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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

REPORTS

[Country Reports on Terrorism 2013](#)

U.S. Department of State. April 30, 2014.

This report is submitted in compliance with Title 22 of the United States Code, Section 2656f, 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. "Al-Qa'ida (AQ) and its affiliates and adherents worldwide continue to present a serious threat to the United States, our allies, and our interests. While the international community has severely degraded AQ's core leadership, the terrorist threat has evolved... Terrorist violence in 2013 was fueled by sectarian motivations, marking a worrisome trend, in particular in Syria, Lebanon, and Pakistan, where victims of violence were primarily among the civilian populations. Thousands of extremist fighters entered Syria during the year, among those a large percentage reportedly motivated by a sectarian view of the conflict and a desire to protect the Sunni Muslim community from the Alawite-dominant Asad regime. On the other side of the conflict, Iran, Hizballah, and other Shia militia continued to provide critical support to the Asad regime, dramatically bolstering its capabilities and exacerbating the situation. Many of these fighters are also motivated by a sectarian view of the conflict and a desire to protect the Shia Muslim community from Sunni extremists."

[Transatlantic Security Challenges: Central and Eastern Europe](#)

Testimony by Victoria Nuland, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, U.S. Department of State, Before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. April 10, 2014.

"For over 20 years, the United States and our European Allies have worked to integrate Russia more closely into the Euro-Atlantic community through our bilateral engagement and organizations like the OSCE, the WTO and the NATO-Russia Council. Russia's actions in Ukraine are an affront to this effort and fundamentally change the security landscape of Eastern and Central Europe. Today I appreciate the opportunity to discuss the impact of Russia's actions on Ukraine, our policy response to their actions and other challenges in the region... The United States stands ready to help as the country addresses its immense challenges. Our \$1 billion loan guarantee, in conjunction with IMF and EU assistance, will help implement these reforms and will cushion some of impact on the most vulnerable in

Ukrainian society. And we have approximately \$92 million in FY 2013 State/USAID funding and an anticipated \$86 million in FY 2014 State/USAID funding for assistance to Ukraine in areas such as strengthening anti-corruption efforts, revising public procurement legislation, introducing agriculture and energy sector reforms, deepening privatization efforts, improving the transparency and quality of higher education and helping Ukraine prepare for free, fair elections on May 25th."

[U.S. Policy Toward Morocco](#)

William V. Roebuck is Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, U.S. Department of State, before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa. April 9, 2014 [PDF format, 6 pages]

"We continue to enjoy a very strong bilateral relationship with Morocco, focused on promoting regional stability, supporting democratic reform efforts, countering violent extremism, and strengthening trade and cultural ties. Morocco – a major non-NATO ally since 2004 – is one of our closest counterterrorism partners in the region, and an active member of the Global Counterterrorism Forum. During its term on the UN Security Council, Morocco played an important role in international efforts to end the Syrian civil war. We also enjoy a strong economic relationship; our free trade agreement that entered into force in 2006 has increased bilateral trade by 254 percent."

[Syria After Geneva: Next Steps for U.S. Policy](#)

Testimony by Anne W. Patterson, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, U.S. Department of State, before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. March 26, 2014.

"More than 146,000 people have been killed since the unrest and violence began. The number of conflict-affected civilians seeking refuge in neighboring countries has increased to more than 2.5 million people while, inside Syria, an additional 6.5 million people are displaced and at least 9.3 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance... The United States is a leader of the 'London 11' contact group that has worked to move forward the Syrian transition, end the violence, and achieve a political solution. Although the UN-sponsored Geneva II negotiations have stalled due to regime intransigence aided by the tacit support of Russia, the process served to unify components of the Syrian opposition and to enable it to articulate its vision for a transitional government. The continuing civil war has proved a magnet for foreign violent extremists – some with substantial combat experience – who are drawn to the ungoverned regions left by the deterioration of the Asad regime. Our colleagues at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence have estimated that there are nearly 23,000 violent extremist fighters in Syria, including more than 7,000 foreign fighters. They represent a minority of the total rebel ranks inside Syria, which are estimated to be between 75,000 – 110,000 fighters... In parts of Syria where the regime has been ousted, we want to prevent the wholesale collapse of Syria's institutions and public services and keep regime hardliners and violent extremists from asserting control. As the fighting has continued, the regime has increasingly targeted civilian populations by denying basic services and cutting them off from food, fuel and medical care."

[Is the Armed Rebellion in Syria on the Wane?](#)

Sayigh, Yezid. Carnegie Middle East Center. April 24, 2014, var. pages.

"Fragmentation and dysfunctional competition among the rebel groups persist, and new rebel alliances have not yet demonstrated a notable increase in operational effectiveness. Credible estimates, moreover, indicate that overall rebel strength has not increased over the past year, suggesting that the rebellion has a "shrinking population of

potential new recruits,” as a Carter Center report based on exhaustive field data noted in March 2014. The critical problem is political. The interface of class and sectarian conflict that has characterized the entire Syrian crisis is leading to greater compartmentalization of the opposition. Each kind of political or military actor is consolidating within a narrowing social and geographical sphere. This is especially true of the growing number of rebel groups declaring an Islamist or Salafi orientation. These trends point to a growing disjointedness between the distinct components of the Syrian revolution: the formal political opposition, the armed rebellion, and the grassroots movement of activists, local administrators in liberated areas, and relief providers. Major parts of the armed rebellion are either unwilling or unable to integrate into this wider structure, opting instead to attempt to supplant it. Unless the rebels can overcome their internal fragmentation and become part of the broader opposition, their ability to reverse trends on the battlefield and survive in the longer term will be in question.” *Yezid Sayigh is a senior associate at the Carnegie Middle East Center in Beirut.*

[Global Image of U.S. Leadership Rebounds](#)

Gallup. April 10, 2014.

"After hitting a low point at the end of President Barack Obama's first term, U.S. leadership ratings worldwide rallied in 2013 as he began his second. Median approval of U.S. leadership across 130 countries stood at 46% last year, up from Obama's first administration low of 41% in 2012. U.S. leadership -- which for most of the world likely means Obama -- earned a higher global approval rating during a challenging year in U.S. foreign relations. It had its share of diplomatic gains in 2013: The U.S. and other countries worked to engage Iran, and long-isolated Myanmar continued to open its doors. But there were more than a few setbacks. U.S.-Russian relations fell apart over the Edward Snowden affair and Syria."

[Promising Partnerships: Emerging and Established Powers in the 21st Century](#)

Kliman, Daniel M, et. al. German Marshall Fund of the United States. March 10 2014 [PDF format, 20 pages]

"To chart a vision for 21st century partnerships between emerging and established power, in July 2013 the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) launched the Emerging Powers Policy Forum. This initiative has brought together emerging power diplomats in Washington, DC, along with relevant U.S. and U.K. officials, to discuss how to approach the key policy questions presented by the changing international landscape. Over the course of three meetings in the fall of 2013, participants addressed the following themes: economic diplomacy, global security challenges, and scientific, cultural, and other people-to-people exchanges. Prior to each session, the contributors to this volume authored read-aheads that were distributed to participants. The sections of this volume build on the read-a heads by integrating the best ideas generated during the course of the discussion... The global order that exists, despite deviations and exceptions, has facilitated peace, prosperity, and freedom for more than six decades. Initially rooted in a set of multilateral organizations — the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade — the order has since evolved into an interlocking web of institutions, norms, rules, and relationships. Today, this system encompasses numerous elements, but five specific functions remain at its core: a trade order strives to advance the principles of commercial reciprocity and nondiscrimination; A financial order works to preserve monetary stability; a maritime order attempts to guarantee freedom of navigation while protecting the territorial sovereignty of coastal states; A non-proliferation order aims to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and to reduce their testing; A human rights order endeavors to promote respect for fundamental liberties and the democratic process.” *Daniel Kliman is a Senior Advisor with the Asia Program at the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF).*

[The Future of Immigrant Integration in Europe: Mainstreaming Approaches for Inclusion](#)

Collet, Elisabeth; Petrovic, Milica. Migration Policy Institute (MPI). March 2014 [PDF format, 41 pages]

“This report assesses the degree to which four European countries—relative veterans regarding the reception and integration of immigrants—have mainstreamed integration priorities across general policy areas such as education, employment, and social cohesion. The report shows how approaches to mainstreaming in Denmark, France, Germany, and the United Kingdom reflect each country’s distinct ethnic profile, diversity, and social traditions. It also offers suggestions for future policy development. A deeper understanding of mainstreamed policy innovations for immigrants is important to Europe’s immigrant integration efforts, since intended beneficiaries of traditional integration policy (immigrants and their descendants) are no longer a discrete and easily identifiable population—and in some localities they are not even minorities. The second and third generation face some (but not all) of the challenges of their parents, especially in relation to educational and employment success, but many of these challenges are not unique to those with an immigrant background”. *Elizabeth Collet is director of the Migration Policy Institute Europe and Senior Advisor to the Migration Policy Institute Transatlantic Council on Migration. Milica Petrovic is an associate Policy analyst at MPI Europe.*

[Libya After Qaddafi Lessons and Implications for the Future](#)

Chivvis, Christopher; Martini, Jeffrey. Rand Corporation. April 2014. [PDF format, 119 pages]

“This report assesses Libya’s first two years after the fall of Muammar Qaddafi in 2011. It analyzes key developments in political, military, and economic areas, and explains the role of the international community. Drawing on existing literature on civil wars and post-conflict reconstruction, it outlines steps the international community might take to improve Libya’s future outlook and draws some tentative conclusions about the implications of Libya’s experience for future post conflict reconstruction efforts. A particular focus is the consequences of the failure to establish security in the immediate aftermath of the war. The situation in Libya is dynamic and continues to develop, as do the policies of Libya’s international supporters who have been involved in helping Libya manage a very difficult transition from war to peace... The right international approach to Libya could nevertheless still help avert a more serious breakdown and real damage to U.S. and European regional and global interests—above all counterterrorism and the stability of world energy markets. This study examines what has been accomplished in Libya to date, draws lessons from the experience, and identifies some possible ways forward.” *Christopher Chivvis is a senior political scientist at the RAND Corporation. He is also an adjunct professor at the Johns Hopkins, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced international Studies (SAIS). Jeffrey Martini is a Middle East analyst at the RAND Corporation, where he works on political reform in the Arab world with a specific focus on North Africa.*

[Turkey: Background and U.S. Relations](#)

Zanotti, Jim. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. March 27, 2014 [PDF format, 65 pages]

“The record of U.S.-Turkey cooperation during the Obama Administration has been mixed. To some extent it mirrors the complexities that past U.S. administrations faced with Turkey in reconciling bilateral alignment on general foreign policy objectives with substantive points of disagreement involving countries such as Greece, Cyprus, Armenia, and Iraq. Patterns in the U.S.-Turkey bilateral relationship indicate that both countries seek to minimize damage resulting from disagreements. However, these patterns also suggest that periodic fluctuations in how the two countries’ interests converge may persist. It is unclear how this dynamic might affect the extent to which future U.S. approaches to regional issues involve Turkey, or might affect the countries’ efforts to increase closeness in other

facets of their political and economic relationship... Several Turkish domestic and foreign policy issues have significant relevance for U.S. interests, and Congress plays an active role in shaping and overseeing U.S. relations with Turkey. This report provides background information on Turkey and discusses possible policy options for Members of Congress and the Obama Administration. U.S. relations with Turkey—a longtime North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) ally—have evolved over time. Turkey’s economic dynamism and geopolitical importance have increased its influence regionally and globally. Although Turkey still depends on the United States and other NATO allies for political and strategic support, its increased economic and military self-reliance since the Cold War allows Turkey relatively greater opportunity for an assertive role in foreign policy.” *Jim Zanotti is an Specialist in Middle Eastern Affairs at the CRS.*

Counterterrorism and the Role of Special Operations Forces

Seth Jones, Associate Director, International Security and Defense Policy Center, RAND Corporation, Before the Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Terrorism, Non-Proliferation, and Trade United States House of Representatives. April 8, 2014.

Seth Jones testified at the House hearing “Is al-Qaeda Winning? Grading the Administration’s Counterterrorism Policy.” He focused his written remarks on the nature of the terrorism threat and the role of U.S. special operations forces. During his comments, he provided an overview of the evolving terrorism threat and examined the role of special operations forces. “There are a number of concerning trends regarding Salafi-jihadist groups. First, the number of Salafi jihadist groups and fighters has increased after 2010. Examples include groups operating in Tunisia, Algeria, Mali, Libya, Egypt (including the Sinai Peninsula), Lebanon, and Syria. There has also been an increase in the number of attacks perpetrated by al Qa’ida and its affiliates. These trends suggest that the United States – including special operations forces – need to remain focused on countering al Qa’ida and other Salafi-jihadist groups, which have started to resurge in some parts of North Africa and the Middle East... Over the foreseeable future, the United States should prioritize its U.S. counterterrorism resources – such as military, intelligence, diplomatic, financial, and law enforcement assistance – more systematically than it has done in the past. The United States will likely continue to need special operations forces for direct action, unconventional warfare, and partner capacity missions in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Yemen, and possibly Syria, where there are significant threats to the U.S. homeland”

Human Rights, Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration: A New Paradigm

Fatima, Rabab, et.at. Migration Policy Institute; International Organization for Migration. March 2014 [PDF format,12 pages]

“Climate change and environmental degradation will likely displace millions of people in the coming years, either directly or indirectly. Although today’s international legal framework provides a degree of protection to certain environmental migrants, major gaps in the framework often prevent recognition of their vulnerability and endanger their rights. One major problem is that there is little consensus on the definition of environmental migrants, in large part because it is difficult to ascertain the influence of environmental factors, such as degradation and climate change, on migration. This issue in brief emphasizes the need to defend the rights of migrants whose movement is induced by environmental degradation or climate change, particularly in the highly vulnerable Asia-Pacific region, by pursuing an integrated approach to climate change that incorporates rights-based strategies. The brief evaluates the current human rights framework; identifies gaps both in the legal framework and in implementation; and then reviews different legal options available to the international community. Finally, the brief makes recommendations on how to strengthen the “soft law” approach as an interim step before there is broad global consensus on a possible

binding framework to protect the rights of environmental migrants.” *Rabab Fatima is regional coordinator and adviser for South and South West and regional adviser for Climate Change and Migration at the International Organization for Migration (IOM).*

[New Energy, New Geopolitics: Balancing Stability and Leverage](#)

Ladislaw, Sarah O. Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). April 10, 2014 [PDF Format, 66 pages]

“This report evaluates the energy and geopolitical shifts that have arisen from the production of shale gas and light tight oil in the United States. It begins by assessing how much the unconventional energy trend has already impacted energy, geopolitics, and national security. The report then posits several possible energy futures that could emerge from the unconventional revolution. Finally, it offers views on the major geostrategic question: how will the United States seek to utilize this, so far, domestic resource trend, and given the range of potential future energy outcomes, what might the geopolitical and national security implications be.” *Sarah Ladislaw is director and senior fellow in the CSIS Energy and National Security Program, where she concentrates on the geopolitics of energy, energy security, energy technology, and climate change.*

[Emerging Arctic Security Challenges](#)

Kraska, James and Baker, Betsy. Center for a New American Security. March 2014. [PDF Format, 16 pages]

“Because the multidimensional American interests in the region are often congruent with the interests of the other Arctic states, greater U.S. leadership in Arctic security issues would be in most cases welcomed by Arctic neighbors. We believe the United States should move from its current posture as one of the most passive of the eight Arctic states to a leadership position, influencing the trajectory of Arctic security, economy, society and ecology. Doing so, however, will require a tangible presence; economic, military and political investments; and a more active regional posture, both militarily and in terms of commitment to civilian institutions governing Arctic issues... this report considers the changing threat environment in the region across four pillars: national security, including the potential to augment U.S. force presence and contribute to the current Arctic security architecture; economic prosperity and opportunity; investments in human capital; and ecological sustainability and social welfare. Each of the following sections evaluates opportunities for greater American engagement across each pillar.” *James Kraska is Mary Derrickson McCurdy visiting scholar at Duke University Marine Laboratory and senior fellow at the Center for Oceans Law and Policy, University of Virginia School of Law. Betsy Baker is associate professor of law and senior fellow for Oceans and Energy at the Institute for Energy and the Environment at Vermont Law School.*

[Offshore Oil and Gas Governance in the Arctic: A Leadership Role for the U.S.](#)

Ebinger, Charles, et. al. The Brookings Institution. March 2014 [PDF Format, 74 pages]

“The Arctic is changing and increasingly drawing the world's interest, with the potential for vast reserves of offshore oil and gas constituting arguably the most attractive, yet challenging prospect in the region. As the U.S. prepares to assume chairmanship of the Arctic Council in 2015, this policy brief is designed to inform the legislative and executive branches of the U.S. Government of the current state of oil and gas governance in the Arctic, and to address the following questions: (1) How can the U.S. elevate the Arctic region as a priority national interest?; (2) How can the U.S. lead in strengthening offshore oil and gas governance in the Arctic?... Since 2009, the U.S. government has gradually formulated a policy approach to the Arctic. This approach is outlined in the National Strategy for the Arctic Region, published in 2013, with an emphasis on international cooperation, the importance of the Arctic Council, and

responsible development of hydrocarbon resources. More recently, in anticipation of the U.S. assuming chairmanship of the Arctic Council in 2015, the White House released its Implementation Plan for the National Strategy for the Arctic Region in January 2014... The cornerstone of U.S. leadership should be enhancing oil spill prevention, control and response through the development of Arctic-specific standards and resource sharing arrangements to ensure adequate standards, procedures, financial resources, equipment, and infrastructure are in place and available.”
Charles Ebinger is a senior fellow and director of the Energy Security Initiative at the Brookings Institution.

ARTICLES

[Strategic Recalibration: Framework for a 21st-Century National Security Strategy](#)

Jentleson, Bruce W. *The Washington Quarterly*. Spring 2014, pp. 115–136.

“The release of the Obama administration’s 2014 National Security Strategy comes amidst increasing criticism of its strategic savvy. Some are rank partisan, some Monday-morning quarterbacking. Some, though, reflect the intensifying debate over the optimal U.S. foreign policy strategy for our contemporary era. At one end of the debate are those advocating retrenchment, who see limited global threats on one hand and prioritize domestic concerns on the other—be they the budget-cutting of the Tea Party right or the nation-building-at-home of the progressive left. At the other end are neoconservatives and others pushing for re-assertiveness. This is based on a bullish assessment of U.S. power and the contention that it still is both in the U.S. national interest and that of world order for the United States to be the dominant nation. While retrenchment overestimates the extent to which the United States can stand apart, re-assertiveness overestimates the extent to which it can sit atop. The United States must remain deeply and broadly engaged in the world, but it must do so through a strategy of recalibration to the geopolitical, economic, technological, and other dynamics driving this 21st-century world. This entails a re-appraisal of U.S. interests, re-assessment of U.S. power, and re-positioning of a leadership role to better fit a strategic environment that has been changing dramatically and is likely to continue to do so.” *Bruce W. Jentleson is a Professor at Duke University, Sanford School of Public Policy, and currently Distinguished Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. From 2009–2011, he served as Senior Advisor to the State Department Policy Planning Director.*

[A Strategy of Discriminate Power: A Global Posture for Sustained Leadership](#)

Mazarr, Michael. *The Washington Quarterly*. Spring 2014, pp. 137–150.

“The leading challenge for U.S. grand strategy over the next decade is to exercise persistent global leadership under the shadow of intensifying constraints. These include fiscal shortfalls that limit resources, fading international deference to U.S. wishes, mismatches between the leading security challenges and instruments of power to confront those challenges, and the loss of key military superiorities alongside the appearance of new vulnerabilities. At stake are international stability and the safety of the U.S. homeland. The primary task for U.S. strategists now is to find a sustainable global role more appropriate to available means that can safeguard leading U.S. interests and avoid embroiling more limited U.S. power in secondary issues. Tackling this daunting challenge of strategy—arriving at a more restrained and selective U.S. posture—would be more straightforward if the world no longer turned to the United States for leadership. Washington could comfortably trim its role and presence if the international system could maintain itself without a leading U.S. diplomatic, military and economic role; if the norms and institutions that sustain order, from global trade regimes to multilateral accords on such issues as cyber and climate, showed no worrisome cracks; or if Washington could pass substantial responsibility to a rising power with shared values. But none of these things is true.” *Michael Mazarr is professor and associate dean at the U.S. National War College.*

The Return of Geopolitics

Mead, Walter Russell. *Foreign Affairs*. May/June 2014, pp. 69-79.

“So far, the year 2014 has been a tumultuous one, as geopolitical rivalries have stormed back to center stage. Whether it is Russian forces seizing Crimea, China making aggressive claims in its coastal waters, Japan responding with an increasingly assertive strategy of its own, or Iran trying to use its alliances with Syria and Hezbollah to dominate the Middle East, old-fashioned power plays are back in international relations. The United States and the EU, at least, find such trends disturbing. Both would rather move past geopolitical questions of territory and military power and focus instead on ones of world order and global governance: trade liberalization, nuclear nonproliferation, human rights, the rule of law, climate change, and so on. Indeed, since the end of the Cold War, the most important objective of U.S. and EU foreign policy has been to shift international relations away from zero-sum issues toward win-win ones. To be dragged back into old-school contests such as that in Ukraine doesn’t just divert time and energy away from those important questions; it also changes the character of international politics. As the atmosphere turns dark, the task of promoting and maintaining world order grows more daunting.” *Walter Russell Mead is James Clarke Chace Professor of Foreign Affairs and Humanities at Bard College and Editor-at-Large of The American Interest.*

The Illusion of Geopolitics

Ikenberry, G. John. *Foreign Affairs*. May/June 2014, pp. 80-90.

“The construction of a U.S.-led global order did not begin with the end of the Cold War; it won the Cold War. In the nearly 70 years since World War II, Washington has undertaken sustained efforts to build a far-flung system of multilateral institutions, alliances, trade agreements, and political partnerships. This project has helped draw countries into the United States’ orbit. It has helped strengthen global norms and rules that undercut the legitimacy of nineteenth-century-style spheres of influence, bids for regional domination, and territorial grabs. And it has given the United States the capacities, partnerships, and principles to confront today’s great-power spoilers and revisionists, such as they are. Alliances, partnerships, multilateralism, democracy -- these are the tools of U.S. leadership, and they are winning, not losing, the twenty-first-century struggles over geopolitics and the world order... The world that Washington inhabits today is one it should welcome. And the grand strategy it should pursue is the one it has followed for decades: deep global engagement. It is a strategy in which the United States ties itself to the regions of the world through trade, alliances, multilateral institutions, and diplomacy. It is a strategy in which the United States establishes leadership not simply through the exercise of power but also through sustained efforts at global problem solving and rule making.” *G. John Ikenberry is Albert G. Milbank Professor of Politics and International Affairs at Princeton University and George Eastman Visiting Professor at Balliol College, University of Oxford.*

Shaping Things to Come: America's Role

Serfaty, Simon. *The National Interest*. May/June 2014.

“The tumult and bloodshed and agony of the past decade have raised the prospect of significant change in American foreign policy and the public conception of the country’s role in the world. At stake is nothing less than the conviction that American power and world order are coeval. First announced by President Harry Truman in the doctrine that bears his name, this credo was reformulated periodically throughout the Cold War but never lost its hold on the imagination of the foreign-policy establishment. Mostly forgotten during the Clinton years, when the nation seemed eager to take a time-out, even a vacation, from the world, that doctrine was forcefully reasserted by George W. Bush

in two wars to which his name remains affixed and which Barack Obama was elected to end. For no matter how vengeful Americans felt after September 11, the abuses of American power, in Iraq especially, proved increasingly repugnant, and the costs of both wars, including Afghanistan, unbearably excessive... Not only has America's perception of its role in the world changed, but so too has the world's conception of that role. For one, over the past two decades and under three different presidents, this conception has been very much molded by the American performance, not only abroad but also at home... As America stutters and Europe mumbles, other powers are starting to proclaim their superiority—China flaunts its money, Russia its machismo, India its people and Brazil its vigor. Here are the “BRICs” of a new post-Western world—and here are some of the main parameters of a putative new global order that calls for less of the West and more of the Rest.” *Simon Serfaty is a professor of U.S. foreign policy and eminent scholar at Old Dominion University and the Zbigniew Brzezinski Chair in Global Security and Geostrategy (emeritus) at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. His most recent book is A World Recast: An American Moment in a Post-Western World (Rowman & Littlefield,2012).*

[Bridging the Divide: How Can USAID and DoD Integrate Security and Development More Effectively in Africa?](#)

Anderson, G. William. *Fletcher Forum of World Affairs*. Winter 2014, pp. 101-126.

“Effective collaboration between the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Department of Defense (DoD) is a critical element of the U.S. government's approach to security, governance, and development in Africa. USAID assistance and DoD security cooperation in Africa currently reflect a minimal level of interagency coordination at both regional and country levels. A more integrated approach in Africa to U.S. security and development objectives will support African economic growth and poverty reduction; accelerate African progress in reaching its Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); reduce the number and intensity of conflicts; and block the growth of violent extremism among vulnerable populations, such as disenfranchised and unemployed youth in fast-growing mega-urban centers. Such progress clearly serves U.S. national interests and security objectives in Africa. This article explores four principal questions: (1) what is the potential for USAID and DoD collaboration in Africa; (2) what are the challenges facing DoD/USAID coordination; (3) what are the risks some see in a closer USAID and DoD relationship; and (4) what can be done now to improve cooperation between USAID and DoD in Africa.” *G. William Anderson is a Visiting Professor of Practice at Virginia Tech's School of Public and International Affairs and a recent USAID Representative to the European Union. Mr. Anderson is a former USAID Senior Foreign Service Officer, with long term overseas service in Senegal, DRC-Congo, Tanzania, and Eritrea, and as the Director of the Office of East and South Asia in USAID's Asia Near East Bureau.*

[What Putin Wants in Ukraine: Neutralization On the Cheap](#)

Herbst, John. *The National Interest*. May/June 2014.

“After five months, the crisis in Ukraine has concentrated on the security situation in the East. Russian president Vladimir Putin is running an insurgency in Eastern Ukraine so that the government in Kyiv cannot restore its authority there, while maintaining the fiction that Russia is not involved. This way, he hopes to avoid additional Western sanctions, which are starting to bite. The crisis has reached this point, in part, because Russian soft power has failed. From the start last fall, the Kremlin has banked on the notion that the East was culturally (if not ethnically) Russian and both the elite and a majority of the population looked more naturally to Moscow than the West for political inspiration and economic and cultural orientation. The collapse of the Party of the Regions and the rallying of Eastern oligarchs to the the provisional government in Kyiv demonstrated that the elites were not reliable allies for the Kremlin. Several recent polls have made clear the pro-Kyiv preferences of the people of the East... To create instability in the East, Moscow has been forced to send in special operations forces and intelligence agents, armed for

small-scale operations to seize buildings and military installations. Moscow has enjoyed some success as its agents have overseen the seizure of the city of Slovyansk and installations in ten or so cities across the East.” The Kremlin's success here is due not just to its well-trained and well-armed agents, but the lack of motivation and training of Ukrainian security forces—both police and military.” *John Herbst is director of the Center for Complex Operations at the National Defense University. He served as U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine from 2003 to 2006. This piece represents the views of the author and not of the National Defense University.*

[Arms Control Helps Contain the Ukraine Crisis](#)

Pifer, Steven. *The National Interest*. April 10, 2014.

“The Ukraine crisis has plunged U.S. and Western relations with Russia toward a post–Cold War low. The damage will continue for some time, especially in the event of a Russian military incursion into eastern Ukraine. Among the victims could be further progress on arms control. Yet arms control is now all the more valuable. It puts important bounds on an increasingly confrontational U.S.-Russian relationship. The Kremlin’s occupation and annexation of Crimea plus its persisting military pressure on Ukraine have broken a cardinal rule of the post–World War II European order: states should not use force to take territory from other states. The West has responded with sanctions against Russia, and will likely apply additional penalties if Moscow continues to escalate the crisis. Prior to the Ukraine crisis, Washington and Moscow had a full arms-control agenda—including further cuts in strategic forces, limits on tactical nuclear weapons, a resolution of differences on missile defense, and the restoration of a conventional arms-control regime in Europe—though little progress had been registered in the past two years.” *Steven Pifer directs the Brookings Arms Control and Non-Proliferation Initiative and served as the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine from 1998-2000.*

[Euromaidan: Ukraine’s Self-Organizing Revolution](#)

Diuk, Nadia. *World Affairs*. March/April 2014.

“At first, the political crisis and social upheaval in Ukraine that led to several weeks of protest on the Maidan Nezalezhnosti (Independence Square) in central Kyiv—or Euromaidan, as it came to be referred to because of the sympathies of the demonstrators—looked to many observers like yet another manifestation of the ongoing struggle for ideological and geopolitical hegemony between Russia and the West. While it certainly was that, it also, and more critically, marked a new stage in the evolution of Ukraine as an independent and sovereign state, and produced a new form of protest—not another color revolution but a self-organized, self-regulated zone physically located in the center of the capital city... The main difference from previous protests, such as the Orange Revolution of nine years earlier, was the sense that no one political leader could provide a quick solution to Ukraine’s troubles, and that people themselves must be responsible for working and organizing for a better future. The average age of those on the square was thirty-six—the younger generation, concerned about the lives their children and grandchildren will lead. Those who had been the idealistic students of the Orange Revolution were now more hardheaded about how to achieve something real and lasting in a society based on European values of dignity, trust, tolerance, honesty, and hard work. Whether all of these aspirations will be fulfilled remains to be seen. But it seems clear that the civic and political actors in this process have had an experience that can only be called mind-altering. The Euromaidan has brought the opposition leaders closer to average citizens than they have ever been. The vision of a Ukraine in Europe has not only become something to fight for, but also something to live for, in a daily struggle against illegitimate authority that is likely to build even when it is not in the headlines of the international press.” *Nadia Diuk serves as Vice President, Programs for Europe, Eurasia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean at the National Endowment for Democracy (NED).*

[Public Diplomacy and Hard Power: The Challenges Facing NATO](#)

Seib, Philip. *The Fletcher Forum of World Affairs*. Winter 2014, pp.95-100.

In questioning the future of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization this article traces the evolution of NATO's influence to NATO's role in the current political landscape. The author asserts that NATO is on a problematic path, in part due its inattention to public diplomacy. The article further explores the issue of financial burden-sharing and how America's shift in attention away from Europe affects how the transatlantic relationship functions. The author concludes with policy options to ensure NATO's relevance, strength, and future. "NATO's mission today is broader than the conventional, border based defense that for which it was originally conceived. Publics in the United States and Europe should be reminded that NATO can help defend against modern threats such as cyber-attacks, terrorism, nuclear proliferation, and other dangers that require capabilities far removed from Cold War defense strategies. That is the new reality to which NATO must adjust as it makes the case for its continued relevance. The adjustment is more political than military and, as such, will require the kind of imaginative and thorough public diplomacy that NATO has yet to prove that it can master." *Philip Seib is Professor of Journalism and Public Diplomacy and Professor of International Relations at the University of Southern California. His most recent book is Real-Time Diplomacy: Politics and Power in the Social Media Era (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012).*

[Defending the Iran Deal](#)

Gray, John Allen. *The National Interest*. May/June 2014.

"It was long past midnight in Geneva last November when the rumors began to fly. Iran and the world powers had just reached a deal on its nuclear program. An international crisis that had been building toward what seemed like war for more than a decade was now on the path to resolution. The deal, a haggard John Kerry confirmed, was real. It wasn't comprehensive—Iran would still be heavily sanctioned and heavily centrifuged—but it was unprecedented. All prior efforts had fallen apart. Now the two sides had agreed to initial trust-building measures, had outlined the terms of a final deal and had made plans to work toward it. And what allowed the deal to happen was equally important—a glimmer of rapprochement between Iran and the United States, whose mutual distrust and occasional enmity is the root of the nuclear issue... There is plenty of room for a deal with Iran that benefits both sides. Washington has no interest in provoking a military confrontation that would foster even more anti-Americanism and send the price of crude spiraling. For its part, Tehran, wracked by economic woes, appears to have a keen sense of its national interests." *John Allen Gay is an assistant managing editor at The National Interest and the coauthor of War with Iran: Political, Military, and Economic Consequences (Rowman & Littlefield, 2013).*

[Al Qaeda Reorganizes Itself for Syria](#)

Berger, Charles E. *The National Interest*. April 9, 2014.

"According to testimony by CIA director John Brennan before a House panel last week, Al Qaeda recently deployed mid-level planners from Pakistan to Syria. Intelligence officials fear these planners would be used to recruit some of the estimated 1,200 fighters from the United States and European and redirect them to attack the West. In addition to portending a higher likelihood of attacks on the West emanating from Syria, this development may represent efforts by Al Qaeda to shift its organization away from its current networked organization back to the more lethal structure it had before September 11, 2001. If Al Qaeda is already well established in Syria, as reported in the media, why would it send planners from Pakistan? Core Al Qaeda, the organization of Ayman al-Zawahri and the late Osama Bin Laden, is not the same organization as the jihadis currently fighting the Assad regime." *Charles E. Berger is an*

Assistant Special Agent-in-Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and is currently on sabbatical at the Council on Foreign Relations as the National Intelligence Fellow. These are his views and do not necessarily reflect the views of the FBI.

U.S. Strategy in a Transitioning Middle East: Reviving 'State Responsibility'

Mendelsohn, Barak. *Orbis*. Spring 2014, pp. 198-211.

“In light of the uncertainty surrounding the Middle East stemming from the Arab Awakening, and the inability of Washington to shape the process of transition, U.S. decision makers must rethink their strategy for the region in general and for counterterrorism in particular. Reducing U.S. involvement in the region and letting the dust settle will serve American interests better and allow for building healthier relations with Middle Eastern countries. At the same time, since the risk of negative effects on neighboring states that accompany transition must be kept in check, the United States, together with other powers, should lead the international community in reviving the principle of “state responsibility” as a productive way to reduce spillover of conflicts and even provide incentives for actors in the region to limit violence.” *Barak Mendelsohn is Associate Professor of Political Science at Haverford College and an FPRI senior fellow. He is the author of Combating Jihadism: American Hegemony and International Cooperation in the War on Terrorism (University of Chicago Press, 2009), and currently is writing a book on al Qaeda’s franchising strategy.*

China's 'Peaceful Rise' Enters Turbulence

Waldron, Arthur. *Orbis*. Spring 2014, pp. 164-181.

“Late 2013 and the beginning of 2014 brought a series of announcements and actions from China that indicated an increase in both diplomatic and military pressure against her neighbors, while also making manifest the difficulties China will encounter if she attempts to continue along her current course. China’s new assertiveness is being steadily chronicled by many observers, perhaps most importantly by a group of scholars at the United States Naval War College... Why is China, stronger and richer than she has ever been in history, making a turn toward a military posture that is at odds with her economic interests? It clearly jeopardizes the great advances she has made in the last thirty years. Yet, this is not an easy question to answer... Moreover, China today compares herself not with any real state from which she may be descended, but with an idealized, glorious China and a mythical golden age during which she was preeminent in the world. The belief is widespread that blame for the loss of this status is to be laid not so much at the feet of China or her rulers, as it is to be attributed to foreign invasions, rapaciousness, imperialistic alienation of territory, and so forth—particularly during the “century of humiliation,” that extends back from the foundation of the People’s Republic in 1949 to Anglo-Chinese wars that began in 1839.” *Arthur Waldron is the Lauder Professor of International Relations in the Department of History at the University of Pennsylvania, and an FPRI Senior Fellow.*

U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY AND TRENDS

REPORTS

[Fact Sheet: Strengthening Entrepreneurship At Home and Abroad](#)

The White House. April 7, 2014.

“Entrepreneurs play a critical role in expanding the economy and creating jobs. President Obama is committed to

increasing the prevalence and success of entrepreneurs across the country, including through the White House Startup America initiative, an “all-hands-on-deck” effort to expand access to capital, accelerate innovation, and promote private sector efforts to strengthen the Nation’s startup communities. The United States also runs and funds hundreds of programs to support entrepreneurs globally and maintains a broad coalition of governments, business people, civil society, investors, and academics to educate and support entrepreneurs around the world. Building on these efforts, today the Administration is announcing a series of new steps to accelerate the success of entrepreneurs in the United States and across the globe.”

[The Impact of Raising the Minimum Wage for Women: And the Importance of Ensuring a Robust Tipped Minimum Wage](#)

National Economic Council, the Council of Economic Advisers, the Domestic Policy Council, and the Department of Labor. March 2014 [PDF format, 17 pages]

“Over the past 30 years, modest minimum wage increases have not kept pace with the rising costs of basic necessities for working families. No one who works full time should have to raise his or her family in poverty. The President supports raising the minimum wage to help build real, lasting economic security for the middle class and create more opportunities for every hardworking American to get ahead. The President knows this is important for workers, and good for the economy. That is why the President has already signed an executive order to raise the minimum wage and tipped minimum wage for federal contract workers and is calling on Congress to raise the Federal minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$10.10 per hour and index it to inflation thereafter, while also raising the tipped minimum wage for the first time in over 20 years. Raising the minimum wage is especially important for women because: women in the workforce are more highly concentrated in low-wage sectors such as personal care and healthcare support occupations; women account for more than half (55 percent) of all workers who would benefit from increasing the minimum wage to \$10.10.”

[State Economic Monitor: April 2014](#)

The Urban Institute. April 2014. [PDF format, 14 pages]

The latest edition of the State Economic Monitor finds the economic recovery continues to improve slowly. No state unemployment rate increased from last year in February but long term unemployment remains a problem and is above average in most states. The Monitor reviews the health of various aspects of state economies, including employment, housing, state finances, and economic growth. This edition also reports state general fund revenue forecasts for fiscal year 2015. "The severe cold that blanketed the country over the past few months may have chilled the economy, but recent data show little change in the slow pace of the recovery. Real gross domestic product grew 1.9 percent in 2013, on par with expectations. Employment has not recovered to the pre-recession 2007 peak, but it continues to improve. While the going remains slow, most states are making progress. And though the drumbeat of pessimism persists, Congress has resolved the impasse over the federal budget and debt limit, at least for the moment. Unemployment rates are falling in fits and starts."

[Reviving Our Economy: Supporting a 21st Century Workforce](#)

Testimony by Cathleen Barton, Intel Education Manager, before the House Education and the Workforce Committee. March 20, 2014 [PDF format, 14 pages]

This testimony focused on three main topics: the types of programs that are being implemented by Intel Corporation to train and develop the next generation of innovators; (2) programs to hire the next generation of innovators, and (3) initiatives to support effective and innovative education partnerships. “For more than four decades, Intel has made education the primary focus of our strategic philanthropic activity. We invest more than \$100 million annually in

programs that promote STEM education, encourage women and girls to seek careers in technology, foster and celebrate innovation and entrepreneurship among the best and brightest young students in the world and help teachers to incorporate best practices in math, science and the effective use of technology in their work. We work in coalition with other high-tech companies to encourage the U.S. Congress and state legislatures to support technology access, development and implementation of more rigorous K-12 mathematics and science standards, as well as assessments to support initiatives that develop 21st century skills, such as critical thinking, collaboration and creativity."

[The Plummeting Labor Market Fortunes of Teens and Young Adults](#)

Sum, Andrew, et. al. The Brookings Institution. March 2014 [PDF format, 28 pages]

New analysis shows that employment prospects for teens and young adults in the nation's 100 largest metro areas plummeted between 2000 and 2011. This report provides trends for each metro area and outlines promising strategies to reduce youth joblessness. ... "While labor market problems affected all young people, some groups had better outcomes than others: Non-Hispanic whites, those from higher income households, those with work experience, and those with higher levels of education were more successful in the labor market. In particular, education and previous work experience were most strongly associated with employment. Policy and program efforts to reduce youth joblessness and labor force underutilization should focus on the following priorities: incorporating more work-based learning (such as apprenticeships, co-ops, and internships) into education and training; creating tighter linkages between secondary and post-secondary education; ensuring that training meets regional labor market needs; expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit; and facilitating the transition of young people into the labor market through enhanced career counseling, mentoring, occupational and work-readiness skills development, and the creation of short-term subsidized jobs." *Andrew M. Sum is Professor of Economics and Director of the Center for Labor Market Studies at Northeastern University in Boston.*

[Are the Long-Term Unemployed on the Margins of the Labor Market?](#)

By: Alan B. Krueger, Judd Cramer and David Cho. The Brookings Institution. March 2014. [PDF Format, 54 pages]

"The short-term unemployment rate is a much stronger predictor of inflation and real wage growth than the overall unemployment rate in the U.S. Even in good times, the long-term unemployed are on the margins of the labor market, with diminished job prospects and high labor force withdrawal rates, and as a result they exert little pressure on wage growth or inflation. In this paper the authors find that even after finding another job, reemployment does not fully reset the clock for the long-term unemployed, who are frequently jobless again soon after they gain reemployment: only 11 percent of those who were long-term unemployed in a given month returned to steady, full-time employment a year later... The authors present a calibrated model that shows that the collapse in job vacancies, coupled with a decline in labor force withdrawal rates, accounts for the sharp rise in the number of long-term unemployed workers in 2009-13 and the overall rise in the unemployment rate. Furthermore, the authors show that the historically slower rate of reemployment for long-term unemployed workers can account for the apparent shift in the relationship between the unemployment rate and job vacancies. Their model predicts that the unemployment-vacancy relationship will return to its original position as the long-term unemployed continue to exit the labor force." *Alan B. Krueger is the Bendheim Professor of Economics and Public Affairs at Princeton University. Judd Cramer and David Cho are both graduate students at Princeton University.*

[The State of the U.S. Labor Market](#)

Madowitz, Michael and Markezich, Matt. Center for American Progress. April 3, 2014.

“Since the end of the Great Recession, the economy has added 7.7 million jobs, and the unemployment rate has fallen from 10 percent to 6.7 percent. But beneath these top-line numbers, the labor market is still quite fragile. In March, the Federal Reserve tacitly acknowledged the widening gap between the reality of the labor market and its most well-known measures by switching from a quantitative unemployment threshold to more comprehensive “measures of the labor market” in its forward guidance. The question, then, is this: What are some of these broader labor-market indicators the Federal Reserve will be looking at? Here’s a quick tour of the most important jobs data you never see in the headline” *Michael Madowitz is an Economist at the Center for American Progress. Matt Markezich is an intern with the Economic Policy team.*

[Lessons for U.S. Metro Areas: Characteristics and Clustering of High-Tech Immigrant Entrepreneurs](#)

Yang Liu, Cathy; Painter, Gary; Wang, Qingfang. Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. March 2014. [PDF format, 26 pages]

An open and culturally diverse environment helps promote high-tech entrepreneurship among both immigrants and the U.S.-born, according to this new research report. Immigrant-owned businesses, the study shows, are more likely to locate in ethnically diverse metro areas that have high foreign-born populations. That's important for metro areas hoping to attract and retain this fast-growing pool of high-impact founders. This study also reports that regional labor markets with greater percentages of high-tech industries and greater numbers of college graduates and patents – all indicators of innovation – tend to attract other high-tech companies. Immigrants comprised 20 percent of the high-tech work force and 17.3 percent of high-tech entrepreneurs between 2007 and 2011, according to the study, which used the American Community Survey. This represents an increase of 13.7 percent and 13.5 percent, respectively, from 2000. The authors found that, compared to high-tech businesses owned by those who are U.S.-born, immigrant-owned high-tech businesses are more concentrated in industry categories such as semiconductor; other electronic components; magnetic and optical media; communications; audio/video equipment; and computer science-related sectors. *Cathy Yang Liu is an Assistant Professor of Public Management and Policy at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University. Gary Painter is an Associate Professor of Policy, Planning and Development at the Price School of Public Policy, University of Southern California. Qingfang Wang is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Geography and Earth Sciences at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.*

[AgTech: Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Growth](#)

Dutia, Suren G. Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. April 2014 [PDF format, 36 pages]

This white paper his white paper, we provide an overview of a new emerging economic sector: sustainable agricultural technology or, more simply, “AgTech.” This sector has the potential to completely reshape global agriculture, dramatically increasing the productivity of the agriculture system while reducing the environmental and social costs of current ag production practices... Given that we must produce more food in the next forty years than during the entire course of human history to date, and must do so on a planet showing signs of severe environmental stress, AgTech innovations will be absolutely essential. We believe humanity can rise to the occasion and overcome these monumental global challenges, but to do so will require sustained attention, significant investment, and AgTech-specific entrepreneur support systems to help spur innovation in the field. .. The challenges facing agricultural production in the next generation are formidable, and we believe that AgTech requires higher levels of policy attention, public research, and private investment to set agriculture on a path toward greater efficiency and sustainability. *Suren G. Dutia is a Senior Fellow at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.*

[The Geopolitical Potential of the U.S. Energy Boom](#)

Prepared Statement of Elizabeth Rosenberg, Senior Fellow and Director of the Energy, Environment and Security Program Center for a New American Security, before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. March 26, 2014. [PDF Format, 7 pages]

“Remarkable recent increases in U.S. oil and gas production have had substantial positive economic effects. They are changing the way Americans use and trade energy and the way we think about the strategic value of energy resources. For decades this nation considered energy a scarce resource and framed investment in energy infrastructure and energy policy around the expectation of dependence on imported energy. But the application of sophisticated, unconventional energy extraction technologies over the last several years has ushered in an era of relative energy abundance and turned the tide on energy import dependence. The United States is the top global natural gas producer and will be the largest oil producer, surpassing Saudi Arabia, by next year, according to the International Energy Agency (IEA). Prolific U.S. oil and gas resources have important geopolitical significance. They also have striking benefits for U.S. industrial manufacturing competitiveness and the trade deficit, which reached its lowest level in four years last year. Expanding U.S. energy supplies means that a larger portion of global oil supply comes from reliable sources.”

[Envisioning a Digital Age Architecture for Early Education](#)

Guernsey, Lisa. New America Foundation. March 26, 2014. [PDF format, 14 pages]

“The digital age brings a profusion of new challenges and opportunities for the field of early education. The vast majority of children—including those in disadvantaged households—are growing up hearing, seeing, and interacting with digital media and communications technologies of all kinds every day.” The young children of today will soon grow into the middle-schoolers of the next decade, the high school graduates of the late 2020s, and the citizens and workforce of the future. By paying attention to the way today's young children use technologies and media, and by tailoring policies to ensure that educators are prepared to help them, policymakers can promote environments that give learners every chance to succeed, says the author. Lisa Guernsey is the Director of New America's Early Education Initiative and Director of New America's Learning Technologies Project.

ARTICLES

The United States of Gas

Hefner III, Robert A. *Foreign Affairs*. May/June 2014, pp. 9-14.

“Less than a decade ago, the future of American energy looked bleak. Domestic production of both oil and gas was dwindling, and big U.S. energy companies, believing their fortunes lay offshore, had long since turned away from the mainland. But then something remarkable occurred: a surge of innovation allowed companies to extract vast quantities of natural gas trapped in once-inaccessible deposits of shale. The resulting abundance drove down U.S. gas prices to about one-third of the global average. Natural gas has been a godsend for the United States. Already, gas has spurred a manufacturing renaissance, with investors spending and planning hundreds of billions of dollars on new facilities such as chemical, steel, and aluminum plants. The shale boom has created hundreds of thousands of new high-paying, middle-class jobs, and now, more than one million Americans work in the oil and gas industry -- an increase of roughly 40 percent between 2007 and 2012. Moreover, because natural gas currently supplies about 25 percent of the total energy consumed in the United States (a figure that is rapidly growing), the boom is saving U.S. consumers hundreds of billions of dollars a year. Combined with the other benefits, those savings have given the

United States a long-term economic advantage over its competitors and helped the country recover from the Great Recession.” *Robert A. Hefner III is Founder and CEO of the GHK Companies, the author of The Grand Energy Transition, and the creator of the documentary of the same name (Wiley, 2009).*

[The Case for American Nationalism](#)

Lind, Michael. *The National Interest*. May/June 2014.

“Since the end of the Cold War, however, the United States has abandoned enlightened nationalism in order to pursue permanent American global hegemony while preaching a new doctrine of post nationalism. This grand strategy has undermined the very morality, liberty and security it was supposed to enhance. And so, after several misconceived wars and interventions, Washington must repudiate its post–Cold War commitment to global hegemony and the ideology of postnationalism that justifies it, and it must embark upon a wholesale revision of military, trade and immigration policy in the national interest. None of these measures would endanger world order or subvert American ideals. Rather, they would enhance them. It is time, in short, for a new nationalism. FOR MUCH OF ITS HISTORY, Washington has pursued a security strategy by means that look more like cold, calculating nationalism than crusading idealism. In both world wars, the United States assumed the role of an “offshore balancer,” allowing its allies to suffer tremendous losses of life and wealth before belatedly entering the conflict to tip the balance at a minimum cost in American blood and treasure. With the exception of the wars in Korea and Vietnam, the United States waged the Cold War on the cheap, preferring to subsidize and advise enemies of Communist regimes while using embargoes and arms races to bankrupt the Soviet Union. While the Soviet Union may have spent up to a third of its GDP on the military, America during the Cold War never spent more than around 15 percent, even at the height of the war in Korea; it never mobilized its peacetime industries; and it never adopted a universal draft, relying instead on a limited “selective service” lottery draft.” *Michael Lind is Policy Director of the Economic Growth Program at the New America Foundation.*

[Facebook: The World’s Biggest Direct-Marketing Company](#)

Cassidy, John. *The New Yorker*. April 25, 2014.

“Having written a big piece about Facebook way back in 2006, I still feel a bit proprietorial about it—although it’s hard to have personal feelings for a Web site that eight hundred million people use every day. But Facebook, although it’s no longer new or cool, is still a fascinating company, especially if you are interested in online media, and the broader economics of the Internet economy. This week, the company announced bumper results for the first quarter of 2014: a billion dollars in pre-tax income and more than six hundred and forty-two million dollars in net income. Earnings were up about twenty per cent from the last three months of 2013. Compared to the same quarter twelve months ago, the firm generated almost three times as much income... Much has been written about Facebook’s cultural and social impact. From a business perspective, it is something new and something old. The new aspects are twofold. Obviously, it is global, ubiquitous, and digital in a way that previous media companies weren’t. (Add to that its two big acquisitions, Instagram and WhatsApp, which are growing rapidly in users but aren’t big businesses yet.) It also benefits enormously from the fact that it doesn’t have to pay for most of its program content: the users generate it themselves. It has to invest in its network and pay for upkeep and development, but once the infrastructure is in place much of the revenue it generates flows straight to the bottom line. That makes Facebook an enviably profitable company.” *John Cassidy has been a staff writer at The New Yorker since 1995. He also writes a blog on The New Yorker’s Web site, entitled “Rational Irrationality.” Cassidy is also a contributor to The New York Review of Books and a financial commentator for the BBC.*

[Chicago 'Reinvents' Community College](#)

Kardish, Chris. *Governing*. March 2014.

"After taking a hard look over the past several years at why its City Colleges students weren't graduating in sufficient numbers or attracting the attention of employers, Chicago decided to make big changes. Today it's in the midst of an overhaul that aims to get more certifications and diplomas in the hands of students like Barrington. The initiative seeks to make the two-year city college curriculum more economically relevant and ease the path to completion through direct business input on curriculum, maps for students that show the most efficient way to reach their destination and new scheduling that allows students to enter the workforce while they are still studying. The ideas aren't necessarily new; a small number of institutions across the country have tried them. But Chicago is a seven-college system of 115,000 students, and it's experimenting with a broad range of strategies in an ambitious effort to plug gaps in the region's workforce needs for years to come." *Chris Kardish is a staff writer for Governing magazine.*

[The U.S. Cities Where Creative Class Workers Are Most Segregated From Everyone Else](#)

Florida, Richard. *The Atlantic Cities*. April 30, 2014.

"The rise of the knowledge economy over the past several decades has forever changed the nature of work and, by extension, the class structure of advanced cities and societies. Living standards among the working class has declined sharply as the economy has deindustrialized. Across the United States, work itself has split into two major categories and classes: high-skill, high-pay creative work, involving new ideas and new technology; and low-skill, low-pay service work. As workers' incomes and expectations have diverged, so too have their residential choices. Middle-class neighborhoods, like middle-class paychecks, are increasingly hard to find. The creative class makes up about a third of the U.S. workforce. Its 41 million members -- who include knowledge workers in science, technology, innovation and engineering; business, healthcare and legal professionals; and arts, music, design, media and entertainment -- earned more than \$70,000 per year on average in 2010, accounting for roughly half of all U.S. wages." Richard Florida is Co-Founder and Editor at Large at The Atlantic Cities. He's also a Senior Editor at The Atlantic, Director of the Martin Prosperity Institute at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management, and Global Research Professor at New York University.

[Why Cities Work Even When Washington Doesn't](#)

Fallows, James. *The Atlantic*. April 2014.

"During the eras of Michael Bloomberg in New York, Thomas Menino in Boston, and Richard Daley and now Rahm Emanuel in Chicago, everyone has recognized the power of major-city mayors to announce big plans and to carry them out, for better or worse... City-level success is of course no substitute for a functioning national government. Washington is where we set overall economic and tax policy; open or close our borders; negotiate for global standards on labor rights and the environment; decide on peace and war... But city-level success is better than city-level failure, and what we've seen recently is that this is not limited to the biggest cities with the most dominant (or richest) figures as mayors. "Being a mayor, especially in a 'strong mayor' city system, gives you tremendous opportunities," I was told early this year by Don Ness, the mayor of Duluth, Minnesota. A hundred years ago, Duluth was one of the fastest-growing cities in America. Thirty years ago, it was, like Flint, Michigan, and Gary, Indiana, one of the most distressed. Now it has begun a tech, services, and tourism recovery. In the 2000 census, Duluth's population was older than the state's as a whole. Today it is getting younger and wealthier." James Fallows is a national correspondent for The Atlantic and has written for the magazine since the late 1970s.

Immigration Policy: Is Federalism the Answer?

Wainer, Andrew; Singer, Audrey. *The National Journal*. April 21, 2014.

“For those of us tracking immigration policy, the shift is undeniable. With President Obama recently pointing out just how gridlocked a once-promising bipartisan Senate immigration proposal has become, cities and states have become the new immigration-policy innovators. They are filling the void. U.S. immigration policy has been the purview of the federal government for more than a century. But it was not always that way. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, individual states had their own immigration laws. States typically sought to regulate immigrant influxes with policies that reflected particular concern about the arrival of poor European newcomers. Now, immigration policy is, in some ways, returning to its roots.” *Andrew Wainer is a senior immigration-policy analyst at Bread for the World Institute. Audrey Singer is a senior fellow in the Metropolitan Policy Program at the Brookings Institution where she focuses on the new geography of immigration and federal-, state-, and local-policy responses.*

The Four Faces of the Republican Party

Olsen, Henry. *The National Interest*. March/April 2014.

“The common wisdom holds that the GOP 2016 presidential race will boil down to a joust between the “establishment” and the “insurgents.” The former will allegedly be more moderate and the latter more conservative. Since most polls for two decades have shown that around two-thirds to 70 percent of self-described Republicans call themselves conservative, this elite narrative will focus on just how much the establishment candidate will need to be pulled to the right in order to fend off his insurgent challenger. And since the Tea Party has clearly become a vocal and powerful insurgent element in the GOP, the narrative will focus on two other questions: Who will gain Tea Party favor and emerge as the insurgent candidate? And can the establishment candidate escape becoming Tea Partyized during the primary season and therefore remain a viable general-election candidate?” *Henry Olsen is a senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center.*

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