by James Kuczumski in *Fast Company*, March.

From this month's academic journals, four views on what makes a top-notch 21st-century leader: curiosity, charisma, neuroscience, and Ivy League thinking.

ARTICLE 259

Mobile Access to Data and Information *Pew Internet & American Life Project*, 5 March.

This report looks at the increasing importance of cell phones and other wireless technologies in the daily lives of Americans, especially younger people.

ARTICLE 260

Free At Last by Barb Palser in *American Journalism Review*, April/May.

Why online journals are finally giving up charging for content online.

ARTICLE 261

Public Opinion and the War With Iraq by Karlyn Bowman. *American Enterprise Institute, Short Publications*, 14 March.

This study is a compilation of recent public opinion polls on, among other things, the build-up to and beginning of the war in Iraq, the proper use of force, achieving stability in the region and the prospect of peace, and what should be done from here on out. Among the highlights:

- 59 % in Gallup's latest survey say that the war in Iraq was a mistake but 40% believe the “surge” is working.
- According to Pew, 48% say the war is going well, 48% say it is not going well.
- 31% approved of Pres. Bush's handling of the war according to CBS/NY Times poll.

ARTICLE 262

Some online resources which may be of interest:

Over Half of Americans Say They Tend Not to Trust the Press - During this political primary season, the media, especially cable news networks, have seen a large increase in viewers, listeners and/or readers. But, with all this do people actually trust the media?

Status of the DTV Transition: 370 Days and Counting Hearing before the *Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce*, 13 February.

Competition in the Sports Programming Marketplace Hearing before the *Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce*, 5 March.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Avian Flu Pandemic: Potential Impact of Trade Disruptions by Danielle Langton. *CRS*, 3 January. 6p.

The possibility of an avian flu pandemic with consequences for global trade is a concern that has received attention recently, although experts disagree on the likelihood of an avian flu pandemic developing at all. This report examines scenarios in which international trade could be heavily controlled or limited due to an avian flu pandemic, including possible impacts on trade between the United States and countries and regions that have reported avian influenza infections.

[**ARTICLE 263**](#)

Is an Outer Space Arms Control Treaty Verifiable? Remarks by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Paula A DeSutter, U.S. Dept. of State, 4 March.

[**ARTICLE 264**](#)

Trends Shaping Tomorrow's World: Forecasts and Implications for Business, Government, and Consumers (Part One) by Marvin J. Cetron and Owen Davies in *The Futurist*, March/April.

This special report (first of two parts) updates the major trends that have been tracked in a four-decade research project by Forecasting International. Trends covered in part 1 include the growth of the economy in the developed world, the redistribution of global population through mass migration, the loss of privacy - and the demand for it, and the continuing growth in demand for oil. The authors summarize the implications of each trend and include commentaries from professional futurists and experts in relevant fields.

[**ARTICLE 265**](#)

World Wide Webs: Diasporas and the International System by Michael Fullilove. *Lowy Institute for International Policy*, 20 February. 107p.

Diasporas – communities which live outside, but maintain links with, their homelands - are getting larger, and stronger. They are the human face of globalization. Diaspora consciousness is on the rise: diasporans are becoming more interested in their origins, and organizing themselves more effectively; homelands are revising their opinions of their diasporas as the stigma attached to emigration declines, and stepping up their engagement efforts; meanwhile, host countries are witnessing more assertive diasporic groups within their own national communities and are becoming concerned with possible “fifth columns” and foreign influence.

[**ARTICLE 266**](#)

Border Searches of Laptops and Other Electronic Storage Devices by Kim Yule. *CRS*, 5 March. 11p.

The Fourth Amendment generally requires a warrant to support most searches and seizures conducted by the government. Federal courts have long recognized that one of the many exceptions to this general presumption is the border search exception. The border search exception permits government officials, in most routine circumstances, to conduct searches with no suspicion of wrongdoing. Though in some “non-routine” and particularly invasive situations customs officials are required to have “reasonable suspicion” in order to conduct a search.

[**ARTICLE 267**](#)

Mobile Access to Data and Information by John Horrigan. *Pew Research Center, Internet and American Life Project*, Web posted 10 March. 12p.

62% of all Americans have some experience with mobile access to digital data and tools. That is, they have either used a cell phone or PDA for a non-voice data application or logged on to the Internet away from home or work using a wireless laptop connection or a handheld device. When asked how hard it would be to give up a specific technology, respondents are now most likely to say the cell phone would be most difficult to do without, followed by the internet, TV, and landline telephone - a sharp reversal in how people viewed these technologies in 2002.

[**ARTICLE 268**](#)

Space Wars: Coming to the Sky Near You? by Theresa Hitchens. *Scientific American*, 18 February.

Cyberspace and National Security. A partly annotated bibliography with hyperlinks, Muir S. Fairchild Research Information Center, March.

Miscellaneous online resources which may be of interest:

NIST's FY 2009 Budget Request: What Are the Right Technology Investments to Promote U.S. Innovation and Competitiveness? Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on Science and Technology*, 11 March.

InterConnection: The IMLS National Study on the Use of Libraries, Museums and the Internet Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), March 2008. **Press release**

The Transfer of National Nanotechnology Initiative Research Outcomes for Commercial and Public Benefit Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on Science and Technology*, 11 March.

Business Spending on Technology Infrastructure \$250 Billion in 2006 Census Bureau, 6 March. **Full report**, *Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Survey*

Internet Latest Tool in Emerging Infectious Disease Surveillance by Cheryl Pellerin on *America.gov* 20 March.
- Google foundation moves into business of digital, genetic detection.

U.S. Religious Landscape Survey *Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life*, 2008.

U.S. Ocean Policy Report Card 2007 *Joint Ocean Commission Initiative*, February 2008. 20p.

Setting Annual Catch Limits for U.S. Fisheries: An Expert Working Group Report *Lenfest Ocean Program*, Sept. 2007. 42p.

Renewables 2007: Global Status Report *Renewable Energy Network for the 21st Century*, 2008. **UNEP news release**

Investment in the Rail Industry Hearing before a *subcomm. of the U.S. House Comm. on Transport & Infrastructure*, 5 March.

10.3 Billion Trips Taken on Public Transportation Ridership in 2007 - the Highest Level in 50 Years; Ridership Increased as Gas Prices Remained High. News release, *American Public Transportation Association*, 10 March. (with link to statistics)

Submission of the International AntiCounterfeiting Coalition to the United States Trade Representative: Special 301 Recommendations 11 February. Note: 73p.

International AntiCounterfeiting Coalition (Washington-based international organization of brands, law firms etc).

Federal R&D Funding Down in 2007 National Science Foundation, February 2008

Collapsing Geography: Second Life, Innovation, and the Future of National Power by Cory Ondrejka. *Innovations: Technology, Governance, Globalization*, Vol.2, No.3, 2007. Cory Ondrejka is a former chief technology officer of Second Life.

India's Trade Policy Choices: Managing Diverse Challenges Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, February. 114p. **News Release**

OECD Environmental Outlook to 2030. OECD, 5 March 2008 Full text is available for purchase, but there is a **summary**

Indonesia: Jemaah Islamiyah's Publishing Industry *International Crisis Group*, 28 February, 2008. **Summary**

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