D O C U A L E R T

-April 2011-

INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER
U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL - BARCELONA
Tel. 93 280 22 27 (ext. 262)– E-mail: ollee@state.gov

DOCUALERT is a monthly information service highlighting documents from government agencies and think tanks and articles from leading U.S. journals. The materials cover international relations, U.S. foreign and domestic policies and trends. Full text of some of these articles can be ordered from ollee@state.gov

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

REPORTS

2010 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices. U.S. Department of State. April 8, 2011.

Popular Uprisings in the Middle East: The Implications for U.S. Policy. Testimony by William J. Burns before the Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate. March 17, 2011.

Reforming the United Nations: The Future of U.S. Policy. Testimony by Susan E. Rice before the Committee on Foreign Affairs, U.S. House of Representatives. April 7, 2011.

Blanchard, Christopher M. **Libya: Unrest and U.S. Policy**. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. March 29, 2011.

Exum, Andrew; Hosford, Zachary M. **Forging a Libya Strategy: Policy Recommendations for the Obama Administration**. Center for a New American Century. March 28, 2011.

Cordesman, Anthony. **U.S. Strategy in the Gulf**. Center for Strategic and International Studies. April 14, 2011.

Jones, Toby C. **Counterrevolution in the Gulf**. United States Institute of Peace. April 15, 2011.

Ottaway, Marina. **Bahrain: Between the United States and Saudi Arabia**. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. April 4, 2011.

Chanlett-Avery, Emma. **Japan-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress**. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. March 24, 2011.

Ferris, Elisabeth. **Protecting Civilians in Disasters and Conflicts**. The Brookings Institution. March 2011.

Unger, Noam; Norris, John. **The U.S. Global Development Council: What Should It Look Like?**. The Brookings Institution; The Center for American Progress. April 2011.

Jones, Bruce D. **Largest Minority Shareholder in Global Order LLC: The Changing Balance of Influence and U.S. Strategy**. The Brookings Institution. March 2011.

Lesser, Ian O. **Strategy Toward Europe's Neighborhood and the Turkish Role: An American Perspective**. German Marshall Fund of the United States. April 6, 2011.

Killebrew, Bob; Irvine, Matthew. **Security Through Partnership: Fighting Transnational Cartels in the Western Hemisphere**. Center for a New American Security. March 21, 2011.

ARTICLES

Lynch, Marc. **America and Egypt After the Uprisings**. *Survival*. April/May 2011.

Bahgat, Gawdat. **Nuclear Arms Race in the Middle East: Myth or Reality?**. *Mediterranean Quarterly*. Winter 2011.

Shaikh, Salman. **The Bahrain Crisis and its Regional Dangers**. *Foreign Policy*. March 23, 2011.

El-Khawas, Mohamed. **Obama's Engagement Strategy with Iran: Limited Results**. *Mediterranean Quarterly*. Winter 2011.

Garver, John. **Is China Playing a Dual Game in Iran?**. *The Washington Quarterly*. Winter 2011.

Feigenbaum, Evan A. **Why America No Longer Gets Asia**. *The Washington Quarterly*. April 2011.

Scott, James M.; Steele, Carie A. **Sponsoring Democracy: The United States and Democracy Aid to the Developing World, 1988–2001**. *International Studies Quarterly*. March 2011.

Soderberg, Nancy. **Enhancing U.S. Support for UN Peacekeeping**. *Prism*. March 2011.

Sefarty, Simon. **Moving into a Post-Western World**. *The Washington Quarterly*. Spring 2011.

Drezner, Daniel W. **Weighing the Scales: The Internet's Effect On State-Society Relations**. *Brown Journal of World Affairs*. Spring/Summer2010.

Laurence, Jonathan; Vaïsse, Justin. **The Dis-Integration of Europe**. *Foreign Policy*. March 28, 2011.

U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY AND TRENDS

REPORTS

2011 Economic Report of the President. Council of Economic Advisers, Executive Office of the President. March 2011.

Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Barack Obama (2009, Book I). Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration. April 2011.

Women in America: Indicators of Social and Economic Well-Being. Economics and Statistics Administration, U. S. Department of Commerce; Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President. March 2011.

Fact Sheet: America's Energy Security. The White House. March 30, 2011.

The Hispanic Labor Force in the Recovery. U.S. Department of Labor. March 31, 2011.

Levit, Mindy R. **The Federal Budget: Issues for FY2011, FY2012, and Beyond**. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. March 11, 2011.

Elwell, Craig K. **The Depreciating Dollar: Economic Effects and Policy Response**. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. April 15, 2011.

Mistry, Nisha; Byron, Joan. **The Federal Role in Supporting Urban Manufacturing**. The Pratt Center for Community Development; the Brookings Institution. April 2011.

Wasem, Ruth Ellen. **Overview of Immigration Issues in the 112th Congress**. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. March 21, 2011.

2010 Immigration-Related Laws and Resolutions in the States. National Conference of State Legislatures. January 2011.

Camarota, Steven A. **Welfare Use by Immigrant Households with Children: A Look at Cash, Medicaid, Housing, and Food Programs**. Center for Immigration Studies. April 2011.

The Landscape of Recession: Unemployment and Safety Net Services Across Urban and Suburban America. The Brookings Institution. March 31, 2011.

Duderstadt, James J. **A Master Plan for Higher Education in the Midwest: A Roadmap to the Future of the Nation's Heartland**. The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. April 2011.

Smith, Aaron. **The Internet and Campaign 2010**. Pew Internet & American Life Project. March 17, 2011.

State of the News Media 2011. Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. March 14, 2011.

ARTICLES

Sara, McLanahan, Editor-in-Chief. **Immigrant Children**. *The Future of Children*. Spring 2011.

Mahler, Jonathan. **The Fragile Success of School Reform in the Bronx**. *New York Times Magazine*. April 6, 2011.

Pollin, Robert; Thompson, Jeffrey. **The Betrayal of Public Workers**. *The Nation*. February 16, 2011.

Katz, Bruce; Bradley, Jennifer. **Metro Connection**. *Democracy: A Journal of Ideas*. Spring 2011.

Bardhan, Ashok. **In a Borderless World, Innovation Reigns Supreme**. *YaleGlobal*. April 4, 2011.

Cook, Charles E. Jr. **The Focus Now Shifts to 2012**. *The Washington Quarterly*. Spring 2011.

Jacobson, Gary C. **The Republican Resurgence in 2010**. *Political Science Quarterly*. Winter 2011.

Liasson, Mara. **Utah's New Immigration Law: A Model for America?**. *National Public Radio*. March 18, 2011.

Hirsch, Michael. **The Resurrection**. *National Journal*. March 26, 2011.

Beaver, William. **The Failed Promise of Nuclear Power**. *Independent Review*. Winter 2011.

Cart, Julie. **Natural Laboratory**. *National Wildlife.* April/May 2011.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

REPORTS

2010 COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES
U.S. Department of State. April 8, 2011.
http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2010/index.htm

"The 2010 *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices* provide a record of the state of human rights in the world and raise awareness of the progress made in 2010, the ground lost, and the work that remains. This year marks the 35th year we have reported to Congress on human rights around the world. This year's report covers human rights conditions in 194 countries. What began as the response to a Congressional mandate to report on the human rights situation in those countries that were receiving U.S. assistance in the mid 1970s has blossomed into a detailed analysis of human rights conditions in all countries that are members of the United Nations. The country reports provide an overview of the human rights situation around the world as a means to raise awareness of human rights conditions, in particular as these conditions affect the well-being of women, children, racial and religious minorities, trafficking victims, members of indigenous groups and ethnic communities, persons with disabilities, sexual minorities, refugees, and members of other vulnerable groups. As the scope of the State Department's reporting has increased, so has the use of these reports around the world. In addition to providing data to Congress to inform their funding and policy decisions, these reports are used throughout the U.S. government and by many foreign governments."

POPULAR UPRISINGS IN THE MIDDLE EAST: THE IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. POLICY
Testimony by William J. Burns before the Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate. March 17, 2011 [PDF format, 9 pages]
http://foreign.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Burns_Testimony_Revised.pdf

William J. Burns, Under Secretary for Political Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, talked about the latest developments in the Middle East and North Africa. "It is a moment of enormous promise for people and societies long denied full freedom and dignity and opportunity. It is a moment of great possibility for American policy, as well as a moment when the peaceful, homegrown, non-ideological movement surging out of Tahrir Square offers a powerful repudiation of al-Qaeda's false narrative that violence and extremism are the only ways to effect change. The result of all these reform movements could be greater peace, democracy, and prosperity in the region, which would advance all of our interests. But is also a moment of considerable risk, because there is nothing automatic or foreordained about the success of such transitions. Helping these countries' reformers to achieve their goals is as important a challenge for American foreign policy as any we have faced since the end of the Cold War."

REFORMING THE UNITED NATIONS: THE FUTURE OF U.S. POLICY
Testimony by Susan E. Rice before the Committee on Foreign Affairs, U.S. House of Representatives. April 7, 2011[PDF format, 15 pages]
http://foreignaffairs.house.gov/112/ric040711.pdf

Ambassador Susan E. Rice, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, stated that the U.S. efforts today focus "on reforms that can enable the UN to do more with less. We are working to foster a culture of accountability and transparency; improve business practices throughout the UN system; and to build up the politica l will and operational capacities to deliver lifesaving services to those in need. Our reform agenda focuses on seven priorities. First, UN managers must enforce budget discipline. Second, we continue to demand a culture of transparency and accountability for resources. Third, the UN needs a more mobile and meritocratic civilian workforce. Fourth, we are improving protection of civilians across the UN system. Fifth, we are ensuring that peacekeeping missions have reasonable mandates that can fulfill. Sixth, we are working to overhaul the UN's administrative and logistical support systems for peacekeeping missions. And finally, we are pressing the UN to complete an ongoin g overhaul of the way it conducts its day-to-day business, including u pgrading its information technology platforms, procurement practices, accounting procedures, and budget planning."

LIBYA: UNREST AND U.S. POLICY
Blanchard, Christopher M. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. March 29, 2011 [PDF format, 37 pages]
http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/159788.pdf

"Fast-moving events and independent decisions by a range of Libyan actors and U.S. coalition partners shape the context in which U.S. officials are pursuing U.S. national security interests with regard to Libya. Administration officials and some Members of Congress continue to debate
U.S. goals and the best means for ensuring that U.S. policy actions achieve short and long-term objectives. President Obama has outlined short and long term policy goals with regard to Libya and has identified distinct policy tools for achieving them. In the short term, U.S. military operations continue in support of the civilian protection, arms embargo, and no-fly zone provisions of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1973. Administration officials believe that U.S. targeted financial sanctions and U.S. support for the U.N.-mandated multilateral arms embargo and financial and travel sanctions will contribute toward the longer term goal of pressuring Qadhafi to leave power. However, U.S. officials have stated that a range of scenarios are possible and that U.S. policy must remain flexible in order to effectively shape and respond to developments.41 Administration officials have declined to offer firm predictions for the time frame of U.S. military

operations or deadlines for the achievement political objectives." *Christopher M. Blanchard is an acting section research manager at the Congressional Research Service.*

FORGING A LIBYA STRATEGY: POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION
Exum, Andrew; Hosford, Zachary M. Center for a New American Century (CNAS). March 28, 2011 [PDF format, 6 pages]
http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/CNAS_Libya_ExumHosford.pdf

According to the authors, the interests the United States does have in Libya, such as protecting civilians and providing momentum to the revolutionary fervor sweeping the broader region, come at a potentially high cost by exposing the United States to considerable risk of protracted and resource intensive conflict. The authors argue that U.S. interests in Libya, which include the protection of civilians and providing momentum to the revolutionary fervor sweeping the region, come at a potentially high cost to the United States. In addition, continued engagement may detract focus and resources away from other critical issues in the region and globally. *Andrew M. Exum is a Fellow and Zachary M. Hosford is a Research Associate at the Center for a New American Security*

US STRATEGY IN THE GULF
Cordesman, Anthony. Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). April 14, 2011 [PDF format, 12 pages]
http://csis.org/files/publication/110414_US_Strategy_Gulf.pdf

"During the course of the next year, the US must fundamentally reshape its strategy and force posture for the Gulf. This involves challenges which would require it to decide on how to restructure its entire force posture in the Gulf as it leaves Iraq, and deal with steadily increasing strategic competition with Iran. It also, however, involves challenges that go far beyond the military dimension. For what may well by the next half-decade, the US will have to deal with a new, uncertain, and constantly changing mix of regimes and regional politics. It will need a civil-military strategy and one geared towards uncertainty and change." *Anthony H. Cordesman holds the Arleigh A. Burke Chair in Strategy at CSIS and acts as a national security analyst for ABC News.*

COUNTERREVOLUTION IN THE GULF
Jones, Toby C. United States Institute of Peace [PeaceBrief #89] April 15, 2011 [PDF format, 5 pages]
http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB%2089%20Counterrevolution%20in%20the%20Gulf.pdf

"Unnerved by changes taking place across the Middle East and North Africa, Saudi Arabia has sought to undertake drastic measures to ensure its security at home and in the region. However, its measures are in fact achieving the opposite. Rather than dealing with the political aspirations of its own citizens or those in neighboring Bahrain, where Riyadh has intervened militarily to help crush pro-democracy protests, Saudi Arabia is turning back the clock at home and provoking a potential crisis with Iran. Recent tactics used by this key American ally may be exacerbating security risks and creating an environment that will make it more difficult for the United States to secure its interests. Whether Washington is prepared to accept Saudi Arabia's strategy in the Gulf is a critical question… Saudi Arabia's current strategy and the potential risks it entails is partly the result of its fears over Iran's growing hegemony in the region. But it is also partly the result of a shifting domestic balance of power, a renewed sectarian approach to politics and a continued reluctance to pursue political reform." *Toby C. Jones is an Assistant Professor of Middle East history at Rutgers University. Jones has lived and worked in Saudi Arabia and Bahrain. Formerly the Gulf Analyst with the International Crisis Group.*

BAHRAIN: BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND SAUDI ARABIA
Ottaway, Marina. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. April 4, 2011 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [HTML format, various paging]
http://carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=43416&prog=zgp&proj=zme

"Protests in Bahrain first started on February 14 as young people took to the streets in large numbers to voice the same demands for reform heard recently around the Arab world. But unrest in Bahrain has additional dimensions. While protestors in the capital, Manama, and its surrounding villages are overwhelmingly Shias, with a sprinkling of liberal Sunnis, security forces on the other side are predominantly Sunni and propping up a Sunni monarchy in a majority-Shia country. As a result, protest in Bahrain is not simply a domestic struggle for political rights and liberal reform, although it certainly has that dimension, according to the author." *Marina Ottaway is the director of the Middle East Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.*

JAPAN-U.S. RELATIONS: ISSUES FOR CONGRESS
Chanlett-Avery, Emma. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. March 24, 2011[PDF format, 27 pages]
http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/159784.pdf

"The post-World War II U.S.-Japan alliance has long been an anchor of the U.S. security role in East Asia. The alliance facilitates the forward deployment of about 36,000 U.S. troops and other U.S. military assets in the Asia-Pacific, thereby undergirding U.S. national security strategy in the region. For Japan, the alliance and the U.S. nuclear umbrella provide maneuvering room in dealing with its neighbors, particularly China and North Korea. U.S.-Japan relations have been adjusting to the Democratic Party of Japan's (DPJ) landslide victory in the August 30, 2009, elections for the Lower House of Japan's legislature. After the DPJ victory, bilateral tensions arose over the 2006 agreement to relocate the controversial Futenma Marine Air Station to a less densely populated location on Okinawa. The move is to be the first part of a planned realignment of U.S. forces in Asia, designed in part to reduce the footprint of U.S. forces on Okinawa by redeploying 8,000 U.S. Marines and their dependents to new facilities in Guam." *Emma Chanlett-Avery Coordinator and Specialist in Asian Affairs at the CRS.*

PROTECTING CIVILIANS IN DISASTERS AND CONFLICTS
Ferris, Elisabeth. The Brookings Institution. [Policy Brief #182] March 2011 [PDF format, 4 pages]
http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/03_protection_ferris/03_protection_ferris.pdf

With the potential for prolonged conflict in Libya, the author urges the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies to reevaluate

what protection means in this context and to recognize their own limitations in keeping people safe. She suggests that the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs offer guidance on how to translate the principles of protection into action. "Protection of people from oppressive governments, civil conflict and disasters has moved to the top of the international agenda. The United Nations Security Council authorized all measures necessary to protect civilians in Libya as the airstrikes began. Humanitarian agencies-working in more places and under more difficult conditions than ever before-are grappling with the aftermath of Japan's massive earthquake even as they are also working with displaced people in Haiti and Ivory Coast and responding to hundreds of thousands of people fleeing Libya. And increasingly these agencies are not only trying to assist people through provision of relief items, but also trying to protect them. But with so many global organizations mobilizing to protect civilians when disasters strike and conflicts break out, the concept of protection has begun to lose its distinctive meaning." *Elizabeth Ferris, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, is a co-director of the Project on Internal Displacement. She is the author of several books, including the forthcoming The Politics of Protection: The Limits of Humanitarian Action (Brookings Institution Press, 2011).*

THE U.S. GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL: WHAT SHOULD IT LOOK LIKE?
Unger, Noam; Norris, John. The Brookings Institution; The Center for American Progress. April 2011 [PDF format, 15 pages]
http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/04_development_council_unger/04_global_development_council.pdf

"When President Barack Obama launched a new U.S. global development policy last year to world leaders assembled at the United Nations, he said, "Put simply, the United States is changing the way we do business." He also stated that supporting development cannot be the work of governments alone, noting that "foundations, the private sector and NGOs [nongovernmental organizations] are making historic commitments that have redefined what's possible." This is well supported by the fact that the vast majority of resource flows from the United States to developing countries now come directly from private individuals, organizations and companies rather than from the U.S. government. Having recognized this dramatic shift, and in an effort to nurture greater policy coherence across the broad range of U.S. government agencie s and instruments now engaged in promoting global development in various ways, in September 2010 the White House issued a presidential policy directive on global development announcing that it was creating the U.S. Global Development Council." *Noam Unger is a Fellow and Policy Director of the Global Economy and Development at Brookings. John Norris is Executive Director of the Sustainable Security and Peacebuilding Initiative at the Center for American Progress.*

LARGEST MINORITY SHAREHOLDER IN GLOBAL ORDER LLC: THE CHANGING BALANCE OF INFLUENCE AND U.S. STRATEGY
Jones, Bruce D. The Brookings Institution [Foreign Policy Paper #25] March 2011[PDF format, 21 pages]
http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/03_global_order_jones/03_global_order_jones.pdf

"This paper reviews the nature of the emerging powers' rise and the strategies they are pursuing. An overarching picture emerges: America's dominance is dulled but its influence is sustained. From its new position, the United States confronts not a rigid bloc of emerging powers, but complex and shifting coalitions of interest. The greatest risk lies not in a single peer competitor but in the erosion of systems and institutions vital to U.S. interests and a stable order. U.S. power is indispensible for international order, but not sufficient. No longer the CEO of Free World Inc., the United States now holds a position akin to that of the largest minority shareholder in Global Order LLC. Can the United States use its changed position to shape the emerging order?. Jones explores the prospects for cooperation on global finance and transnational threats, the need for new investments in global economic and energy diplomacy, and the case for new crisis management tools to help de-escalate inevitable tensions with the emerging power." This paper is part of a series of in-depth policy papers, "Shaping the Global Order", in collaboration with ForeignPolicy.com. *Bruce D. Jones is director of the Center on International Cooperation at New York University. He is also director of the Managing Global Order project and a senior fellow in Foreign Policy at The Brookings Institution.*

STRATEGY TOWARD EUROPE'S NEIGHBORHOOD AND THE TURKISH ROLE: AN AMERICAN PERSPECTIVE
Lesser, Ian O. German Marshall Fund of the United States. April 6, 2011 [PDF format, 7 pages]
http://www.gmfus.org/galleries/ct_publication_attachments/Lesser_Neighborhood_Apr11.pdf

This paper offers an American perspective on the evolving strategic environment in Europe's neighborhood, and the prospects for cooperation and friction with Turkey over the next decade. It also explores some potential scenarios for the future of Turkish behavior, and their implications for regional stability and transatlantic policy. How will Turkey perceive challenges on the European periphery? What should policymakers expect from Ankara?. *Ian O. Lesser is the Senior transatlantic Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States in Washington, DC.*

SECURITY THROUGH PARTNERSHIP: FIGHTING TRANSNATIONAL CARTELS IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE
Killebrew, Bob; Irvine, Matthew. Center for a New American Security (CNAS). March 21, 2011 [PDF format, 6 pages]
http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/CNAS_Partnership_KillebrewIrvine.pdf

The most dangerous threat to the United States and its allies in the Western Hemisphere is the growth of powerful transnational criminal organizations in Mexico and Central America, according to the authors of this paper. In this policy brief, Killebrew and Irvine write that increased regional cooperation is needed to combat the growing violence and instability in the Western Hemisphere. "Transnational cartel networks cannot be defeated in just one area, one border or one country. These organizations conduct activities throughout the region and therefore are able to adapt quickly to new security measures taken to counter them. A reinvigorated partnership between the United States and Colombia, Mexico and the nations of Central America is the most effective means to attack this transnational threat and promote the rule of law and justice throughout the region. " *Bob Killebrew is a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security. Matthew Irvine is a Research Assistant at the Center for a New American Security (CNAS*).

ARTICLES

AMERICA AND EGYPT AFTER THE UPRISINGS
Lynch, Marc. *Survival*. April/May 2011, pp. 31-42.

"The United States had been calling for reform in Egypt for over a decade, to little avail. The regime, however unpopular, sclerotic, closed and isolated, seemed firmly in control and well-prepared to meet the challenges of new protests. As protests mounted, however, the Obama administration quickly concluded privately that Mubarak could not survive and that American policy must be designed to broker a post-Mubarak outcome amenable to core American interests. The Obama administration's reaction demonstrated a far different sensibility than that manifested by the George W. Bush administration. To the frustration of American pundits, Obama did not attempt to lead a protest movement which neither needed nor wanted his guidance. Instead, he focused American efforts on restraining the Egyptian military from using violence against protesters, demanding respect for universal rights, insisting that only Egyptians could choose Egypt's leaders, and attempting to push for long-term, meaningful reform. The administration's attempt to straddle its competing commitments inevitably enraged all sides: the Egyptian regime and Arab allies railed against American abandonment, Egyptian protesters and Arab public opinion complained of American indifference, and American critics demanded more vocal leadership… The United States has done well in its tactical responses to a wave of Arab uprisings that has challenged the foundations of its decades-old imperium. It helped to broker positive outcomes in Egypt while avoiding costly mistakes in a turbulent and unpredictable environment. But it is only just beginning to recalibrate its broader regional strategy to take into account the rapidly changing structure" *Marc Lynch is Associate Professor of Political Science and the Director of the Institute for Middle East Studies at The George Washington University.*

NUCLEAR ARMS RACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST: MYTH OR REALITY?
Bahgat, Gawdat. *Mediterranean Quarterly*. Winter 2011, pp. 27-40.

"Since the early 2000s Iran's nuclear program has been a major focus of international and regional policy. Many policy makers and scholars have expressed their concern that if Iran "goes nuclear" other Middle Eastern countries, particularly Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey, will follow suit. This author argues against this conventional wisdom. As a NATO member, Turkey is a special case. The analysis suggests that security is the main reason why countries pursue nuclear weapons. Egypt and Saudi Arabia (along with other Arab countries) have learned how to live with a perceived nuclear Israel. Iran with a nuclear capability, if it happens, would not pose a security threat to either Cairo or Riyadh. In short, the author argues that an Iran with nuclear capability will further destabilize the Middle East and will be a negative development, but it is not likely to make Egypt and Saudi Arabia 'go nuclear.'" *Gawdat Bahgat is a professor at the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies at the National Defense University, Washington, DC.*

THE BAHRAIN CRISIS AND ITS REGIONAL DANGERS
Shaikh, Salman. *Foreign Policy*. March 23, 2011.
http://mideast.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2011/03/23/the_bahrain_crisis_and_its_regional_dangers

"While US and international attention is focused largely elsewhere in the region, especially Libya, the violent crackdown against protestors in the tiny island kingdom of Bahrain may well pose a bigger threat to the entire region's stability. The Bahrain situation is exposing long simmering tensions and rivalries between Saudi Arabia and Iran and carries the danger that it will trigger the next regional war. Such a scenario would likely draw in the United States at a time when its relationships with key allies in the region, especially Saudi Arabia, are under strain. Urgent action is therefore needed to de-escalate the situation in Bahrain and create the trust necessary for the government and opposition to start a much delayed national dialogue that charts the future of the country." *Salman Shaikh is Director of the Brookings Institution's Doha Center and Fellow at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy. Shaikh previously served as an adviser to former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.*

OBAMA'S ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY WITH IRAN: LIMITED RESULTS
El-Khawas, Mohamed. *Mediterranean Quarterly*. Winter 2011, pp. 93-113.

In this essay the author examines President Obama's dual-track strategy of engagement — talks and sanctions — to assess its prospects for persuading Iran to abandon its nuclear program. The essay begins with a discussion of President Obama's initial steps to bring Tehran to the negotiating table to address the uranium-enrichment problem. Second is an analysis of President Obama's shift to advocate more significant sanctions to persuade Iran to implement the tentative agreement it had accepted in October 2009. Third is a focus on US efforts to gain China's support for a new round of sanctions by the United Nations Security Council. Last is an assessment of whether Obama's sanctions will force Iran into negotiations. "Obama's diplomacy had early success with Iran's agreement in October 2009 to ship most of its low-enriched uranium abroad in exchange for fuel rods for its medical research reactor. This agreement did not last, however, in the face of strong domestic US opposition and the Western powers' refusal to allow modifications. Obama had further success in June 2010, when the UN Security Council imposed new sanctions on Iran." *Mohamed El-Khawas is professor of history and international relations at the University of the District of Columbia.*

IS CHINA PLAYING A DUAL GAME IN IRAN?
Garver, John. *The Washington Quarterly*. Winter 2011, pp. 75-88.
http://www.twq.com/11winter/docs/11winter_Garver.pdf

The author notes that, over the past decade, China has cooperated with U.S. efforts at the U.N. to keep Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons. At the same time, China has delayed passage of Security Council resolutions, giving Iran valuable time, and has watered down many of the sanctions. Garver writes that China may be playing a dual game in the Persian Gulf, because Beijing has contradictory interests; it wants to maintain amicable relations with the U.S., which it sees as key to China's continuing economic growth, but at the same time, cultivates a relationship with Iran to obtain access to its energy supplies. Garver believes that there is an "anti-hegemony" aspect to China's policy, which fits in with the oil explanation; a nuclear-armed Iran would accrue benefits to Beijing, because it would force the U.S. to concentrate its military presence in the Persian Gulf, and not East Asia. He notes there is also a train of thought among Chinese analysts that China sympathizes with Iran, because China itself has been the target of U.S. "interference" and sanctions. *John Garver is a professor at the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at the Georgia Institute of Technology.*

WHY AMERICA NO LONGER GETS ASIA
Feigenbaum, Evan A. *The Washington Quarterly*. April 2011, pp.25-43.
http://twq.com/11spring/docs/11spring_Feigenbaum.pdf

"Asia is being reborn, and remade. Yet, the United States is badly prepared for this momentous rebirth, which is at once stitching Asia back together and making the United States less relevant in each of Asia's constituent parts. Asians are, in various ways, passing the United States by, restoring ancient ties, and repairing long-broken strategic and economic links. The United States will not cease to be a power in Asia, particularly in East Asia where Washington remains an essential strategic balancer, vital to stability. That security-related role has been reinforced in recent months, as China's behavior has scared its neighbors silly, from Japan to Vietnam to India. But unless U.S. policymakers adapt to the contours of a more integrated Asia, and soon, they will miss opportunities in every part of the region over time—and find the United States less relevant to Asia's future." *Evan A. Feigenbaum is Head of the Asia practice group at Eurasia Group, and also Adjunct Senior Fellow for Asia at the Council on Foreign Relations. From 2001 to 2009, he served at the State Department as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia.*

SPONSORING DEMOCRACY: THE UNITED STATES AND DEMOCRACY AID TO THE DEVELOPING WORLD, 1988–2001
Scott, James M.; Steele, Carie A. *International Studies Quarterly*. March 2011, pp. 47–69.

"As democratization has advanced in the developing world, developed countries such as the United States have implemented explicit strategies of democracy promotion by providing assistance to governments, political parties, and other non-governmental groups and organizations through a variety of channels. This analysis examines the relationship between democracy support by the US Agency for International Development and democratization in the developing world between 1988 and 2001. In a model that examines the simultaneous processes linking democratization and democracy aid, we argue that carefully targeted democracy assistance has greater impact on democratization than more generic economic aid packages. We test the relationship in a simultaneous equation model, supplemented by several time-series cross-sectional regressions. Our data reveal a positive relationship between specific democracy aid packages and progress toward democracy. We conclude by weighing the implications of these findings for democratization and democracy promotion policies." *James M. Scott is Professor and Head of the Department of Political Science at Oklahoma State University. Carie A. Steele is a Ph.D. student and research assistant at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.*

ENHANCING U.S. SUPPORT FOR UN PEACEKEEPING
Soderberg, Nancy. *Prism*. March 2011.
http://www.ndu.edu/press/US-support-UN-peacekeeping.html

"U.S. support for the UN Peacekeeping mission is critical to success. Enhanced support in financing and in providing personnel and other assets should be considered by the U.S. Administration. For the last four years, the Center for Complex Operations (CCO) and the National Defense University facilitated U.S. and UN discussions. This informal forum has allowed for candid and frank discussions of how the Department of Defense, Department of State, and the U.S. Agency for International Development together can help address and support the challenges of UN peacekeeping. Recommendations include providing additional resources and personnel, establishing a Deputy-level position at the National Security Council (NSC) to ensure senior level coordinated policy and tasking of U.S. support to UN peacekeeping, and creating a Clearing House to help fill UN gaps by tracking needs and capabilities. The recent operation in Haiti underscored the need for greater transparency in information sharing, striving to keep documents unclassified where feasible, and the use of online accessible social networking for information sharing." *Nancy Soderberg is a former Ambassador to the United Nations, President of Connect U.S. Fund, and a distinguished Visiting Scholar at the University of North Florida.*

MOVING INTO A POST-WESTERN WORLD
Sefarty, Simon. *The Washington Quarterly*. Spring 2011.

"The ''unipolar moment'' that followed the Cold War was expected to start an era. Not only was the preponderance of U.S. power beyond question, the facts of that preponderance appeared to exceed the reach of any competitor. America's superior capabilities (military, but also economic and institutional) that no other country could match or approximate in toto, its global interests which no other power could share in full, and its universal saliency confirmed that the United States was the only country with all the assets needed to act decisively wherever it chose to be involved. What was missing, however, was a purpose—a national will to enforce a strategy of preponderance that would satisfy U.S. interests and values without offending those of its allies and friends. That purpose was unleashed after the horrific events of September 11, 2001. Now, however, the moment is over, long before any era had the time to get started." *Simon Serfaty is the first holder of the Zbigniew Brzezinski Chair in Global Security and Geostrategy at Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). Dr. Serfaty is also a senior professor of U.S. foreign policy with the Graduate Programs in International Studies at Old Dominion University.*

WEIGHING THE SCALES: THE INTERNET'S EFFECT ON STATE-SOCIETY RELATIONS
Drezner, Daniel W. *Brown Journal of World Affairs*. Spring/Summer2010, p.31-44.

"How does the information revolution affect the relationship between governments and global civil society? Does the internet lead to greater democratization and liberalization? The article assesses the effect of the Internet on the relationships between governments and global civil society and analyzes the impact of the information and communication technology (ICT) on the art and science of politics. The enhancement of the networking power of a global civil society is believed to have been influenced by the development of the Internet, proliferation of cellular phone networks and the deregulation of air travel. Additional mechanisms for coordinating social actions are also provided by Web 2.0 technologies. However, state governments have introduced regulations to control Internet content such as censorship and monitoring of social networking sites. These measures affect the cost/benefit of using the Internet to attract foreign investment in IT." *Daniel W. Drezner is a professor of international relations at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University.*

THE DIS-INTEGRATION OF EUROPE
Laurence, Jonathan; Vaïsse, Justin. *Foreign Policy*. March 28, 2011.
http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2011/03/28/the_dis_integration_of_europe?page=full

"European leaders are attacking 'multiculturalism' in a transparent ploy to appeal to far-right voters. But they're threatening decades of progress in reaching out to Muslim minorities. One by one, the leaders of Europe's three biggest immigration destinations have stepped up to solemnly repudiate a policy that has long ceased to exist. In recent months, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, British Prime Minister David Cameron and French President Nicolas Sarkozy have let it be known that multiculturalism shall no longer be the continent's doctrine of immigrant integration." *Jonathan Laurence is associate professor of political science at Boston College and author of The Emancipation of Europe's Muslims* (Princeton University Press, 2012). *Justin Vaisse is director of research of the Center on the U.S. and Europe at the Brookings Institution.*

U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY AND TRENDS

REPORTS

2011 ECONOMIC REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
Council of Economic Advisers, Executive Office of the President. March 2011.
http://www.gpoaccess.gov/eop/download.html

This annual report is an important vehicle for presenting the Administration's domestic and international economic policies, it provides an overview of the nation's economic progress with text and extensive data appendices. "This year, the *Economic Report of the President* puts its primary focus on the particular moment in which the Nation now finds itself—a moment when the most important priority is reestablishing the primacy of broad-based growth to ensure the well-being of the American people and to keep America the premier economy on Earth. The challenges today have been heightened by the need to confront multiple pressures, many of which are lingering effects of the crisis itself: financial woes in Europe, continued weakness in the U.S. housing market, depleted state and local government budgets, and the need to improve the Nation's long-term fiscal situation. And yet the American economy has now been growing for more than a year and a half. The private sector, as of this writing, has added jobs for 11 consecutive months. The economy must grow faster, but certainly this is movement in the right direction. The challenge will be to shift the focus of the U.S. recovery away from the boom-and-bust cycles of the recent past toward more sustainable growth."

PUBLIC PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES: BARACK OBAMA (2009, BOOK I)
Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration. April 2011.
http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/search/pagedetails.action?packageId=PPP-2009-book1

The Public Papers of the Presidents began in 1957 in response to a recommendation of the National Historical Publications Commission. Noting the lack of uniform compilations of messages and papers of the Presidents before this time, the Commission recommended the establishment of an official series in which Presidential writings, addresses, and remarks of a public nature could be made available. Each Public Papers volume contains the papers and speeches of the President of the United States that were issued by the Office of the Press Secretary during the specified time period. The material is presented in chronological order, and the dates shown in the headings are the dates of the documents or events.

WOMEN IN AMERICA: INDICATORS OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING
Economics and Statistics Administration, U. S. Department of Commerce; Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President. March 2011 [PDF format, 97 pages]
http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/rss_viewer/Women_in_America.pdf

"This report, prepared for the White House Council on Women and Girls, provides a statistical picture of women in America in five critical areas: demographic and family changes, education, employment, health, and crime and violence. By presenting a quantitative snapshot of the well-being of American women based on Federal data, the report greatly enhances our understanding both of how far American women have come and the areas where there is still work to be done. The report is intended for a general audience, with the hope that it will be useful to policymakers, policy analysts, journalists, policy advocates, and all those interested in women's issues. The indicators have been grouped into five areas of interest: People, Families, and Income; Education; Employment; Health; Crime and Violence".

FACT SHEET: AMERICA'S ENERGY SECURITY
The White House. March 30, 2011.
http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/03/30/fact-sheet-americas-energy-security

"With an ultimate goal of reducing our dependence on oil, in the near term we must responsibly develop and produce oil and gas at home, while at the same time leveraging cleaner, alternative fuels and increasing efficiency. And beyond our efforts to reduce our dependence on oil, we must focus on expanding cleaner sources of electricity – keeping America on the cutting edge of clean energy technology so that we can build a 21st century clean energy economy and win the future."

THE HISPANIC LABOR FORCE IN THE RECOVERY
U.S. Department of Labor. March 31, 2011.
http://www.dol.gov/_sec/media/reports/HispanicLaborForce/HispanicLaborForceSpanish.pdf (In Spanish, PDF format 9 pages)
http://www.dol.gov/_sec/media/reports/HispanicLaborForce/HispanicLaborForce.pdf (In English, PDF format 8 pages)

"At nearly 23 million, people of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity represented 15 percent of the United States' labor force in 2010. By 2018, Hispanics are expected to comprise 18 percent of the labor force. In 2010, 59 percent of Hispanics aged 16 and over were employed and just under 1 in 5 of those employed were working part-time. Employed Hispanics are much less likely to have a college degree than are either whites or blacks. Approximately one in six employed Hispanics aged 25 and over have completed a bachelor's degre e, less than

half the proportion among employed whites. The unemployment rate averaged 12.5 percent among Hispanics in 2010. The most recent unemployment report in February 2011 shows that the economic situation is improving for all Americans, including Hispanics, who have seen their unemployment rate decline to 11.6 percent. In addition, unemployed Hispanics experience a shorter duration of unemployment and are less likely to join the ranks of the long-term unemployed than are either their white or black counterparts."

THE FEDERAL BUDGET: ISSUES FOR FY2011, FY2012, AND BEYOND
Levit, Mindy R. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. March 11, 2011 [PDF format, 23 pages]
http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/159329.pdf

"The federal budget is central to Congress's ability to exercise its "power of the purse." Federal budget decisions express Congress's priorities and reinforce Congress's influence on federal policies. Making budgetary decisions for the federal government is a complex process and requires balancing competing goals. Recent economic turmoil has strained the federal budget as a result of declining revenues and increasing spending levels. As the economic recovery continues, the budget process will allow the President and Congress to negotiate priorities and refine spending plans. The federal government faces very large budget deficits, rising costs of entitlement programs, significant spending on overseas military operations, and low revenue levels. The enactment of financial intervention and fiscal stimulus legislation in FY2008 and FY2009 may have helped to bolster the economy, though it increased the budget deficit. While GDP growth has returned in recent quarters, unemployment remains elevated and government spending on "automatic stabilizer" programs, such as unemployment insurance and income support, remains higher than historical averages. This suggests that the recession's effects on the budget will likely linger for several more fiscal years." *Mindy R. Levit is an Analyst in Public Finance at the Congressional Research Service.*

THE DEPRECIATING DOLLAR: ECONOMIC EFFECTS AND POLICY RESPONSE
Elwell, Craig K. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. April 15, 2011 [PDF format, 24 pages]
http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/161571.pdf

"A trend depreciation of the dollar since 2002 raises concern among some in Congress and the public that the dollar's decline is a symptom of broader economic problems, such as a weak economic recovery, rising public debt, and a diminished standing in the global economy. However, a falling currency is not always a problem, but possibly an element of economic adjustments that are, on balance, beneficial to the economy. A depreciating currency could affect several aspects of U.S. economic performance. Possible effects include increased net exports, decreased international purchasing power, rising commodity prices, and upward pressure on interest rates; if the trend is sustained, reduction of external debt, possible undermining of the dollar's reserve currency status, and an elevated risk of a dollar crisis. To give Congress the economic context in which to view the dollar's recent and prospective movement, this report analyzes the evolution of the exchange rate since its peak in 2002. It examines several factors that are likely to influence the dollar's medium-term path, what effects a depreciating dollar could have on the economy, and how alternative policy measures that could be taken by the Federal Reserve, the Treasury, and the 112th Congress might influence the dollar's path." *Craig K. Elwell is an Specialist in Macroeconomic Policy at the Congressional Research Service.*

THE FEDERAL ROLE IN SUPPORTING URBAN MANUFACTURING
Mistry, Nisha; Byron, Joan. The Pratt Center for Community Development; the Brookings Institution. April 2011 [PDF format, 54 pages]
http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/04_urban_manufacturing_mistry_byron/04_urban_manufacturing_mistry_byron.pdf

"This paper identifies specific ways that federal government should work with state and local leaders to better support small-scale, urban manufacturing, and to do so within a thoughtful framework for urban economic development. These activities can be implemented without little added cost to an already overstretched budget and without major operational changes. Rather, they require that existing funding be more clearly focused and that priorities be articulated and coordinated across federal agencies. The Obama administration clearly recognizes that retaining and growing America's manufacturing base is a matter of vital national interest and key to new and enhanced national efforts to boost the country's exports. At the same time, it has been working to solidify a new "placed-based" vision for national economic growth and prosperity, integrating the work of several federal agencies to promote regional sustainability, livability, and economic competitiveness. Yet federal manufacturing and urban policies remain curiously divorced from one another, and from concurrent strategies to boost U.S. exports, fuel innovation, improve the nation's infrastructure, and pursue environmentally sustainable approaches to development." *Nisha Mistry is an attorney and consultant. Her work focuses on urban and metropolitan planning and land use, economic development, and workforce housing. Joan Byron is Director of Policy for the Pratt Center for Community Development*.

OVERVIEW OF IMMIGRATION ISSUES IN THE 112TH CONGRESS
Wasem, Ruth Ellen. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. March 21, 2011[PDF format, 19 pages]
http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/159345.pdf

This report synthesizes immigration issues as a multi-tiered debate. It breaks down the U.S. immigration law and policy into key elements: border control and visa security; legal immigration; documentation and verification; interior immigration enforcement; integration, status, and benefits; and refugees and other humanitarian populations. It delineates the debate in the 112th Congress for a range of issues, including border security, criminal aliens, worksite enforcement, employment eligibility verification, permanent admissions, temporary workers, legalization, noncitizen eligibility for federal benefits, birthright citizenship, and the role of state and local law enforcement in enforcing immigration laws. "Current circumstances may sharpen the social and business cleavages as well as narrow the range of options. Nonetheless, selected immigration issues are likely to be a major concern for the 112th Congress, even if legislative action on such contentious issues appears daunting." *Ruth Ellen Wasem is an Specialist in Immigration Policy at the Congressional Research Service.*

2010 IMMIGRATION-RELATED LAWS AND RESOLUTIONS IN THE STATES
National Conference of State Legislatures. January 2011.
http://www.ncsl.org/default.aspx?tabid=21857

"State legislatures enacted a record number of laws and resolutions addressing immigration issues in 2010: 46 state legislatures and the District of Columbia enacted 208 laws and adopted 138 resolutions, for a total of 346. An additional 10 bills passed legislatures but were vetoed by governors. During the same period in 2009, 44 states enacted 202 laws and adopted 131 resolutions, for a total of 333. As in previous years, law enforcement, identification/driver's licenses and employment remained the top issues addressed in state legislation related to immigrants. E-verify legislation (a federal program to help employers verify work authorization of new employees) was enacted in four states—Georgia, Utah, Virginia and West Virginia. A new area of concern for state legislators in 2010 was child abductions. Alabama, Florida and Tennessee enacted laws to help prevent them."

WELFARE USE BY IMMIGRANT HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN: A LOOK AT CASH, MEDICAID, HOUSING, AND FOOD PROGRAMS
Camarota, Steven A. Center for Immigration Studies. April 2011.
http://cis.org/immigrant-welfare-use-2011

"Concern that immigrants may become a burden on society has been a long-standing issue in the United States. As far back as colonial times there were restrictions on the arrival of people who might become a burden on the community. This report analyzes survey data collected by the Census Bureau from 2002 to 2009 to examine use of welfare programs by immigrant and native households, particularly those with children. The findings show that more than half of immigrant-headed households with children use at least one major welfare program, compared to about one-third of native-headed households. The primary reason immigrant households with children tend to have higher overall rates is their much higher use of food assistance programs and Medicaid; use of cash assistance and housing programs tends to be very similar to native households." *Steven A. Camarota is director of research at the Center for Immigration Studies.*

THE LANDSCAPE OF RECESSION: UNEMPLOYMENT AND SAFETY NET SERVICES ACROSS URBAN AND SUBURBAN AMERICA
The Brookings Institution. March 31, 2011 [PDF format, 12 pages]
http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0331_recession_garr/0331_recession_garr.pdf

"This paper, the third and final analysis in the *Landscape of Recession* series, tracks leading indicators of poverty and need across cities and their surrounding suburbs. Specifically, this edition assesses unemployment trends by community type from the beginning of the recession (officially December 2007) through December 2010. It also analyzes trends among food stamp recipients, between July 2007 and July 2010, the most recent county -level data available. These indicators offer an initial glimpse of how poverty might trend in 2010, following two years of widespread, but uneven, increases in poverty across city and suburban communities." *Emily Garr is a Senior Research Assistant at the Metropolitan Policy Program of the Brookings Institution.*

A MASTER PLAN FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE MIDWEST: A ROADMAP TO THE FUTURE OF THE NATION'S HEARTLAND
Duderstadt, James J. The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. April 201 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 106 pages]
http://www.thechicagocouncil.org/Userfiles/File/Globalmidwest/A_Master_Plan_for_Higher_Education_FINAL.pdf

One of the most urgent issues facing the U.S. and the Midwest is developing the human capital needed to compete and thrive in the global economy. The Midwest is home to a vast array of higher education institutions, but their structures and methods were designed for a very different time and economy. In the report, Duderstadt argues the American Midwest, a region that once powered the industrial economy, created the middle class, and defended democracy, is floundering in a 21st century global economy driven by knowledge and innovation. The report recommends streamlining curricula from K-12 through post-secondary education, exploring alternative higher education funding mechanisms, redefining the role of community colleges, and promoting a culture of lifelong learning. *Dr. James J. Duderstadt serves as director of the University of Michigan's program in science, technology, and public policy as well as the Millennium Project, a research center studying the impact of rapidly evolving technologies on society*.

THE INTERNET AND CAMPAIGN 2010
Smith, Aaron. Pew Internet & American Life Project. March 17, 2011.
http://pewinternet.org/Reports/2011/The-Internet-and-Campaign-2010/Summary.aspx

"54% of adults used the internet for political purposes in the last cycle, far surpassing the 2006 midterm contest. They hold mixed views about the impact of the internet: It enables extremism, while helping the like-minded find each other. It provides diverse sources, but makes it harder to find truthful sources. Fully 73% of adult internet users (representing 54% of all U.S. adults) went online to get news or information about the 2010 midterm elections, or to get involved in the campaign in one way or another." This report is based on the findings of a daily tracking survey on Americans' use of the Internet. The results in this report are based on data from telephone interviews conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates International from November 3-24, 2010, among a sample of 2,257 adults *Aaron Smith, Senior Research Specialist, Pew Internet & American Life Project.*

STATE OF THE NEWS MEDIA 2011
Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. March 14, 2011.
http://stateofthemedia.org/

This is the eighth edition of the annual report on the health and status of American journalism. This year's study contains a series of special reports: a survey on how people use mobile technology to get local news; a report comparing the U.S. newspaper industry with the rest of the world's and two reports on community news websites. "After two dreadful years, most sectors of the industry saw revenue begin to recover. With some notable exceptions, cutbacks in newsrooms eased. Among the major sectors, only newspapers suffered continued revenue declines last year—an unmistakable sign that the structural economic problems facing newspapers are more severe than those of other media. When the final tallies are in, we estimate 1,000 to 1,500 more newsroom jobs will have been lost—meaning newspaper newsrooms are 30% smaller than in 2000. The biggest issue ahead may not be lack of audience or even lack of new revenue experiments. News organizations—old and new—still produce most of the content audiences consume. But each technological advance has added a new layer of complexity—and a new set of players—in connecting that content to consumers and advertisers. In the digital space, the organizations that produce the news increasingly rely on independent networks to sell their ads. They depend on aggregators (such as Google) and social networks (such as Facebook) to bring them a substantial portion of their audience. And now, as news consumption

becomes more mobile, news companies must follow the rules of device makers (such as Apple) and software developers (Google again) to deliver their content. Each new platform often requires a new software program. And the new players take a share of the revenue and in many cases also control the audience data."

ARTICLES

IMMIGRANT CHILDREN

Sara, McLanahan, Editor-in-Chief. *The Future of Children*. Spring 2011.
http://www.futureofchildren.org/futureofchildren/publications/docs/21_01_FullJournal.pdf (PDF format)
http://www.futureofchildren.org/futureofchildren/publications/journals/journal_details/index.xml?journalid=74 (HTML format)

"Large numbers of immigrant children are experiencing serious problems—inadequate education, poor physical and mental health, and poverty—that compromise their assimilation into American society. The purpose of this volume is to examine the well-being of these children and what might be done to improve their educational attainment, health, social and cognitive development, and long-term prospects for economic mobility. Contributors to the volume review research about the well-being of immigrant youth in the United States—demographic trends and family arrangements, educational trends and differentials, and youthful immigrants' health status, social integration, and participation in welfare and other public programs. Contributors also suggest policies to improve the well-being of immigrant youth.Immigrant children are the fastest-growing segment of the U.S. population today. Their future, however, is highly uncertain. They are coming of age in an aging society that will require unprecedented social expenditures for health and retirement benefits for seniors. Thus they must compete with the elderly for education funding and government health benefits. More than 5 million youth now reside in households where one or both parents are unauthorized to live and work in the United States." *Sara McLanahan is the Director of the Center for Research on Child Wellbeing, and William S. Tod Professor of Sociology and Public Affairs at Princeton University.*

THE FRAGILE SUCCESS OF SCHOOL REFORM IN THE BRONX

Jonathan Mahler. *New York Times Magazine*. April 6, 2011, var. pages.
http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/10/magazine/mag-10School-t.html?_r=1

"Ramón González's middle school is a model for how an empowered principal can transform a troubled school, but the forces of reform are now working against him. González has been principal of M.S. 223 since the school's creation in September 2003. One of the first schools opened by Joel Klein, the New York City schools chancellor at the time, 223 was intended to help replace a notoriously bad junior high school that the city had decided to shut down. Thirteen percent of its first incoming class of sixth graders were at grade level in math and just 10 percent were at grade level in English. Last year, after seven years under González, 60 percent of its students tested at or above grade level in math and 30 percent in English. Not something to brag about in most school districts, but those numbers make 223 one of the top middle schools in the South Bronx. According to its latest progress report from the Department of Education, which judges a school's growth against a peer group with similar demographics, 223 is the 10th-best middle school in the entire city. Success stories like this in high-poverty neighborhoods are becoming more common in the era of charter schools, but 223 is no charter, is public... M.S. 223 is in the heart of School District 7, which is part of the poorest Congressional district in the nation. More than 90 percent of its students live in one of five housing projects, most prominently the Patterson Houses, a sprawling complex of 15 towers across the street from the school. About 70 percent of its students are Hispanic, predominantly Puerto Rican and Dominican. The remainder are black, either African-American or recent immigrants from West African countries like Senegal. Roughly 11 percent of the school's students are ELLs, or English-language learners. (Another 60 to 70 percent of its students are former ELLs.) About 17 percent have learning disabilities."

THE BETRAYAL OF PUBLIC WORKERS

Pollin, Robert; Thompson, Jeffrey. *The Nation*. February 16, 2011.
http://www.thenation.com/article/158647/betrayal-public-workers

The Great Recession and its aftermath could bring even more severe assaults on the living standards and basic rights of ordinary Americans, write the authors. A wide swath of elected officials and opinion leaders have singled out public-sector unions as deadweight burdens sapping the economy's vitality, despite the fact that the recession was caused by Wall Street risk-taking, not public union payrolls, they say. The recession has severely hurt the coffers of local governments, they note, but rather than gouging state and local government employees, most of whom are not eligible for Social Security, states and municipalities need to raise taxes on the wealthy households most able to pay. They should also broaden their sources of tax revenue by taxing services such as payments to lawyers, and taxing items purchased over the Internet. The authors argue that state and local governments also have to stop giving out large tax breaks to corporations as inducements to locate there. They predict that if states declare bankruptcy they will break their obligations to employees, vendors, pensioners and even bondholders, which will undermine the basic foundations of the U.S. economy.

METRO CONNECTION

Katz, Bruce; Bradley, Jennifer. *Democracy: A Journal of Ideas*. Spring 2011.
http://www.democracyjournal.org/20/metro-connection.php

"The Great Recession and the sluggish recovery have been a wake-up call for the nation. Americans, both policy-makers and voters alike, believed that we could build a sustainable economy on consumption, on endless acres of condos and starter mansions, and on financial products conjured from mathematical models and wishful thinking. Clearly, it is time to chart a different path. We need to rebalance the American economy and cultivate the fundamentals that can bring prosperity back: robust exports, low-carbon technology, continuous innovation, and opportunity for all. And the path to a different and better American economy runs directly through our metropolitan areas. The largest 100 metropolitan areas in the country are home to about two-thirds of the U.S. population and generate 74 percent of our GDP. In fact, metro areas generate the majority of economic output in 47 of the 50 states, including such "rural" states as Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Arkansas… Metros will lead the United States into the next economy because they possess the assets that modern economies need. Metros dominate U.S. trade and logistics. They concentrate the innovative firms, advanced research institutions, venture capital, breakthrough technologies, and skilled workers that will drive the next economy. And they are where networks of universities and

community colleges stand ready to educate the next generation of U.S. workers. In short, metros bring together ideas, people, and technology in a virtuous cycle that generates more innovation and attracts still more people." *Bruce Katz is vice president at the Brookings Institution and the founder and director of its Metropolitan Policy Program. Jennifer Bradley is a fellow at the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program.*

IN A BORDERLESS WORLD, INNOVATION REIGNS SUPREME
Bardhan, Ashok. *YaleGlobal*. April 4, 2011 [HTML format, various paging]
http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/borderless-world-innovation-reigns-supreme

"Economists and policymakers recognize that investment in research and development, by government or industry, contributes to innovation, employment and higher living standards. In pursuit of bigger markets and lower costs U.S. firms started the trend of relocating manufacturing and services overseas, and now R&D activities follow, explains Ashok Bardhan. The transfers raise questions about how globalization of technology and increased research within emerging economies might influence innovation: A broader base globally could expand innovation's impact and its benefits; or perhaps innovation has reached a plateau or transitional stage, offering incremental improvements rather than disruptive technologies like electricity or computers. Investing large sums in research assists, but does not guarantee innovation to flourish. Stagnation in innovation and new job creation is a global problem, and Bardhan warns that the U.S., most affected and alarmed, is not alone in confronting the impact of slowing innovation in rising inequality and low job growth." *Ashok Bardhan is an economist at UC Berkeley.*

THE FOCUS NOW SHIFTS TO 2012
Cook, Charles E. Jr. *The Washington Quarterly*. Spring 2011, pp. 209-214.
http://www.twq.com/11spring/docs/11spring_Cook.pdf

"2011 is a transitional year, with House Republicans having to change from being an opposition party to one with a role in governing, and President Obama having to reposition himself for re-election. Looking toward 2012, three key factors could make the difference…President Obama must reposition himself for re-election this year after a calamitous first two years in office. Having seen his job approval ratings improve after his move toward the center and compromising with Republicans in the lame-duck session, many see this as a roadmap for Obama, just as a move toward the center in 1995 and 1996 provided President Clinton with a pathway to re-election. But unlike the situation that Clinton found himself in after devastating losses for his party in 1994, Obama has a very difficult economic climate and is trying to extricate the country from wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. In comparison, some would argue that Clinton was in an easy situation." *Charles E. Cook, Jr. writes weekly columns for National Journal and National Journal Daily, published by the National Journal Group. He is a political analyst for NBC News.*

THE REPUBLICAN RESURGENCE IN 2010
Jacobson, Gary C. *Political Science Quarterly*. Winter 2011, pp. 27-52.

"The author analyzes the 2010 midterm election as a referendum on the Obama administration, driven fundamentally by the economy, but intensified by the deep animosity of the President's opponents, the Republicans' success in nationalizing the election, and the political failure of Obama's legislative successes. "Beyond the influx of conservative Republicans, partisan divisions in the 112th Congress will be exacerbated by the Republicans agenda and plans for 2012. Their main objective over the next two years, according to Senate minority leader Mitch McConnell, is to make Obama a one-term president. They evidently contemplate using "Obamacare" as a primary target once again, rejecting any attempts to improve the health care reforms and knowing that Democrats will block their promised attempts at complete repeal. A focus on taking control of the White House and Senate in 2012 leaves them with little incentive to cooperate on any matter that might give Obama and his Party a popular legislative victory." *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*.

UTAH'S NEW IMMIGRATION LAW: A MODEL FOR AMERICA?
Liasson, Mara. *National Public Radio*. March 18, 2011
http://www.npr.org/2011/03/18/134626178/utahs-new-immigration-law-a-model-for-america

"After the state of Arizona passed tough laws penalizing undocumented immigrants, other states have contemplated similar legislation. However, Utah, one of the most conservative states in the country, recently passed immigration laws that show Republicans can pursue a more moderate course. Utah's governor Gary Herbert signed a package of laws -- one an enforcement bill milder than Arizona's, the second a guest-worker bill that would allow undocumented immigrants to work and drive without fear of deportation. While many conservatives decry the guest-worker bill as amnesty, Utah elected officials who drafted the law say they are only trying to deal with reality. The 11 million illegal immigrants who are living in the U.S. have jobs, own property, have financial obligations and are paying taxes; deporting them all is not going to happen. Says one immigration-reform advocate, "the Utah legislation is a very rough draft of what we call comprehensive immigration reform at the national level", noting that this should spur the Obama administration to do something."

THE RESURRECTION
Hirsch, Michael. *National Journal*. March 26, 2011.
http://www.nationaljournal.com/magazine/vikram-pandit-s-citigroup-growing-out-of-washington-s-control--20110328?page=1

In this profile of Citigroup and its CEO Vikram Pandit, the author notes that the resurgent "too big to fail" Wall Street banks are growing bigger and more global than before, earning more of their profits overseas and pushing out or buying up smaller competitors. Hirsch notes that many of the regulatory reforms enacted after the 2008-2009 financial crash have yet to take effect; regulators abroad agree even less on a common strategy than do those in Washington. He notes that the underlying instabilities that resulted in the global crisis have remained unresolved. As these giant financial institutions expand their global reach, Hirsch warns that the U.S. government may be put in the position of becoming the guarantor of last resort for banks over which it has even less control and oversight than previously.

THE FAILED PROMISE OF NUCLEAR POWER
Beaver, William. *Independent Review*. Winter 2011, pp.399-411.
http://www.independent.org/pdf/tir/tir_15_03_5_beaver.pdf

The article presents an overview of the history of nuclear power in the U.S. from the mid-20th century to the early 21st century. The attempts of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission to both promote and regulate the development of nuclear power plants, beginning in the 1950s, is characterized as a mistake, which led to incompletely tested designs being rushed to market. This led to severe cost overruns, cancellation of orders, and dangerous nuclear accidents. It is argued that the nuclear energy industry needed more time to transition into a public utility. *William Beaver is a professor of social science at Robert Morris University, Pittsburgh, PA.*

NATURAL LABORATORY
Cart, Julie. *National Wildlife*. April/May 2011.
http://www.nwf.org/en/News-and-Magazines/National-Wildlife/Animals/Archives/2011/Studying-Global-Warming-at-Yellowstone.aspx

"Yellowstone National Park has become a foremost laboratory for study of the effects of global warming because it is so close to its original state and hosts such a wide variety of flora and fauna. Scientists have already recorded changes in water levels, a rise in destructive pine beetle infestations, and negative, or potentially negative, impacts on fish and wildlife species. Climate change presents a significant management challenge to this unique ecosystem. Scientists in Yellowstone look to create new strategies for protecting the diversity of such compromised natural preserves."

Information Provided by the Information Resource Center
U.S. Consulate General - Barcelona
http://barcelona.usconsulate.gov

Views expressed in the articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect U.S. government policies.