



## STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS 2008

January 28, 2008

*"The President shall from time to time give to Congress information of the State of the Union and recommend to their Consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient."*

Article II, Sec. 3, U.S. Constitution

President Bush delivered his State of the Union address on January 28, 2008. Whatever the form, content, delivery method or broadcast medium, the President's annual address is a backdrop for national unity. The State of the Union gives the President an opportunity to reflect on the past while presenting his hopes for the future to Congress, the American people and the world.

### President Bush's State of the Union Address 2008

#### 2008 State of the Union Policy Initiatives

(PDF Format, 184KB, 36 pages)

- **ECONOMY:** Keeping Our Economy Healthy
- **BUDGET:** Staying On Track To A Balanced Budget By 2012
- **NATIONAL SECURITY:** Giving Our National Security Professionals Tools They Need To Protect America
- **IRAQ:** Continued Progress In Iraq Allows "Return On Success"
- **GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR:** Keeping America Safe By Fostering The Freedom Agenda
- **VETERANS:** Supporting Our Nation's Troops And Their Families
- **NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND:** Expanding Opportunity Under No Child Left Behind
- **EDUCATION:** Empowering Parents With More Choices For Their Children's Education
- **FREE TRADE:** Opening New Markets And Expanding Opportunities Through Free Trade
- **ENERGY:** Increasing Our Energy Security And Confronting Climate Change
- **HEALTH CARE:** Empowering Americans With Affordable Options For Health Care
- **STEM CELL RESEARCH:** Increasing Federal Support For Ethical Stem Cell Research
- **FAITH-BASED INITIATIVES:** Helping Those In Need Through The Faith-Based And Community Initiative
- **IMMIGRATION:** Improving Border Security And Immigration
- **COMPASSION:** Advancing An Agenda Of Compassion Worldwide

**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.

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## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**Should Democracy Be Promoted or Demoted?** by Francis Fukuyama & Michael McFaul in *The Washington Quarterly*, Winter.

The tragic result of the gap between religious objectives and strategies on democracy promotion is that many Americans are starting to view this goal as no longer desirable or unattainable. A more effective strategy for promoting democracy and human rights is both needed and available.

[ARTICLE 1](#)

**A New Realism: A Realistic and Principled Foreign Policy** by Bill Richardson in *Foreign Affairs*, January/February.

The United States needs a foreign policy that is based on reality and is loyal to American values. The next U.S. president needs to send a clear signal to the world that America has turned the corner and will once again be a leader rather than a unilateralist loner. Withdrawing from Iraq and restoring our reputation are necessary first steps toward a new strategy of U.S. global engagement and leadership. The author, the Governor of New Mexico, was, until January, a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination.

[ARTICLE 2](#)

**A Moral Core for U.S. Foreign Policy** by Derek Chollet & Tod Lindberg in *Policy Review*, December/January.

Why American policy must be promoted abroad.

[ARTICLE 3](#)

**East Asian Security: Two Views** by Gilbert Rozman & Chu Shulong. *SSI, U.S. Army War College*. Web posted 23 November. 64p.

The authors suggest that a new framework for Northeast Asian security must first deal with the region's great power relations and that to realize the goals set by the Joint Agreement in the Six-Party Talks, the U.S. faces the following challenges: Sino-U.S. rivalry; Russo-U.S. rivalry; the Sino-Russian partnership; North Korean belligerence; South Korean balancing; and Sino-Japanese rivalry.

[ARTICLE 4](#)

**Keeping the Pacific: An American Response to China's Growing Military Might** by Roger Cliff in *Rand Review*, Spring.

If the U.S. military does not continue to upgrade its technological capabilities, China could challenge the U.S. for military dominance in East Asia by 2020. Today, China's military and rapidly advancing defense industries are focused on finding ways to defeat the United States in the event of a conflict between the two countries, the most likely one being over Taiwan. To enhance America's military posture in the Pacific, U.S. defense leaders should consider not merely the technological capabilities that China is developing but also the specific strategies by which it might use those capabilities against the U.S. Cliff suggests several ways to increase the ability of U.S. forces in the Pacific to deter and, if necessary, to defeat a Chinese attack against Taiwan.

[ARTICLE 5](#)

**Global Forecast: The Top Security Challenges of 2008** edited by Carola McGiffert and Craig Cohen. *CSIS*, Web posted 19 November. 63p.

The essays in this volume reflect the perceptions of CSIS experts on the U.S.' security challenges in 2008. Some essays concern political, military, and economic challenges while others focus on regional or transnational matters. The experts agree that all the challenges addressed have the potential to become "full-scale" crises and need to be "watched and managed carefully."

[ARTICLE 6](#)

**America's Strategic Opportunity With India: The New U.S.-India Partnership** by Nicholas Burns in *Foreign Affairs*, November/December.

The rise of a democratic and increasingly powerful India is a positive development for U.S. interests. Rarely has the U.S. shared so many interests and values with a growing power as today with India. Reaching out to India has created a future which lies in pluralism, democracy, and market economics.

[ARTICLE 7](#)

**America's Priorities in the War on Terror: Islamists, Iraq, Iran, and Pakistan** by Michael D. Huckabee in *Foreign Affairs*, January/February.

Huckabee believes that the Bush administration's arrogant bunker mentality has been counterproductive at home and abroad. He says that American foreign policy needs to change its tone and attitude, open up, and reach out. In particular, it should focus on eliminating Islamist terrorists, stabilizing Iraq, containing Iran, and toughening its stance with Pakistan. The author, a former Governor of Arkansas, is a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination.

[ARTICLE 8](#)

**New Nuclear Realities** by Harold Brown in *The Washington Quarterly*, Winter.

The lessons of history warn that adopting a nuclear weapons-free world as a concrete goal could instead divert from or distort counter proliferation efforts, harming U.S. and global security.

[ARTICLE 9](#)

**The U.S.-Australia Treaty on Defense Trade Cooperation** by Bruce Vaughn. *CRS*, 12 December. 6p.

This treaty, signed in September, 2007, will facilitate defense trade and cooperation and will strengthen ties between two close allies who have fought together most recently in Iraq and Afghanistan. Australia has also worked closely with the U.S. in its efforts to contain militant, anti-Western Islamists. It is yet to be ratified by the U. S. Senate to come into force. [\*\*ARTICLE 10\*\*](#)

**The Rise of China and the Future of the West** by Jon Ikenberry in *Foreign Affairs*, January/February.

Ikenberry posits that China's rise will eventually bring the United States' unipolar moment to an end. He says this does not necessarily mean a violent power struggle or the overthrow of the Western system. The U.S.-led international order can remain dominant even while integrating a more powerful China – but only if Washington sets about strengthening that liberal order now. [\*\*ARTICLE 11\*\*](#)

**The Costs of Containing Iran: Washington's Misguided New Middle East Policy** by Vali Nasr & Ray Takeyh in *Foreign Affairs*, January/February.

The Bush administration wants to contain Iran by rallying the support of Sunni Arab states and now sees Iran's containment as the heart of its Middle East policy: a way to stabilize Iraq, declaw Hezbollah, and restart the Arab-Israeli peace process. But the strategy is unsound and impractical, and a risk to the destabilization of an already volatile region, say the authors. [\*\*ARTICLE 12\*\*](#)

**Seizing the Opportunity for Change in the Taiwan Strait** by Yun-han Chu & Andrew J. Nathan in *The Washington Quarterly*, Winter.

Taiwan's presidential election in March will usher in a moderate on cross-strait issues, offering a potential shift in cross-strait relations if Washington and Beijing understand the deceptive change toward moderation in Taiwan and what to do to reinforce it. [\*\*ARTICLE 13\*\*](#)

**Europe's Foreign Policy of Failure** by Stefan Theil in *Foreign Policy*, January/February.

In France and Germany, students are being forced to undergo a dangerous indoctrination. Taught that capitalism, free markets, and entrepreneurship are savage, unhealthy, and immoral, these children are raised on a diet of prejudice and bias. Rooting it out may determine whether Europe's economies prosper—or continue to be left behind. [\*\*ARTICLE 14\*\*](#)

**North Korea's Nuclear Weapons: Latest Developments** by Mary Beth Dunham Nikitin. *CRS*, 21 November. 17p.

This report summarizes what is known about North Korea's nuclear weapons program such as its weapons-usable fissile material and warheads estimates; it also assesses the current developments in verifying dismantlement as agreed in the Six-Party Talks, and confirms there is much uncertainty about North Korea's nuclear weapons production capabilities and its delivery systems. [\*\*ARTICLE 15\*\*](#)

**The China Model** by Rowan Callick in *The American*, November/December.

Leaders of developing nations from Africa to Asia to Latin America love what they see in the new Communist China: economic freedom plus political repression. It is working now, but for how long? [\*\*ARTICLE 16\*\*](#)

**Europe's Strategic Dependence on Russian Energy** by Ariel Cohen. *Heritage*, 5 November. 13p.

Russia is consolidating its grip on oil and gas - the economic lifeblood of Europe. Moscow is pursuing a comprehensive strategy that could increase Europe's political and economic dependence on Russian energy. Such dependence could negatively affect transatlantic relations, common values, goals, strategic objectives, and security policies. Cohen provides talking points and recommendations to prevent this European strategic shift away from the U.S. [\*\*ARTICLE 17\*\*](#)

**Security Cooperation in the Middle East** by Anthony H. Cordesman. *CSIS*, Web posted 29 October. 52p.

This briefing "addresses the political, diplomatic, and military dimensions of the changes that the U.S. must make, with special attention to the military dimension. It focuses on the changes in the strategic environment, changes in the threat, and the changes needed in the way that the U.S. and its friends and allies need to shape their conventional forces." Lastly, it focuses on the need to bring security cooperation to a level of trust and partnership. [\*\*ARTICLE 18\*\*](#)

**The Kurds in Post-Saddam Iraq** by Kenneth Katzman and Alfred B. Prados. *CRS*, 7 November. 6p.

The Kurdish region of northern Iraq is relatively peaceful and prospering economically. However, the political autonomy and strength of the Kurds in post-Saddam Iraq has caused increased concerns in Turkey, Iran, and Arab Iraq. [\*\*ARTICLE 19\*\*](#)

**Al Qaeda: Statements and Evolving Ideology** by Christopher M. Blanchard. *CRS*, 9 July. 21p.

Al Qaeda leaders “have conducted sophisticated public relations and media campaigns since the mid-1990s.” Some analysts believe these messages were designed to elicit psychological reactions and communicate political messages while others believe the messages contain signals that inform operatives to carry out attacks. Blanchard examines Al Qaeda’s public statements from the mid-1990s to the present, and analyzes the ideological and political content of the statements. [ARTICLE 20](#)

**U.S. Arms Sales to Pakistan** by Richard F. Grimmett. *CRS*, 8 November. 4p.

Grimmett provides background regarding recent major weapons transactions between the U.S. and Pakistan, and gives the rationale for these sales, while also reviewing current laws that govern U.S. weapons sales to Pakistan, including the authorities that could curtail or terminate existing or prospective sales. [ARTICLE 21](#)

**The Global War on Terrorism: A Religious War?** by Laurence A. Dobrot. *SSI, U.S. Army War College*. 29 November. 25p.

Many question whether the U.S. strategy on the Global War on Terrorism is working and whether the U.S. understands an enemy motivated by radical revolutionary religious ideology. Dobrot reviews the pertinent cultural history and background of Islam and then posits three root causes of this conflict: the lack of wealth-sharing in Islamic countries, resentment of Western exploitation of Islamic countries, and a U.S. credibility gap within the Islamic community. He concludes that the U.S. is not achieving its long-term strategic objectives and recommends a new strategy that focuses on the root causes of Islamic hostility. [ARTICLE 22](#)

**The Afghan-Pakistan War: A Status Report** by Anthony H. Cordesman. *CSIS*, Web posted 3 December. 131p.

Cordesman looks at progress in Afghanistan, providing maps, graphics, and charts to describe what is and what is not known about the war, aid efforts, Afghan governance, and the counter-narcotics program. He also defines the war as an Afghan-Pakistan conflict and “addresses the fact that the war is not an Afghan conflict but one whose center of gravity is the Pashtun and tribal areas in southern and eastern Afghanistan and western Pakistan.” [ARTICLE 23](#)

**Report of the Secretary-General on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict.** *Security Council*, United Nations. Web posted 14 November. 19p.

This report is an update on the implementation and strengthening of Resolution 1674 concerning the protection of civilians in armed conflict. It focuses on the positive developments; ongoing and new developments. It also highlights four critical challenges: (1) the denial of life-saving access to civilians in need; (2) the practice of sexual violence; (3) the impact of conflicts on housing, land, and property; and (4) the unacceptable humanitarian toll of cluster munitions. It concludes with key actions for the Security Council. [ARTICLE 24](#)

**Riots, Coups and Civil War: Revisiting the Greed and Grievance Debate** Christine Bodea & Ibrahim A Elbadawi. Policy Research Working Paper, *World Bank*. Web posted 13 November. 35p.

Previous studies on the determinant of civil wars found that the initial grievance is usually irrelevant. The authors examine civil wars through an analysis of political power. He found support for the hypothesis that diversity contributes to conflict and increases the risk of civil war. The results also show that civil wars are more likely to occur under autocracies than democracies. [ARTICLE 25](#)

**Security Cooperation: A Key to the Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century** by Gregory J. Dyekman. Carlisle Papers in *Security Strategy, Strategic Studies Institute*, U.S. Army War College. Web posted 16 November. 20p.

Peacetime military engagement has been a key component of U.S. defense strategy but since 9/11, the Department of Defense has aimed its security efforts toward creating partners and allies. Most experts believe that military readiness is the most important priority of the Defense Department, but some argue that security cooperation builds partners and prevents conflicts. Dyekman examines the role of security cooperation and outlines the challenges the U.S. must overcome to be more effective. [ARTICLE 26](#)

**Pakistan’s Nuclear Weapons: Proliferation and Security Issues** by Paul Kerr & Mary Beth Nikitin. *CRS*, 14 November. 14p.

Pakistan has approximately 60 nuclear warheads, maintains its fissile material production, and continues to add to its weapons production. Both the U.S. and Pakistani officials declare that Pakistan has taken a number of steps to prevent proliferation of nuclear technologies such as strengthening its export laws, improving personnel security, and cooperating with international nuclear security programs. However, some observers fear there may be a radical takeover of proliferation by radical sympathizers within Pakistan’s nuclear complex. [ARTICLE 27](#)

**Foreign Aid Reform: Issues for Congress and Policy Options** by Connie Veillette. *CRS*, 7 November. 36p.

Since 9/11, foreign assistance has become more sharply focused as a foreign policy tool. At the same time, foreign policy is under close scrutiny by Congress primarily because of the large number of presidential initiatives. This report provides background information on foreign aid, outlines Congressional reforms, and considers options for reform. [ARTICLE 28](#)

**The Nexus of Globalization and Next-Generation Nonproliferation: Tapping the Power of Market-Based Solutions** by Kenneth Luongo & Isabelle Williams in *Nonproliferation Review*, November.

The authors examine the problem that advanced biological and nuclear technology, once the exclusive province of states, may pass readily to non-state actors putting economic as well as civilian and military targets at risk. [ARTICLE 29](#)

**Weak and Failing States: Evolving Security Threats and U.S. Policy** by Liana Sun Wyler. *CRS*, 15 November. 30p.

Strengthening weak and failing states is a high priority of U.S. national security, but some believe that the U.S. government is just beginning to develop the capabilities and resources needed to address the “complex mix of security, development, and governance challenges confronting weak states. Congress plays a crucial role in the oversight of these programs; consequently, several bills have been introduced related to the U.S. policy toward weak and failing states. [ARTICLE 30](#)

**Counterinsurgency for U.S. Government Policy Makers: A Work in Progress.** *Interagency Counterinsurgency Initiative, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, U.S. Department of State.* October. 42p.

This is an interim guide that focuses on insurgency and the strategies to combat it. It is intended to provide a broad understanding of the characteristics of counterinsurgency (*COIN*), and to “serve as a basis for interagency discussion of policy, programs, and the development of national capabilities relevant to *COIN*.” It does not represent official U.S. policy nor is it intended to supplant existing policies, programs, doctrines, or procedures. [ARTICLE 31](#)

**Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process: The Annapolis Conference** by Carol Migdalovitz. *CRS*, 7 December. 6p.

The Bush Administration convened an international conference in Annapolis, MD [Maryland] to officially revive the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian Authority (PA) President Mahmud Abbas reached a ‘Joint Understanding,’ in which they agreed to launch continuous bilateral negotiations in an effort to conclude a peace treaty by the end of 2008. Both leaders are operating under significant domestic political constraints and they continue to disagree on many issues. Thus, their negotiations will be challenging. [ARTICLE 32](#)

**Long Time Coming: the Prospects for Democracy in China** by John L. Thornton in *Foreign Affairs*, January-February.

The Chinese view of democracy differs from the Western view, but many Chinese want more democracy and believe it is coming, according to the author, a professor at Tsinghua University in Beijing and chairman of the board of the Brookings Institution. Thornton says the Chinese are also taking steps to make their judicial system and administrative system less corrupt, more open to challenge, and rooted in rule of law. [ARTICLE 33](#)

**China and Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and Missiles: Policy Issues** by Shirley A. Kan. *CRS*, 13 December. 60p.

Congress has long been concerned about the role the People’s Republic of China (PRC) plays in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Kan discusses the security issues, China’s role in weapons proliferation, and U.S. policy responses to these actions. [ARTICLE 34](#)

**China/Taiwan: Evolution of the “One China” Policy – Key Statements from Washington, Beijing, and Taipei** by Shirley A. Kan. *CRS*, 13 December. 91p.

Despite consistent policy statements, China policy concerning Taiwan remains ambiguous. And concerns have been raised whether U.S. presidents have clearly stated the position. Part I of this report discusses the policy since 1971; and Part II documents the evolution of this policy and how it has been affected by legislation. [ARTICLE 35](#)

**Data Mining and Homeland Security: An Overview** by Jeffrey W. Seifert. *CRS*, 5 December. 41p.

Data mining is “the use of data analysis tools to discover previously unknown, valid patterns and relationships in large data sets.” It has become one of the key features of homeland security to identify terrorist activities and track individual terrorists. However, there are both limitations to its capabilities, and issues of Congressional oversight. [ARTICLE 36](#)

**Economic Sanctions: Agencies Face Competing Priorities in Enforcing the U.S. Embargo on Cuba.** *GAO*, 18 December. 96p.

The 48-year U.S. embargo on Cuba aims to deny resources to the Castro regime by prohibiting most trade, travel, and financial transactions with Cuba. The departments of Commerce, Homeland Security (DHS), Justice, and the Treasury are responsible for enforcing the embargo as well as protecting homeland and national security. Since 2001, U.S. agencies have changed the embargo's rules in response to new laws and policies. In 2001, the Department of Treasury's *Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC)* and the *Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS)* loosened embargo restrictions on some trade with Cuba. In 2004, however, *OFAC* tightened rules on travel, cash transfers, and gift parcels to Cuba. GAO was asked to examine rule changes and their impact on U.S. exports, travel, cash transfers, and gift parcels from 2001 to 2005. The findings and recommendations.

**ARTICLE 37**

**Egypt: Background and U.S. Relations** by Jeremy M. Sharp. *CRS*, 12 December. 34p.

Provides an overview of Egyptian politics and current issues in U.S.-Egyptian relations, providing a political history of modern Egypt, an overview of its political institutions, and a discussion of the prospects for democratization in Egypt.

**ARTICLE 38**

**North Korea: Terrorism List Removal?** by Larry Niksch & Raphael Perl. *CRS*, 11 December. 22p.

In late 2006 and early 2007, the Bush Administration offered to remove North Korea from the list if it agreed to end its nuclear programs. However, "if the Administration removes North Korea from the terrorism list, it is required under law to notify Congress 45 days prior to removal. For Congress to prevent removal, it would have to pass legislation (not resolutions) that would be subject to a presidential veto." This report provides additional background information on the negotiations to remove North Korea from the terrorism list.

**ARTICLE 39**

**U.S. Arms Sales: Agreements With Deliveries to Major Clients, 1999-2006** by Richard F. Grimmett. *CRS*, 20 December. 10p.

"This report provides background data on United States arms sales agreements with and deliveries to its major purchasers during calendar years 1999-2006." It lists the total dollar values of government-to-government arms sales agreements with its top five purchasers in five specific regions, and the total dollar values of U.S. arms deliveries to its top five purchasers. Additionally, the report contains "tables listing the total dollar values of U.S. government-to-government arms agreements with and deliveries to its top 10 purchasers worldwide for the periods 1999-2002, 2003-2006, and for 2006 alone."

**ARTICLE 40**

**Zimbabwe** by Lauren Ploch. *CRS*, 6 December. 46p.

In 1980, Zimbabwe's prospects looked promising. It had gained independence, had steady economic growth, and provided free education and widespread access to health care. However, challenges such as rising inflation, unemployment, and student and labor protests, grew in the 1990s. President Robert Mugabe's government is now seen as "autocratic and repressive by its critics, and its human rights record is poor." The Secretary of State has called Zimbabwe an "outpost of Tyranny," and the U.S. has enforced sanctions against its top officials and associates.

**ARTICLE 41**

**Keeping An Eye On An Unruly Neighbor: Chinese Views of Economic Reform and Stability in North Korea** by Bonnie Glaser et al. Joint Working Paper, *CSIS & USIP*, 22 November. 28p.

Looks at trends in North Korea's economy and prospects for reform; current trends in Sino-DPRK economic relations; China's policy toward North Korea in the wake of the nuclear test; Chinese debates on North Korea; Chinese assessments of North Korea's political stability; and potential Chinese responses to instability.

**ARTICLE 42**

***Some International Relations online resources which may be of interest:***

**National Response Framework** *U.S. Dept of Homeland Security*, January, 2008. 90p. **General information**

**Tsunami Reconstruction, Three Years Later** *U.S. AID*, 18 January.

**Emerging Trends in the Security Architecture in Asia: Bilateral and Multilateral Ties Among the United States, Japan, Australia and India** *CRS*, 7 January.

**America's Asian Opportunity** by Michael Auslin. *AEI*, 10 January.

**U.S.-Pakistan Relations: Assassination, Instability, and the Future of U.S. Policy** Hearing before the Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia, U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs, 16 January. **Transcripts** and scroll down.

**India-U.S. Relations** *CRS*, 19 December

[Iran Sanctions: Impact in Furthering U.S. Objectives is Unclear and Should Be Reviewed](#) GAO, December.

[China-Taiwan Relations. Backgrounder](#) by Esther Pan and Youkyung Lee. *CFR*, 11 January.

[China's "Soft Power" in Southeast Asia](#) *CRS*, 4 January.

[Can China Continue Feeding Itself? The Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture](#) *World Bank*, January. 41p.

[Israeli-Arab Negotiations: Background, Conflicts, and U.S. Policy](#) *CRS*, 21 December.

[U.S. - Vietnam Relations: Background and Issues for Congress](#) *CRS*, 3 January.

[Laos: Background and U.S. Relations](#) *CRS*, 7 January.

[Zimbabwe](#) *CRS*, 6 December.

[Kosovo's Future Status and U.S. Policy](#) *CRS*, 28 December.

[Latin America: Terrorism Issues](#) *CRS*, 9 January.

[Maritime Security](#) *Lexington Institute*, January.

[Managing a Cross-Strait Crisis: The Limitations of Crisis Management Theory](#) by Gary Schmitt & Tim Sullivan. *AEI*, 9 January.

[Stability and Security in the Greater Middle East](#) by Anthony H. Cordesman. *CSIS*, January. 53p.

[Negotiating with the Islamic Republic of Iran](#) by John W. Limbert. *USIP*, January 2008. 16p. [Summary](#)

[Breaking the Stalemate in Kenya](#) Briefing by Joel D. Barkan. *CSIS*, 8 January.

[Kenyan Election Signals Need to Overhaul U.S. Policy Toward Nascent Democracies](#) by Brett D. Schaefer & Steven Groves. *Heritage Foundation*, 8 January.

[Iran Nuclear Program: U.S. Options](#) Partly annotated bibliography with hyperlinks, by Muir S. Fairchild Research Information Center (formerly *Air University Library*), November.

[Jordanian National Security and the Future of Middle East Stability](#) by Andrew Terrill. *SSI, Army War College*, January. 107p.

[U.S. and Libya sign science and technology cooperation agreement](#): media note, *U.S. Dept of State*, 3 January.

[Decision Time in Burma](#) Op-ed by U.S. Under Secretary of State R. Nicholas Burns in the *Washington Post*, 8 January.

## **Justice and Law Enforcement**

[How Crime in the United States is Measured](#) *CRS*, 3 January.

[Identity Theft. Compilation](#) by *BNA Inc.* - links to reports, analyses etc, December.

[Oversight of State-Run Juvenile Correctional Facilities Known as "Boot Camps"](#) Hearing before a subcommittee of the *U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary*, 13 December.

## **POLITICS / GOVERNMENT**

**Mac From the Dead** by John Fortier in *The American*, January.

John McCain is close to grabbing a stranglehold on the GOP presidential nomination. Giuliani's distant third-place finish and subsequent withdrawal from the race, clarifies the previously murky Republican presidential contest. McCain is now the clear frontrunner to win the GOP nomination. With Giuliani out, Romney is the only one who can stop him. [ARTICLE 43](#)

**Back on the Hustings** by Paul McLeary on *CJR.org* Mon 7 January.

Back to disenchantment with the political press corps. A look at pack mentality in action. [ARTICLE 44](#)  
**The Glamorous Life on the Campaign Trail** by Clint Hendler on *CJR.org*, Thu 3 January.

Or is it? The scene in an unwired basement at the last Romney rally. [ARTICLE 45](#)

**The Other Winner in Iowa** by Clint Hendler on *CJR.org*, Fri 4 January.

How The Des Moines Register Got it (Mostly) Right. [ARTICLE 46](#)

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

[Presidential Candidates' Responses to the State of the Union Address, January 2008](#) *CFR*, 28 January

[AP launching "The Measure of a Nation", a multimedia project on U.S. presidential politics:](#) news release, *Associated Press*, 28 January

[Demographic data on U.S. states which will hold primaries or caucuses on "Super Tuesday" 2008](#) and related population data: *Census Bureau*, 30 January

[Census Bureau releases state estimates of voting-age population:](#) *Census Bureau*, 31 January

[The Future of Red, Blue and Purple America](#) by Ruy Teixeira. *Brookings Institution, Issues in Governance Studies*, January. 15p.

The cultural and geographical aspects of polarization in the changing political landscape of the United States.

[Election 2008: Foreign Policy Guide to Election 2008](#) A blog of the *Foreign Policy Association*.

[Issue Tracker: The Candidates on Immigration](#) Prepared by the *Council on Foreign Relations*.

[Issue Tracker: The Candidates on Trade](#) Prepared by the *Council on Foreign Relations*.

[Branches of Government](#)

[The U.S. Congress](#)

[How Senators are Elected](#)

[How Members of the House are Elected](#)

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## TRADE/ECONOMY

**Keynote Address by U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice at the Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum**, in Davos, Switzerland, 23 January.

There is not one challenge in the world today that will get better if we approach it without confidence in the appeal and effectiveness of our ideals – political and economic freedom, open markets and free trade, human dignity and human rights, equal opportunity and the rule of law. Without these principles, backed by all forms of national power, we may be able to manage global problems for a while, but we will not lay a foundation to solve them. [ARTICLE 47](#)

**The Experience Economy: The High Life of Tomorrow** by Eric Garland in *The Futurist*, January/February.

Garland looks at a world saturated by luxury goods – and at the future of luxury. [ARTICLE 48](#)

**The Growing Role of the Euro in Emerging Market Finance** by Paul R. Masson. Policy Research Working Paper, *World Bank*. Web posted 9 November. 27p.

The impact of the euro on developing countries has been modest. Masson says that the euro is much “more important in debt issuance than in the official foreign exchange reserve holdings” and that demand for euro reserves has been held back by the dominance of the dollar, but further dollar declines may cause a shift out of dollars into euros. [ARTICLE 49](#)

**The Characteristics of Offshorable Jobs** by Jared Bernstein et al. *Economic Policy Institute*. 14 November. 12p.

Offshoring is the practice of sending work from the U.S. to workers abroad. Computer programming in India or garments once produced domestically but now made abroad. The authors present data and findings in spreadsheet format, showing that 18-22% of today's jobs could be offshored. [ARTICLE 50](#)

**Economic Outlook: Economic Growth to Slow on Credit Market Uncertainty and Housing Contraction, Pick Up Pace in Second Half.** *Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA)*, 10 December. 6p.

Members of *SIFMA* expect the pace of the U.S. economy to slow in the first half of 2008 but pick up in the latter part of the year. Based on a survey of *SIFMA* members conducted during the week of November 27-December 3, the respondents also project the GDP to grow at 2.1% next year. [ARTICLE 51](#)

**2007 Report to Congress on China's WTO Compliance** *U.S. Trade Representative*. 11 December. 116p.

After six years, most of China's *WTO* commitments have been implemented. The U.S. has tried to hold China fully accountable to these commitments; and over the past year, the U.S. has had frank bilateral discussions with China and has taken enforcement actions at the *WTO* where dialogue has not resolved concerns. Nonetheless, the U.S. and China continue to work together to find pragmatic solutions to their problems. [ARTICLE 52](#)

### ***Some Economics online resources which may be of interest:***

**Economic Outlook** Statement by Federal Reserve Chairman Ben S. Bernanke before U.S. House Comm. on the Budget, 17 January.

**Economic Stimulus** Compilation, by *BNA Inc.*, of reports, analyses etc, January.

**Sovereign Wealth Funds** Backgrounder by Lee Hudson Teslik. *CFR*, 18 January.

**A Look Ahead: Housing, Energy Squeezed in '08** Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, *EconSouth*, Fourth Quarter 2007

**Financial Globalization and the U.S. Current Account Deficit** *Current Issues in Economics and Finance*, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, December. 7p. [Summary](#)

**Monetary Policy Flexibility, Risk Management, and Financial Disruptions** by Frederic Mishkin, *U.S.Fed. Reserve*, 11 January.

**If, When, How: A Primer on Fiscal Stimulus** by Douglas Elmendorf & Jason Furman. *Brookings*, January. 30p. [Summary](#)

**Dollar Crisis: Prospect and Implications** *CRS*, 8 January.

**Performance 2008: Productivity, Employment, and Growth in World Economies** Product.Brief, *Conf. Board*, 16 January. 16p.

**U.S.-Singapore Free Trade Agreement: Effects After Three Years** *CRS*, 7 January.

**Intellectual Property Rights and International Trade** *CRS*, 20 December.

## ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

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

The next U.S. president has a pivotal opportunity to take bold, broad action on climate change. While implementing a serious program at home, the authors recommend that the president pursue a layered diplomacy centered on a core group of major emitters, especially China, and the U.N. [ARTICLE 53](#)

**The Security Implications of Climate Change** by John Podesta & Peter Ogden in *The Washington Quarterly*, Winter.

Within the next 30 year, climate change is expected to cause destabilizing migration, massive food and water shortages, devastating natural disasters, and deadly disease outbreaks that will present serious security challenges not only to directly affected countries, but to the U.S. and the entire international community. [ARTICLE 54](#)

**Up in Smoke? Asia and the Pacific – The Threat From Climate Change to Human Development and the Environment.** Oxfam International. Web posted 19 November. 96p.

Climate change will largely be played out in Asia, which has over 60% of the world's population. Climate change threatens security and the productivity of food systems. It will also cause the disruption of regional water supplies. Looks at the steps being taken by the governments, civil societies, and people to "reduce the causes of climate change and overcome its effects." [ARTICLE 55](#)

**The Spread of Organic Food in China** by Natalie Baer. China Environmental Health Project Research Brief, *Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars*. 30 November.

In the late 1990s, Chinese farmers and food producers found economic and environmental promise in organic farming. China's organic farming has been further fueled by the recent food safety scares resulting in the *EU* and Japan banning tea and other crops due to excessive pesticides. China's growing middle class also views organic products as safer and healthier. Consequently, stores in Beijing, Shanghai, and other cities are offering organic fruits, vegetables, meat, and soaps. But, there are a variety of challenges plaguing this niche market. Baer looks at the laws and regulations confronting the organic farmer. [ARTICLE 56](#)

**Losing Winter: As Climate Change Takes Hold, Our Coldest Season is the First Casualty** by Jim Motavalli in *E: The Environment Magazine*, November/December.

Fewer days for skiing etc. are bringing the realities of global warming home. [ARTICLE 57](#)

**A Climate of Conflict: The Links Between Climate Change, Peace, and War** by Dan Smith and Janani Vivekananda. *International Alert*. Web posted 5 November. 48p.

The findings for this report are taken from the Fourth Assessment Review of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change. The report looks at the social and human consequences of climate change since many of the world's poorest countries face a double-headed problem of climate change and violent conflict. This report includes twelve recommendations for states and communities to handle climate change and conflict. [ARTICLE 58](#)

**Climate Change: Issues Underlying Negotiations at the Bali Conference of Parties** by Susan R. Fletcher et al. *CRS*, 26 November. 13p.

The report, which provides background on global warming negotiations, has been prepared in the following four sections: (1) a summary on the status of the 1992 *U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)* and the Kyoto Protocol from 1997; (2) a review of the science and economics of climate change; (3) progress of Annex I and non-Annex I nations under the Kyoto Protocol; and (4) an overview of upcoming negotiations. [ARTICLE 59](#)

**A Solar Grand Plan** by Ken Zweibel et al. in *Scientific American*, January.

Solar power could eliminate U.S. dependence on imported oil and slash greenhouse gas emissions, note the authors, in this article on a bold proposal to construct a nation-wide solar-energy generation and distribution system by the year 2050. The U.S. has a quarter-million square miles in the Southwest on which tracts of photovoltaic panels and parabolic-trough solar concentrators could be built, and the electricity generated would be transmitted along high-voltage direct current lines, far more efficiently than the alternating-current lines in use today; compressed-air or molten-salt systems would be employed for overnight energy storage. [ARTICLE 60](#)

**Climate Change and National Security: An Agenda for Action** by Joshua W. Busby. Council Special Report, *CFR*. Web posted 30 November. 40p.

Climate change poses a threat to the security and prosperity of the U.S. and other countries. These threats include the effects of storms, droughts, and floods as well as the possibility of humanitarian disasters, political violence, and undermining weak governments. Busby offers “feasible and affordable policy options” to reduce the predictable effects of climate change.

**ARTICLE 61**

**Counties and Residential Green Building Standards.** Green Government, *National Association of Counties*. December. 6p.

Home builders and home buyers are increasingly interested in green building for environmental, health, and financial reasons. Additionally, local governments are finding that green building projects reduce the impact on county infrastructures, such as water systems and landfills, while providing higher property values and a healthier populace. This paper describes how several cities and counties have promoted green building initiatives.

**ARTICLE 62**

**Nuclear Power in a Warming World: Assessing the Risks, Addressing the Challenges** by Lisbeth Gronlund et al. *Union of Concerned Scientists*. Web posted 11 December. 82p.

Nuclear power results in less global warming emissions, but nuclear power could also increase the threat to human safety and security due to a power plant meltdown or a terrorist attack. This report assesses the risks posed by nuclear power and offers ways to minimize them.

**ARTICLE 63**

**WTO - Compatibility of Four Categories of U.S. Climate Change Policy** by Alina Syunkova. *National Foreign Trade Council, Inc.* Web posted 5 December. 37p.

U.S. policies to address climate change can be compatible with the *World Trade Organization (WTO)* rules, but some may distort or conflict with specific WTO provisions resulting in higher costs and jeopardizing long-term success. Syunkova examines the current climate change proposals in Congress and evaluates their compatibility with *WTO* rules.

**ARTICLE 64**

**Affordability and Subsidies in Public Urban Transport: What Do We Mean, What Can be Done?** by Nicolás Estupiñán et al. Policy Research Working Paper, *World Bank*. Web posted 1 December. 53p.

In both developed and developing countries, urban transport subsidy policies have been implemented, but no quantitative assessment to determine if these subsidies are “pro-poor” has been done. The authors reviewed arguments used to justify public transport subsidies and evaluated the impacts of these policies. Evidence, however, indicates that the policies do not make the poorest better off and that supply-side subsidies are either neutral or regressive.

**ARTICLE 65**

***Some environmental online resources which may be of interest:***

**Energy Market and Economic Impacts of S.1766, the Low Carbon Economy Act of 2007** *DOE, Energy Information Administration*, January.

**Reducing Stormwater Costs Through Low-Impact Development (LID) Strategies and Practices** *EPA*, December.

**Cell Phone Recycling is an Easy Call** *EPA*, 8 January.

**The Geopolitics of Energy: From Security to Survival** by Carlos Pascual. *Brookings*, January. 16p. **Summary**

**Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007: A Summary of Major Provisions** *CRS*, 21 December.

**North American Oil Sands: History of Development, Prospects for the Future** *CRS*, 11 December.

**Effects of Gasoline Prices on Driver Behavior and Vehicle Markets** *CBO*, January. 58p.

**Regulation of Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emission: State and Federal Standards** *CRS*, 11 January.

**2007 was Tenth Warmest for U.S., Fifth Warmest Worldwide** *NOAA*, 15 January.

**On Thin Ice: The Future of the Polar Bear** Hearing before the U.S. *House Select Comm. on Energy Independence and Global Warming*, 17 January.

**Energy Markets: Increasing Globalization of Petroleum Products Markets, Tightening Refining Supply and Demand Balance, and Other Trends Have Implications for U.S. Energy Supply, Prices, and Price Volatility** *GAO*, December. 73p.

**Regional Impacts of Climate Change: Four Case Studies in the United States** *Pew Center on Global Climate Change*, December. 80p.

Looks at specific aspects of the ecosystems of the Midwest (heatwaves), the western United States (wildfires), the Gulf coast (wetlands) and Chesapeake Bay (depletion of dissolved oxygen).

**Energy in 2020: Assessing the Economic Effects of Commercialization of Cellulosic Ethanol** U.S. *Dept of Commerce, Bureau of Manufacturing and Services*, November. 20p.

**AWEA 2007 Market Report** *American Wind Energy Association*, January. 12p.

**State-by-state listing of wind energy projects in the United States**

## **BUSINESS**

**The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Job Quality in the United States over the Three Most Recent Business Cycles** by John Schmitt. *Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR)*. Web posted 6 November. 27p.

Schmitt looks at “good jobs” over the last three business cycles that occurred during the 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s. For this report, a good job is defined as one that pays at least \$17 per hour and offers employer-provided health benefits. The data for this report comes from the March *Current Population Survey* covering the years 1979 through 2006. **ARTICLE 66**

**Corporate America in a Post-ADA World** by Yoji Cole in *DiversityInc*, Nov./December. 6p.

The *American with Disabilities Act (ADA)* opened some doors in the workplace but opportunities for people with disabilities remain elusive. However, executives with disabilities, interviewed for this article, credit the *ADA* with broadening the opportunities in corporate America but emphasize that legislation alone cannot create a culture completely accepting of people with disabilities. For that to happen, more people with disabilities must self-identify and demonstrate their talents. *ADA* requires employees to provide access and technology to help people with disabilities succeed at work but it does not force recruitment efforts. This is changing as the lack of skilled workers in the United States has forced corporations to focus attention on the talents of a group of people previously ignored, including people with disabilities and people of color. The article includes a list of organizations that provide support for the almost 305,000 members of the U.S. military who were disabled in the line of duty during the Iraq War. **ARTICLE 67**

**Forecast No So Good** by William P. Dunk in *Across the Board*, November/December.

Once a year, companies have the chance to be educational and inspirational. Why, then, are today's annual reports anything but? **ARTICLE 68**

**Introducing the Inc. 5,000** on *Inc.com*

That's the Inc. 500 plus 4,500 new fast-growing companies, which includes the most comprehensive look ever at the most important area of the economy – entrepreneurship. **ARTICLE 69**

**Businesses Find New Ways To Make Money Online** by Elizabeth Kelliher in *The Washington File*, 28 January.

U.S. companies innovate on the Internet and boost sales and profits **ARTICLE 70**

**Immigrant Women Fuel Small Business Growth in the United States** by Elizabeth Kelleher in *Washington File*, 2 March, 2007.

Rates for startups are higher for immigrant women than for native-born. Men and women among the 36 million immigrants in the United States have higher rates of starting new businesses than do native-born Americans, according to Robert Fairlie, an economist who produces the Kauffman Index of Entrepreneurial Activity. The index shows that, each month over the last three years, 310 of every 100,000 immigrant women created a business, while 220 of 100,000 native-born women did so. **ARTICLE 71**

The full text of the *Future of Small Business Report*.

**Companies Find Advantages in Moving Near Fiercest Competitor** by Elizabeth Kelleher in *The Washington File*, 21 December.

There is a joke in Silicon Valley, California, that says, “If two people from different high-tech companies go out to lunch together, by the time they're eating dessert, a third company has been formed.” Silicon Valley is a “business cluster” -- an area where competitive companies in the same industry (in this case, high-technology) co-locate. And Silicon Valley is the envy of economic development officials across the United States and beyond. **ARTICLE 72**

## EDUCATION

**Experiences That Matter: Enhancing Student Learning and Success: Annual Report 2007.** *National Survey of Student Engagement, Indiana University Center for Postsecondary Research, Indiana University.* Web posted 5 November. 60p.

This survey finds that taking part in activities during college increases a student's performance in many areas, such as thinking critically, solving real world problems, and working with others. It also found that students who talk frequently with their parents and follow their advice participate more in educational activities and are more satisfied. The findings are based on data from 313,000 randomly selected first-year and senior students at 610 colleges and universities in the U.S. and Canada. [ARTICLE 73](#)

**Over Invested and Over Priced: American Higher Education Today** by Richard Vedder. Policy Paper, *Center for College Affordability and Productivity.* Web posted 19 November. 13p.

Vedder offers a new perspective of the financial problems plaguing American colleges and universities. His data shows that a large portion of spending on state universities goes to frills such as high-priced recreational facilities rather than to lowering tuition. He also outlines 12 reasons for the soaring college costs, as he offers reforms to make colleges more accountable to students and families.

[ARTICLE 74](#)

**A National Analysis of Minorities in Science and Engineering Faculties at Research Universities** by Donna J. Nelson, Christopher N. Brammer and Heather Rhoads. *Department of Chemistry, University of Oklahoma,* 31 October. 53p.

This report presents the first comprehensive analysis of tenured and tenure-track faculty in the top 100 science and engineering departments in U.S. colleges and universities. The data shows that minorities and women are significantly underrepresented in the physical sciences and engineering disciplines.

[ARTICLE 75](#)

**College Costs and Prices: Issues for Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act** by Rebecca R. Skinner & Blake Alan Naughton. *CRS,* 30 October. 44p.

The cost of attending U.S. colleges and universities is a growing concern. Many Americans believe that college is now out of financial reach for most students. Federal policymakers are concerned about affordability, access for low-income students, and financial aid. The authors present the current status and the historical trends of college costs.

[ARTICLE 76](#)

**For Some High School Students, Going to College is Not the Answer** by Rona Wilensky on *The Forum for Education and Democracy,* 23 April, 2007.

The hottest topic in high-school reform seems to be the proposal to align high-school graduation requirements with college-entrance ones, and to make sure that any graduate who enters college is ready for success.

[ARTICLE 77](#)

**Faculty Perceptions of Technology Projects** by Whitney Ransom et al. in *Educause Quarterly,* Winter.

A study explored cost versus impact on teaching and learning of small and large technology projects.

[ARTICLE 78](#)

**Rah! Rah! Block That Rook** by Luke Mullins in *The American,* November/December.

How a no-name school like the University of Texas at Dallas has built its brand – by whipping Harvard and Yale in the thinking-persons' sport.

[ARTICLE 79](#)

**Foreign Students in the U.S.: Policies and Legislation** by Chad C. Haddal. *CRS,* 10 December. 26p.

More than six years after 9/11, the security concerns over foreign student visas are being weighed against competitiveness concerns. Foreign students must "satisfy Department of State (*DOS*) consular officers abroad and immigration inspectors upon entry . . . that they are not ineligible for visas under the so-called 'grounds for inadmissibility' of the Immigration and Nationality Act . . ." ; consequently, student visa debates have expanded to include both security issues and market-based discussions. These diverse sets of issues have raised concerns with universities and advocacy groups while bills before Congress have focused on attracting foreign students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (*STEM*) fields.

[ARTICLE 80](#)

**Kudos for Carnegie** by Frederick Hess & Rosemary Kendrick in *The American,* 15 January.

One of America's most influential education foundations has picked a new president.

[ARTICLE 81](#)

## **MEDIA**

**Who Hates the Press?** by Michael Schudson & Danielle Haas in *CJR*, November/December.

A new study traces more than thirty years of changing public attitudes toward the news media, and unhappily finds that to know journalism is to disdain it. From Watergate to the present, confidence in the media has been spiraling down. [ARTICLE 82](#)

**If You Build It...** by Julia Klein in *CJR*, November/December

The Journal-Constitution gambles on a digitally driven makeover.

[ARTICLE 83](#)

**The War Expert** by Michael Massing in *CJR*, November/December.

Wrong, wrong, wrong again, but the media still want to hear from Ken Pollack.

[ARTICLE 84](#)

**Online Salvation?** by Paul Farhi on *AJR* online, December/January.

The embattled newspaper business is betting heavily on Web advertising revenue to secure its survival, saying "We can do several of these (one-person bureaus) for the price of one traditional bureau." A stand-alone multimedia reporter's equipment costs a mere \$10,000. The costs of running a traditional full-size bureau can run \$500,000 per year. The journalists who take on the new posts must be "Jacks-of-all-trades" who can handle digital video cameras, satellite dishes and laptops. And they will be expected to record, edit and transmit their own audio and video reports from Nairobi, Jakarta, Mumbai, New Delhi, Seoul and Dubai, etc. [ARTICLE 85](#)

**The Uncle Sam Solution: Can the Government Help the Press? Should it?** by Bree Nordenson in *Columbia Journalism Review*, September/October.

The future of American newspapers has become a topic of increasing concern as circulation wanes and editorial cutbacks affect the quality of journalism. Top editors, experts and a media investor discuss the viability of government support of good news outlets with lagging profits. Serious newsgathering is seldom done in Internet-based media, and newspapers continue to cut investigative reporting resources. This is despite the fact that editorial costs make up only 9-12% of the average newspaper's budget. [ARTICLE 86](#)

**The Video Explosion** by Charles Layton on *AJR* online, December/January.

News organizations are embracing video on their Web sites in a big way. The quality ranges from bad to basic to superb. And for some journalists, the advent of video is a terrific new career opportunity. [ARTICLE 87](#)

**Covering the World** by Sherry Ricchiardi on *AJR* online, December/January.

As U.S. news organizations have backed away from foreign news coverage, the Associated Press' international report has become increasingly vital. [ARTICLE 88](#)

**Armies of One** by Jennifer Dorroh on *AJR.org*, December/January.

The American Broadcasting Company (ABC) is launching the network's largest overseas expansion in over 20 years with new one-person foreign bureaus. [ARTICLE 89](#)

**Letter From China** by Kathleen McLaughlin in *American Journalism Review*, December/January.

How will China, hardly a bastion of press freedom, cope with an invasion of 20,000 foreign journalists for the 2008 Olympics? The author says China will be prepared to manage, lead and otherwise guide international journalists toward a flattering portrayal of Beijing. She says that in this environment, journalists should not expect to break earth-shattering news. "Cover the games and stop hoping for another Tiananmen," counsels John Pomfret (the Washington Post's West Coast correspondent, was one of two resident foreign reporters expelled from China after the deadly 1989 Tiananmen Square democracy crackdown. He was deported, but he was allowed to return in 1998 as the Post's Beijing bureau chief). [ARTICLE 90](#)

**Developing Media in Stabilization and Reconstruction Operations** by Yll Bajraktari. *USIP*, October.

In war-torn societies, the development of independent, pluralistic, and sustainable media is critical to fostering long-term peace and stability. The authors believe that an effective media strategy can mitigate postwar tensions by elevating moderate voices and dampening extremist ones. It can create peaceful channels through which differences can be resolved without resort to violence. Also, the creation of a robust media culture will also allow citizens to begin holding their government accountable for its actions and ensuring its commitment to democracy. [ARTICLE 91](#)

## THE ARTS, SOCIETY & CULTURE

### The Arts – Reshaping Ideas, Expressing Identity

**On the Uses of Cultural Knowledge** by Shelia Miyoshi Jager. *Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College*. Web posted 13 November. 38p.

Jager explores the role of cultural knowledge as a new strategy for counterinsurgency. She believes that culture has been largely ignored in broader strategic goals, as she highlights the importance of culture, and cultural awareness, in formulating a broad strategy for counterinsurgency which also has wide-ranging implication for U.S. foreign policy.

[ARTICLE 92](#)

**The Impact of Unauthorized Immigrants on the Budgets of State and Local Governments** by Melissa Merrell. State and Local Government Cost Estimates Unit, *CBO*, U.S. Congress. Web posted 9 December. 24p.

Merrell presents facts and research on unauthorized immigration and focuses on the estimated costs incurred by state and local governments for services to these unauthorized immigrants. Some of the services investigated are education, health care, and law enforcement. She also looks at the types of federal assistance provided to states for these services, and studies the estimated taxes paid by the unauthorized immigrants.

[ARTICLE 93](#)

**Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: What Do We Know and What Do We Do About It?** *Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice, U.S. Department of Justice*. Web posted 8 December. 20p.

Discusses the current U.S. outreach programs aimed to prevent or intervene in the commercial sexual exploitation of children, providing an overview of federal laws including the law that requires internet service providers to report child pornography. It also includes U.S. participation in international programs through the World Congresses and the U.N., and describes what more can be done to protect children.

[ARTICLE 94](#)

**The Glorious Toothpick** by Henry Petroski in *The American*, November/December.

The humble mass-produced toothpick is a paradigm for American manufacturing: inspiration, invention, marketing, trade, success, and failure.

[ARTICLE 95](#)

**The Big Cheese** by Matthew Rubiner in *The American*, November/December.

Is American cheese the new American wine?

[ARTICLE 96](#)

**Putting the Humanity in Philanthropy** by Courtney Martin in *The American Prospect*, 17 December.

The best way to decide how -- and how much -- to give to charity.

[ARTICLE 97](#)

**Straight Answers from Vartan Gregorian** in *American Libraries*, November.

The author, president of Carnegie Corporation of New York, salutes the power of libraries as “launching pads for the imagination”, the institution that is most representative of an open society. Libraries contain a nation’s heritage and the tools for learning and understanding -- a place where immigrants learn English and bridge the distances between their “old” country and their new adopted land. In 2001, more than twenty organizations created by industrialist Andrew Carnegie celebrated the 100th anniversary of his philanthropic work. Perhaps his most lasting contribution was his endowment of libraries, an act that created over 1600 libraries in the U.S. and about 1000 in Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii and Fiji.

[ARTICLE 98](#)

**Happy New Year to Libraries** by Stan Katz on *Brainstorm.org*

Not in spite of, but because of, libraries in the digital age...

[ARTICLE 99](#)

**Top Ten Reasons to be a Librarian** on *ALA.org*

Reasons why many of us think it’s one of the best occupations in the world...

[ARTICLE 100](#)

**Remembering Jack Kerouac** by Joyce Johnson in *Smithsonian*, September.

The publication of ON THE ROAD in 1957 “uncorked all that bottled-up restlessness” of what has been called the Silent Generation, the children of parents who had lived through the upheavals of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Johnson says they “anxiously pursued a narrow definition of the American Dream, terrified of losing their hard-won middle-class status”, and taught their children to keep their

heads down. Fifty years later, Kerouac's voice still calls out: "look around you, stay open, question the roles society has thrust upon you, don't give up the search for connection and meaning."

[ARTICLE 101](#)

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

**7 Things You Should Know About Skype** on *Educause Connect*, January.

Skype is a voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) application that lets users make free phone calls between Skype-equipped computers and inexpensive calls between Skype computers and landline or cell phones. Skype offers features such as voicemail, call forwarding, conference calling, and video chat. In most circumstances, Skype provides access to voice and video communication for a fraction of what other options cost. It allows more frequent contact between colleagues, collaborators, and friends and permits connections with those not likely to be in touch through conventional phone systems.

[ARTICLE 102](#)

**Open Source Intelligence (OSINT): Issues for Congress** by Richard A. Best, Jr. & Alfred Cumming. *CRS*, 5 December. 27p.

"Open source information (OSINT) is derived from newspapers, journals, radio and television, and the Internet." Intelligence analysts have used this type of information to supplement classified data, but it is not considered a priority of the U.S. Intelligence Community (IC). However, responding to legislative direction, the IC established the position of Assistant Director of National Intelligence for Open Source and created the National Open Source Center. This report provides background information and some recent developments on the use of OSINT.

[ARTICLE 103](#)



### **The Next New Thing**

*U.S. Dept of State, Office of International Information Programs, eJournal USA*, January.

Innovation is the art of creating something new, and everyday in the U.S. and around the world, scientists, students, and everyday people are working to bring to life an idea that is theirs alone. Each year the United States issues more than 180,000 patents to scientists, students, corporations, and everyday people so that they can protect and build on their idea and introduce it to the world. This edition of *eJournal USA* provides a sampling of the many innovative ideas and people that are making this world a better, easier, more interesting place to live.

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## Miscellaneous:

**Building Innovation Through Broadband. Final Report of the California Broadband Task Force** January. [Summary](#)

**Top 10 cybersecurity menaces for 2008** - compiled by the *SANS Institute* (Bethesda, Md.)

**Trends in Naturalization Rates** Fact sheet, *U.S. Dept of Homeland Security, Office of Immigration Statistics*, December. 2p.

**Naturalization Delays: Causes, Consequences and Solutions** Hearing before a *subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary*, 17 January.

**The Global "Go-To Think Tanks": The Leading Public Policy Research Institutions in the World** by James G. McGann. *Foreign Policy Research Institute*, January. 24p.

**On the Record: Report of the Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control** *Library of Congress*, 9 January. 49p.

**America's Infrastructure: Ramping Up or Crashing Down** *Brookings*, January. 8p. [Summary](#)

**The Housing Decline: The Extent of the Problem and Potential Remedies** Hearing before the *U.S. Senate Committee on Finance*, 13 December.

**Respectfully Quoted: A Dictionary of Quotations Requested from the Congressional Research Service**

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