

ARTICLE ALERT

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U.S. POLITICS AND SOCIAL PROCESSES

[1] Where Are The Other Women Leaders?

Forbes.com, November 11, 2009

Goudreau, Jenna

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Although most Americans are comfortable with women leaders across industries, women account for only 18 percent of the nation's top leaders and are still only making 78.7 cents to every dollar earned by a man, according to a study released by the White House Project. American women, the report found, are earning the majority of college degrees and make up more than half of middle managers, yet very few are reaching senior management level. The United States, it says, ranks 71st out of 189 countries in terms of women's representation in politics--trailing behind the U.K., Japan and France and Afghanistan, Cuba and Pakistan. The report recommends setting targets and timelines for the number of women needed in top positions, focusing more on powerful women role models in the media, and increasing flexibility in workplace structures.

ENVIROMENT AND ENERGY

[2] Memo To Copenhagen: Commentary Is Misinformed – China's Commitment is Significant

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, December 8, 2009

William Chandler

[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [PDF format, 7 pages]

According to the author, criticism of China's pledge to reduce its carbon intensity by 45 percent by 2020 is ill-founded; it only serves to provide cover for U.S. opponents to climate change action, and risks blocking effective progress.

[3] Copenhagen's Many Agendas

Council on Foreign Relations, December 4, 2009

Toni Johson

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The U.N. conference on climate change that begins December 7 in Copenhagen is supposed to produce new targets for emissions reductions, but experts say major countries are at odds on the ultimate goal of a new framework. This backgrounder looks at some of their positions.

**[4] U.S. Energy Policy- Overcoming Barriers To Action
Environment, September/October 2009; pg.22, 10 pages
Bazerman, Max H.**

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The issue of global climate change was identified decades ago. In fact, it was first noted in the media in the 1930s, when a prolonged period of warm weather demanded explanation, yet interest in the matter disappeared as cooler temperatures returned. For the past decade, most experts have accepted climate change as a fact, making the issue difficult to ignore—yet many politicians, and the voters who elect them, have done exactly that. Scientists, policymakers, and others have come up with good ideas to address climate change and other energy issues including oil, transportation, and electricity policies; carbon capture and storage; and the generation of innovative energy solutions; many of the core aspects of these ideas were developed long ago. However, predictable cognitive, organizational, and political barriers prevent us from addressing energy problems despite clearly identified courses of action. This article borrows from the “predictable surprises” framework that Harvard Business School professor Michael Watkins and I developed to explain the human failure to act in time to prevent catastrophes. It also borrows ideas from a paper on cognitive barriers to addressing climate change. To focus the discussion, I treat climate change as the exemplar energy-related problem, but the ideas presented here are relevant to the enactment of wise policies across a range of issues, some of which I also discuss to demonstrate the dynamics of these barriers.

**[5] The Low- Carbon Diet
Foreign Affairs, September/October 2009; pg. 114, 9 pages
Kurtzman, Joel.**

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The article discusses the use of the free market to confront and reverse global climate change. The author claims that the best market-based tool to protect the environment is a cap-and-trade system for greenhouse gas emissions. Cap-and-trade systems are designed to make it expensive for businesses to emit greenhouse gases, which motivates pollution producers to replace their emissions source with technology that is less damaging to the environment. The author details the history of cap-and-trade systems.

ECONOMICS AND TRADE ISSUES

**[6] How China Won And Russia Lost: Two Dissimilar Economic Paths
Policy Review, No. 158, December 2009-January 2010
Gregory, Paul; Zhou, Kate**

[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) (HTML format)

The economic reforms that took place in China and Russia in the 1980s have resulted in very different outcomes, note the authors. The Chinese Communist Party under Deng Xiaoping opened

up the economy but resisted grassroots reform. However, China has a tradition of small private agriculture and trading, and the rural population began bringing food and goods to the major urban centers on their own, braving official harassment and reprisal. China's was a bottom-up spontaneous reform that had broad popular support, and spread to such an extent that the leadership eventually had to concede its success. In Russia's case, Gorbachev's reforms were initiated on a top-down basis, with no meaningful constituency, as all Russians worked for the state. Gorbachev also had to contend with the intractable problems of large state enterprises and state-run collective farms, and foreign firms were reluctant to invest in Russia because of the lack of contract and property-rights law. The authors note that Russia's experience in foreign investment is in stark contrast to the case in China, which was helped by the knowledge of local contacts by the large Chinese émigré business community throughout Asia and North America.

**[7] Bad Debts: Assessing China's Financial Influence In Great Power Politics
International Security, vol. 34, no. 2, Fall 2009, pp. 7-45
Drezner, Daniel W.**

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Drezner, professor of international politics at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, states that policymakers have voiced growing concerns about U.S. dependence on China and other authoritarian capitalist states as a source of credit to fund the U.S. trade and budget deficits. He argues if Beijing or another sovereign creditor were to flex its financial muscles, Washington could buckle. The ability of creditor states to convert their financial power into political power suggests that the power of credit has been moderately exaggerated in policy circles. China's financial power increases its deterrent capabilities, but it has little effect on its coercible capabilities. China can use its financial power to resist U.S. entreaty, but it cannot force the United States into changing its policies. Financial power works best when a concert of creditors (or debtors) can be maintained. The author describes two case studies—the contestation over regulating sovereign wealth funds and the protection of Chinese financial investments in the United States—demonstrate the constraints on China's financial power.

**[8] U.S. Direct Investment Abroad: Trends And Current Issues
CRS Report for Congress, November 5, 2009, 10 pages
Jackson, James K.**

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The United States is the largest investor abroad and the largest recipient of direct investment in the world. For some Americans, the national gains attributed to investing overseas are offset by such perceived losses as displaced U.S. workers and lower wages. Some observers believe U.S. firms invest abroad to avoid U.S. labor unions or high U.S. wages, however, 70% of U.S. foreign direct investment is concentrated in high income developed countries. Even more striking is the fact that the share of investment going to developing countries has fallen in recent years. Most economists conclude that direct investment abroad does not lead to fewer jobs or lower incomes overall for Americans and that the majority of jobs lost among U.S. manufacturing firms over the past decade reflect a broad restructuring of U.S. manufacturing industries.

[9] Intellectual Property Rights And International Trade

CRS Report for Congress, October 21, 2009, 48 pages**Ilias, Shayerah; Ferguson, Ian E.**[Ask IRC for an electronic copy](#)

This report provides background on intellectual property rights (IPR) and discusses the role of U.S. international trade policy in enhancing IPR protection and enforcement abroad. IPR are legal rights granted by governments to encourage innovation and creative output by ensuring that creators reap the benefits of their inventions or works and they may take the form of patents, trade secrets, copyrights, trademarks, or geographical indications. U.S. industries that rely on IPR contribute significantly to U.S. economic growth, employment, and trade with other countries. Counterfeiting and piracy in other countries may result in the loss of billions of dollars of revenue for U.S. firms as well as the loss of jobs. Responsibility for developing IPR policy, engaging in IPR-related international negotiations, and enforcing IPR laws cuts across several different U.S. government agencies.

[10] Imaginative Obstruction: Modern Protectionism In The Global Economy**Georgetown Journal of International Affairs, vol. 10, no. 2, Summer/Fall 2009, pp. 7-14****Levy, Philip**[Ask IRC for an electronic copy](#)

Levy, resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, notes that, as international trade has grown exponentially in recent decades, so has the variety of motivations for individual countries to institute trade protections. Levy categorizes protectionist policies in three general groups. Intentional protectionism is the most transparent, designed to shield domestically-produced goods, such as agricultural products or steel, from foreign competition. Incidental protectionism are measures that affect the import of goods under the rubric of unrelated domestic issues, such as prohibiting the imports of products made with toxic materials as a public-health or safety issue. Instrumental protectionism are actions designed to further a nation's foreign-policy or other goal, such as limiting the spread of dual-use technology. Levy agrees that protectionism must be avoided, but "in order to reject protectionism, we must first be able to recognize it."

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY**[11] China's Naval Nationalism: Sources, Prospects, And The U.S. Response****International Security, vol. 34, no. 2, Fall 2009, pp. 46-81****Ross, Robert S.**[Ask IRC for an electronic copy](#)

Ross, professor of political science at Boston College, believes that China will soon embark on an ambitious maritime policy that will include a power-projection navy centered on an aircraft carrier. He argues that China's naval ambition is driven by widespread nationalism, growing social instability, and the leadership's concern for its political legitimacy. China's maritime power, however, will be limited by the constraints experienced by all land powers. In China's case, territorial security and a corresponding commitment to a large ground force capability will constrain its naval capabilities as well as a potential challenge to U.S. maritime security. Ross believes that China's naval nationalism will challenge U.S.-China cooperation, and will also likely challenge the

U.S. to develop policy to manage U.S.-China naval competition to allow for continued political cooperation.

[12] China's Expanding Role In Peacekeeping: Prospects And Policy Implications
Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, November 2009

Bates Gill and Chin-Hao Huang

[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [PDF format, 52 pages]

China has dramatically increased its participation in United Nations peace operations in recent years. China now provides more uniformed personnel than any other permanent member of the U.N. Security Council. The paper offers new insights into the development of China's engagement in multilateral peacekeeping and the factors and debates that underlie it.

[13] The State Of Public Diplomacy

Foreign Service Journal, vol. 86, no. 10, October 2009, pp. 14-24, 26-36, 38-58

The article is available at <http://www.foreignservicejournal-digital.com/>

In this special issue, former and present PD practitioners [Joe B. Johnson, William A. Rugh, Michael McClellan, Monica O'Keefe, Elizabeth Corwin, William P. Kiehl, Robert McMahon] discuss the role of public diplomacy since the demise of the United States Information Agency (USIA) in 1999, when it was abolished by Congress, and its information and exchanges functions were transferred to the U.S. Department of State in a new Bureau of Public Diplomacy as a way to bring public diplomacy closer to policy-making. The contributors hope to start a conversation about the direction of public diplomacy in the 21st century. When the Cold War ended in 1989, USIA's former mission to fight a propaganda battle against the forces of Communism ended and public diplomacy searched for a new, post-Cold war mission. At the advent of the Obama administration, PD confronts new challenges with social networking tools, such as blogs, tweets and Facebook, to apply to the traditional programs of publications, educational and cultural exchanges, and various information programs. In 2008, the major public affairs web pages of the State Department all changed to more participatory and visual styles. For policy, new words like "engagement" and "three-D diplomacy" are replacing the old paradigm and re-cast press and cultural affairs as a truly integral part of diplomacy.

[14] Public Diplomacy 2.0: Where The U.S. Government Meets "New Media"

The Heritage Foundation, December 8, 2009

Helle C. Dale

[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [PDF format, 11pages]

Can Facebook and Twitter change the world? Can all the nifty new social-networking sites promote democracy and a better understanding of American values around the world? The potential is certainly there, as was seen in the invaluable Twitter updates during the post-election protests in Iran. The U.S. government is embracing Web 2.0 for an ambitious strategy of reaching previously untapped populations around the world, call it Public Diplomacy 2.0. While the potential progress is undeniable, so is the potential danger. Public diplomacy expert Helle Dale explains the recent developments, strategies, benefits, and risks of cyber diplomacy.

[15] The United States In The New Asia
Council on Foreign Relations, November 2009, 53 pages
Feigenbaum, Evan A.; Manning, Robert A.

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In this Council Special Report, commissioned by CFR's International Institutions and Global Governance program, Evan A. Feigenbaum and Robert A. Manning examine Asia's regional architecture and consider what it means for the United States. They identify shortcomings in the region's existing multilateral mix and contend that the United States must increase its involvement in shaping Asian institutions in order to advance U.S. strategic interests and protect the competitiveness of American firms.

[16] Long Time Going: Religion And The Duration Of Crusading
International Security, vol. 34, no. 2, Fall 2009, pp. 162-193
Horowitz, Michael C.

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Horowitz, assistant professor of political science at the University of Pennsylvania, studies the medieval European Crusades to explore whether religiously motivated military campaigns, absent decisive conclusions, may last longer than conventional campaigns because of the nonmaterial reasons for continuing to fight. Despite spectacular failures and rising costs, Crusading continued for centuries. The evidence shows that it is impossible to comprehend the persistence of Crusading over a several-hundred-year period without understanding the religious devotion at the heart of this institution. Horowitz notes that scholars have long argued for centuries about the relative importance of religion in determining behavior. Do actors with genuine religious beliefs, both leaders and foot soldiers, actually fight wars and commit atrocities in the name of religion and religious institutions? Or is religion a proxy for materialist variables such as land grabs or wealth creation? This research contributes to growing work in international relations on the importance of identity attributes and helps to explain how factors such as religion can influence processes such as crisis bargaining and war termination.

[17] American Grand Strategy From The Cold War's End To 9/11
Orbis, vol. 53, no. 4, Fall 2009, pp. 611-627
Suri, Jeremi

The article is available at <http://www.sciencedirect.com>

Suri, professor of history at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, asserts after the end of the Cold War, American policymakers sought to create a new grand strategy for the United States, but they failed in this endeavor, because of difficult domestic and international circumstances, but also because of conceptual limitations. He pins down the efforts at strategy formulation in the administrations of George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton, and analyzes their shortcomings. The article encourages readers to think about how future strategists might improve upon this legacy with clearer and more disciplined attention to priorities, capabilities, and trade-offs. Making grand strategy in a democracy is not easy, but it is necessary. Suri believes the absence of effective grand strategy in the 1990s contributed to the crises of the early twenty-first century. This article is part of a special series, Debating American Grand Strategy After Major War.

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION**[18] International Students****Chronicle of Higher Education, Vol. 56, No. 13, November 20, 2009**[Ask IRC for an electronic copy](#)

The Chronicle of Higher Education featured several articles on international students, timing the series to coincide with International Education Week. In the issue's lead story, "Students Flooded into U.S. in 2008," Karin Fischer looks at the Institute of International Education's annual Open Doors Report, which recorded stunning increases in both total annual enrollment of international students at U.S. colleges and universities (8 percent) and in first-time student enrollments (nearly 16 percent). Fischer finds "potentially worrisome," however, the stronger growth in undergraduate than graduate enrollment and the huge increase in Chinese undergraduate enrollment (60 percent). In "Top Destinations for Growing Numbers of Foreign Students", Aisha Labi writes that the U.S., Australia, Canada and Britain face growing competition from traditional sending regions such as Singapore, South Korea and China, which are now trying to improve and expand their own education systems. Beth McMurtrie ("Study-Abroad Programs Diversify as Their Popularity Grows") covers the section of the IIE Open Doors Report devoted to U.S. students studying abroad. There is strong growth in study-abroad programs for U.S. students in such non-traditional areas as China (up 19 percent), India (up 20 percent), South Africa (up 15 percent), Japan (up 14 percent), and Argentina and Costa Rica (both up more than 13 percent). In "The Chinese Are Coming and They Need Help with the Admissions Process", Bruce Hammond urges American institutions to communicate with Chinese parents in their native language and to cultivate relationships with Chinese high schools.

[19] The Dewey Dilemma**Library Journal; October 1, 2009, Vol. 134 Issue 16, p22-25, 4p****Fister, Barbara.**[Click here for available text on the internet](#)

The article reports on an increase in U.S. libraries that have stopped shelving their books according to the Dewey decimal system and have started to shelve them according to a system called BISAC (Book Industry Standards and Communications). While the Dewey system categorizes related knowledge systematically, BISAC is an alphabetical list of categories ranging from Antiques and Collectibles to True Crime. Libraries have begun to use BISAC because they feel it is more user friendly.

[20] Beyond The Usual Suspects: Criminology And Criminal Justice Resources**Choice, vol. 47, no. 3, November 2009, pp. 435-443****Evans, Karen**[Ask IRC for an electronic copy](#)

The author, a reference librarian at the Cunningham Library, Indiana State University, notes that interest in the interrelated fields of criminology, the scientific study of crime and its causes, and criminal justice, which uses governmental and legal systems for the social control of crime, is

growing, spurred on in part by the popularity of prime-time television shows like CSI and the Law and Order franchise. In fact, criminology and its various areas of research has particular appeal for various levels, such as undergraduate students who seem to find the juvenile system a popular focus of their study, and enforcement officers who are responsible for studying the motives of serial killers from among health care employees. Other fields include law enforcement, violence and criminal behavior, and forensics, and web sites and databases. One of the most comprehensive web sites, not surprisingly, is that of the U.S. Department of Justice. This essay, rather than being a comprehensive bibliography, offers instead a starting point for appropriate resources.

ARTS AND LITERATURE

[21] Soul Of A Writer

Humanities, vol. 30, no. 6, November/December 2009, pp. 20-24

Geffner, David

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Jim Thompson, author of numerous hard-boiled crime novels, including *A Hell of a Woman*, *Savage Night* and *The Killer Inside Me* — joined the ranks of such classic pulp-fiction writers as James M. Cain and Dashiell Hammett long before filmmaker Quentin Tarantino made the genre fashionable. Says Geffner, accounts of the novelist’s colorful personal history recall his early years as a “hobo, bellhop, roughneck, boozer, factory worker, [and] Marine,” but rarely mention that he was once, briefly, a registered Communist. This omission is all the more striking because Thompson — whose experiences during the Great Depression shaped his perspective — has maintained a high profile, thanks to a steady stream of film adaptations of his works (*The Kill-Off*; *After Dark, My Sweet*; *The Grifters*; *The Getaway*). In the late 1930s, Thompson was director of the Oklahoma Federal Writers’ Project (a New Deal program to put American writers to work), and this detail also has been largely ignored, probably because the program was “a hotbed of radical politics,” says Geffner. Still, “Thompson’s leftist past may well have set the course for everything that followed in his later career,” and an understanding of this is essential in any assessment of Thompson as an writer, Geffner argues. But if Thompson developed populist sympathies as a result of his hardscrabble youth, he never romanticized the down-and-out characters who populate his novels. Thompson’s experimental structures and avant-garde sensibility almost certainly can be traced to his tenure at the Federal Writers Project, which exposed him to other writers who were pushing literary boundaries. In the end, though, his voice was all his own. Geffner concludes that Thompson “was rooted in the proletariat’s lot, the blood, sweat, and dirt of people he felt to be the salt of the earth — although his books showed them to be more like vipers in a pit.”

[22] Can Modern Dance Be Preserved?

New York Times Magazine, November 8, 2009, pp. 38-43

Lubow, Arthur

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The work of a choreographer like Merce Cunningham is notoriously hard to document and recreate. When the dancers depart, will the dances disappear? This question has become especially important since Cunningham, who was a goodwill ambassador for the U.S. Department of State through his dance tours to several countries in the 1970s, died in July 2009. Like his famous contemporaries

Martha Graham, George Balanchine, and Agnes De Mille, their legacies were often left to foundations or unscrupulous individuals who controlled both their archival records and the copyrights on the artistic creations with the authority to license rights and distribute royalties. In Cunningham's case, his artistry was closely identified with his partner, composer John Cage, so there needed to be protection on the works of two creative artists. However, until a new copyright law took effect in 1978, choreography and musical performance were not explicitly protected so videotaping dance, the most permanent visual record of an actual performance, was not a common thing. Pirated or unauthorized dance presentations often abounded with little legal enforcement. To counter this, artists like Cunningham established trusts to protect their lifetime work.

[23] Uncovering Montpelier's Hidden Past
Preservation magazine, September-October 2008
Shea, Christopher

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After undergoing one of the most ambitious restoration projects of modern times, Montpelier, President James Madison's neoclassical Virginia home, stands as it once appeared when he lived there with his wife Dolley from 1797-1836. Before the restoration, the Madison core of Montpelier had been buried within a 55-bedroom addition made by the DuPont family, who purchased Montpelier in 1900. Marion DuPont Scott lived at Montpelier most of her life, and her heirs transferred their interests in the mansion to the National Trust for Historic Preservation after her death in 1983. Tourists visited the mansion in dwindling numbers until 2003, when the Montpelier Foundation began a \$24 million restoration effort funded by the estate of Paul Mellon. The restoration removed the DuPont additions to reveal the original 26-room house the Madisons lived in. The house contained many original windows and doors, that helped experts construct the house as it looked circa 1812. Researchers discovered outlines of original chair rails and stairs, and fragments of carvings on chimney pieces. Curators are tracing Madison's furnishings. One wing of the visitors' center is given over to the William DuPont Gallery, which describes the family's involvement. The restored Montpelier made its debut in September 2008.

[24] Dr. Williams
The American Poetry Review, Nov/Dec 2009. Vol. 38, Iss. 6; p. 33
Lowell, Robert.

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William Carlos Williams was an American poet who had an immense influence on the course of 20th century poetry. He wrote in varying style and technique and was often radically experimental. His fresh and clear work that rejects sentimentality and vagueness, reflects emotional restraint and heightens the sensory experience with articulated common speech and inspired many poets and many generations to follow. Lowell discusses the life and works of Dr Williams.