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**INFO-ALERT** brings to your attention a selection of abstracts of current articles and new materials from American publications on current political, economic, social issues and trends in the United States. These materials are available upon request from the **Information Resource Center**.

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## **POLITICS & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

### **1. THE UNITED STATES AND ASIA IN 2010**

Francois Godement

**Asian Survey**, January/February 2011, 14 pages

As China asserts itself, neighbors look to the United States for support. The Obama administration is providing it but faces multiple issues, from Korea to the Afghan situation. U.S. policy toward China is frustrated with maritime, military, and currency issues. America is balancing engagement, security reassurances, and conflict avoidance.

### **2. ASIA IN 2010; CONTINENT ASCENDANT**

Lowell Dittmer

**Asian Survey**, January/February 2011, 4 pages

Lowell Dittmer, a professor of Political Science at the University of California, surveys the political, social and economic conditions in a number of Asian countries during 2010.

### **3. THE ROLE AND RELEVANCE OF MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY**

Brett D. Schaefer

**The Heritage Foundation Lecture #1178**, February 14, 2011, 6 pages

The Heritage Foundation's Brett D. Schaefer, examines the dynamics of multilateral diplomacy and the role of diplomacy to advance and promote the foreign policy objectives of the United States.

4. **WILL CHINA'S RISE LEAD TO WAR? WHY REALISM DOES NOT MEAN PESSIMISM**

Charles Glaser

*Foreign Affairs*, Mar/Apr 2011, 12 pgs

The rise of China will likely be the most important international relations story of the twenty-first century. Charles Glaser, Professor of Political Science at the George Washington University, believes that China's rise need not be nearly as competitive and dangerous as the standard realist argument suggests. Current international conditions should enable both the US and China to protect their vital interests without posing large threats to each other. Both the US and China will be able to maintain high levels of security now and through any potential rise of China to superpower status.

5. **INTRODUCTION: AMERICA'S BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH SOUTHEAST ASIA -- CONSTRAINTS AND PROMISE**

Satu P. Limaye

*Contemporary Southeast Asia: A Journal of International & Strategic Affairs*, December 2010, 8 pages

Satu P. Limaye, Director of the East-West Center in Washington, provides an overview and draws out some key themes and assessments on the United States' bilateral relations with several countries in Southeast Asia, specifically the mutual "re-engagement" or "revitalization" efforts. Also discussed are specific factors in each relationship that constrain the trajectory of future bilateral relations.

6. **PROMOTING DEMOCRACY: THE WHYS AND HOWS FOR THE UNITED STATES AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY**

Mark Lagon

*A Markets and Democracy Brief*, February 2011, 3 pages

Mark Lagon, an adjunct senior fellow for human rights, examines the history of democracy promotion in U.S. foreign policy and offers lessons for how the United States can best advance democracy today.

7. **A G-ZERO WORLD**

Ian Bremmer and Nouriel Roubini

*Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2011, 6 pages

The authors examine the influence of the United States as the global economic force following the global financial crisis of 2008-09 and the era of a G-Zero world; one in which no single country or bloc of countries has the political and economic leverage--or the will--to drive a truly international agenda.

**SOCIAL ISSUES & VALUES, EDUCATION & THE ARTS**

8. **HOW SKYSCRAPERS CAN SAVE THE CITY**

Edward Glaeser

*The Atlantic*, March 2011, 12 pages

Besides making cities more affordable and architecturally interesting, tall buildings are greener than sprawl, and they foster social capital and creativity. Edward Glaeser, an economics professor at Harvard University's Department of Economics, discusses the development of skyscrapers in cities throughout history.

9. **FIGHT THE STRESS OF URBAN EDUCATION WITH THE ARTS**

Dennis W. Creedon

*Phi Delta Kappan*, March 2011, 3 pages

Stress is a major health problem in urban neighborhoods, but according to the author, director of comprehensive arts education in the School District of Philadelphia, integrating the arts into education can help children deal with stress. He explains how the power of the arts helps children and youth rebuild their emotional and physical lives and notes that integrating the arts into education has been particularly effective with disadvantaged children.

10. **ACTUALLY GOING TO CLASS, FOR A SPECIFIC COURSE? HOW 20TH-CENTURY**

Jeffrey R. Young

*The Chronicle of Higher Education*, March 4, 2011

The author examines how learning technologies which allow students to have access to information from any location are having an impact on the traditional structure of the college course. He also discusses why traditional lecture-based instruction is the wrong approach to engage students.

11. **AS THE WEB GOES MOBILE, COLLEGES FAIL TO KEEP UP**

Josh Keller

*The Chronicle of Higher Education*, January 28, 2011, 6 pages

Josh Keller, an editorial staff of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, discusses the use of mobile communication systems by college students in the United States and its impact on higher education.

12. **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TOMORROW'S UNIVERSITY**

Jolene Koester

*Educause Review*, January/February 2011, 6 pages

Jolene Koester, President of the California State University system, explores the importance of integrating information technology with higher education, and how it can improve the system of higher education.

**SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

13. **WEAVING A NEW WEB**

William Lehr, et al.

*Discover*, March 2011, 6 pages

How big can the information superhighway get before it starts to buckle while more and more people jump online every day? Four network experts discuss the future of life online and Internet engineering as the system expands at a challenging pace.

#### 14. **DIGITAL GOVERNANCE**

Anton Wohlers

**Choice**, December 2010, 8 pages

Anton Wohlers, a research director and professor at Cameron University, discusses the governance of the Internet and society, focusing on how the Internet affects the democratic process and the use of the Internet, generally by governments, to provide public services.

#### 15. **LEARNING TO LOVE THE (SHALLOW, DIVISIVE, UNRELIABLE) NEW MEDIA**

James Fallows

**The Atlantic**, April 2011, 10 pages

James Fallows, a national correspondent for The Atlantic, discusses the role of online social media in 21st century journalism, arguing that the use of new media as a news source is evidence of changes in journalism and the news business in the U.S.

#### 16. **IS THE GOOGLE WORLD A BETTER PLACE?**

Michael T. Jones

**Journal of International Affairs**, Fall/Winter 2010, 14 pages

The fact that Google is changing our world is well-known. How exactly is this transformation taking place and where will it lead? Google's chief technology advocate, Michael T. Jones, reflects on Google's global impact on the international democratization process, the nature of censorship, and the accessibility of the Internet and Google.

#### 17. **THE ZUCKERBERG REVOLUTION**

Neal Gabler

**New Perspectives Quarterly**, Winter 2011, 3 pages

Neal Gabler, a senior fellow at the University of Southern California's Annenberg Norman Lear Center, profiles Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg and discusses how Zuckerberg's "social inbox" transforms, not only how people interact but also how they think and feel.

#### 18. **NAVIGATING THE FUTURE**

Larry Kramer

**American Journalism Review**, Winter 2010, 6 pages

Larry Kramer, a former editor of the San Francisco Examiner, discusses upheavals in the U.S. journalism industry brought about by the Internet and digital technology, and how news organizations might find profitable business models in the future.