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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

REPORTS

FACT SHEET: THE PRESIDENT'S MAY 23 SPEECH ON COUNTERTERRORISM

The White House. May 23, 2013.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/05/23/fact-sheet-president-s-may-23-speech-counterterrorism>

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/05/23/remarks-president-national-defense-university> (Speech)

"In a broad and comprehensive address at National Defense University, President Obama laid out the framework for U.S. counter-terrorism strategy as we wind down the war in Afghanistan. The President provided the American people with an update on how the threat of terrorism has changed substantially since September 11, 2001, as Al Qaeda's core in Afghanistan and Pakistan has been decimated, and new threats have emerged from al Qaeda affiliates, localized extremist groups, and homegrown terrorists. The President also discussed our comprehensive strategy to meet these threats, including waging the war against al Qaeda and our counter-terrorism efforts more broadly."

COUNTRY REPORTS ON TERRORISM

Bureau of Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of State. May 2013.

<http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2012/index.htm>

This report is submitted in compliance with Title 22 of the United States Code, Section 2656f (the "Act"), which requires the Department of State to provide to Congress a full and complete annual report on terrorism for those countries and groups meeting the criteria of the Act. "The al-Qa'ida (AQ) core, under the direction of Ayman al-Zawahiri, has been significantly degraded as a result of ongoing worldwide efforts against the organization. Usama bin Laden's death was the most important milestone in the fight against AQ, but there have been other successes – dozens of senior AQ leaders have been removed from the fight in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region... As a result of these leadership losses, the AQ core's ability to direct the activities and attacks of its affiliates has diminished, as its leaders focus increasingly on survival. Leadership losses have also driven AQ affiliates to become more independent. The affiliates are increasingly setting their own goals and specifying their own targets. As avenues previously open to them for receiving and sending funds have become more difficult to access, several affiliates have engaged in kidnapping for ransom.

Through kidnapping for ransom operations and other criminal activities, the affiliates have also increased their financial independence."

COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES FOR 2012

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, U.S. Department of State. May 2013.
<http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/hrrpt/humanrightsreport/index.htm#wrapper>

"This report assesses human rights conditions around the globe in 2012. Two years after protests in Tunisia and Egypt sparked the beginning of the Arab Awakening, countries in that region and elsewhere remain in the throes of unsettling and unpredictable change...The hope of the early days of the Arab Awakening has run up against the harsh realities of incomplete and contested transitions: Bashar Al-Asad's brutality against his own people in Syria; inter-communal tensions and political violence in Yemen, Bahrain, and Iraq; and serious hurdles to sustainable democracy in Egypt and Libya. The world faces new challenges as popular demands for democratic change surge against outmoded economic and political structures in many of these countries...The publication of this annual report, now in its 36th year, reflects America's interest in, and support for, the advancement of human rights around the world... As we look back on human rights in the world in 2012, five developments are most striking: Shrinking space for civil society activism around the world; the ongoing struggle by people in the Middle East for democratic change; steps toward emerging democracy and a tentative opening for civil society in Burma; the game-changing nature of information and communication technologies, in the face of increased suppression of traditional media and freedom of expression; and the continued marginalization of and violence against members of vulnerable groups."

INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM REPORT 2012

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, U.S. Department of State. May 2013.
<http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/irf/religiousfreedom/index.htm#wrapper>

"One of the basic elements of the International Religious Freedom Act is the requirement that the Department of State publish an annual report on the status of religious freedom in countries around the world, and the record of governments in protecting--or not protecting--this universal right... This comprehensive report comprises almost two hundred individual reports on countries and territories. Each report sets forth the laws, policies, and practices of governments; describes the nature of societal respect for religious freedom; and highlights the specific efforts that the U.S. government made in each country to promote respect for religious freedom. Some reports document religious bigotry, hatred, and oppression. Others describe examples of religious freedom, societal respect, and interfaith dialogue... For 2012, some common themes regarding the status of religious freedom around the world emerged. In general, these themes reveal negative trends, and often cut across national and regional boundaries... The United States works through multilateral as well as bilateral channels to promote increased respect for religious freedom, and also funds NGO programs designed to achieve this goal. In the multilateral arena, the United States continued to follow up on the UN Human Rights Council's March 2011 adoption of resolution 16/18 on "Combating Intolerance, Negative Stereotyping and Stigmatization of, and Discrimination, Incitement to Violence and Violence Against, Persons Based on Religion or Belief."

FACT SHEET: U.S. SECURITY SECTOR ASSISTANCE POLICY

The White House. April 5, 2013.
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/04/05/fact-sheet-us-security-sector-assistance-policy>

“United States policy on Security Sector Assistance is aimed at strengthening the ability of the United States to help allies and partner nations build their own security capacity, consistent with the principles of good governance and rule of law. The United States has long recognized that the diversity and complexity of the threats to our national interest require a collaborative approach, both within the United States Government and among allies, partners, and multilateral organizations. More than ever before, we share security responsibilities with other nations and groups to help address security challenges in their countries and regions, whether it is fighting alongside our forces, countering terrorist and international criminal networks, participating in international peacekeeping operations, or building institutions capable of maintaining security, law, and order, and applying justice. U.S. assistance to build capabilities to meet these challenges can yield critical benefits, including reducing the possibility that the United States or partner nations may be required to intervene abroad in response to instability... To address these challenges, the United States must improve its ability to enable partners in providing security and justice for their own people and responding to common security challenges. Therefore, the United States will pursue a new approach to security sector assistance to better meet this complex and interdependent security environment.”

THE U.S.- EU ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP: CRISIS AND OPPORTUNITY

Testimony by Robert D. Hormats, Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment, U.S. Department of State before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. May 23, 2013 [PDF format, 6 pages]

http://www.foreign.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Hormats_Testimony.pdf

Robert Hormats discussed the U.S.- EU economic relationship before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. “The economic relationship between the United States and Europe is already strong and integrated. The United States and the European Union together have 812 million consumers. And the United States exported \$458 billion in goods and private services in 2012 to the EU, our largest export market. Companies in the United States and the European Union have invested a total of over \$3.6 trillion in each others’ markets and approximately 50 percent of total U.S.-EU trade is intra-company. U.S.-EU trade and investment already supports an estimated 13 million jobs on both sides of the Atlantic.”

THE TRANSATLANTIC TRADE AND INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP: AMBITIOUS BUT ACHIEVABLE

Barker, Tyson; Workman, Garrett. The Atlantic Council; Bertelsmann Foundation. April 2013 [PDF format, 9 pages]

http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/403/TTIPReport_web.pdf

“As leaders in the United States and Europe prepare for the formal launch of Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) talks, the Bertelsmann Foundation and the Atlantic Council have conducted a survey of trade policy experts from the public and private sectors on both sides of the Atlantic to gauge their expectations for the results of negotiations. This policy brief examines the results of this survey and analyzes its policy implications in three possible scenarios. The United States and Europe have discussed a transatlantic free trade area in various guises for decades. But as negotiations for a new Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) begin, this time seems different. Both sides recognize the need to stimulate their stagnant economies in the aftermath of the financial and Eurozone crises. In an age of austerity, as debt and deficit problems have led to a major loss of market confidence in the United States and Europe’s ability to recover in a sustainable manner, a deepened trade relationship marks a path forward without adding to national debt levels. Furthermore, the rise of the emerging markets—particularly China—which often

subscribe to a different economic model focused on state-owned enterprises and government directed investment decisions, marks a historic decision-point for the transatlantic community." *Tyson Barker is director of Transatlantic Relations at the Bertelsmann Foundation. Garrett Workman is an associate director of the Global Business and Economics Program at The Atlantic Council.*

EUROPE'S STRATEGIC FUTURE: IMPLICATIONS OF THE EUROZONE CRISIS

The Atlantic Council; Royal United Services Institute. May 13, 2013 [PDF format, 16 pages]
http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/403/AC_RUSI_Eurozone.pdf

"The report features perspectives from the United States, the United Kingdom, and India analyzing how the Eurozone crisis is likely to impact Europe's role in the world. The publication aims to elevate the conversation about the Eurozone crisis beyond the economic and political questions that usually frame the debate on Europe's future, focusing instead on its impact on Europe's will and capability to exert influence beyond its borders. While each of the briefs covers its own ground and offers its own perspective, several key themes exist: first, Europe will emerge transformed from the crisis, but exactly what Europe emerges in the future remains unclear. Second, Europe is likely to remain inwardly focused in the coming decades, which will reduce its influence and weight on the world stage. Third, the crisis is harming perceptions of Europe among outside powers, including in the United States. This will have important implications for the transatlantic relationship and NATO."

TOWARD A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME IN AFGHANISTAN

Flournoy, Michèle; O'Hanlon, Michael. Center for a New American Security. May 2013 [PDF format, 16 pages]
http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/CNAS_Afghanistan_Flournoy_Voices.pdf

"The United States can still achieve its strategic objectives in Afghanistan if it maintains and adequately resources its current policy course – and if Afghan partners in particular do their part, including by successfully navigating the shoals of their presidential election and transition in 2014. The core reasons for this judgment are the impressive progress of the Afghan security forces and the significant strides made in areas such as agriculture, health and education, combined with the promising pool of human capital that is increasingly influential within the country and that may be poised to gain greater influence in the country's future politics... Pakistan has an important role to play as well, in its willingness to pressure the Taliban sanctuaries still allowed to exist on its soil – though Islamabad's present activities, however regrettable in some ways, may not in themselves be enough to derail the mission. It is highly desirable that Washington and Kabul clarify and solidify their commitment to an enduring partnership as soon as possible. This would reduce incentives for hedging behavior in Afghanistan and Pakistan and contribute to a constructive atmosphere for the campaigns leading up to the crucial April 2014 Afghan presidential election." General John R. Allen, USMC (Ret.) commanded the NATO International Security Assistance Force and U.S. Forces - Afghanistan from July 2011 to February 2013. *Michèle Flournoy is Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of the Center for a New American Security. She served as the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy from February 2009 to February 2012. Michael O'Hanlon is a senior fellow in Foreign Policy Studies at the Brookings Institution.*

THE RISE OF EMERGING ASIA: REGIONAL PEACE AND GLOBAL SECURITY

Kahler, Miles. Peterson Institute for International Economics. May 2013 [PDF format, 25 pages]
<http://www.iie.com/publications/wp/wp13-4.pdf>

"The rapid economic rise of China, India, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) could have several effects on regional peace and global security. The power transition perspective overstates the risk of conflict that results from convergence between dominant and challenger states. Rapid changes in economic and military capabilities can, however, have negative consequences for regional peace. Three features of the international environment—democratization, economic interdependence, and international institutions—provide weak insurance, at best, against conflict in Asia. Emerging Asian powers may also challenge existing global security regimes, a more indirect threat to global peace. The continuing contribution of Asia to global peace and security will require measures that will be difficult for newly empowered actors competing for status and influence." *Miles Kahler is the Rohr Professor of Pacific International Relations and Distinguished Professor of Political Science in the School of International Relations and Pacific Studies and the Political Science Department, University of California, San Diego.*

CONFLICT AND INSTABILITY IN THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL: LOCAL DILEMMAS, GLOBAL IMPLICATIONS

Testimony by Rudolph Atallah, Senior Fellow, Michael S. Ansari Africa Center, Atlantic Council before a Joint Subcommittee Hearing on "The Growing Crisis in Africa's Sahel Region", House Committee on Foreign Affairs. May 21, 2013.

<http://go.usa.gov/bEnG>

"This statement explores the areas and sources of security and instability in the Sahara and Sahel, emphasizing several geographic focal points and specific threats. Terrorist networks associated with al-Qa'ida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) will receive a great deal of attention in this discussion, as will the patterns of radicalization and the illicit economies that support them. Left unaddressed, these patterns and nefarious actors will increasingly threaten the interests of the U.S. and her allies, both within and without Continental Africa. I will conclude with several recommendations to the Congress, the primary one being to take the necessary legislative steps to empower and direct the Administration to work with the international community to synchronize critical USAID assistance to at-risk populations in places like Northern Mali with the efforts of Special Operations Forces (SOF) to deny safe haven to terrorist actors, diminish their standing within at-risk populations and prevent them from using the area to continue to threaten US and allied interests."

TOP FIVE REASONS WHY AFRICA SHOULD BE A PRIORITY FOR THE UNITED STATES

The Brookings Institution. March 2013 [PDF format, 20 pages]

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Research/Files/Reports/2013/04/africa%20priority%20united%20states/04_africa_priority_united_states.pdf

"In many respects, the United States has been slow to seize the opportunities availed by the new Africa. While the American private sector has begun to take advantage of some of these opportunities, the scope of engagement by American businesses is still small in scale. Likewise, the U.S. government's engagement has not changed much. But Africa matters to the United States, a reality that will only grow more important as the continent's economies and governance structures continue to transform. While it is indeed true that Africa benefits from American engagement, it is also true that the U.S. benefits from African engagement. The following briefing papers in this collection are meant to touch on only some of the reasons why Africa matters for United States as well as strategic opportunities for U.S. engagement in the region. These briefs focus on five key issues: national security, China, energy, trade and investment, and U.S. development assistance."

WHOSE PACIFIC CENTURY? THE 113TH CONGRESS AND ASIA

Gresser, Edward; Twining, Daniel. National Bureau of Asian Research. April 2013 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 32 pages]

http://nbr.org/publications/analysis/pdf/NBR_Analysis_113thCongress.pdf

"This report examines the issues in Asia that the 113th Congress will confront—from the pace and scale of military drawdown in Afghanistan to an increasingly dangerous North Korea—and argues that domestic policy choices on debts and deficits will ultimately determine whether the U.S. can realize the promise of its strategic rebalance toward the Indo-Pacific. Issues before the 113th Congress include the planned withdrawal of combat forces from Afghanistan in 2014 and the future relationship with Pakistan; a decision on "trade promotion authority" for future trade agreements, including the possible 2014 conclusion of a Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement; sustaining and resourcing the U.S. strategic "rebalance" to Asia in ways that invest old allies like Japan and new partners like India in closer long-term cooperation with the U.S.; the progress of last year's unexpected reconciliation with Burma/Myanmar, including the status of the recently waived investment and trade sanctions; the appropriate response to North Korea's aggressively advancing nuclear and missile programs; stalemated negotiations on trade and climate change; and growing questions about assertive Chinese regional diplomacy and maritime claims, which have deeply unsettled Asian security and forced both Congress and the Obama administration to think hard about the foundations of U.S. regional strategy."

Edward Gresser is Director of the Progressive Economy Project at the GlobalWorks Foundation. He is also a former Policy Advisor for the U.S. Trade Representative during the second Clinton administration. Daniel Twining is Senior Fellow for Asia at the German Marshall Fund of the United States. He previously served as a member of the Secretary of State's Policy Planning Staff and as Foreign Policy Advisor to Senator John McCain (R-AZ).

U.S. POLICY TOWARD IRAN

Testimony by Wendy Sherman, Under Secretary of State of Political Affairs, U.S. Department of State. before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. May 15, 2013 [PDF format, 11 pages]

http://www.foreign.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Sherman_Testimony.pdf

Sherman discussed "the Administration's approach to the multiple challenges posed by Iran – by its nuclear ambitions, its support for international terrorism and destabilizing activities in the region, and its human rights abuses at home... Since this Administration took office in 2009, we have pursued a dual-track policy. Working with the P5+1 – the five members of the UN Security Council – China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, plus Germany, under the auspices of the European Union – we have actively pursued a diplomatic solution to international concerns over Iran's nuclear program. As a result of Iran's continuing disregard for its international obligations, we have ratcheted up the pressure on the Iranian government."

DEFENDING AN OPEN, GLOBAL, SECURE, AND RESILIENT INTERNET

Council on Foreign Relations [Independent Task Force Report #70] June 2013 [PDF format, 127 pages]

http://i.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/TFR70_cyber_policy.pdf.pdf

"The Task Force recommends that the United States develop a digital policy framework based on four pillars. First, it calls on the U.S. government to share leadership with like-minded actors, including governments, private companies, and NGOs, to develop a global security framework based on a common set of principles and practices. Next, the Task Force recommends that all future trade agreements between the United States and its trading

partners contain a goal of fostering the free flow of information and data across national borders while protecting intellectual property and individual privacy. Third, the Task Force urges the U.S. government to define and actively promote a vision of Internet governance that involves emerging Internet powers and expands and strengthens governance processes that include representatives of governments, private industry, and civil society. Finally, the report recommends that U.S.-based industry work rapidly to establish an industry-led approach to counter current and future cyber attacks. The United States needs to act proactively on these fronts, lest it risk ceding the initiative to countries whose interests differ significantly from its own. The Task Force further argues for greater public debate in the United States about cyber capabilities as instruments of national security... The report notes that the number of people online will double to five billion by the end of this decade, and the Internet economy will continue to grow. In the United States alone, the Internet economy, now \$68 billion, or 4.7 percent of GDP, is projected to rise to 5.4 percent in 2016, so any successful policy response will have to include the business community and civil society." *The Task Force is chaired by John D. Negroponte, former deputy secretary of state and director of national intelligence, and Samuel J. Palmisano, former chairman of the board and CEO of IBM, and is directed by Adam Segal, CFR's Maurice R. Greenberg senior fellow for China studies.*

THE NEW FOREIGN POLICY FRONTIER: U.S. INTERESTS AND ACTORS IN THE ARCTIC

Conley, Heather A., et. Al. Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). April 22, 2013 [PDF format, 102 pages]

http://csis.org/files/publication/130307_Conley_NewForeignPolFrontier_Web_0.pdf

"Since World War II, the Arctic has been a region of geostrategic importance to the United States. As unprecedented environmental transformation occurs in the Arctic, this region will increase in significance... Crafting U.S. policy toward the Arctic, however, is a complex and challenging undertaking. Arctic policy must respond to the economic, environmental, security, and geopolitical concerns that confront the region. When the Barack Obama administration came into office in January 2009, it accepted and left unchanged the recently adopted Arctic strategy of the George W. Bush administration. In its second term, it is now time for the Obama administration to enhance U.S. Arctic policy by updating and prioritizing National Security Presidential Directive 66/Homeland Security Presidential Directive 25 (NSPD-66/HSPD-25), improving interagency cooperation, enhancing U.S. international and public diplomacy related to the Arctic, and increasing the focus of senior U.S. officials. These activities must begin now if the United States is to prepare for and fully maximize its chairmanship of the Arctic Council beginning in 2015." *Heather A. Conley is director and senior fellow of the Europe Program at CSIS.*

INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE FINANCING: THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND (GCF)

Lattanzio, Richard K. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. April 16, 2013 [PDF format, 16 pages]

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41889.pdf>

"Over the past several decades, the United States has delivered financial and technical assistance for climate change activities in the developing world through a variety of bilateral and multilateral programs. The United States and other industrialized countries committed to such assistance through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC, Treaty Number: 102-38, 1992), the Copenhagen Accord (2009), and the UNFCCC Cancun Agreements (2010), wherein the higher-income countries pledged jointly up to \$30 billion of "fast start" climate financing for lower-income countries for the period 2010-2012, and a goal of mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020... One potential mechanism for

mobilizing a share of the proposed international climate financing is the UNFCCC Green Climate Fund (GCF), proposed in the Cancun Agreements and accepted by Parties during the December 2011 conference in Durban, South Africa. The fund aims to assist developing countries in their efforts to combat climate change through the provision of grants and other concessional financing for mitigation and adaptation projects, programs, policies, and activities. The GCF is to be capitalized by contributions from donor countries and other sources, including both innovative mechanisms and the private sector... The U.S. Congress—through its role in authorizations, appropriations, and oversight—would have significant input on U.S. participation in the GCF. Congress regularly determines and gives guidance to the allocation of foreign aid between bilateral and multilateral assistance as well as among the variety of multilateral mechanisms." *Richard K. Lattanzio is an Analyst in Environmental Policy at the CRS.*

BUILDING A BRIDGE TO A TRI-POLAR WORLD ECONOMY: AN AMERICAN GROWTH STRATEGY

Pelosky, Jay. New America Foundation. May 2013 [PDF format, 23 pages]
<http://bit.ly/12AJsmP>

"This paper explores the options for supporting a transition to investment- and production-led growth at home while averting beggar-thy-neighbor policies globally – creating a bridge to a more balanced global economy. It explains why the current mix of international policy is not working and why it is complicating the transition to a more balanced U.S. economic growth model. It then shows why the administration's proposed strategy of pursuing new free trade initiatives with Europe in the Atlantic and with Japan and the Southeast Asian economies in the Pacific will fall short of the dual goal of facilitating the transition to a new U.S. growth path and preventing the further collapse of globalization. Finally, it lays out a road map for an alternative growth strategy that would combine a bold public and human capital investment program at home with an international strategy that would deepen integration with our trading partners in the Americas and in so doing provide a model for other major economies to proceed with their own regional economic deepening." *Jay Pelosky is Principal at J2Z Advisory, LLC, a global asset allocation and portfolio strategy consultancy for institutional investors. A former Morgan Stanley global strategist, he co-chaired its research department's asset allocation committee.*

CLOSING THE GUANTANAMO DETENTION CENTER: LEGAL ISSUES

Garcia, Michael John. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. May 30, 2013 [PDF format, 62 pages]
<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/R40139.pdf>

"The closure of the Guantanamo detention facility would raise a number of legal issues with respect to the individuals formerly interned there, particularly if those detainees are transferred to the United States. The nature and scope of constitutional protections owed to detainees within the U.S. may be different from the protections owed to aliens held abroad. The transfer of detainees to the U.S. may also have immigration consequences. This report provides an overview of major legal issues likely to arise as a result of executive and legislative action to close the Guantanamo detention facility. It discusses legal issues related to the transfer of Guantanamo detainees (either to a foreign country or into the U.S.), the continued detention of such persons in the U.S., and the possible removal of persons brought into the country. It also discusses selected constitutional issues that may arise in the criminal prosecution of detainees, emphasizing the procedural and substantive protections that are utilized in different forums (i.e., federal courts, court-martial proceedings, and military commissions)." *Michel John Garcia is a Legislative Attorney at the CRS.*

ARTICLES

U.S. STRATEGY AFTER THE ARAB UPRISINGS: TOWARD PROGRESSIVE ENGAGEMENT

Kahl, Colin H.; Lynch, Marc. *The Washington Quarterly*. Spring 2013, pp. 39-60.
https://csis.org/files/publication/TWQ_13Spring_Kahl-Lynch.pdf

"Two years into the wave of upheaval sweeping the Arab world, new regional dynamics have become clearer, as have unresolved tensions in current U.S. policy toward the region. Given the scale and velocity of political turmoil associated with the Arab uprisings, the Obama administration has understandably adopted a largely reactive approach, attempting to adjust U.S. policies to a rapidly changing environment. It has been more successful in those efforts than is commonly recognized, maintaining effective pressure against Iran and al-Qaeda while helping to broker meaningful political transitions in Tunisia, Egypt, Yemen, and Libya. But now there is a sense of drift overtaking American strategy for the region. The United States must frankly and carefully specify its vital national interests at stake in the Arab world, the resources it is able and willing to commit to pursue them, and the inherent contradictions among some of its objectives... We outline a new approach to the Middle East, which we label "Progressive Engagement." The strategy focuses on encouraging political reform and broad based engagement with emerging actors while "right-sizing" America's military presence in the region. Both components are vital. Our vision of the Middle East that might emerge in five to ten years through such a strategy would include robust partnerships with more democratic and accountable governments, who are able to both effectively align with broad trends in public opinion and to cooperate with the United States on matters of vital shared interest. Rebalancing America's commitments in this manner does not mean abandoning the Middle East, sacrificing our vital interests, or abdicating a leadership role. It means pursuing our goals differently in ways more in line with current U.S. capabilities and a more empowered and populist region. Regional actors must play a greater role in the security architecture and political process, with the United States serving as a critical node for cooperation -convening, facilitating, and guiding, rather than dominating." *Colin H. Kahl is an Associate Professor at the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service and a Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security. Marc Lynch is an Associate Professor of Political Science at George Washington University and a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security. A portion of this article draws on Colin H. Kahl, "Revising U.S. Strategy in Light of the Arab Uprisings," in Nicholas Burns and Jonathon Price, eds., *The Arab Revolutions and American Policy* (Washington, DC: The Aspen Institute, forthcoming).*

THE IRONY OF AMERICAN STRATEGY: PUTTING THE MIDDLE EAST IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE

Haas, Richard N. *Foreign Affairs*. May/June, 2013, pp. 57-67.
<http://www.cfr.org/us-strategy-and-politics/irony-american-strategy/p30534>

"The US emerged from the Cold War with unprecedented absolute and relative power. Not surprisingly, its leaders were uncertain about what to do with such advantages, and for more than a decade following the dismantlement of the Berlin Wall, US foreign policy was conducted without much in the way of an overarching strategy. The 9/11 attacks changed all this, giving Washington a surfeit of purpose to go along with its preponderant power... The US needs to restore the foundations of American economic power so that it will once again have the resources to act freely and lead in the world, so that it can compete, so that it can discourage threats from emerging and contend with them if need be, so that it is less vulnerable to international developments it cannot control, and so that it can set an

example others will want to emulate." *Richard N. Haas is the president of the Council on Foreign Relations.*

EUROPE'S NEW MAP

Kaplan, Robert D. *The National Interest*. May/June 2013.

<http://www.the-american-interest.com/article.cfm?piece=1407>

"Recent commentary on Europe has been overwhelmingly parochial. When it is not all about financial mechanisms, it is about analyzing the recent history of and relationships within the European Union (EU) itself. The Eurozone's broken welfare states hover around zero GDP growth, and membership within it may contract at some point. But the economic and political crisis afflicting the EU does not occur in a vacuum. Other, powerful trends, together with the weakening of the EU, will shape 21st -century Europe, and, with it, the United States. We must consider what else is happening in the region and beyond. When we do that, we see that most of us are asking the wrong questions. To ask about the future strategic significance of Europe in isolation from everything that is happening around it is like trying to understand an island's weather patterns without taking into account its surrounding seas... Trends within Europe proper are mixed. NATO is increasingly infirm. Its member states' military budgets are declining (from a low base to start with). Russia is attempting to buy financial and infrastructure assets throughout Central and Eastern Europe... Meanwhile, the Balkans languish in ethnic divisions, entrenched corruption and underdevelopment, even as Turkey, adjoining the Balkans, is emerging as a principal, mid-level power." *Robert D. Kaplan is chief geopolitical analyst for Stratfor, a private global intelligence firm, and the author most recently of The Revenge of Geography: What the Map Tells Us About Coming Conflicts and the Battle Against Fate (Random House, 2012).*

THE EURO CRISIS: NO PLAN B

Jones, Erik. *Survival*. June/July 2013, pp. 81–94.

"European bond markets have moved into a period of relative calm. The spread between long-term Italian and German government interest rates is back down to levels last seen when Silvio Berlusconi was Italian prime minister. The spread between Spanish and German debt is higher, but not by much. Moreover, nothing in the news seems to rattle the markets significantly. The near collapse of the banking sector in Cyprus caused only a blip; the imposition of capital controls by the Cypriot government had little impact either. The small Mediterranean island country suffered huge losses (which augur even greater economic suffering to follow) and yet the threat of crisis spreading from one country to another has not materialized. The positive spin to put on this chain of events is that the euro area is more resilient than it was either during summer 2012 or autumn 2011." *Erik Jones is Professor and Director of European Studies at The Johns Hopkins University SAIS and Senior Research Fellow at Nuffield College, Oxford.*

ACCOMMODATING CHINA

Etzioni, Amitai. *Survival*. April/May 2013, pp. 45–60.

"The United States should be able to accommodate China's rise without compromising its core interests or its values. Freed from his pre-election necessity to appear tough, President Barack Obama now has the opportunity to re-examine the pivot to Asia he announced in 2011 to choose between a quest for a regional accommodation and a military confrontation. Accommodation should not be misconstrued as appeasement or unilateral concession. It should be conceived, rather, as action in the interests of both sides that contributes to global stability. It proceeds from the assumption that relations between international powers can benefit from significant complementary interests, even if other interests conflict.

Washington and Beijing share interests in nuclear non-proliferation, securing global commerce, stabilizing oil markets and preserving the environment, as well as preventing terrorism, piracy and the spread of pandemics... China views its key geopolitical interests in a regional context, focusing on Tibet, Taiwan and the South China Sea, and its military is largely designed to enhance its power in East Asia, as shown by the deployment of its most advanced weapons systems near Taiwan and its concentration on anti-access and area-denial capabilities. China's explicit foreign-policy doctrine has been one of 'peaceful rise', more recently evolving into 'peaceful development'... The United States and its allies therefore have little reason to replay the Cold War by seeking to contain China. Instead, the West could readily tolerate some expansion of China's regional influence by allowing it to secure access to vital resources as long as it abides by international law. Accommodating such expansion is more likely to lead to a peaceful, limited rebalancing of power than seeking to block China on all fronts by establishing counter-alliances." *Amitai Etzioni is University Professor and Professor of International Relations at The George Washington University, Washington DC.*

THE PRESSING DANGER OF CRISIS INSTABILITY IN U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS

Goldstein, Avery. *International Security*. Spring 2013, pp.49-89.

"Two concerns have driven much of the debate about international security in the post-Cold War era. The first is the potentially deadly mix of nuclear proliferation, rogue states, and international terrorists, a worry that became dominant after the terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001. The second concern, one whose prominence has waxed and waned since the mid-1990s, is the potentially disruptive impact that China will have if it emerges as a peer competitor of the United States, challenging an international order established during the era of U.S. preponderance. Reflecting this second concern, some analysts have expressed reservations about the dominant post-September 11 security agenda, arguing that China could challenge U.S. global interests in ways that terrorists and rogue states cannot." *Avery Goldstein is the David M. Knott Professor of Global Politics and International Relations. He is also the Director of the Center for the Study of Contemporary China, and Associate Director of the Christopher H. Browne Center for International Politics at the University of Pennsylvania.*

REBALANCING TO ASIA WITH AN INSECURE CHINA

Ratner, Ely. *The Washington Quarterly*. Spring 2013, pp. 21-38.

http://csis.org/files/publication/TWO_13Spring_Ratner.pdf

"President Obama enters his second term, continuing to shift U.S. attention and resources to the Asia—/Pacific will be a leading U.S. foreign policy priority. While many in the region have welcomed this renewed commitment, the U.S. "pivot" to Asia has created heightened concerns in China about U.S. intentions.¹ U.S. efforts to expand its military force posture in Asia, to strengthen security ties with allies and partners, and to enhance the role of regional institutions are viewed by many in Beijing as directly aimed at constraining China's rise and as the principal cause of regional instability as well as the deterioration of China's strategic environment. In the years ahead, China's perceived sense of insecurity will likely intensify as the United States continues to deepen its diplomatic, economic, and military engagement in Asia. This will limit the possibilities for U.S.—/ China cooperation on geopolitical issues and place additional strain on the bilateral relationship, leaving policymakers in Washington with the critical task of reconciling the goal of maintaining stable U.S.—/China relations while pursuing next steps in the rebalancing effort." *Dr. Ely Ratner is a Fellow at the Center for a New American Security. He served as a political officer on the China Desk at the State Department from 2011 to 2012.*

THE US AND AFGHANISTAN AFTER 2014

Miller, Paul D. *Survival*. February/March 2013, pp.87-102.

"The war in Afghanistan has lasted far longer and been more difficult than anyone anticipated at the outset, but that does not obviate the very real interests that required the United States to be there in the first place, such as denying safe haven to al-Qaeda and its affiliates, nor other interests crucially affected by the outcome of the war. These interests include Pakistan's stability and the security of its nuclear weapons, neither of which stand to benefit from a Taliban takeover or a civil war next door; the transnational drug trade and Iranian regional influence, which are both likely to grow if Western forces withdraw in unfavorable circumstances; and humanitarian considerations, as the bloodbath in a collapsing Afghanistan would likely dwarf the recent civil wars in Libya and Syria. None of the worst outcomes are inevitable, and international forces still have the opportunity to shape a least-bad outcome. Two decisions will be particularly important. First is the size and mission of the post transition international military force... The second major decision is the level and type of governance assistance the United States and international community give to Afghanistan. Governance assistance, the long-neglected pillar of the international project, is crucial for enhancing capacity and fighting the corruption that has undermined years of state-building efforts." *Paul D. Miller is an Assistant Professor of International Affairs at the National Defense University in Washington DC. He previously served on the National Security Council staff under Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama.*

ISLAMISTS AND DEMOCRACY: CAUTIONS FROM PAKISTAN

Haqqani, Husain. *Journal of Democracy*. April 2013, pp. 5-14.

"Success in free elections held after the 'Arab Spring' protests in Tunisia and Egypt has brought Islamists to power through democratic means, and Islamist influence is on the rise throughout the Arab world. Much of the debate about liberal democracy's future in Arab countries focuses on the extent to which the Islamists might be moderated by their inclusion in the democratic process. There is no doubt that the prospect of gaining a share of power through elections is a strong incentive that favors the tempering of extremist positions. But until the major Islamist movements give up their core ideology, their pursuit of an Islamic state is likely to impede their ability to be full and permanent participants in democratization. The real test of the Islamists' commitment to democracy will come not while they are in power for the first time, but when they lose subsequent elections." *Husain Haqqani, senior fellow at the Hudson Institute and professor of international relations at Boston University.*

GRIEVANCE TO GREED: THE GLOBAL CONVERGENCE OF THE CRIME-TERROR THREAT

Neumann, Vanessa. *Orbis*. Spring 2013, var. pages.

"The threat is real, deadly and serious—for everyone, not just the United States. The rapid collapse of distinctions between transnational criminal organizations and terrorist organizations has led to a threat convergence the likes of which we have not seen before and are only beginning to understand. Transnational organized criminals and foreign terrorist organizations have linked (both wittingly and not) in what we now call the crime-terror pipeline, or CTP. While the intellectual landscape of the problem is still under study, its scale and relevance have made it squarely a Tier-One national security threat, as codified in the White House Strategy to Combat Transnational Organized Crime." *Vanessa Neumann is a Senior Fellow of the Foreign Policy Research Institute.*

REORDERING REGIONAL SECURITY IN LATIN AMERICA

Trinkunas, Harold. *Journal of International Affairs*. Spring 2013, pp.83-96.

"In the wake of the Cold War, regional democratization and economic liberalization were supposed to usher in an opportunity to build a common hemispheric security agenda, designed to unite the United States and Latin America in collaboration against the "new" security threats posed by organized crime and violent nonstate actors. Two decades later, the threats remain much the same, yet the hemispheric security agenda has fragmented, replaced in part by projects designed to build specifically South American regional institutions. As some scholars predicted, heterogeneous threat perceptions across the region, differences over democratization, and tensions over the effects of free trade and market liberalization have confounded the effort to build a hemispheric security agenda. Yet the efforts by former President Hugo Chávez of Venezuela to radically transform the regional security order by building a Bolivarian alliance of states as an explicit counterweight to U.S. power have also fallen short. Instead, Brazil's ascent as a global economic power and the growing prosperity of the region as a whole has created an opportunity for Brazil to organize new mid-range political institutions, embodied in the Union of South American States (UNASUR), that exclude the United States yet pursue a consensual security agenda. This emerging regional order is designed by Brazil to secure its leadership in South America and allow it to choose when and where to involve the United States in managing regional crises." *Harold Trinkunas is an associate professor in the Department of National Security Affairs at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, and a visiting professor at the Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies at the University of California, San Diego.*

RISING POWERS AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE: NEGOTIATING CHANGE IN A RESILIENT STATUS QUO

Kahler, Miles E. *International Affairs*. May 2013, pp.711-729.

"The significance of the large emerging economies—Brazil, India and China—for global governance in coming decades is rarely contested. Each of these countries has placed large bets on integration with the global economy; each aims for a larger regional and global role. Strong economic performance during the great recession of 2008–2009 and its aftermath has only reinforced their claims for international prominence. The implications of their growing influence on the mosaic of institutions and actors that define global governance are, however, disputed. Two divergent views of the future are grounded in the implications of economic convergence for international order. For most economists, the convergence of these populous developing countries with the industrialized countries—in absolute and per capita terms—is one of the great success stories of recent decades. Given broad commitments made by these large emerging economies—the BICs—to engagement with the global economy and existing international institutions, the outlook for future global governance is benign: why should governments endanger the institutional formula that has brought them success?" *Miles Kahler is Rohr Professor of Pacific International Relations at IR/PS and Distinguished Professor of Political Science at UC San Diego.*

DRONES: WHAT ARE THEY GOOD FOR?

Hazelton, Jacqueline L. *Parameters*. Spring 2013, pp.29-33.

http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/parameters/Issues/WinterSpring_2013/4_Article_Hazelton.pdf

This article poses basic questions about the use of drone strikes as tools of the state. The author's goal is to spark further analysis of drone strikes as an instrument in the US foreign policy tool kit. Hazelton asks how drones compare to other weapons and what they may be able to achieve tactically and strategically, militarily and politically. According to the author, these are also questions worth considering in the context of how other states' acquisition of

armed drones could affect the United States. In addition, the author identifies major unanswered empirical questions about the outcome of drone strikes. "The drone debate continues hot and heavy. Critical issues range from the morality of targeting choices and concerns about unintended casualties and anti-Americanism to matters of legal and bureaucratic oversight. These are pressing questions; the United States' use of drones as a weapon of war is on the rise, and other countries are interested in acquiring them...There is still a lack of empirical evidence about the effects of drone strikes, partly due to the secrecy of US drone programs and partly due to their relative novelty. But even without that research, it is possible to consider the utility of drones in attempts to increase US security." *Jacqueline L. Hazelton is a visiting professor in the University of Rochester Department of Political Science and was previously a research fellow at the Belfer Center, Harvard Kennedy School.*

HOW GEOGRAPHY EXPLAINS THE UNITED STATES

Miller, Aaron David. *Foreign Policy*. April 16, 2013.

http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2013/04/16/how_geography_explains_united_states?page=0,0

"Because America's geographical position is so unique in the world, it has led to a worldview that is often unrealistic and riddled with contradictions. However well-intentioned Americans may be, their view of global politics is frequently at war with itself. Here are three strains of thought in Americans' approach to global affairs that continue to impact their country's role in the world today... There's much good America can do in the world. It remains the most powerful and consequential actor on the world stage and will likely maintain that status for some time to come. Americans just have to be smart about how they use that power -- and always remember that not everyone is lucky enough to have Canadians, Mexicans, and fish for neighbors." *Aaron David Miller is vice president for new initiatives and a distinguished scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.*

U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY AND TRENDS

REPORTS

NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL STRATEGY

The White House. May 2013 [PDF format, 104 pages]

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/ondcp/policy-and-research/ndcs_2013.pdf

"The 2013 National Drug Control Strategy articulates the Administration's vision for a modern, balanced drug policy, yet it also contains the voices of thousands of individuals committed to building a safer and healthier future, both across the country and around the world. Throughout 2012, these individuals submitted their ideas about how we can improve our efforts to reduce drug use and its consequences. The Strategy also reflects input from members of Congress and the Federal Government". This strategy describes in further detail the actions the Administration has taken to reduce drug use and its consequences, in accordance with the Principles of Modern Drug Policy and in pursuit of the drug policy goals established in 2010 by the President's first National Drug Control Strategy. Further information on progress toward achieving the goals of the Strategy will be provided in the 2013 Performance Reporting System Report."

BUDGET OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, FISCAL YEAR 2014

Office of Management and Budget. April 10, 2013.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2014/assets/budget.pdf> [PDF format, 244 pages]

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/Overview> [HTML format with individual agencies and departments]

Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2014 contains the Budget Message of the President, information on the President's priorities, budget overviews organized by agency, and summary tables. "Key budget facts: Creates jobs by responsibly paying for investments in education, manufacturing, clean energy, infrastructure, and small business; Includes \$1.8 trillion of additional deficit reduction over 10 years, bringing total deficit reduction achieved to \$4.3 trillion; Represents more than \$2 in spending cuts for every \$1 of new revenue from closing tax loopholes and reducing tax benefits for the wealthiest; Deficit is reduced to 2.8% of GDP by 2016 and 1.7% by 2023 with debt declining as a share of the economy, while protecting the investments we need to create jobs and strengthen the middle class; Includes \$400 billion in health savings that crack down on waste and fraud to strengthen Medicare for years to come."

"HOLLOWING OUT" IN U.S. MANUFACTURING: ANALYSIS AND ISSUES FOR CONGRESS

Levinson, Marc. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. April 15, 2013 [PDF format, 17 pages]

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/207886.pdf>

"The health of the U.S. manufacturing sector has been a major concern of Congress for more than three decades. Over the years, Congress has enacted a wide variety of tax preferences, direct subsidies, import restraints, and other federal programs intended to bolster the manufacturing sector, often with the goal of retaining or recapturing highly paid manufacturing jobs. Only a small proportion of U.S. workers is now employed in factories, as manufacturers have shifted low-value, labor-intensive production, such as apparel and shoe manufacturing, to other countries. Meanwhile, U.S. factories have stepped up production of goods that require high technological sophistication but relatively little direct labor. Despite highly publicized factory closures, the good-producing capacity of the U.S. economy remains near its all-time peak, as measured by the Federal Reserve Board." *Marc Levinson is Section Research Manager at the CRS.*

U.S. JOB CREATION BEST IN FIVE YEARS

Mendes, Elizabeth. Gallup. June 2013.

<http://www.gallup.com/poll/162893/job-creation-best-five-years.aspx>

"More workers report that their employers are hiring; fewer see people being let go." The job market, according to the statistics in the article, are at their best levels since mid-2008... Job creation, according to American workers' reports, is now the best it has been in about five years. Improvements in the East, South, and West, as well as among nongovernment and government workers, led to the increase in overall net job creation in May." *Elizabeth Mendes is an Assistant Director at POLITICO and a moderator of POLITICO's Arena.*

THE HIDDEN STEM ECONOMY

Rothwell, Jonathan. The Brookings Institution. May 2013 [PDF format, 38 pages]

<http://bit.ly/13zhncq>

"Workers in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields play a direct role in driving economic growth. Yet, because of how the STEM economy has been defined, policymakers have mainly focused on supporting workers with at least a bachelor's (BA) degree, overlooking a strong potential workforce of those with less education but substantial STEM skills. As of 2011, 26 million U.S. jobs—20 percent of all jobs—require a high level of knowledge in any one STEM field. Half of all STEM jobs are available to workers without a four-year college degree. Half of all STEM jobs are in manufacturing, health care, or construction industries. Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations constitute 12 percent of all STEM jobs, one of the largest occupational categories... STEM jobs that require at least a bachelor's degree are highly clustered in certain metropolitan areas, while sub-bachelor's STEM jobs are prevalent in every large metropolitan area. Of large metro areas, San Jose, CA, and Washington, D.C., have the most STEM-based economies... More STEM-oriented metropolitan economies perform strongly on a wide variety of economic indicators, from innovation to employment. Job growth, employment rates, patenting, wages, and exports are all higher in more STEM-based economies. The presence of sub-bachelor's degree STEM workers helps boost innovation measures one-fourth to one-half as much as bachelor's degree STEM workers, holding other factors constant. Concentrations of these jobs are also associated with less income inequality." *Jonathan Rothwell is a Senior Research Associate and Associate Fellow at the Metropolitan Policy Program at Brookings.*

GUEST WORKERS IN THE HIGH-SKILL U.S. LABOR MARKET: An Analysis of Supply, Employment, and Wage Trends

Salzman, Hal, et. al. Economic Policy Institute. April 24, 2013 [PDF format, 35 pages]
<http://bit.ly/ZtF8D8>

"The strength of the U.S. science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce and the need to enhance U.S. innovation and productivity are longstanding concerns. A key part of this discussion focuses on whether there is sufficient supply and "quality" in the domestic pool of STEM students and workers, and what might be the most effective policy initiatives to address the range of technology and workforce challenges facing the nation... This paper reviews and analyzes the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) labor market and workforce and the supply of high-skill temporary foreign workers, who serve as "guestworkers." It addresses three central issues in the ongoing discussion about the need for high-skill guestworkers in the United States: Is there a problem producing enough STEM-educated students at sufficient performance levels to supply the labor market?; How large is the flow of guestworkers into the STEM workforce and into the information technology (IT) workforce in particular? And what are the characteristics of these workers?; What are the dynamics of the STEM labor market, and what are the employment and wage trends in the IT labor market?". *Hal Salzman is Professor at the John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development and the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University.*

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN ECONOMIC RECOVERIES: THIS RECOVERY IS DIFFERENT

Harris, Benjamin H.; Shadunsky, Yuri . Urban-Brookings Tax policy Center. April 22, 2013 [PDF format, 21 pages]
<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412807-State-and-Local-Governments-and-Recessions.pdf>

"Examining state and local finances in recent economic recoveries, we find that state and local government activity exhibited an unprecedented decline during the most recent recovery. Never before had state and local contribution to GDP been negative three years after a recession passed its low point. This decreased activity caused a contraction in state

and local government payrolls. While many factors affect these trends, it is likely that the unusually low growth in property tax revenue heavily impacted this decline. State and local governments are a critical part of the national economy... State and local governments comprise around 12 percent of national economic activity, accounting for \$1.8 trillion of such activity in 2012. The size of state and local governments makes them an important actor in the economy, directly affecting economic cycles, either buffering recessions and aiding recoveries or acting as a drag as the private sector revives." *Benjamin Harris is a Senior Research Associate with the Urban Institute and the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center. He has also worked at the White House as a Senior Economist with the Council of Economic Advisers. Yuri Shadunsky is a research assistant at the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center.*

UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANT PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT

Yoshikawa, Hirokazu; Kholoptseva, Jenya. Migration Policy Institute. March 2013 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 28 pages]
<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/COI-Yoshikawa.pdf>

"According to recent estimates, 5.5 million children in the United States, all but 1 million of them US-born, reside with at least one unauthorized immigrant parent. Given that they constitute about 8 percent of all U.S. children, their well-being holds important implications for U.S. society. Emerging research suggests that having an unauthorized immigrant parent is associated with lower cognitive skills in early childhood, lower levels of general positive development in middle childhood, higher levels of anxiety and depressive symptoms during adolescence, and fewer years of schooling. The report explores the research and suggests policies and programs to reduce or mitigate these developmental risks." *Hirokazu Yoshikawa is the Walter H. Gale Professor of Education and Academic Dean at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Jenya Kholoptseva is a doctoral student at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.*

CITIZENSHIP, VALUES AND CULTURAL CONCERNS: WHAT AMERICANS WANT FROM IMMIGRATION REFORM

Jones, Robert P. et. al. The Brookings Institute. March 21, 2013. [PDF format, 68 Pages]
<http://bit.ly/11CXy5N>

"The Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI), in partnership with the religion, policy and politics project at Brookings, conducted one of the largest surveys ever fielded on immigration policy, immigrants, and religious and cultural changes in the U.S. The survey of nearly 4,500 American adults explores the many divisions—political, religious, ethnic, geographical, and generational—within the nation over core values and their relationship to immigration. The accompanying research report, *Citizens, Values and Cultural Concerns: What Americans Want from Immigration Reform*, explores general sentiment toward immigrant communities, opinions on the impact that immigrants have on American culture and public support for specific policy approaches to immigration reform. The report also explores support for immigration policy among religious groups and the political implications of the issue for and within both the Democratic and Republican parties." *Robert P. Jones is the CEO of the Public Religion Research Institute.*

U.S. IMMIGRATION POLICY: CHART BOOK OF KEY TRENDS

Wasem, Ruth Ellen. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. March 7, 2013 [PDF format, 24 pages]
<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/homesec/R42988.pdf>

"The report is a chart book of selected immigration trends that touch on the main elements of comprehensive immigration reform (CIR). Most policymakers agree that the main issues in CIR include increased border security and immigration enforcement, improved employment eligibility verification, revision of legal immigration, and options to address the millions of unauthorized aliens residing in the country. The report offers snapshots of time series data, using the most complete and consistent time series currently available for each statistic. The key findings and elements germane to the data depicted are summarized with the figures. The summary offers the highlights of key immigration trends." *Ruth Ellen Wasem is an Specialist in Immigration Policy at the CRS.*

WHAT DO CURRENT FEDERAL FUNDING LEVELS IN THE WAKE OF SEQUESTRATION MEAN FOR STATE BUDGETS?

Thiess, Rebecca. Economic Policy Institute. May 29, 2013 [PDF format, 10 pages]
<http://www.epi.org/files/2013/ib363-sequestration-and-state-budgets.pdf>

"The state and federal budgets are inextricably linked; in 2011, federal grants to state and local governments totaled \$607 billion, or roughly 25 percent of spending by state and local governments that year (CBO 2013). Through grants and loans, the federal government aids states' efforts to provide infrastructure, education, and health and social services, and to ensure public safety (OMB 2012). Economic and fiscal policy choices at the federal level can thus have substantial impacts on state budgets. With many states' fiscal situations still grim in the wake of the Great Recession, recent federal policy decisions have put even greater pressure on state budgets. This brief documents how recent federal fiscal policies have impacted state budgets through affecting funding levels for federal grants provided to states. It begins by analyzing the effects of the \$85.3 billion in spending cuts for fiscal 2013 known widely as sequestration. It then examines the combined effects of sequestration and additional funding changes made in the current continuing resolution (CR)." *Rebecca Thiess is a Federal Budget Policy Analyst at the Economic Policy Institute.*

BUILDING A GRAD NATION: PROGRESS AND CHALLENGE IN ENDING THE HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT EPIDEMIC

Balfanz, Robert, et. al. Civic Enterprises; Everyone Graduates Center at the School of Education at Johns Hopkins University, America's Promise Alliance, Alliance for Excellent Education. February 2013 [PDF format, 100 pages]
<http://new.every1graduates.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Building-A-Grad-Nation-2013-Full-FINAL-web.pdf>

"This fourth annual update on America's high school dropout crisis shows that for the first time the nation is on track to meet the goal of a 90 percent high school graduation rate by the Class of 2020—if the pace of improvement from 2006 to 2010 is sustained over the next 10 years... While progress is encouraging, a deeper look at the data reveals that gains in graduation rates and declines in dropout factory high schools occurred unevenly across states and subgroups of students (e.g. economically disadvantaged, African American, Hispanic, students with disabilities, and students with limited English proficiency). This report outlines the progress made and the challenges that remain." The report analyzes the latest graduation rates and "dropout factory" trends at the state and national levels, and provides an update on the efforts to implement the Civic Marshall Plan to reach the goal of at least a 90 percent high school graduation rate for the Class of 2020 and all classes that follow. The report also offers "snapshots" within schools, communities, and organizations from Orlando to Oakland that are making substantial gains in boosting high school graduation rates. *Robert Balfanz, is a co-director of the Everyone Graduates Center and research scientist at the Center for Social Organization of Schools, Johns Hopkins University.*

CAJUN VALLEY UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT: CHANGING THE CULTURE OF LEARNING TO EMPOWER STUDENTS

Alliance for Excellent Education. May 2013 [PDF format, 14 pages]

<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412828-Transforming-Neighborhoods-with-Government-Partners.pdf>

"Just a few years ago, the Cajon Valley Union School District (Cajon Valley USD) was challenged by ethnic differences, poverty, inequity between schools, and low achievement. Today, academic achievement is on the rise, students are leaders of learning, and the district has received multiple awards and recognition for its efforts. This video profile examines how this small urban school district and one of its middle schools have made dramatic strides through the effective implementation of digital learning paired with other major types of support for students and teachers. The Cajon Valley USD utilizes a wide range of strategies—mobile learning, an innovative creative writing initiative, increased use of data on student performance, and increased opportunities for students to create digital media—to better meet the learning needs of all students. Throughout this profile are short videos from district and school practitioners describing how they addressed specific issues."

TRANSPARENCY IN CITY SPENDING: RATING THE AVAILABILITY OF ONLINE GOVERNMENT DATA IN AMERICA'S LARGEST CITIES

United States Public Interest Research Group. January 2013. [PDF format, 56 pages]

http://www.uspirg.org/sites/pirg/files/reports/%232USP_transparent_ciites_v6_screen_2.pdf

"The ability to see how government uses the public purse is fundamental to democracy. Transparency in government spending checks corruption, bolsters public confidence, improves responsiveness, and promotes greater effectiveness and fiscal responsibility. Cities across the country have been moving toward making their checkbooks transparent by creating transparency portals and posting recipient-specific spending data online. Currently, 17 of America's 30 most populous cities provide online databases of government expenditures with "checkbook-level" detail. Online checkbooks in most cities are searchable, making it easier for residents to follow the money and monitor government spending."

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE STATE-BY-STATE

Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. June 6, 2013.

<http://features.pewforum.org/same-sex-marriage-state-by-state/>

This Pew Research interactive map shows how U.S. states have changed their laws regarding same-sex marriage since 1995. Thirty states have approved constitutional bans on same-sex marriage in that span, while 12 states and the District of Columbia have made it legal for gay and lesbian couples to marry since 2003. Massachusetts became the first state to legalize same-sex marriage following a ruling by the state's highest court in 2003. To date, courts, legislatures and voters in 12 states – Connecticut, Delaware, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont and Washington state – and the District of Columbia have legalized gay marriage. In addition, eight states – California, Colorado, Hawaii, Illinois, Nevada, New Jersey, Oregon and Wisconsin – have civil unions or domestic-partnership provisions for same-sex couples. Meanwhile, 30 states have amended their constitutions to ban gay marriage.

APPLYING GOD'S LAW: RELIGIOUS COURTS AND MEDIATION IN THE U.S.

Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. April 8, 2013.

<http://bit.ly/10Mix1J>

"Across the U.S., religious courts operate on a routine, everyday basis. How do some of the country's major Christian traditions and other religions - including Islam, Judaism, Buddhism and Hinduism - decide internal matters and apply their religious laws?.. For the most part, religious courts and tribunals operate without much public notice or controversy. Occasionally, however, issues involving religious law or religious courts garner media attention. The handling of clergy sexual abuse cases under Catholic canon law, for example, has come under scrutiny. Internal church proceedings aimed at disciplining Protestant clergy have generated news coverage because they have highlighted debates over same-sex marriage and openly gay ministers. There also have been public protests against Orthodox Jewish men who refused to grant their wives a religious divorce. Meanwhile, bills aimed at banning the use of Islamic (sharia) law – or at restricting the application of religious or foreign law in general – have been introduced in more than 30 state legislatures."

NONPROFIT JOURNALISM: A GROWING BUT FRAGILE PART OF THE U.S. NEWS SYSTEM

Mitchell, Amy . Project for Excellence in Journalism, Pew Research Center. June 10, 2013.

<http://www.journalism.org/node/33639>

"The growing nonprofit news sector is showing some signs of economic health, and most leaders of those outlets express optimism about the future, according to a new study by the Pew Research Center. But many of these organizations also face substantial challenges to their long-term financial well-being. The report finds that large, often one-time seed grants from foundations help many of these nonprofit news outlets get up and running. But as those grants expire, many organizations do not have the resources or expertise necessary for the business tasks needed to broaden the funding base." *Amy Mitchell is acting director for the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism.*

INSIDE THE 2012 LATINO ELECTORATE

Lopez, Mark Hugo; Gonzalez-Barrera, Ana. Pew Hispanic Center. June 2013 [PDF format, 16 pages]

http://www.pewhispanic.org/files/2013/05/the-latino-electorate_2013-06.pdf

"This report summarizes the participation of Latino voters in the 2012 presidential election. Its appendix contains tables and figures about the electorate in 2012, with a focus on Latinos... A record 11.2 million Latinos voted in the 2012 presidential election, but Latinos' voter turnout rate continues to lag other groups significantly, according to an analysis of new Census Bureau data by the Pew Research Center. Overall, 48% of Hispanic eligible voters turned out to vote in 2012, down from 49.9% in 2008. By comparison, the 2012 voter turnout rate among blacks was 66.6% and among whites was 64.1%, both significantly higher than the turnout rate among Hispanics... Rapid growth of the nation's Latino population has fueled quick growth in the number of Latinos eligible to vote (U.S. citizen adults). Between 2008 and 2012, the number of Latino eligible voters grew from 19.5 million to 23.3 million—an increase of 19%." *Mark Hugo Lopez is the Associate Director of the Pew Hispanic Center. Ana Gonzalez-Barrera is a Research Associate from the Pew Hispanic Center.*

ARTICLES

THE AUSTERITY DELUSION: WHY A BAD IDEA WON OVER THE WEST

Blyth, Mark. *Foreign Affairs*. May/June, 2013, pp. 41-58.

"The US debt-ceiling debacle gave way to the fiscal cliff, which morphed into the across-the-board cuts in military and discretionary spending known as sequestration. A modified form of the austerity that has characterized policymaking in Europe since 2010 is coming to the US as well; the only questions are how big the hit will end up being and who will bear the brunt. What makes all this so absurd is that the European experience has shown yet again why joining the austerity club is exactly the wrong thing for a struggling economy to do. Austerity -- the deliberate deflation of domestic wages and prices through cuts to public spending -- is designed to reduce a state's debts and deficits, increase its economic competitiveness, and restore what is vaguely referred to as business confidence. If the US adopted austerity, the inability of the government to generate Keynesian waste would undermine the country's ability to grow." *Mark Blyth is Professor of International Political Economy at Brown University. His most recent book is Austerity: The History of a Dangerous Idea (Oxford University Press, 2013), from which this essay is adapted.*

AUSTERITY AND ITS DISCONTENTS

Rosen, Michael. *The American*. May 29, 2013.

<http://www.american.com/archive/2013/may/austerity-and-its-discontents>

"Austerity, often known in the United States as "fiscal responsibility," has stirred a heated academic and policy debate on both sides of the Atlantic. As austerity has been imposed by the European Union on the wayward, debt-laden countries on its periphery, in part on the basis of scholarly studies demonstrating its importance, many of those countries have bristled at its restrictions, as have left-leaning economists worldwide. The academic argument has been fascinating. In a landmark 2010 paper, Carmen Reinhart and Kenneth Rogoff, Harvard professors and economists at the National Bureau of Economic Research, identified a relationship between high levels of debt and economic growth: "median growth rates for countries with public debt over roughly 90 percent of GDP are about 1 percent lower than otherwise. The median growth rate for countries they observed having debt levels ranging from 60 to 90 percent of GDP was around 2.8 percent. That rate declined to 1.9 percent for countries with debt-to-GDP levels exceeding 90 percent. The findings were based on hundreds of years of economic data from some 44 countries spanning 3,700 annual observations." *Michael M. Rosen a contributor to The American, is an attorney and writer in San Diego.*

WANT JOBS? TRY ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Hemphill, Thomas A.; Perry, Mark. *The American*. May 8, 2013.

<http://www.american.com/archive/2013/may/want-jobs-try-advanced-manufacturing>

"By itself, the U.S. manufacturing sector would be the tenth-largest economy in the world, and there is growing concern among U.S. manufacturers about finding enough skilled workers to fuel its continued expansion. During the Great Recession, American manufacturing got hit hard, even more so than the rest of the U.S. economy, which is always the case during economic downturns. For example, as recession-related job losses in the overall economy brought the national unemployment rate to 10 percent in 2009, job losses at American factories were greater, and the manufacturing jobless rate reached 13 percent, three full percentage points higher than the national average. But at the beginning of 2010, the manufacturing sector started making a comeback, and more than 500,000 new jobs have been added to factory payrolls in the last three years, the largest increase in manufacturing jobs over a three-year period since 1996. Employment gains in the

manufacturing sector have been so strong that by the fall of 2011, the manufacturing jobless rate fell below the national rate, and it has stayed lower in almost every month since then. In April, the jobless rate for factory workers was only 6.4 percent, more than a full percent below the 7.5 percent national average." *Thomas A. Hemphill is an associate professor of strategy, innovation, and public policy at the University of Michigan's Flint campus. Mark Perry is a scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and a professor of economics at the University of Michigan's Flint campus.*

AMERICA'S LEADING METROS FOR VENTURE CAPITAL

Florida, Richard. *The Atlantic Cities*. June 2013.

<http://bit.ly/19IQXd9>

"Greater San Francisco, including Oakland, tops the list with nearly \$7 billion dollars in venture capital investment in 2012, or one in four of all of venture investments, compared to \$4 billion or 15 percent, for San Jose, the Silicon Valley. Together, these two Bay Area centers account for more than \$10 billion in venture investment, roughly 40 percent of all dollars invested, along with 30 percent of all venture capital deals. The Bos-Wash corridor is another major center for venture investment. Greater Boston is next with just over \$3 billion in venture capital investment (11.5 percent) followed by New York with \$2.3 billion (8.4 percent). Washington, D.C. is 10th with nearly \$500 million, and Philadelphia 11th with roughly \$350 million (1.3 percent)... Overall, the Bay Area remains the leading center of venture capital investment by far. But San Francisco now attracts more venture investment than the Silicon Valley proper. Boston ranks third, but New York is close behind. This supports the contention of a more general urban shift venture capital back toward urban centers." *Richard Florida is Co-Founder and Editor at Large at The Atlantic Cities. He's also a Director of the Martin Prosperity Institute at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management, and Global Research Professor at New York University.*

THE CASE FOR MASS SURVEILLANCE

Saletan, William. *Slate*. June 10, 2013.

http://www.slate.com/articles/technology/technology/2013/06/the_nsa_s_phone_call_data_base_a_defense_of_mass_surveillance.html

"It sounds as though NSA goblins have been studying everyone's phone calls. But that isn't how the program works. It's a two-stage process. The first stage—collection—is massive and indiscriminate. The second stage—examination of particular records—is restricted. We can argue over whether this two-tiered policy is too intrusive. But either way, our debate about it has focused on the wrong stage. The problem isn't the data collection. It's how the data are used." Will Saletan covers science, technology, and politics for Slate.

HOW FEDERALISM HAS FAILED CITIES (AND ALSO MIGHT REINVIGORATE THEM)

Bradley, Jennifer; Katz, Bruce. *The Atlantic Cities*. June 2013.

<http://bit.ly/12D7qwD>

"America's cities and metropolitan areas constitute the engines of the national economy and our centers of trade and investment. They deliver and help finance the public goods in our country, and they influence, through a myriad of powers, the shape of our built environment, the physical space of our communities, and, hence, how individuals negotiate their personal and professional lives on a daily basis. Yet cities and metropolitan areas cannot go it alone. Their efforts depend on the support of federal and state governments—maddening, meddling, and domineering as they may be. State and federal governments are, through mandatory entitlements, tax incentives, and spending programs, the largest

single investors in cities and metropolitan areas, their infrastructure, their residents (particularly disadvantaged residents), and their leading-edge institutions." *Jennifer Bradley is a fellow at the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program and the co-author of The Metropolitan Revolution. Bruce Katz is a vice president at Brookings Institution. He is the founder and co-director of the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program, and leads the Brookings-Rockefeller Project on State and Metropolitan Innovation.*

AMERICA'S ENERGY OPPORTUNITY: HOW TO HARNESS THE NEW SOURCES OF U.S. POWER

Levi, Michael. *Foreign Affairs*. May/June 2013, pp.92-104.

"An energy revolution is unfolding in the US -- but unlike most past or promised revolutions, this one is not confined to a single fuel or technology. After falling for more than two straight decades after 1985, US crude oil production has now risen for four consecutive years, and in 2012, it posted its largest one-year increase since the dawn of the oil industry more than 150 years ago. Meanwhile, in 2011, natural gas surpassed coal as the US' biggest source of domestically produced energy, thanks to surging output and plunging prices. The energy revolution is splitting Americans into two rival camps: one that is enthusiastic about the resurgence of oil and gas and another that favors renewable sources and more fuel-efficient cars and trucks. To make renewable sources more viable, Washington should create a better investment climate for private developers who can build power lines that span these long distances." *Michael Levi is David M. Rubenstein Senior Fellow for Energy and the Environment at the Council on Foreign Relations. His most recent book is The Power Surge: Energy, Opportunity, and the Battle for America's Future (Oxford University Press, 2013), from which parts of this essay are adapted.*

HOW THE ECONOMY AND PARTISANSHIP SHAPED THE 2012 PRESIDENTIAL AND CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS

Jacobson, Gary C. *Political Science Quarterly*. Spring 2013, pp. 1-38.
<http://www.psqonline.org/article.cfm?IDArticle=19041#>

The author analyzes the 2012 presidential and congressional elections. He finds that Barack Obama won because Democrat partisans outnumbered Republican in the highly polarized electorate. The relationship between presidential and House and Senate voting patterns was extraordinarily strong, making it the most partisan, nationalized, and president-centered election in at least 60 years, according to Jacobson. What protected Obama from the full force of economic discontent? In a word, partisanship. A number of other factors were involved, but they contributed to the outcome of the election largely through their interaction with party. Obama won because, despite the weak economy, he received overwhelming approval and electoral support from ordinary Democrats." *Gary C. Jacobson is Distinguished Professor of Political Science at the University of California, San Diego, and has published extensively on U.S. elections and public opinion.*

OPTIONS AND STRATEGIES FOR COUNTERING ONLINE RADICALIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES

Neumann, Peter R. *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*. May 2013. Pp. 431-459.

"The purpose of this article is to inform the debate about strategies and options for countering online radicalization within the U.S. domestic context. Its aim is to provide a better understanding of how the Internet facilitates radicalization; an appreciation of the dilemmas and tradeoffs that are involved in countering online radicalization within the United States; and ideas and best practices for making the emerging approach and strategy

richer and more effective. It argues that online radicalization can be dealt with in three ways. Approaches aimed at restricting freedom of speech and removing content from the Internet are not only the least desirable, they are also the least effective. Instead, government should play a more energetic role in reducing the demand for radicalization and violent extremist messages—for example, by encouraging civic challenges to extremist narratives and by promoting awareness and education of young people. In the short term, the most promising way for dealing with the presence of violent extremists and their propaganda on the Internet is to exploit their online communications to gain intelligence and gather evidence in the most comprehensive and systematic fashion possible." *Peter R. Neumann is Professor of Security Studies at the Department of War Studies, King's College London, and Director of the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation (ICSR). He is also an adjunct professor at the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University.*

FIGHTING SALAFI-JIHADIST INSURGENCIES: HOW MUCH DOES RELIGION REALLY MATTER?

Byman, Daniel. *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*. April 2013, pp. 353-371.

"How do jihadist insurgencies differ from non-jihadist ones? Jihadist insurgents, like all insurgents, seek to control the government, need money and weapons, and thrive where government is weak. Yet their cause—jihad at local, regional, and global levels—gives them instant friends and resources, but also built-in enemies and burdens. Jihadist insurgents often organize, recruit, and fund-raise differently than traditional insurgent groups. The agendas of these militant groups often go against the local residents' sense of nationalism and anger these communities with their extreme interpretations of Islam. To take advantage of this, the United States can amplify local voices that are best able to discredit these insurgents and press allied regimes to disrupt the mosques, schools, and fund-raising networks that help support them. However, Washington should also recognize that weakening these groups at the local level may make them more likely to embrace international terrorism. Allied efforts to co-opt jihadists may make area societies and governments less favorable to other U.S. policies. Finally, failed democratization—a particularly salient issue given the Arab Spring—risks playing into the jihadist narrative." *Daniel Byman is a professor in the Security Studies Program in the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service with a concurrent appointment with the Georgetown Department of Government.*

RELUCTANT STEWARDS: JOURNALISM IN A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY

Schudson, Michael. *Daedalus*. Spring 2013, pp. 159-176.

"Journalists are reluctant stewards for democracy because they believe that democracy makes citizens their own stewards. They resist donning the mantle of moral guides on behalf of those who are authorized to guide themselves. Yet sometimes journalists do exercise responsibility for the public good in ways that are not subsumed under their professional duty to be nonpartisan, accurate, and fair-minded. Examining some of these exceptions, this essay argues that journalistic stewardship should be loosely defined, decentralized, multiform, and open to invention. In fact, today's economic crisis in journalism (and the identity crisis it stimulated) has launched a new set of initiatives – from fact-checking to organized crowd-sourcing – that have each sought to address a specific problem of democracy, truthseeking, or the public good. Pluralism, pragmatism, and decentralized invention may do better at stewarding democracy than a coherent philosophy of moral guardianship ever could." *Michael Schudson is Professor of Journalism at Columbia University. His publications include Why Democracies Need an Unlovable Press (Polity, 2008), and The Sociology of News (W. W. Norton & Company, 2nd ed., 2011).*

THE AMERICAN CORPORATION

Gomory, Ralph; Sylla, Richard. *Daedalus*. Spring 2013, pp.102-118.

"The United States from its earliest years led the world in making the corporate form of business organization widely available to entrepreneurs. Starting in the 1790s, corporations became key institutions of the American economy, contributing greatly to its remarkable growth. This essay reviews the evolution of corporations across several eras of the country's history. The most recent era is marked by a shift away from a stakeholder view of corporate interests and purposes to one dominated by profit and shareholder-value maximization. We strongly question whether this shift has been beneficial to the country as a whole. If our assessment is correct, there is a need to find ways of inducing corporations to act in ways that produce better societal outcomes. We therefore explore ways – including some suggested by the history of U.S. corporations – in which corporate interests and the public interest might become better aligned." *Ralph Gomory is Research Professor at the New York University Stern School of Business. Richard Sylla is the Henry Kaufman Professor of the History of Financial Institutions and Markets and Professor of Economics at the New York University Stern School of Business.*

THE CHALLENGES FACING CIVIC EDUCATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Kathleen Hall Jamieson. *Daedalus*. Spring 2013, pp.65-83.

This essay explores the value and state of civics education in the United States and identifies five challenges facing those seeking to improve its quality and accessibility: 1) ensuring that the quality of civics education is high is not a state or federal priority; 2) social studies textbooks do not facilitate the development of needed civic skills; 3) upper-income students are better served by our schools than are lower-income individuals; 4) cutbacks in funds available to schools make implementing changes in civics education difficult; and 5) reform efforts are complicated by the fact that civics education has become a pawn in a polarized debate among partisans. *Kathleen Hall Jamieson is the Elizabeth Ware Packard Professor in the Annenberg School for Communication and the Walter and Leonore Annenberg Director of the Annenberg Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania.*

2016 PRESIDENTIAL UPDATE: THE NEWEST SHINY OBJECT

Sabato's Crystal Ball. May 9, 2013.

<http://www.centerforpolitics.org/crystalball/articles/notes-on-the-state-of-politics-2013-05-09/>

"Cruz is the newest shiny object for Tea Party members and constitutional conservatives in the GOP, supplementing those who prefer Rand Paul or Marco Rubio (though the shine is off Rubio because he favors immigration reform). It is a reminder that in the next three years, even newer, shinier objects may come to the fore. For example, if Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli (R) wins the state's governorship this November, it is an easy prediction that he will consider a presidential run, with strong backing from his intense supporters. Barack Obama's promotion to the presidency after less than four years in the U.S. Senate has seemingly lifted all prohibitions on inexperienced politicians launching a White House bid."

A CONSIDERED POSTMORTEM ON 2012

Cook, Charles. *The Washington Quarterly*. Spring 2013, pp. 169-178.

http://csis.org/files/publication/TWQ_13Spring_Cook.pdf

"The 2012 results revealed greater changes in American political dynamics than many of us had appreciated. While many now know that Republicans are in trouble, we also now know that voters who describe themselves as moderates are just as important, if not more so, than those who call themselves independents... Remember, swing voters tend to follow current events and politics less than many other voters. They are less inclined to read newspapers and watch television news; they usually avoid cable political shows on CNN, Fox News, or MSNBC. They tend to not like any politicians or either party." *Charlie Cook is Editor and Publisher of The Cook Political Report and a columnist for National Journal magazine.*

THE MESSAGE FROM BOSTON

Slaughter, Anne-Marie. *The Project Syndicate*. April 29, 2013.

<http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/the-boston-marathon-attack-and-american-maturity-by-anne-marie-slaughter>

"America has grown up. Public reaction to the Boston Marathon bombings and the identity of the perpetrators reveals a very different nation from the one reflected in the traumatized and occasionally hysterical responses to the terror attacks of September 11, 2001. The magnitude of the two attacks was, of course, very different – thousands were killed and major national landmarks destroyed in 2001, whereas the Boston bombing killed three people and injured roughly 260. Still, it was the first major attack on the United States since 2001, and the contrast between now and then is instructive... The US of 2013 is both more reflective than it was a decade ago and more consciously connected to the world. The result is a citizenry that is less likely to interpret events, even attacks, in simplistic and often counter-productive us-versus-them terms." *Anne-Marie Slaughter, a former director of policy planning in the US State Department (2009-2011), is Professor of Politics and International Affairs at Princeton University.*

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