



September/October 2011

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. **CAN ASIA LEAD? POWER AMBITIONS AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY**

Amitav Acharya

International Affairs, July 2011, 19 pages

Is the much hyped 'rise of Asia' translating into global public good? Amitav Acharya, UNESCO Chair in Transnational Challenges and Governance, discusses the rise of Asia and its role in global governance. He focuses on the contradiction between the desire of Asia's leading states to be recognized and treated as global powers and their limited and hesitant contribution to global governance.

2. **DOES OBAMA HAVE A GRAND STRATEGY? WHY WE NEED DOCTRINES IN UNCERTAIN TIMES**

Daniel W. Drezner

Foreign Affairs, July/August 2011, 12 pages

Is it true that President Barack Obama has no grand strategy? And even if it were, would that be such a disaster? Daniel Drezner, a professor of International Politics at Tufts University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, examines if President Obama has a grand strategy and the importance of such an approach if there is none.

3. DEMOCRATIZATION AND STABILITY IN EAST ASIA

Jennifer Lind

International Studies Quarterly, June 2011, 28 pages

Jennifer Lind, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Government at Dartmouth College, analyzes whether East Asia's upcoming democratic transitions will create regional instability by debating two theories -- democratization and war theory and economic interdependence theory.

4. ASIA'S CENTURY AND THE PROBLEM OF JAPAN'S CENTRALITY

Brendan Taylo

International Affairs, July 2011, 15 pages

The author examines Japan as a central component of America's grand strategy in Asia, particularly its role in an evolving security order, where China and the United States emerge as Asia's two dominant powers by a significant margin.

5. THE FUTURE OF THE LIBERAL WORLD ORDER: INTERNATIONALISM AFTER AMERICA

G John Ikenberry

Foreign Affairs, May/June 2011, 13 pgs

As the United States' relative power declines, will the open and rule-based liberal international order Washington has championed since the 1940s start to erode? Probably not. That order is alive and well. China and other emerging powers will not seek to undermine the system; instead, they will try to gain more leadership within it, says G. John Ikenberry, Professor of Politics and International Affairs at Princeton University.

6. THE ROLE OF EAST ASIAN REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN REGIONAL GOVERNANCE: CONSTRAINTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Rosemary Foot

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Commentary, June 7, 2011, 10 pages

Rosemary Foot, Professor of International Relations at St Antony's College, explores the role that Asia-Pacific regional organizations play in the governance process, and examines some of the differences between the formal versus informal institutional arrangements.

ECONOMIC SECURITY AND TRADE

7. SOUTHEAST ASIA: CROUCHING TIGER OR HIDDEN DRAGON?

Vikram Nehru

International Economic Bulletin, July 7, 2011, 6 pages

As China confronts economic, social, environmental, and international challenges, will Southeast Asia be buffeted by any instability that may emerge? Vikram Nehru, a World Bank Chief Economist for the East Asia & Pacific, examines economic prospects for Southeast Asia.

8. COMPETING AGAINST FREE

David J. Bryce, et al.

Harvard Business Review, June 2011, 8 pages

David Bryce discuss how established companies should respond to the "free" business models popularized in the digital world by companies such as Google, Adobe, and Mozilla, that are spreading to markets in the physical world.

SOCIAL ISSUES & VALUES, EDUCATION & THE ARTS

9. WHY EDUCATION LEADERS MUST BECOME POLITICAL ANIMALS

Mary Esther Van Shura

Education Week, May 25, 2011, 4 pages

Mary Esther Van Shura, an adjunct faculty member in the School of Education at the University of Pittsburgh, explores how educational leaders must work more to engage with the political community in order to have a better position to enact educational changes or take similar actions.

10. GRASPING THE REALITIES OF EDUCATING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Phil Schubert

Educause Review, March/April 2011, 2 pages

Phil Schubert, President of Abilene Christian University, discusses education in the digital age, focusing on how mobile-learning strategies can reconnect students to their peers, challenge them with real-world data, and involve them in real-world conversations—all providing the relevance students need for academic, social, and professional success.

11. NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO GET YOUR STUDENTS ENGAGED

Ryan Cordell

The Chronicle of Higher Education, May 13, 2011, 5 pages

Ryan Cordell, an Assistant Professor of English at St. Norbert College, discusses educational technology and student engagement, and how to incorporate technology with pedagogical goals.

12. E-READING: THE TRANSITION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

David McCarthy

Educause Review, March/April 2011, 5 pages

David McCarthy, Director of Product Management for Digital Education at Barnes & Noble, examines the growth of e-reading and a digital transformation in higher education, focusing on students' needs and expectations regarding digital content, and the challenges higher education institutions face during the transition to e-reading.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

13. SOCIAL NETWORKS VS. GOVERNING AUTHORITY

Nathan Gardels

New Perspectives Quarter, Spring 2011, 3 pages

Nathan Gardels, an editor of *New Perspectives Quarterly*, discusses how to balance the participatory power of social networks with the legitimate governing authority required for providing the common good and sustaining a democratic society over the long term.

14. WHITHER INTERNET CONTROL?

Evgeny Morozov

Journal of Democracy, April 2011, 13 pages

While Internet control can manifest itself both as censorship and as surveillance, there is also a sociopolitical dimension that overlaps the technological dimension. So, what exactly is Internet control, and how best may it be combated? Evgeny Morozov, a contributing editor of *Foreign Policy*, discusses the practice of Internet control and the ways to minimize the technological dimension of Internet censorship.

15. CREATING A PUBLIC SQUARE IN A CHALLENGING MEDIA AGE

Norman J. Ornstein, et al.

American Enterprise Institute White Paper, June 2011, 27 pages

Norman Ornstein examines the challenges the digital age presents for traditional media and an increasing gap in access to these media and communications technologies. They lay out four major challenges posed by the current era and propose ways to meet these challenges and boost civic participation.

16. ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO POST. OR IS IT?

Nancy K. Herther

Searcher, June 2011, 9 pages

Nancy K. Herther, a sociology/anthropology librarian at University of Minnesota Libraries, examines the impact of Internet technology on the ability of people to discern fact from fiction, gossip from exaggeration and truth from lies.