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## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

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# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

## REPORTS

### [Implications of the Crisis in Ukraine](#)

Testimony of Victoria Nuland, Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, before the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. January 15, 2014 [PDF format, 4 pages]

“As I have said repeatedly over the past few months, Ukraine’s European integration is not a zero-sum calculation. We encourage Ukraine to continue to develop normal and strong, sovereign relations with all neighbors. There is also, unfortunately a good deal of disinformation in Russia about the potential effect that the EU’s Eastern Partnership could have on its economy and arrangements with neighbors. We have encouraged the EU to redouble its efforts to counter false narratives in Russia and actively make its case that a more prosperous, European Ukraine will lift the whole neighborhood, both economically and in terms of democratic stability.”

### [Assessing the P5+1 Joint Plan of Action with Iran: Administration Perspectives](#)

Testimony of David S. Cohen, Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, before the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. December 12, 2013.

“From the outset of the Obama Administration, we have pursued a dual-track strategy that pairs an offer to Iran to reclaim its place among the community of nations with increasingly powerful and sophisticated sanctions if it continues to refuse to satisfy its international obligations with respect to its nuclear program. As this Committee is well aware, for several years Iran resisted and refused multiple opportunities to engage in a meaningful fashion. And so, as we made clear from the outset, the Administration, working alongside our international partners, has imposed on Iran the most comprehensive, powerful and effective set of sanctions in history... While sanctions have proved to be a very potent tool, we have not imposed sanctions for sanctions' sake. One of the key purposes of sanctions always has been to induce a shift in the policy calculus of the Iranian government and to build the necessary leverage for serious negotiations about Iran's nuclear program. Our dual-track strategy has begun to bear fruit. Sanctions pressure brought Iran to the negotiating table in Geneva and provided our negotiators with bargaining power to secure important limitations on Iran's nuclear program in the Joint Plan of Action (JPA).”

### [Rebalance to Asia IV: U.S. Economic Engagement in East Asia and the Pacific](#)

Statement of John Andersen, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Global Markets, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs. December 18, 2013. [PDF format, 15 pages]

“A priority for Department of Commerce in the region is to build partnerships and institutions across the Pacific capable of meeting 21st-century challenges and ensuring market access for U.S. firms. Through deeper trade and investment ties we intend to contribute to the peace, security, and prosperity of the region as a whole. The United States relationships with Japan, the Republic of Korea, Australia, the Philippines, and Thailand form a natural cornerstone of our strategic position in the Asia-Pacific and complement our multilateral efforts to ensure regional prosperity and development at a time of evolving challenges. At the same time, a key element of our rebalance policy is to continue pursuing a positive, comprehensive, and cooperative relationship with China... In 2013, seven of our top twenty-one priority export markets were located in Asia and forty-one percent of the clients we counseled worldwide, were interested in doing business in the EAP region. There is little doubt that Asia is a growing market for companies looking to expand their business and ITA continues to engage aggressively on this front.”

#### [Toward A Transatlantic Renaissance: Ensuring Our Shared Future](#)

Remarks by Victoria Nuland, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs at the Atlantic Council, Washington, DC, November 13, 2013.

“America needs a strong Europe, and Europe needs a strong America. The greater the Transatlantic and global challenges, the more important it is that the United States and Europe address them together. No other nations will step up if we don’t; yet other nations will and do join us when we, as a Transatlantic community, lead the way and give collective action our shared seal of approval and our involvement. The world needs a community of free nations with the will and the means to take on the toughest challenges, and to work for peace, security and freedom when they are threatened. But today, as a Transatlantic community, we are standing at another vital inflection point in our ability to play that essential role, both at home and abroad. As our economies begin to emerge from five years of recession, recovery is not enough. What is required is a “Transatlantic Renaissance” – a new burst of energy, confidence, innovation, and generosity, rooted in our democratic values and ideals. When so much of the world around us is turbulent and unmoored, we are once again called to be a beacon of security, freedom and prosperity for countries everywhere. That will require both confidence and investments at home, and commitment and unity abroad. Together, we must lead or we will see the things we value and our global influence recede.”

#### [A U.S. Strategy for Europe’s East](#)

Testimony of Damon M. Wilson, *Executive Vice President, Atlantic Council, before the US Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, Subcommittee on European Affairs. November 14, 2013 [PDF format, 6 pages]*

“There are two key issues facing the Eastern Partnership. First, will the Vilnius summit mark a major advance in the integration of Ukraine, Moldova, and Georgia, the three Eastern Partnership nations that aspire to closer integration with the EU and have made the most

progress in their negotiations? Second, will European leaders evolve the Eastern Partnership to become a pathway for successful reformers to pursue membership in the Union, while keeping open the long-term European option for the others. This is where the United States becomes relevant. US leadership has driven each wave of European integration, using NATO as a lead instrument and often paving the way for EU enlargement. With the failure of NATO allies to reach consensus on the path forward for Georgia and Ukraine at the 2008 Bucharest summit, and in the context of the Russo-Georgian War shortly afterward, the United States in essence stepped back from its traditional leadership role of driving this historic process.”

### [Armed Conflict in Syria: Overview and U.S. Response](#)

Blanchard, Christopher M. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. January 14, 2014 [PDF format, 18 pages]

“The humanitarian and regional security crises emanating from Syria now appear to be beyond the power of any single actor, including the United States, to contain or fully address. Large numbers of Syrian refugees, the growth of powerful armed extremist groups in Syria, and the assertive involvement of Iran, Turkey, and Sunni Arab governments in Syria’s civil war are all negatively affecting the regional security environment in the Middle East. In light of these conditions and trends, Congress is likely to face choices about the investment of U.S. relief and security assistance funding in relation to the crisis in Syria and its effects on the region for years to come.” *Christopher M. Blanchard, Coordinator and Specialist in Middle Eastern Affairs at the CRS.*

### [After the Awakening: Future Security Trends in the Middle East](#)

Stokes, Jacob. Center for a New American Security. January 10, 2014 [PDF format, 14 pages]

The author examines seven big trends driving geopolitics and economics in the Middle East today and explores how these trends might affect the future of the region. Stokes offers an examination of the interrelationships among such recent developments as the changing energy map, endeavors to curb the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and economic crises in the region. Such a review, says the author, is intended as a constructive starting point for policymakers as they attempt to navigate the region. “For the United States, the Middle East is, and will remain, a vitally important region. But advancing U.S. interests in the region – never easy – will become even more complicated in the years ahead. Washington must forge new relationships with the whole range of emerging actors that are shaping regional politics in the wake of the Arab Awakening. And America must lead in those areas – namely Iran, Syria and the Israeli- Palestinian peace process – where U.S.-sponsored diplomacy can make a huge difference in shaping the trajectory of the region.” *Jacob Stokes is a research associate at the Center for a New American Security.*

### [Turkish-Iranian Relations in a Changing Middle East](#)

Larrabee, F. Stephen; Nader, Alireza. RAND National Defense Research Institute. November 2013 [PDF format, 62 pages]

“The Arab Spring has intensified the historic rivalry between Turkey and Iran, two of the Middle East’s most powerful nation-states. Although economic cooperation between the two countries has improved in the past decade, Turkey and Iran are increasingly at odds on a number of issues in the Middle East, particularly Syria. The relationship between these two important countries presents some opportunities, as well as challenges, for U.S. interests in the region. Turkish-Iranian cooperation has visibly intensified in recent years, thanks in part to Turkish energy needs and Iran's vast oil and natural gas resources. However, Turkey and Iran tend to be rivals rather than close partners. Turkey's support for the opposition in Syria, Iran's only true state ally in the Middle East, is one example. Iraq has also become a field of growing competition between Turkey and Iran. Iran's nuclear program has been a source of strain and divergence in U.S.-Turkish relations. However, the differences between the United States and Turkey regarding Iran's nuclear program are largely over tactics, not strategic goals. Turkey's main fear is that Iran's acquisition of nuclear arms could lead to a nuclear arms race in the Middle East. This, in turn, could increase pressure on the Turkish government to consider developing its own nuclear weapon capability. U.S. and Turkish interests have become more convergent since the onset of the Syrian crisis. However, while U.S. and Turkish interests in the Middle East closely overlap, they are not identical.” *F. Stephen Larrabee holds the Distinguished Chair in European Security at the RAND Corporation. Alireza Nader is a senior international policy analyst at the RAND Corporation.*

#### **[Foresight Africa: Top Priorities for the Continent in 2014](#)**

Africa Growth Initiative, The Brookings Institution. January 2014 [PDF format, 44 pages]

“Africa’s position in the world is changing and will continue to evolve in 2014 and beyond. With new development and commercial partners like China and India, recent discoveries of additional natural resources, and millions of young people entering the labor force, Africa has the opportunity to take charge of its own development path. Despite these opportunities, African countries still face several challenges to sustainable growth and development... As the story of Africa’s growth continues to shift the narrative of its trajectory, the Brookings Africa Growth Initiative (AGI) aims to stay ahead of the trends to help African and global policymakers leverage opportunities to promote the region’s development and stability. Since 2010, AGI has asked its scholars to assess the top priorities for Africa in the coming year. This year, AGI experts and colleagues continue the tradition in identifying what they consider to be the key issues for Africa in 2014.” The following report is a compilation of briefs that are meant to create a dialogue on what critical issues Africa must pay attention to in the coming 12 months, and it is our hope that this dialogue will continue throughout the year.

#### **[Africa's Booming Oil and Natural Gas Exploration and Production: National Security Implications for the United States and China](#)**

Brown, David E. Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College. December 30, 2013. [HTML format with a link to the PDF file, 337 pages]

“Two key long-term energy trends are shifting the strategic balance between the United States and China, the world's superpower rivals in the 21st century: first, a domestic boom in U.S.

shale oil and gas dramatically boosting America's energy security; second, the frenetic and successful search for hydrocarbons in Africa making it an increasingly crucial element in China's energy diversification strategy...Africa has already become a crucial element in the energy diversification strategies being adopted in major consuming regions, notably China, and offers relative freedom for international oil companies (IOCs) to invest and operate. Africa will be the world's fourth most important region for oil production from 2010 to 2035, after the Middle East and Europe/Eurasia, not far behind North America, and ahead of Latin America and East Asia/Australia. Africa is also starting to play a more prominent role in international markets for natural gas, which is currently characterized by disparate regional markets but is slowly moving toward a more interconnected, global gas market." *David E. Brown is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, who joined the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS) as Senior Diplomatic Advisor in August 2011.*

### [The Crisis in South Sudan](#)

Ploch Blanchard, Lauren. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. December 27, 2013 [PDF format, 21 pages]

"In December 2013, growing political tensions among key leaders in South Sudan erupted in violence. While the political dispute that triggered this crisis was not clearly based on ethnic identity, it overlapped with preexisting ethnic and political fault lines and sparked armed clashes and targeted ethnic killings in the capital, Juba, and beyond. The United States is the largest provider of bilateral foreign assistance to South Sudan and a major financial contributor to international peacekeeping efforts there... The United States has historically played a major role in supporting peace and stability for the country, which gained its independence from Sudan in 2011 after a long civil war between the Sudanese government and southern insurgents. Congress has been a key actor in setting U.S. policy toward both Sudans and supporting South Sudanese independence. As such, the Obama Administration and Congress face a series of complex questions as they seek to convince rival South Sudanese leaders to cease hostilities, reengage in political dialogue, and prevent further humanitarian suffering. The future of what successive U.S. Administrations have considered to be an important relationship with South Sudanese leaders is also in question." *Lauren Ploch Blanchard is a Specialist in African Affairs at the CRS.*

### [U.S. – China Security Perceptions Survey: Findings and Implications](#)

Swaine, Michael D. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. December 12, 2013.

"This project involved two phases in both the United States and China. During the first phase, public and elite opinion surveys were conducted in both countries. Elites from five distinct categories—government, business, academia, the military, and the media—were surveyed. During the second phase, workshops of foreign affairs experts with backgrounds in these same five categories were convened in Beijing and Washington to discuss the survey results and their implications for U.S.-China relations... Public and elite attitudes in the United States and especially China are exerting a growing influence on the bilateral security relationship. The U.S.-China Security Perceptions Project analyzes the content of these attitudes through original

surveys and workshops conducted in both countries. The project's findings have implications for policymakers seeking to reduce the likelihood of future bilateral conflicts." *Swaine is a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and one of the most prominent American analysts in Chinese security studies.*

### [Central Asia After 2014](#)

Blank, Stephen J. editor. Strategic Studies Institute. November 2013 [PDF format, 137 pages]

"As NATO and the United States proceed to withdraw their forces from Afghanistan, the inherent and preexisting geopolitical, security, and strategic challenges in Central Asia become ever more apparent. The rivalry among the great powers: the United States, China, Russia, India, and others to a lesser degree, are all becoming increasingly more visible as a key factor that will shape this region after the allied withdrawal from Afghanistan. The papers collected here, presented at SSI's annual conference on Russia in 2012, go far to explaining what the agenda for that rivalry is and how it is likely to influence regional trends after 2013. Therefore, these papers provide a vital set of insights into an increasingly critical area of international politics and security, especially as it is clear that the United States is reducing, but not totally withdrawing, its military establishment in Afghanistan and is seeking to consolidate long-term relationships with Central Asian states. Accordingly, these papers provide assessments of Sino-Russian rivalry, the U.S.-Russian rivalry, and a neglected but critical topic—Chinese military capability for action in Central Asia. All of these issues are essential for any informed analysis of the future of Central Asian security, as well as relations among the great powers in Central Asia." *Stephen J. Blank is Senior Fellow at the Strategic Studies Institute.*

### [Combating Global Poverty](#)

Savoy, Conor M. Center for Strategic & International Studies. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. December 3, 2013 [PDF format, 76 pages]

"Beginning in the 1970s, the United States steadily shifted the focus of its foreign assistance on meeting the basic human needs, public health, basic education, and food security, of the developing world; programs aimed at poverty reduction. This represented a marked shift from the early years of foreign aid when the United States concentrated on improving public administration, infrastructure development, and macroeconomic policy. This support for basic human needs has only intensified over the last 15 years as a series of presidential initiatives have targeted public health spending, basic education, and agricultural development. Governance, in its current form, emerged as a development focus in the 1990s." *Conor M. Savoy is a Fellow with the Project on U.S. Leadership in Development at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).*

### [Foreign Assistance: Public-Private Partnerships \(PPPs\)](#)

Lawson, Marian L. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. October 28, 2013 [PDF format, 21 pages]

“The flow of private sector resources to developing countries has increased significantly in recent decades. Seeking opportunity in this changing environment, government development assistance agencies such as the U.S. Agency for International Development and the State Department are working with private sector entities in unprecedented ways to determine when and if such partnerships can lead to improved development results. As explained in the Obama Administration’s 2010 Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review (QDDR), “private sector partners can add value to our missions through their resources, their capacity to establish presence in places we cannot, through the technologies, networks, and contacts they can tap, and through their specialized expertise or knowledge... This report discusses the evolution of private sector involvement in U.S. foreign assistance programs over recent decades, how globalization has driven the modern approach to development partnerships, potential benefits and drawbacks of public-private partnerships (PPPs), and how partnerships are being used by other bilateral donors and multilateral development agencies. The report then discusses partnership-related issues that may be of interest to Congress as part of the foreign assistance authorization and reform process.” *Marian L. Lawson is an Specialist in Foreign Assistance Policy at the CRS.*

## ARTICLES

### [Backseat Driving: The Role of Congress in American Diplomacy](#)

Lindsay, James M. *World Politics Review*. November 19, 2013, var. pages.

“Congress takes a back seat to the president on diplomatic matters. It cannot match the president’s constitutional authority as the nation’s sole representative abroad, and much of the time its members have no desire to contest what the administration is doing overseas. When lawmakers are interested in charting a different course, however, Congress’s constitutional authorities, combined with practical politics, give lawmakers tools to put their mark on American diplomacy. They typically do so by blocking presidential initiatives, either by withholding the legislative cooperation needed to make an initiative work or by making the policy the White House favors too politically costly to pursue.” *James M. Lindsay is senior vice president, director of studies and Maurice R. Greenberg Chair at the Council on Foreign Relations.*

### [The Kerry Doctrine](#)

Brinkley, Douglas. *Foreign Policy*. December 9, 2013, var. pages.

"This boldness is at the heart of the Kerry Doctrine, which involves tackling the issues most likely to make a historic difference -- that is, the world's most festering problems -- and doing so with direct, don't-sweat-the-small-stuff diplomacy. It rests on leveraging long-term, substantive relationships with fellow politicians around the world in order to employ diplomatic intervention as the first choice, not the last resort. The media doesn't often cover the Kerry Doctrine in action -- but that's by design. It's a brand of diplomacy done face to face, in private, without media crews in tow. In an extension of the old Eastern Establishment ethos of

statement Henry Stimson and George Marshall. Kerry won't betray trust: He believes that diplomatic options dry up when discretion breaks down." *Douglas Brinkley is a professor of History at Rice University and a Fellow at the James Baker III Institute for Public Policy.*

### [Sifting through Interdependence](#)

Wright, Thomas. *The Washington Quarterly*. Fall 2013, pp. 7–23.

"If there is one idea that has consistently influenced western foreign policy since the Cold War, it is the notion that extending interdependence and tightening economic integration among nations is a positive development that advances peace, stability, and prosperity. The absorption of Eastern Europe in both the European Union and NATO helped consolidate market democracy. Globalization led to unprecedented growth in western economies, and facilitated the ascent of China and India, among others, taking billions of people out of poverty. Access to the international financial institutions also offered emerging powers the strategic option of exerting influence through existing institutions rather than trying to overturn them. Some policymakers and experts believe that this process holds the key to continuing great power peace and stability. Until recently, countries have acted as if increasing and freewheeling economic interdependence is a force for good in itself. Yet over the past five years it has become increasingly apparent that interdependence and integration carries strategic risks and challenges with it. These include a much greater level of volatility in the global economy, potentially destabilizing vulnerabilities in the U.S.–China bilateral relationship, tensions in Asia that stem in part from the reliance of small economies upon China, and an existential crisis in the European Union." *Thomas Wright is a fellow with the Managing Global Order project at the Brookings Institution.*

### **The Unruled World: The Case for Good Enough Global Governance**

Patrick, Stewart. *Foreign Affairs*. January/February 2014, pp. 58-73.

"Despite the Obama administration's avowed ambition to integrate rising powers as full partners, there has been no movement to reform the composition of the UN Security Council to reflect new geopolitical realities. Meanwhile, the World Trade Organization is comatose, NATO struggles to find its strategic purpose, and the International Energy Agency courts obsolescence by omitting China and India as members. The demand for international cooperation has not diminished. In fact, it is greater than ever, thanks to deepening economic interdependence, worsening environmental degradation, proliferating transnational threats, and accelerating technological change. But effective multilateral responses are increasingly occurring outside formal institutions, as frustrated actors turn to more convenient, ad hoc venues. "Global governance" is a slippery term. It refers not to world government (which nobody expects or wants anymore) but to something more practical: the collective effort by sovereign states, international organizations, and other nonstate actors to address common challenges and seize opportunities that transcend national frontiers." *Stewart Patrick is a Senior Fellow and Director of the International Institutions and Global Governance Program at the Council on Foreign Relations.*

### **The End of History Ends**

Russell Mead, Walter. *The American Interest*. December 2, 2013, var. pages.

“For the first time since the Cold War, the United States is going to have to adopt a coherent Eurasian strategy that integrates European, Middle Eastern, South Asian and East Asian policy into a comprehensive design... Sometime in 2013, we reached a new stage in world history. A coalition of great powers has long sought to overturn the post Cold War Eurasian settlement that the United States and its allies imposed after 1990; in the second half of 2013 that coalition began to gain ground. The revisionist coalition hasn’t achieved its objectives, and the Eurasian status is still quo, but from this point on we will have to speak of that situation as contested, and American policymakers will increasingly have to respond to a challenge that, until recently, most chose to ignore. Call the challengers the Central Powers; they hate and fear one another as much as they loathe the current geopolitical order, but they are joined at the hip by the belief that the order favored by the United States and its chief allies is more than an inconvenience. The big three challengers – Russia, China and Iran — all hate, fear and resent the current state of Eurasia. The balance of power it enshrines thwarts their ambitions; the norms and values it promotes pose deadly threats to their current regimes.” *Walter Russell Mead is the James Clarke Chace Professor of Foreign Affairs and the Humanities at Bard College.*

### **The Rise and Fall of the Failed-State Paradigm**

Mazarr, Michael J. *Foreign Affairs*. January/February 2014, pp. 113-121.

“For a decade and a half, from the mid-1990s through about 2010, the dominant national security narrative in the United States stressed the dangers posed by weak or failing states. These were seen to breed terrorism, regional chaos, crime, disease, and environmental catastrophe. To deal with such problems at their roots, the argument ran, the United States had to reach out and help stabilize the countries in question, engaging in state building on a neo-imperial scale. And reach out the United States did -- most obviously during the protracted campaigns in Afghanistan and Iraq. After a decade of conflict and effort with precious little to show for it, however, the recent era of interventionist U.S. state building is drawing to a close. And although there are practical reasons for this shift -- the United States can no longer afford such missions, and the public has tired of them -- the decline of the state-building narrative reflects a more profound underlying truth: the obsession with weak states was always more of a mania than a sound strategic doctrine. Its passing will not leave the United States more isolationist and vulnerable but rather free the country to focus on its more important global roles.” *Michael J. Mazarr is Professor of National Security Strategy at the National War College.*

### **Europe’s Make or Break Moment**

Kahn, Robert; Kupchan, Charles. *Survival*. December 2013/January 2014, pp. 29–48.

“Despite the progress that European leaders have made in bringing financial stability to the eurozone, the European Union continues to face a severe economic and political crisis. This crisis has not only threatened the viability of the single currency, but also fostered political

tensions that are weakening the foundations of the EU. These troubles emerged from financial mismanagement, unsustainable public debt and the lack of structural competitiveness in the southern tier. Economic missteps developed into political fragmentation, pitting wealthier member states in the north against weaker economies in the south. Economic dislocation has combined with political division to awaken widespread public scepticism about the merits of European integration.” *Robert Kahn is Steven A. Tananbaum Senior Fellow for International Economics at the Council on Foreign Relations. Charles Kupchan is Professor of International Affairs at Georgetown University, Whitney Shepardson Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations and Senior Fellow at the Transatlantic Academy.*

### **U.S.-Turkish Relations: In Search of a New Paradigm**

Ustun, Kadir; Bugra Kanat, Kilic. *Mediterranean Quarterly*. Fall 2013, pp. 82-91.

“US-Turkish relations are in the best shape they have been in recent memory. While President Barack Obama’s first overseas visit (in 2009) was meant to start a new type of relationship with Turkey, dubbed “the model partnership,” the bilateral relations received their due attention in the wake of two major diplomatic crises in 2010 — the Mavi Marmara incident and Turkey’s “no” vote on sanctions against Iran at the United Nations Security Council. While both of these crises had to do with regional issues of vital importance for both the United States and Turkey, the Arab Spring created a new dynamic, which required critical cooperation between the two countries. US-Turkish relations proved resilient in the face of political crises and turned into a new realignment in the face of regional changes triggered by revolutions throughout the Middle East. Recognizing that no single power can deal with the outcomes of the Arab revolutions on its own, the United States and Turkey understood the importance of overcoming their differences to create a working relationship while negotiating their divergent as well as overlapping interests.” *Kadir Ustun is research director at the SETA Foundation (Foundation for Political, Economic, and Social Research), Washington, DC, and assistant editor of Insight Turkey. Kilic Bugra Kanat is assistant professor of political science at Pennsylvania State University, Erie, and research scholar at the SETA Foundation, Washington, DC.*

### **The Continuing Challenge of Democracy in the Americas**

Farnsworth, Eric. *The Washington Quarterly*. Fall 2013, pp. 55-64.

“U.S. policy toward the Americas is at a crossroads: its regional influence is waning and its strategic thinking has essentially collapsed. Washington continues to give lip-service to a united hemisphere based on democratic values, but the region has moved on, requiring a more varied policy... Several near-term actions would help revive U.S. policy. As a first step, it is critical to restore the attractiveness of the U.S. economy, which has traditionally been a primary engine of regional growth, and the top trade partner for many Latin American and Caribbean nations. A healthy U.S. economy would continue to advance the region’s own development, and access to the world’s largest economy will become an even more important factor driving hemispheric cooperation, particularly as China’s economy slows and Europe’s continues to languish... Second, contending for the Americas requires that the United States work with regional allies to concretely and visibly support nations that play by the democratic rules. Unilateralism has

never really worked effectively in the Americas, but the alternative must not be inaction... The intentional engagement in hemispheric affairs by Vice President Biden is an important signal that the White House is moving toward a more active and collaborative regional agenda, as well as the institutionalization of various bilateral working groups and economic commissions. In recent oversight hearings, Congress, too, has expressed a desire to engage more fully, and has re-invigorated the legislative exchange program with Mexico. *Eric Farnsworth is the Vice President and Washington office head of the Americas Society/Council of the Americas. He served as an advisor on hemispheric issues in the Clinton White House and began his career at the State Department.*

### **Ties that Bind: Strategic Stability in the U.S.–China Relationship**

Fingar, Thomas; Jishe, Fan. *The Washington Quarterly*. Fall 2013, pp. 125-138.

“The strategic relationship between China and the United States has remained remarkably stable for more than four decades despite the end of the Cold War, dramatic changes and five leadership transitions in China, eight changes of administration in the United States, and fundamental transformation of the international system. During that time, the declaratory policies of both countries have remained essentially the same, both with respect to one another and toward international relationships in general. Changes in both countries, most notably those in China, have made us more alike. The process of convergence continues. Neither will ever become just like the other, but similarities, compatibilities, and mutual understanding will continue to increase absent an unexpected shock to the relationship. Trend lines are moving in the direction of greater stability.” *Thomas Fingar is the Oksenberg-Rohlen Distinguished Fellow at Stanford University’s Institute for International Studies and former Chairman of the National Intelligence Council (NIC). Fan Jishe is a Senior Fellow in the Institute of American Studies at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS).*

### **Is American Policy toward Sub-Saharan Africa Increasingly Militarized?**

Campbell, John. *American Foreign Policy Interests*. December 2013, pp. 346-351.

“Since the end of colonialism in Africa a half-century ago, U.S. policy has focused on economic development and the encouragement of transitions to democracy and good governance. The arrival of Islamic violence and terrorism in some regions of Africa after 9/11 has stimulated the steady growth of U.S. military activities in sub-Saharan countries, especially those close to the Arab world. Since 2000, military-to-military relations have expanded significantly to include counterterrorism training, intelligence sharing, and U.S. military units on the ground. The Defense Department established a separate geographic command—AFRICOM—to cover U.S. military activities in all countries on the continent except Egypt. Some observers, in both Africa and the United States, fear that the military dimension may be crowding out the core economic development and democracy building policies.” *John Campbell is the Ralph Bunche Senior Fellow for Africa Policy Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. During his 32-year Foreign Service career, he served in a number of African countries, including South Africa and Nigeria. He was the U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria from 2004 to 2007.*

### **Trends in Modern Piracy: Cycles, Geographical Shifts, and Predicting the Next “Hot Spots”**

Nincic, Donna J. *SAIS Review of International Affairs*. Summer/Fall, 2013, pp. 105-115.

“Future “hot spots” of maritime piracy will depend on two conditions. First, maritime piracy will develop and/or increase in those areas where the foundational conditions are ripe for piracy to occur. In addition to the known increases in maritime pirate attacks in Nigeria and the Strait of Malacca, there are a few regions of the world showing signs of possible increases in piracy as well. By the first quarter of 2013, Vietnam, Bangladesh, India, Columbia and Peru had all shown attack figures equal to—or nearly equal to—their numbers for all of 2012, and there are signs that Haiti may become an area of possible piracy or maritime criminal potential. While there have been no reported maritime crimes in Haiti through the first quarter of 2013, and only one to two attacks per year in recent years, the socio-economic conditions present there point to possible exploitation by maritime criminal elements. Second, future “hot spots” may emerge in those areas where other forms of maritime criminality conflate with maritime piracy—areas such as Nigeria where piracy converges with other forms of illegal activity such as oil theft and drug transit, or in Southeast Asia where areas of human trafficking are showing possible signs of increasing overlap with maritime piracy.” *Dr. Donna J. Nincic is The Cropper Family Distinguished Professor and Director of the ABS School of Maritime Policy and Management at the California Maritime Academy, California State University.*

### **JFK and the Future of Global Leadership**

Sachs, Jeffrey D. *International Affairs*. November 2013, pp. 1379-1387.

“On 10 June 1963 President John F. Kennedy gave a speech that changed the world. His commencement speech at American University helped to spur the signing of a world-changing agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States—the Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. This episode of peacemaking is remarkable for two reasons. First, it arguably helped to save the world, since the nuclear confrontation at that stage of the Cold War was not a ‘stable balance of terror’, as sometimes described, but rather a highly unstable situation that was prone to accidents, misjudgements and potential disasters. Second, this was an episode of statesmanship in which presidential leadership played a crucial role. Following the Cuban Missile Crisis, Kennedy understood that he bore sole responsibility on the US side to find a way back from the brink of nuclear war. He used the ‘peace speech’ to create a novel kind of peace diplomacy, and worked together with his counterpart, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, to pull the superpowers back from this precarious brink.” *Jeffrey D. Sachs serves as the Director of The Earth Institute, Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, and Professor of Health Policy and Management at Columbia University. He is Special Advisor to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the Millennium Development Goals. His most recent book is To Move the World: JFK’s Quest for Peace (Random House, 2013).*

## U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY AND TRENDS

### REPORTS

#### [The Role of Manufacturing Hubs in a 21st Century Innovation Economy](#)

Testimony of Penny Pritzker, U.S. Secretary of Commerce before the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. November 13, 2013 [PDF format, 8 pages]

“I welcome the opportunity to discuss a proposed National Network for Manufacturing Innovation (NNMI), and am supportive of the approach in the bipartisan legislation recently introduced by Senators Sherrod Brown and Roy Blunt on this topic. The NNMI legislative proposal would largely implement recommendations by the first Advanced Manufacturing Partnership (AMP) Steering Committee, a task force of 12 leading company CEOs and six university presidents, with input from 1,700 members of industry and academia. Co-chaired by Dow CEO Andrew Liveris and former Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) President Susan Hockfield, the AMP Steering Committee issued a report to the President in July 2012 entitled *Capturing Domestic Competitive Advantage in Advanced Manufacturing*. Among its findings was the need for a network of manufacturing innovation institutes. These institutes would allow companies to collaboratively invest in precompetitive research to tackle manufacturing challenges they cannot address individually. The institutes would provide companies, including small manufacturers, access to capital equipment and facilities to conduct testing and research in order to accelerate to the market new cutting edge technologies. A new generation of our manufacturing workforce would be trained in an environment similar to a “teaching hospital” for advanced manufacturing, where engineers, researchers, and workers are able to gain new skills and capabilities working on state-of-the-art equipment and new manufacturing challenges.”

#### [Foreign Direct Investment in the United States: An Economic Analysis](#)

Jackson, James K. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. December 11, 2013 [PDF format, 9 pages]

“Foreign direct investment in the United States dropped sharply in 2012 after rebounded slowly in 2010 and 2011 after falling from the \$310 billion recorded in 2008. According to preliminary data, foreign direct investment in the United States in 2013 could fall by 10% below the amount recorded in 2012. In 2012, according to U.S. Department of Commerce data, foreigners invested \$166 billion in U.S. businesses and real estate, down 28% from the \$230 billion invested in 2011. Foreign direct investments are highly sought after by many state and local governments that are struggling to create additional jobs in their localities. While some in Congress encourage such investment to offset the perceived negative economic effects of U.S. firms investing abroad, others are concerned about foreign acquisitions of U.S. firms that are considered essential to U.S. national and economic security. On October 31, 2013, the Obama

administration launched a new initiative, known as Select USA, to attract more foreign direct investment to the United States. According to the Administration, the aim of the program is to make attracting foreign investment as important a component of U.S. foreign policy as promoting exports. As a result, the President reportedly instructed commerce and state department officials to make attracting foreign investment one of their “core priorities.” *James K. Jackson is an Specialist in International Trade and Finance at the CRS.*

### [Financing the U.S. Trade Deficit](#)

Jackson, James K. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. December 23, 2013 [PDF format, 19 pages]

“Some Members of Congress and other observers have grown concerned over the magnitude of the U.S. merchandise trade deficit and the associated increase in U.S. dollar-denominated assets owned by foreigners. International trade recovered from the global financial crisis of 2008-2009 and the subsequent slowdown in global economic activity that reduced global trade flows and, consequently, reduced the size of the U.S. trade deficit. Now, however, U.S. exporters face new challenges with economies in Europe and Asia confronting increased risks of a second phase of slow growth. This report provides an overview of the U.S. balance of payments, an explanation of the broader role of capital flows in the U.S. economy, an explanation of how the country finances its trade deficit or a trade surplus, and the implications for Congress and the country of the large inflows of capital from abroad.” *James K. Jackson Specialist in International Trade and Finance at the CRS.*

### [Trading Up: U.S. Trade and Investment Policy](#)

Council on Foreign Relations. December 2013 [PDF format, 16 pages]

This report analyzes the overall health of the U.S. economy by focusing on shifts in global trade and foreign direct investment in the United States. Provides analysis and infographics assessing policy developments and U.S. performance in such areas as infrastructure, education, international trade, and government deficits... “The United States is among the more open economies in the world, the world’s biggest importer of foreign goods, and the largest overseas investor. But the United States still does not export as much as it should, given the size of its economy and the mix of goods and services it produces. Its share of global exports has fallen more sharply than most other advanced countries over the past decade in the face of competition from emerging markets like China. The United States is in the middle of advanced economies in attracting foreign investment as a percent of gross domestic product (GDP), and has also lost ground in this area over the past decade. And where the United States is most competitive—in services—is also where trade obstacles are now largest. The Obama administration has explicitly tried to tackle some of these shortfalls and challenges, with some success to date. The National Export Initiative (NEI), launched in 2010, for the first time set a target for export growth, calling for doubling U.S. exports from 2009 to the end of 2014. Although that target will likely be missed as export growth has slowed this year, export growth overall has been strong since the launch of the NEI. President Barack Obama has also made attracting foreign investment a bigger priority than it was for previous administrations,

overhauling the Commerce Department’s investment promotion arm with the creation of SelectUSA and engaging business leaders on strategies for increasing investment.”

### **[The Most Entrepreneurial Metropolitan Area?](#)**

Konczal, Jared. Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. November 2013 [PDF format, 35 pages]

“This paper, released at the first-ever [Mayors Conference](#) during Global Entrepreneurship Week 2013, reports on federal government data – available to the public for the first time – on business startups at the metropolitan area level. By decomposing into four population size classes, the report can provide more effective peer-to-peer comparisons of Metropolitan Statistical Areas (i.e., large vs. large, and small vs. small). The paper compares the trends in forty metropolitan areas with higher numbers of startups over the past two decades to the significant national downward trend in overall new firm formation starting after 2006. Nationally, the trend reversed and started to recover in 2011. No metropolitan area escaped this downward trend, but there are differences among regions in the timing of the downturn and subsequent recovery. The paper demonstrates that Metropolitan Statistical Areas of different locations and sizes can have similar measures of startup density. Surprisingly, many of the MSAs that performed well in the evaluation are not commonly thought of as significant locations of startup activity. The largest MSAs – those with populations greater than 1 million – fared slightly better through the recession and have experienced slightly stronger recoveries, though none has returned to pre-downturn levels.” *Jared Konczal is a Senior Analyst at the Kauffman Foundation.*

### **[Metro North America: Cities and Metros as Hubs of Advanced Industries and Integrated Goods Trade](#)**

Metropolitan Policy Program, The Brookings Institution. December 2013. [PDF format, 52 pages]

“This report offers a new perspective on production and trade in North America. It unveils for the first time the metropolitan exchanges that fuel North American trade, especially in advanced industries, and identifies the top trading partners for cities and metro areas so that community leaders can develop more informed and market-driven engagement strategies within the continent. This new information points to two imperatives: First, cities and states/provinces must invest in the assets that maintain and grow their competitive niches within the continental and global economy; and second, national leaders must engage with their subnational, metropolitan counterparts to advance a competitiveness agenda for the continent.”

### **[Training Our Future: Skilled Workers and the Revival of American Manufacturing](#)**

Monsarrat, Alexei. The Atlantic Council. December 6, 2013. [PDF format, 24 pages]

“The United States is at a pivotal moment that will determine its manufacturing competitiveness for decades to come. Once discounted by many economists and policymakers as passé, manufacturing—and especially advanced manufacturing—presents an opportunity to

foster economic growth and create skilled jobs for those countries that can seize it. Since December 2009, advanced manufacturing in the United States added 500,000 employees, including 139,000 in the first four months of 2012 alone... Businesses, in the form of employer-led training efforts, and government, through its myriad programs, are each trying to build the workforce that can support a renaissance in American manufacturing... Developing a new workforce is a monumental task that demands that we rethink our notions about the roles of government and the private sector in training workers. Government programs can no longer serve only the unemployed and disadvantaged; they have to be strategic and focused on competitiveness. Private sector training can no longer be only about individual companies; businesses have to step up and cooperate in radical new ways.” *Alexei Monsarrat is a Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Global Business & Economics Program from The Atlantic Council.*

### [Skilled Immigrants in the Global Economy: Prospects for International Cooperation on Recognition of Foreign Qualifications](#)

Sumption, Madeleine, et.al. Migration Policy Institute [*Note: contains copyrighted material*] December 2013 [PDF format, 30 pages]

“Skilled migration is an important resource for governments seeking to build their country's human-capital base and make the most of global trade and investment opportunities. In many cases, however, migrant professionals face barriers transferring their skills and experiences across borders, with professional regulation one such barrier. Mutual recognition agreements that set out clear rules for licensing practitioners who move between signatory countries represent one solution. But reaching agreement on mutual recognition is no easy feat. Overall, as this report explores, the challenge for policymakers is to determine how governments can get more out of Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRA) than they have done to date.” This report draws on two years of research conducted by the Migration Policy Institute and a series of experts roundtables and studies investigating how governments on both sides of the Atlantic can learn from each other’s experiences to improve the recognition of foreign qualifications and how they can cooperate more effectively to this end. *Madeleine Sumption is a Senior Policy Analyst at the Migration Policy Institute.*

### [Reconnecting Youth through Dropout Reengagement Centers](#)

Institute for Youth, Education & Families, National League of Cities. December 2013 [PDF format, 12 pages]

“Research shows that many out-of-school youth want to return to school, but are uncertain how to do so and are fearful they will not succeed once they get there. Helping these young people find alternative pathways to graduation – and productive and promising futures – is a critical challenge facing municipal leaders today. Fortunately, a growing number of cities are leading the way with innovative strategies that provide multiple routes to graduation for all students. These efforts include the establishment of one-stop “reengagement centers” for high school dropouts.. Municipal governments, as well as their state, federal and school district partners, all have roles to play in providing a supportive policy framework for dropout

reengagement. Several cities have taken the lead in assembling the funding, and staffing needed to launch reengagement efforts. State governments, in their role as the principal locus for education policy, can establish incentives for school districts to participate in reengagement initiatives. Extending federal support to include dropout recovery as well as prevention helps underscore the importance of reengagement strategies in communities nationwide. The National League of Cities (NLC) currently bolsters the growth and development of reengagement centers and reengagement planning efforts in approximately 20 cities across the country through the NLC Dropout Reengagement Network.”

### [Early Education for Dual Language Learners: Promoting School Readiness and Early School Success](#)

Espinosa, Linda M. Migration Policy Institute. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*] November 2013 [PDF format, 33 pages]

“Children of immigrants experience unique cultural, linguistic and parenting contexts that influence their development and kindergarten readiness. Young Dual Language Learners (DLLs) are significantly less likely to attend high-quality early childhood education programs than their peers who speak only English. Yet enrollment in such programs can yield significant benefits for their kindergarten readiness and later achievement... The report profiles the population of young Dual Language Learners (DLLs), who represent nearly one-third of all U.S. children under age 6, outlining their school readiness and patterns of achievement. It evaluates the research on early care and education approaches that have been shown to support higher levels of language and literacy development and achievement for this child population, most but not all of whom are children of immigrants. Assessing the features of high-quality programs that have been shown to improve school readiness among the DLL population, the author finds there are a number of readily implementable practices that can be put into effect.” *Dr. Linda M. Espinosa is currently co-principal investigator for the Center for Early Care and Evaluation Research—Dual Language Learners (CECER-DLL) at Frank Porter Graham CDI at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and Lead Consultant for the Best Practices for Young Dual Language Learners Project at the California State Department of Education, Child Development Division.*

### [Hydraulic Fracturing: Selected Legal Issues](#)

Vann, Adam et al. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. November 15, 2013 [PDF format, 38 pages]

“Hydraulic fracturing is a technique used to recover oil and natural gas from underground low permeability rock formations. Its use along with horizontal drilling has been responsible for an increase in estimated U.S. oil and natural gas reserves. Hydraulic fracturing and related oil and gas production activities have been controversial because of their potential effects on public health and the environment. Several environmental statutes have implications for the regulation of hydraulic fracturing by the federal government and states. This report focuses on selected legal issues related to the use of hydraulic fracturing. It examines some of the requirements for hydraulic fracturing contained in major federal environmental laws. It also

provides an overview of issues involving state preemption of local zoning authority, as well as state tort law." *Adam Vann is a Legislative Attorney at the Congressional Research Service.*

### [Changing Patterns of Global Migration and Remittances](#)

Connor, Phillip, et. al. Pew Research Social & Demographic Trends [*Note: contains copyrighted material*] December 17, 2013 [PDF format, 30 pages]

"Patterns of global migration and remittances have shifted in recent decades, even as both the number of immigrants and the amount of money they send home have grown, according to a new Pew Research Center analysis of data from the United Nations and the World Bank. A rising share of international migrants now lives in today's high-income countries such as the United States and Germany, while a growing share was born in today's middle-income nations such as India and Mexico, the analysis finds... These shifts occurred as the total number of international migrants rose from 154 million in 1990 to 232 million in 2013 – but remained steady as a 3% share of the globe's growing population. During this period, the U.S. remained the largest destination country by far and increased its share of the world's migrants. One-in-five (46 million) migrants now live in the U.S., compared with slightly less than one-in-six (23 million) in 1990." *Phillip Connor is a Research Associate at the Pew Research Social & Demographic Trends.*

## ARTICLES

### [Big Idea 2014: Goodbye Silicon Valley, Hello Silicon Cities](#)

Katz, Bruce. *LinkedIn*. December 10, 2013, var. pages.

"As the United States slowly emerges from the Great Recession, led by our cities and metropolitan areas, a remarkable shift is occurring in the spatial geography of innovation. For the past fifty years, the landscape of innovation has been epitomized by regions like Silicon Valley — suburban corridors of spatially isolated corporate campuses, accessible only by car, with little emphasis on the quality of life or on integrating work, housing and recreation. That model now appears outdated. Innovative companies and talented workers are revaluing the physical assets and attributes of cities. A new spatial geography of innovation is emerging and, in 2014, it will reach a critical mass worthy of recognition and replication. This new model — the Innovation District — clusters leading-edge anchor institutions and cutting-edge innovative firms, connecting them with supporting and spin-off companies, business incubators, mixed-use housing, office, retail and 21st century urban amenities. Innovation Districts are already found in the downtowns and midtowns of Atlanta, Cambridge, Detroit, Philadelphia, San Francisco and St. Louis, where existing clusters of advanced research universities, medical complexes, and tech and creative firms are sparking business expansion as well as residential and commercial growth." *Bruce Katz is Vice President and Director of the Metropolitan Policy Program at the Brookings Institution.*

### [Corporate Entrepreneurs Are at the Heart of Downtown Revitalizations](#)

Greenblatt, Alan. *Governing*. January 2014, var. pages.

According to this article, private-sector actors are reshaping the center of some cities in ways local governments no longer have the ability to do themselves. “Creating opportunities and retaining the local best and brightest has long been the dream of many struggling communities. These days, many cities are getting a lot of help on that front from companies that see great potential in downtowns. In some cases, private-sector actors are reshaping central cities in ways local governments no longer have the ability to do themselves. The examples getting the most attention just now are Las Vegas and Detroit, where Tony Hsieh of Zappos and Dan Gilbert of Quicken Loans, respectively, have invested hundreds of millions of dollars in downtown projects that are not only boosting employment but also reshaping the entire landscape. The reality is that they are creating the urban infrastructure that they want around them—parks, transit, better sidewalks—in ways that builders of one-off projects rarely have to worry about... Other companies are pursuing similar visions, from Amazon building itself a whole new neighborhood in downtown Seattle to Facebook’s blueprints for a \$120 million housing complex for its workers in Menlo Park, Calif.” *Alan Greenblatt is a correspondent for Governing magazine.*

### [San Diego: Linking Up Innovation and Local Manufacturing](#)

Fulton, William. *The Avenue*. December 9, 2013 , var. pages.

“San Diego may have a reputation as a sunny tourist destination, but it’s also a major economic power with a strong and interconnected set of assets. There’s a robust biotech sector driven by UC San Diego, high-tech manufacturing anchored by Qualcomm, and shipbuilding and defense industries largely supported by the Navy. At the same time, the Port of San Diego and nearby border crossings with Mexico provide easy access to markets in Latin America and Asia, allowing the metro area to operate as one of the world’s busiest centers of trade. [New research](#) from Brookings’ Metropolitan Policy Program shows how important the integration of R&D, manufacturing, and exports is to San Diego’s economy. Total trade volumes in the region amount to almost \$147 billion per year, placing San Diego 27th in the nation.” *William Fulton is Director of the Planning, Neighborhoods, and Economic Development Department for the City of San Diego .*

### [The Top 10 Legislative Issues to Watch in 2014](#)

Kardish, Chris, et. al. *Governing*. January 2014, var. pages.

"For states throughout the country this year, there’s a common theme: a climate of uncertainty coupled with a sense of genuine opportunity. Amid worries about the federal government’s failure to boost funding for infrastructure, many states are taking steps to produce that funding on their own. Congress seems to have stalled—again—in its efforts to reform the immigration system, but states are enacting bills designed to grant new rights to some of their undocumented residents. And after a period in which higher education programs faced

dramatic cuts, states are putting money back into those programs—some of them more efficiently than in the past. Here are 10 big issues states will look to tackle in 2014, and six smaller ones they'll also address." *Chris Kardish is a staff writer for Governing magazine.*

### [Looking toward 2014](#)

Cook, Charles E. *The Washington Quarterly*. Winter 2013, pp. 153–161.

"President Obama will be entering the 2014 midterm election with his party holding a 55- to 45-seat majority in the U.S. Senate and a 17-seat deficit in the U.S. House of Representatives... What will the 2014 election be about? Most predict minimal change in the House, while six seats will determine whether Democrats retain or lose their Senate majority, but this set of metrics can help better gauge whether 2014 is likely to be a local or a 'wave' election, and who might win... There is still roughly a year before the 2014 midterm elections, plenty of time for major events to change the political landscape and electoral circumstances. Today, the real fight seems to be more over a majority in the Senate than in the House of Representatives, though that could certainly change." *Charles E. Cook, Jr. writes weekly columns for National Journal and CongressDaily AM, published by the National Journal Group. He is a political analyst for NBC News as well as editor and publisher of the Cook Political Report.*

### [Want to See Action on Immigration Reform? Look at States and Cities](#)

Singer, Audrey, et. al. *The Avenue*. December 20, 2013, var. pages.

In the absence of a new federal policy it may seem that not much has changed over the last 12 months, but the first half of 2013 saw [progress](#) on reforming our nation's dysfunctional immigration system with the Senate passing a comprehensive bill and the House moving piecemeal bills out of committee. Throughout 2013, we saw what many consider a "pendulum [swing](#)" as states and municipalities, still waiting to see federal reform, raced to enact policies to attract and retain their immigrants. This article offers some examples of innovative policies that were passed over the last year at the state or local level, like: (1) California's TRUST Act; (2) Extending driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants; (3) In-state tuition to undocumented immigrants; and other formal welcoming initiatives at the local level. *Audrey Singer is a senior fellow of the Metropolitan Policy Program at the Brookings Institution.*

### [Meet 2014's New Mayors](#)

Holeywell, Ryan. *Governing*. January 2014, var. pages.

In November, voters elected an unusually high number of new big-city mayors. In this article you'll find a brief biographical profile of some of these new mayors. The cities are: Boston, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Detroit, Minneapolis, New York, Pittsburgh, Seattle. *Ryan Holeywell is a staff writer for Governing magazine.*

### **Bridge to Somewhere: Helping U.S. Companies Tap the Global Infrastructure Market**

Fernández, José W. *Foreign Affairs*. November/December 2013, pp. 111-123.

“International development has moved beyond charity. International development has reached a new, globally competitive stage, bringing with it enormous strategic and economic implications for the US in the years ahead. By operating abroad, US companies not only contribute to Americans' material well-being; they also represent the US and promote its image overseas. Helping other countries grow by building their roads, ports, and airports boosts US leadership and, in turn, the American brand. But US companies are not taking sufficient advantage of the opportunities offered by the new market for infrastructure. Without significant increases in private-industry initiative and government support, US firms risk falling further behind their foreign competitors, or simply being left out of this boom altogether. For the long-term benefit of the American economy and the US's strategic position, both the public and the private sector in the US must recognize the opportunities at hand.” *José W. Fernández practices law in New York. He was appointed Assistant Secretary of State for Economic, Energy, and Business Affairs in 2009 and served until 2013. The views expressed here are his own and do not represent those of any U.S. government agency.*

### **America's Social Democratic Future: The Arc of Policy Is Long But Bends Toward Justice**

Kenworthy, Lane. *Foreign Affairs*. January/February 2013, pp. 86-100.

“Since March 2010, when U.S. President Barack Obama signed the Affordable Care Act (ACA) into law, the ACA has been at the center of American politics. The controversy surrounding the ACA shows no sign of ending anytime soon. Obamacare, as the law is commonly known, is the most significant reform of the US health-care system in half a century. It has become the central battleground in an ongoing war between liberals and conservatives over the size and scope of the US government, a fight whose origins stretch back to the Great Depression and the New Deal. The opponents are fighting a losing battle and can only slow down and distort the final outcome rather than stop it. Thanks to a combination of popular demand, technocratic supply, and gradually increasing national wealth, social democracy is the future of the US. The US has come a long way on the road to becoming a good society, but it still has further to travel.” *Lane Kenworthy is Professor of Sociology and Political Science at the University of Arizona. This essay is adapted from his most recent book. Social Democratic America (Oxford University Press, 2014).*

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