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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

REPORTS

Country Reports on Terrorism 2009

Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of State. August 2010

[HTML format with links]

<http://www.state.gov/s/ct/rls/crt/2009/index.htm>

"This publication, which fulfills a Congressional requirement, aims to enhance our collective understanding of the international terrorist threat. The report also serves as a reference tool to inform policymakers, the general public, and our foreign partners about our efforts, progress, and challenges in the campaign against international terrorism. The first chapter provides a strategic overview of the terrorist threat to the United States and U.S. interests abroad, as well as a description of the setbacks and advancements of al-Qa'ida and its affiliated groups. The report also includes country-by-country discussions of foreign government counterterrorism cooperation as well as chapters on WMD terrorism, state sponsors of terrorism, terrorist safe havens, and designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations. Transnational terrorism remains the foremost security threat the United States faces, and the Obama administration has been working to strengthen the nation's counterterrorism strategy. An effective counterterrorism policy must go beyond the law enforcement, intelligence, and military efforts that thwart those who seek to harm the United States and its citizens. Under the President's leadership, the administration is formulating policies that seek to shape and constrain the environments where terrorists operate. In every country where extremism has taken root, three questions guide our approach: Are our actions going to result in the creation of more terrorists? What can we do to shrink the potential pool of recruits? And what is necessary to minimize the near term as well as the long term threat to the United States?"

Cybersecurity Progress after President Obama's Address

National Security Council, The White House. July 14, 2010.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/nsc/cybersecurity/progressreports/>

[july2010](#)

In his address in May 2009, President Obama announced his intention to make cybersecurity a priority for his Administration with a "new comprehensive approach to securing America's digital infrastructure." In the 14 months following that address and the release of the President's Cyberspace Policy Review (CPR), the Administration has taken concrete steps to achieve that goal, making cyberspace more secure. The Cyberspace Policy Review included a number of near-term action items which built upon the Comprehensive National Cybersecurity Initiative (CNCI). The following is a progress report related to those action items and high-priority CNCI initiatives, and additional achievements of the past 14 months.

THE GLOBAL HEALTH REGIME

Council on Foreign Relations. August 11, 2010 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [HTML format, various paging]

http://www.cfr.org/publication/22763/global_health_regime.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fbackgrounder

This is part of the Global Governance Monitor, an interactive feature tracking multilateral approaches to several global challenges. "The expansive and evolving nature of global health challenges exert constant pressure on national governments charged with safeguarding citizens' health and on the international institutions engaged in controlling the cross-border spread of disease and curbing dangers from non-communicable diseases. Public health actors are generally motivated by a mix of development, humanitarian, economic, and security interests. Public attention to global health has grown at an unprecedented pace over the past half century. A surge in both funding and staffing has helped successfully eradicate smallpox, decrease AIDS mortality, and raise average global life expectancy from forty to sixty-five years. The shift has rightly been called a *public health revolution*."

Palestinian-Israeli Direct Talks: The Case for a Regional Approach

Muasher, Marwan. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. August 2010 [PDF format, 8 pages]

http://carnegieendowment.org/files/Palestinian-Israeli_Direct_Talks.pdf

"Even with little chance of a breakthrough, U.S. negotiators worked hard to get Palestinians and Israelis to restart direct peace talks. But with a similar amount of effort they could take a different approach that is far more promising. The essential question to ask at this point is whether direct talks between the two parties will lead to a permanent agreement. The Obama administration's approach appears to sidestep some stark facts that will likely undermine these negotiations. The first is that the administration is obsessed by process rather than substance and risks falling into the trap of incrementalism—the premise that the two sides are capable of reaching an agreement by tackling the issues incrementally through a negotiation process not bound by a timeframe. The history of Palestinian-Israeli peacemaking has shown that incrementalism à la Oslo—notwithstanding the achievements of the Oslo process, including the clear outline of a final agreement achieved through years of negotiations—has exhausted its

possibilities. Today, eleven years beyond the deadline set by the Oslo process for agreement on final status, the conflict remains unresolved." *Marwan Muasher is vice president for studies at the Carnegie Endowment, where he oversees the Endowment's research in Washington and Beirut on the Middle East.*

THE ARAB STATE: ASSISTING OR OBSTRUCTING DEVELOPMENT?

Salem, Paul. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Web posted July 27, 2010 [PDF format, 36 pages]

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/arab_state_devt.pdf

"Good governance is key to improving peoples' lives; but the Arab world falls short on many governance indicators. Most Arab states remain highly authoritarian, although there is a growing dynamism in civil society and among opposition parties, both secular and Islamist. Problems in governance have impeded development in the Arab world and limited the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. There are strong historical causes for the current state of governance in the Arab world. Nevertheless, progress has been made in limited but significant ways. This should be reinforced by strengthening civil society, reinforcing electoral progress, supporting parliaments and the judiciary, enhancing local government, improving governance performance, and empowering women. The international community should play an important role in this process. Although full democracy in the Arab world is a distant goal, broader participation in the political process, with a marked effect on human development, can be achieved." *Paul Salem is the director of the Carnegie Middle East Center.*

Levantine Reset: Toward a More Viable U.S. Strategy for Lebanon

Saab, Bilal Y. The Brookings Institution. July 2010 [PDF format, 45 pages]

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2010/07_lebanon_saab/07_lebanon_saab.pdf

"The United States should adopt a new approach toward Lebanon if it wishes to secure its interests in that country and in the broader Middle East. The core of a new, effective U.S. strategy toward Lebanon should entail a clear understanding by Washington of what is at stake and what it will take to achieve success. There are three main reasons why Washington should pay closer attention to Lebanon and help it address its problems while nurturing its assets: One, Lebanon's independence and sovereignty uphold U.S. geopolitical interests in the Middle East by denying U.S. adversaries—Iran and Syria—the ability to exploit Lebanon to improve their strategic positions in the region at the expense of the United States and its allies. Two, an internally secure and strong Lebanon that is capable of fixing or defusing its own problems boosts U.S. security interests in the Middle East and those of its ally, Israel. Three, the United States has a strategic interest in supporting democratic countries and in strengthening democratic institutions around the world. The fact that Lebanon is a democracy (even if imperfect) with liberal impulses that plays an important cultural-intellectual role in the region, but is surrounded by neighbors who are outright hostile to it should be an American concern." Bilal Y. Saab, a former Research Analyst and Internship Coordinator at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at Brookings, is a contracted consultant at Centra Technology Inc.

The Islamist Response to Repression: Are Mainstream Islamist Groups Radicalizing?

Hamid, Shadi. The Brookings Institution. August 2010. [PDF format, 14 pages]

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2010/0809_islamist_groups_hamid/0809_islamist_groups_hamid.pdf

"This policy briefing analyzes how nonviolent Islamist groups in the Arab world are responding to a new, sometimes unprecedented, set of challenges. How have these emerging concerns affected their strategy and tactics? And, as mainstream Islamists are boxed in by government restrictions, will other more radical groups try to fill the vacuum? The course that political Islam takes in the coming years will have far-reaching implications for U.S. policy and regional security, yet it remains unclear whether the Obama administration is willing, or able, to influence events as they unfold. The briefing focuses on the critical cases of Egypt and Jordan, among America's closest Arab allies as well as two of the world's largest recipients of U.S. aid. With much-anticipated elections in both countries scheduled for 2010 and 2011, the Obama administration as well as the U.S. Congress have the opportunity to weigh in and address the question of Islamist participation, something they have so far avoided doing. This briefing also considers the strategic priorities of Arab governments, which, understandably, fear losing power during a difficult time of regional change" *Shadi Hamid is the Director of Research, Brookings Doha Center Fellow, Saban Center for Middle East Policy.*

Security and the Environment in Pakistan

Vaughn, Bruce, et. al. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. August 3, 2010 pp.21

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/146411.pdf>

"This report explores the nexus between the environment and security in Pakistan in order to assess how environmental stress in Pakistan can lead to security issues that affect American security and foreign policy interests in the region. The report examines the potentially destabilizing effect that, when combined with Pakistan's demographic trends and limited economic development, water scarcity, limited arable land, and food security may have on an already radicalized internal and destabilized international political security environment. The report considers the especially important hypothesis that the combination of these factors could contribute to Pakistan's decline as a fully functioning state, creating new, or expanding existing, largely ungoverned areas... Existing environmental stress and potential future stress from climate change in Pakistan may undermine American interests in the region by leading to further socio-political instability in Pakistan. Alone, environmental stress might not become a geopolitical concern, but when added to existing political and socio-economic stresses, it has the potential to be geopolitically important due to the instability that it could create. Congress could be interested in this connection because of its role in authorizing and appropriating funds for Pakistan." *Bruce Vaughn is an Specialist in Asian Affairs at the CRS.*

Counterinsurgency in Pakistan

Seth G. Jones, C. Christine Fair. Rand Corporation. June 2010

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2010/RAND_MG982.pdf

“Pakistan has undertaken a number of operations against militant groups since 2001. There have been some successes, but such groups as al Qa'ida continue to present a significant threat to Pakistan, the United States, and other countries. Pakistan needs to establish a population-centric counterinsurgency that better protects the local population and addresses grievances. It also needs to abandon militancy as a tool of foreign and domestic policy. This document examines counterinsurgency efforts in Pakistan and asks several questions: What are the roots of the militant challenge in Pakistan? What have Pakistan’s primary operations against militants been? How effective have these operations been in achieving their goals? And what are the policy implications?... A key objective of U.S. policy must be to alter Pakistan’s strategic calculus and end its support to militant groups. Pakistan is unlikely to abandon militancy as a tool of foreign policy without a serious effort to alter its cost-benefit calculus. This requires the United States to clarify what its goals are, develop an international consensus on most (if not all) of these goals, and issue a clear demand to Pakistan regarding these objectives.” *Seth Jones is a political scientist at the RAND Corporation and an adjunct professor in the Security Studies Program at Georgetown University. C. Christine Fair is an assistant professor in the Center for Peace and Security Studies (CPASS) at Georgetown University’s Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service. She is also a senior fellow with the Counter Terrorism Center at West Point.*

The Political Battle in Iraq

Pollack, Kenneth M. The Brookings Institution. Foreign Policy Trip Reports #15 June 30, 2010

http://www.brookings.edu/reports/2010/0630_iraq_trip_pollack.aspx

“In late June 2010, the author traveled to Iraq for a bit less than one week with another well-known Middle East expert. The trip was organized and partially-funded by the U.S. military command in Iraq—now known as United States Forces-Iraq (USF-I). The 2010 Iraqi elections have the potential to be the most important that the country has ever had and will ever have. Neither the people nor the politicians face the overwhelming pressures of civil war any longer. The political system is not mature, but neither is it newborn. The people have made clear that they want change, and they expected these elections to produce that change. Consequently, the precedents set in this election will endure for a long time to come. Moreover, Iraq’s political system remains fairly fluid, but it could harden very quickly—and especially if the wrong principles prevail in its wake. For all of these reasons, it seems likely that this election will define the Iraqi political system for decades to come.” Kenneth M. Pollack is Director of the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution.

U.S. Policy Toward the Korean Peninsula

Council on Foreign Relations [Independent Task Force Report #64] June 2010 [PDF format, 96 pages]

http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/Korean_PeninsulaTFR64.pdf

This Task Force report comprehensively reviews the situation on the peninsula as well as the options for U.S. policy. It provides a valuable ranking of U.S. interests, and calls for a firm commitment from the Obama administration to seek denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, backed by a combination of sanctions, incentives, and sustained political pressure, in addition to increased efforts to contain proliferation. As tensions on the

Korean peninsula rise after an international investigation found that North Korea was responsible for the sinking of a South Korean warship, this task force report makes several specific recommendations, including calling for the establishment of a dialogue with China about the future of the Korean peninsula, bilateral talks with North Korea regarding missile development, and close consultations with allies South Korea and Japan. The Task Force also recommends that the United States seek ways to integrate North Korea into the international community, including through cultural and academic exchanges. "The Obama administration should change long-standing U.S. policies blocking North Korea's participation in activities of international financial institutions," notes the report. "This bipartisan Task Force, chaired by former special envoy for negotiations with North Korea Charles L. "Jack" Pritchard and former commander of UN Command/U.S. Forces Korea John H. Tilelli Jr., and directed by CFR Adjunct Senior Fellow Scott A. Snyder, is comprised of roughly two dozen distinguished experts representing a wide variety of backgrounds. The report commends the U.S.-South Korean partnership and applauds the close alliance coordination following the ship incident. The Task Force urges the passage of the South Korea-U.S. Free Trade Agreement, which it says is good for America and would send a strong message of support for South Korea."

Beyond Population: Everyone Counts in Development

Joel E. Cohen. Center for Global Development [Working Paper #220] July 26, 2010 [PDF format, 42 pages] http://www.cgdev.org/files/1424318_file_Cohen_BeyondPopulation_FINAL.pdf

"This paper reviews important demographic trends expected to occur between 2010 and 2050, indicates some of their implications for economic and global development, and suggests some possible policies to respond these trends and implications. The century from 1950 to 2050 will have witnessed the highest global population growth rate ever, the largest voluntary fall in the global population growth rate ever, and the most enormous demographic shift ever between the more developed and less developed regions. In the coming half century, according to most demographers, the world's population will grow older, larger (albeit more slowly), and more urban than in the 20th century, but with much variance within and across regions. Concrete policy options to respond to demographic trends include providing universal primary and secondary education, eliminating unmet needs for contraception and reproductive health, and implementing demographically sensitive urban planning, particularly construction for greater energy efficiency and for an aging population." *Joel E. Cohen is Abby Rockefeller Mauzé Professor of Populations at the Rockefeller University.*

CONFLICT PREVENTION: PRINCIPLES, POLICIES AND PRACTICE

Williams, Abiodun, et. al. U.S. Institute of Peace. August 19, 2010 [PDF format, 5 pages] <http://www.usip.org/files/resources/pb47.pdf>

On July 1, 2010, the U.S. Institute of Peace organized an all-day conference entitled "Preventing Violent Conflict: Principles, Policies, and Practice." The goals of this conference were to spotlight the importance of conflict prevention, to foster productive discussions between leading scholars and distinguished practitioners, and to identify priority areas for future work on conflict prevention by the Institute and the field at large. This brief provides an overview of that day's discussions." Conflict prevention is widely

endorsed in principle—including in the 2010 U.S. National Security Strategy— but too rarely put into serious practice. It is thus important to narrow the gap between rhetoric and action in preventing violent conflicts. The interest of elites in exploiting ethnic differences for political gains, the absence of well-established mechanisms for prevention in certain regions, and the destabilizing role of external meddling continue to impede the development of effective prevention strategies. As a crucial actor in conflict prevention, the United States should work with others to forge a consistent approach to countries at risk, urge countries to deal with arbitrary borders through negotiation rather than violence, and support greater cooperation between regional organizations."

PIPELINE POLITICS OF ASIA: THE INTERSECTION OF DEMAND, ENERGY MARKETS, AND SUPPLY ROUTES

Herberg, Mikkal E. et al. The National Bureau of Asian Research. September 2010.

The paper presents key findings from the 2010 Energy Security Conference and explores the strategic, market, and geopolitical ties that have emerged from the rise in pipeline development in Asia. The report includes essays commissioned for the conference focusing on the key pipeline routes in this growing nexus of energy and political ties (Northeast Asia, Central Asia, India, and the China-Myanmar pipelines) as well as an overview of oil and gas pipeline geopolitics and analysis of the implications for the United States. *Mikkal E. Herberg is a senior lecturer in the Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies, University of California, San Diego, and a Research Director on Asian energy security at the National Bureau of Asian Research.*

U.S. Global Climate Change Policy: Evolving Views on Cost, Competitiveness, and Comprehensiveness

Parker, Larry, et.al. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. June 25, 2010. Pp,18

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/145166.pdf>

The nature of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (particularly carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions) makes their control difficult to integrate with the U.S economy and traditional U.S. energy policy. Despite the obvious interrelationship between energy policy and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, the United States has struggled to integrate the two. For a country that has traditionally used its relatively cheap supply of energy to substitute for more expensive labor and capital costs to compete internationally, this linkage is particularly strong, as witnessed by the nation's high GHG emissions per capita. In the face of this economic reality, along with continuing scientific uncertainty, debate over a greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction program can be categorized by three inter-related Cs: **C**ost, **C**ompetitiveness, and **C**omprehensiveness. Cost, as a sound-bite, commonly refers to some monetary estimate of what a GHG reduction program would require, typically expressed as a gross dollar amount or as a percentage reduction in gross domestic product for some period of time. Competitiveness, at the simplest level, most typically reflects concerns about what firms would be disadvantaged by cost increases as a result of GHG reduction requirements. Comprehensiveness, in the debating arena, relates to the disconnect between individual national responses and a problem that is global in nature—particularly as an individual country's action or inaction affects international competitiveness and growth in GHG emissions. *Larry Parker is an*

Specialist in Energy and Environmental Policy at the CRS.

Energy Security: An Agenda for Research

Levi, Michael A. Council on Foreign Relations. June 2010. Pp.26

http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/Energy_Security_Workshop_Paper.pdf

“What is energy security? On April 12–13, the Council on Foreign Relations convened academics, policymakers, and industry experts to assess the security implications of the way the world produces and consumes oil and natural gas. The workshop aimed to explore important issues at the intersection of oil, gas, and national security, and identify areas for future research. The first day focused on assessing the state of knowledge on energy and security, while the second explored U.S. policy options going forward. This summary report presents a broad agenda for energy security research that emerged from the meeting.”

Michael A. Levi is David M. Rubenstein senior fellow for energy and the environment and director of the program on energy security and climate change at the Council on Foreign Relations.

Ending Our Dependence on Oil

Bettinger, Mark; Finel, Bernard, et.al. American Security Project; The Sierra Club. May 27, 2010 pp.15

<http://www.americansecurityproject.org/content/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/Ending-our-Dependence-on-Oil.pdf>

“We can reduce our dependence on oil and address our national security and climate change concerns with a series of smart and interconnected policy options that will gradually transition the country to a post-oil economy. These actions include: (1) Tightening fuel economy and emissions standards for all vehicles; (2) Promoting the development and deployment of electric vehicles of all types; (3) Investing in rail for freight and also passengers; (4) Creating livable communities where transit, walking and biking are real, oil-free choices; (5) Exploring fuel choices such as advanced biofuels, hydrogen fuel cells and natural gas as alternatives to oil. Our national security is affected by oil consumption on a number of fronts. First, many countries which supply the United States with petroleum are politically unstable, leaving the American people particularly vulnerable to shocks in oil supply resulting from domestic or regional conflicts. Second, and related, is the strategic challenge presented by our dependence. Our reliance on countries whose actions do not best align with our interests impedes our leverage in the international arena. And third, there are risks to oil infrastructure, including the shipment of petroleum via waterways and the pipelines and facilities which funnel it around the globe.” *Mark Bettinger is Director of Sierra Club’s Federal and International Climate Campaign. Dr. Bernard Finel is Director of Research and Senior Fellow at the American Security Project.*

Cyber Security: An Integrated Governmental Strategy for Progress

Kramer, Franklin D. The Atlantic Council. August 12, 2010 pp.13

http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/403/Cyber%20Security-%20An%20Integrated%20Governmental%20Strategy%20for%20Progress.pdf

Cyber security has emerged as a critical challenge in an era defined by global interconnectedness and digital information. While there are multiple ongoing efforts that seek to enhance cyber security, an integrated governmental strategy to meet that challenge has only begun and has yet fully to take shape. All strategies demand recognition of risk and prioritization of resources, and cyber strategy will be no different. An effective approach to creating a risk-adjusted, prioritized cyber strategy for the U.S. government would be to focus on key national security problems, provide solutions for those problems and then use that learning to help create security in the broader cyber arenas. Such a strategy would have the additional benefit of establishing an effective allocation between those efforts where government is significantly engaged in providing cyber security and the much broader area of market-generated cyber security where the private sector can provide reasonable security.” *Franklin D. Kramer is Vice Chairman of the Atlantic Council Board of Directors. He served as Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs during the Clinton Administration.*

Defining Internet Freedom

Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. August 2010.
http://www.america.gov/defining_internet_freedom.html

"The first part of this journal addresses the difficulty agreeing on a universally applicable definition of Internet freedom. Nations impose many different kinds of restrictions. Some represent the efforts of authoritarian regimes to repress their opponents, but others instead reflect diverse political traditions and cultural norms. Other materials survey the current state of 'net freedom in different parts of the world. Freedom House, a leading nongovernmental organization, has studied government efforts to control, regulate, and censor different forms of electronic social communication. Its findings are explained here. We also explore a number of issues that help define the contours of Internet freedom. The term "intermediary liability" may not pique one's interest, but it assumes new relevance phrased as whether YouTube is liable for an offensive video posted by a third party. From dancing babies to public libraries, the issues that will delimit global citizens' access to information are being contested every day.

ARTICLES

Staying Power: The U.S. Mission in Afghanistan Beyond 2011

O'Hanlon, Michael. *Foreign Affairs*. September/October 2010.

http://www.brookings.edu/articles/2010/0825_afghanistan_ohanlon.aspx

"Today, the war in Afghanistan is a controversial conflict: fewer than half of Americans support the ongoing effort, even as roughly 100,000 U.S. troops are in harm's way. Troops from more than 40 countries still make up the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), but fewer than ten of those countries take substantial risks with their forces in the turbulent south and east of the country. Over the years, the U.S. mission has lost much of its clarity of purpose. Although voters and policymakers in the United States and elsewhere remain dedicated to denying al Qaeda safe haven in Afghanistan, they have begun debating whether a Taliban takeover would necessarily mean al Qaeda's return; whether al Qaeda really still seeks an Afghan sanctuary, as it did a decade ago; and whether U.S. forces could contain any future al Qaeda presence through the kinds of drone strikes now commonly employed in Pakistan. The most pressing question is whether the current strategy can work -- in particular, whether a NATO-led

military presence of nearly 150,000 troops is consistent with Afghan mores and whether the government of President Hamid Karzai is up to the challenge of governing and keeping order in such a diverse, fractious land." *Michael O' Hanlon*

is a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution and a co-author of Brookings' Afghanistan Index, at www.brookings.edu/afghanistanindex.

The Point of No Return

Jeffrey Goldberg. The Atlantic. September 2010.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2010/09/the-point-of-no-return/8186>

"For the Obama administration, the prospect of a nuclearized Iran is dismal to contemplate—it would create major new national-security challenges and crush the president's dream of ending nuclear proliferation. But the view from Jerusalem is still more dire: a nuclearized Iran represents, among other things, a threat to Israel's very existence. In the gap between Washington's and Jerusalem's views of Iran lies the question: who, if anyone, will stop Iran before it goes nuclear, and how? As Washington and Jerusalem study each other intensely, here's an inside look at the strategic calculations on both sides—and at how, if things remain on the current course, an Israeli air strike will unfold." *Jeffrey Goldberg is a national correspondent for The Atlantic.*

Can Obama Please Both Arabs and Israelis?

http://www.brookings.edu/articles/2010/0827_israel_palestine_negotiations_telhami.aspx

U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY AND TRENDS

REPORTS

THE RECOVERY ACT: TRANSFORMING THE AMERICAN ECONOMY THROUGH INNOVATION

Vice President of the United States. August 2010 [PDF format, 50 pages]

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/uploads/Recovery_Act_Innovation.pdf

"With over \$787 billion in funding, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is one of the single boldest and largest investments in the U.S. economy in the nation's history. The Recovery Act's design was three-fold: to rescue a rapidly deteriorating economy; put the country on a path to recovery by putting Americans back to work quickly; and reinvest in the country's long-term economic future, building a foundation for a new, more robust, and competitive American economy.

The Recovery Act's \$100 billion investment in innovation is not only transforming the economy and creating new jobs, but helping accelerate significant advances in science and technology that cut costs for consumers, save lives and help keep America competitive in the 21st century economy. This report explores four areas within those

innovative programs in which game-changing breakthroughs are being sought, and in some cases, new American industries are being born: (1) Modernizing transportation, including advanced vehicle technology and high-speed rail; (2) Jumpstarting the renewable energy sector through wind and solar energy; (3) Building a platform for private sector innovation through investments in broadband, Smart Grid, and health information technology; and (4) Investing in groundbreaking medical research."

WHERE THE JOBS ARE: A FIRST LOOK AT PRIVATE INDUSTRY JOB GROWTH AND WAGES IN 2010

National Employment Law Project. August 27, 2010 [PDF format, 16 pages]

http://nelp.3cdn.net/83908daa61a1d4d108_r5m6bgy4a.pdf

"The data brief, using a unique synthesis of Bureau of Labor Statistics data, tracks private industry employment and wages from December 2007, the start of the recession, through July 2010, the most recent month of data available. This analysis is a first look based on seven months of job growth data, and trends may shift in the months ahead. But the findings presented here raise an early warning of the possibility of unequal growth that could prove as challenging to hopes for a broadly shared recovery as our current high unemployment rates...The analyses presented in this data brief are sobering, on a number of fronts. They reiterate the continuing crisis of weak job growth, one that is stalling economic recovery in communities across the country. But by combining data on employment with data on wages at the industry level, we have documented a second trend that could be equally challenging to hopes for a broadly shared recovery: the disproportionate growth in mid- and especially lower-wage industries on the one hand, and the weak growth and even continued losses in higher-wage industries on the other. The question going forward is whether the trends we have seen so far in 2010 will continue – how much of this unbalanced growth is permanent? Developing a definitive answer won't be possible for some time, but several observations about the industries examined in this data brief suggest that closely tracking job quality as well as job growth in the coming months and years is paramount."

Role of Immigrants in the U.S. Labor Market: An Update

Congressional Budget Office, Congress of the United States. July 2010. Pp.28

http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/116xx/doc11691/07-23-Immigrants_in_Labor_Force.pdf

"This document updates the Congressional Budget Office's (CBO's) November 2005 paper *The Role of Immigrants in the U.S. Labor Market*. That earlier report included data through 2004; this update, the first of several on various aspects of immigration, incorporates data through 2009. It focuses on the growing number of foreign-born workers, the countries from which they have come, their educational attainment, the types of jobs they hold, and their earnings. In keeping with CBO's mandate to provide objective, nonpartisan analysis, this report makes no recommendations. People born in other countries represent a substantial and growing segment of the U.S. labor force—that is, people with a job or looking for one. In 2009, 24 million members of the labor force—

more than one in seven—were foreign born, up from 21 million in 2004. In 2009, 40 percent of the foreign-born labor force was from Mexico and Central America, and more than 25 percent was from Asia. To a considerable extent, educational attainment determines the role of foreign-born workers in the labor market. In 2009, 70 percent of workers born in Mexico and Central America were employed in occupations that have minimal educational requirements, such as construction laborer and dishwasher; only 23 percent of native-born workers held such jobs."

NEW EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS FROM THE 2008 BUSINESS R&D AND INNOVATION SURVEY

Moris, Francisco; Kannankutty, Nimala. National Science Foundation. July 2010 [PDF format, 6 pages]

<http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/infbrief/nsf10326/nsf10326.pdf>

"Companies located in the United States that performed or funded research and development domestically or overseas employed an estimated 27.1 million workers worldwide in 2008. R&D employees, employees who perform or directly support R&D activities, accounted for 1.9 million, or 7.1%, of this worldwide employment. The domestic employment of these companies totaled 18.5 million workers, including 1.5 million domestic R&D employees. Thus, domestic R&D employment accounted for 7.9% of companies' total domestic employment and for 77% of their worldwide R&D employment. In 2008 companies reported \$346 billion of company-performed R&D worldwide; 82% of this activity was performed in the United States."

The Importance of Research and Development (R&D) for U.S. Competitiveness and a Clean Energy Future

Michael Greenstone testimony before the U.S. Congress Joint Economic Committee, July 27, 2010 pp.11

http://jec.senate.gov/public//index.cfm?a=Files.Serve&File_id=2923464e-7129-4c95-875e-e031e314fffd

In testimony before the Joint Economic Committee, Michael Greenstone, 3M Professor of Economics at the MIT and Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, discussed the need for expanded energy R&D investments to help combat U.S. reliance on fossil fuels and promote the country's future competitiveness in the global economy. "I believe that the solution lies in undertaking a new program of energy R&D that is narrowly focused on funding research that the private sector will not undertake. Further, such a new R&D program must have higher levels of investment than we have seen in recent years."

WOMEN AND THE ECONOMY 2010: 25 YEARS OF PROGRESS BUT CHALLENGES REMAIN

U.S. Congress Joint Economic Committee. August 2010 [PDF format, 14 pages]

http://jec.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?a=Files.Serve&File_id=f9f3a9b8-2f54-4e83-9029-477a3fc73cd5

"This report, which includes annual data from 1984 through 2009, provides a

comprehensive overview of women's economic progress over the last twenty-five years and highlights the additional work left to be done. The role of women in the American economy is of indisputable importance. The future of the American economy depends on women's work, both inside and outside the home. Despite a quarter-century of progress, however, challenges remain. While the pay gap has narrowed over the last 25 years, the average full-time working woman earns only 80 cents for every dollar earned by the average full-time working man. Certain industries remain heavily gender-segregated. In addition, millions of women are struggling to juggle work outside the home with family care-giving responsibilities."

HEALTH CARE SPENDING: 1998, 2003, AND 2008

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. August 2010.

http://www.bls.gov/opub/focus/volume1_number8/cex_1_8.htm

"How have rising health care costs affected household budgets? That question was raised many times before the passage of the Affordable Care Act, whose goal—as the act's name implies—is to make health care more affordable for American families. This analysis of Consumer Expenditure Survey (CE) data from the 1998, 2003, and 2008 Interview Surveys provides a picture of nominal out-of-pocket health care spending among households categorized by the age of the reference person. The expenses analyzed were total health care and its components: health insurance, medical services, prescription drugs, and medical supplies."

STATE FACT SHEETS: UNITED STATES

Economic Research Service. U.S. Department of Agriculture. July 1, 2010 [HTML format, various paging]

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/StateFacts/US.htm>

State fact sheets provide information on population, income, education, employment, federal funds, organic agriculture, farm characteristics, farm financial indicators, top commodities, and exports, for each State in the United States. Links to county-level data are included when available.

State of the States 2010: How the Recession Might Change States

The Pew Center on the States, February 2010. Pp.35

http://archive.stateline.org/images/2010_Feb-SOTS/006_10_RI%20State%20of%20the%20States_web.pdf

"Around the country, the worst economic downturn since the 1930s forced states to consider new ways of thinking about what could be a slimming down of government lasting several years. Once states get past the immediate crisis of plugging record-high budget gaps, they will confront the likelihood that the recession will impose permanent changes in the size of government and in how states deliver services, who pays for them and which ones take priority in an era of competing interests. In this report, the Pew Center on the States takes a nonpartisan, analytical look at forces already at work with the potential to reshape state government in lasting ways. Addressing "How the recession might

change states," the publication raises intriguing questions that have yet to play out. Among them: Will budget constraints lead to permanent downsizing of government and lasting changes in how states deliver services and who pays for them?; Do some states have such dire budget problems that it is time to re-examine how states split the tab with the federal government for expensive joint responsibilities, such as health care?; Will incumbents in the 2010 elections—when 37 governors' offices and legislative seats in 46 states are on the ballot—pay a price at the polls for their tough choices to balance state budgets?; What are the states to watch that could be leading indicators of trends in both politics and critical policy areas?."

STATE TAX REVENUES ARE SLOWLY REBOUNDING

Lucy Dadayan and Donald Boyd. The Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government. August 30, 2010 [Note: contains copyrighted material][PDF format, 7 pages].

http://www.rockinst.org/pdf/government_finance/state_revenue_report/2010-08-30-State_Revenue_Flash.pdf

State tax revenues across the country are starting to rebound, with April-June of this year bringing a second consecutive quarter of growth, according to a new report from the Rockefeller Institute of Government. Gains in collections were widespread during the second quarter, with 30 states showing increases in revenues compared to a year earlier, based on preliminary data the Rockefeller Institute obtained from state officials.

SURVEYING FOR DOLLARS: THE ROLE OF THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY IN THE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL FUNDS

Brookings Institution. Andrew D. Reamer. July 26, 2010 [PDF format, 19 pages]

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2010/0726_acs_reamer/0726_acs_reamer.pdf

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a Census Bureau program that provides annually updated information on demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics of U.S. households at every level of geography, from the nation to the neighborhood. The report's analysis of the distribution of federal funds on the basis of ACS-related data has significant implications for federal, state, and local stakeholders. The nation receives a very substantial return on its investment in ACS-related datasets. Advocates for communities and lower-income households now have a dollar-specific rationale for encouraging households to participate in the ACS. State governments have much to gain financially from a more accurate and reliable ACS.

U.S. UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRATION FLOWS ARE DOWN SHARPLY SINCE MID-DECADE

Passel, Jeffrey S.; Cohn, D'Vera. Pew Hispanic Center. September 1, 2010 [PDF format, 37 pages]

<http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/126.pdf>

The annual inflow of unauthorized immigrants to the United States was nearly two-thirds smaller in the March 2007 to March 2009 period than it had been from March 2000 to March 2005, according to the

new estimates. This sharp decline has contributed to an overall reduction of 8% in the number of unauthorized immigrants currently living in the U.S.-to 11.1 million in March 2009 from a peak of 12 million in March 2007, according to the estimates. The decrease represents the first significant reversal in the growth of this population over the past two decades. "The Pew Hispanic Center's analysis also finds that the most marked decline in the population of unauthorized immigrants has been among those who come from Latin American countries other than Mexico. From 2007 to 2009, the size of this group from the Caribbean, Central America and South America decreased 22%. By contrast, the Mexican unauthorized population (which accounts for about 60% of all unauthorized immigrants) peaked in 2007 at 7 million and has since leveled off. The number of unauthorized immigrants from the rest of the world did not change." *Jeffrey S Passel is the senior demographer and D'Vera Cohn the senior writer at the Pew Hispanic Center.*

YOUNG CHILDREN OF IMMIGRANTS: THE LEADING EDGE OF AMERICA'S FUTURE

Fortuny, Karina, et al. Urban Institute. August 31, 2010 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 14 pages]

<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412203-young-children.pdf>

This brief highlights the life circumstances of young children age 0 to 8 growing up in immigrant families. "Children of immigrants have nearly doubled as a share of pre-K to 3rd grade students since 1990. The share of children under age 8 with immigrant parents stood at 24 percent in 2008, up from 13 percent in 1990. Young children of immigrants account for more than 30 percent of children in seven states, with California leading the nation at 50 percent. The majority (93 percent) of children of immigrants are U.S. citizens. This fact sheet also includes state-by-state data on the number of children of immigrants and the number of children whose parents come from more than 130 countries."

UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANTS AND THEIR U.S.-BORN CHILDREN

Passel, Jeffrey S. Pew Hispanic Center. August 11, 2010 [Note: contains copyrighted material][PDF format, 11 pages]

<http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/125.pdf>

An estimated 340,000 of the 4.3 million babies born in the United States in 2008 were the offspring of unauthorized immigrants, according to the analysis. It finds that nearly four-in-five (79%) of the 5.1 million children (younger than age 18) of unauthorized immigrants were born in the U.S. and therefore are U.S. citizens. In total, 4 million U.S.-born children of unauthorized immigrant parents resided in this country in 2009, alongside 1.1 million foreign-born children of unauthorized immigrant parents. This report analyzes the family structure and parenting status of unauthorized immigrants. *Jeffrey Passel is the Senior Demographer of the Pew Hispanic Center.*

EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND CHILDREN OF IMMIGRANTS: LEARNING EACH OTHER'S LANGUAGE

Matthews, Hannah; Ewen, Danielle. Urban Institute. August 31, 2010 [PDF format, 22 pages]

<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412205-early-education.pdf>

Children from immigrant families are the fastest growing group of children in the United States. High-quality child care and early education opportunities will be critical to these children's success in school and in life. Yet, the early experiences of children in immigrant families are as diverse and varied as immigrant families themselves. While many immigrant families face numerous barriers to accessing high-quality child care and early education for their young children, these barriers are not insurmountable. The paper discusses state and local solutions to improving access for immigrant families and specific strategies and collaborations among providers, policymakers, and immigrant-serving organizations.

TOUGH, FAIR, AND PRACTICAL: A HUMAN RIGHTS FRAMEWORK FOR IMMIGRATION REFORM IN THE UNITED STATES

Human Rights Watch. July 8, 2010. Pp.25

<http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/usimmigration0710webwcover.pdf>

This report proposes a framework for improving US immigration law that would give immigrant crime victims a chance to seek justice, protect workers, respect the private and family life of longtime residents, and provide fair treatment for immigrants who come before the courts. In this report, Human Rights Watch addresses the human rights standards that should underpin any immigration reform legislation and makes recommendations to improve US immigration law. "While there is no recognized human right to migrate to another country and obtain legal status, the United States has human rights obligations that provide a strong basis for establishing an earned legalization process for the 12 million undocumented immigrants currently residing in the United States. Three of these obligations, discussed below, are the need to ensure victims of abuse have remedies, to respect an individual's private life, and to ensure fair treatment in all governmental actions.

Brick by Brick: A Half-Decade of Immigration Enforcement and the Need for Comprehensive Immigration Reform

C. Stewart Verdery. Center for American Progress, June 28, 2010 [PDF format, 35 pages]

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/06/pdf/dhs_enforcement.pdf

"Enforcement was a primary concern in previous immigration reform debates, and it will no doubt be a critical concern in future ones. The very first section of the 2007 bill, for example, set forth specific triggers and stated that the benefit portions of the bill could not become effective until the secretary of homeland security certified that several immigration enforcement measures had been established, funded, and were operational. A lack of confidence in the federal government's capacity and commitment to enforce the immigration laws helped doom the 2007 reform effort. But given the centrality of effective enforcement to the integrity of our immigration system, it is worth evaluating the Department of Homeland Security's progress toward the 2007 bill's benchmarks in preparation for the next comprehensive immigration debate. This paper demonstrates how much more robust immigration enforcement has become over the last five years, with particular emphasis on the 2007 Senate bill's benchmarks. It concludes that DHS has made great strides in meeting these benchmarks, in addition to undertaking other programs largely aimed at securing international travel but with important impacts on broader immigration enforcement as well. Yet the fact remains that an estimated 11

million unlawful immigrants continue to reside in the United States. Additional budget increases for immigration enforcement programs will not significant." *C. Stewart Verdery, Jr. is Founder and Partner of the Monument Policy Group, Former DHS Assistant Secretary for Border and Transportation Security Policy.*

THE FISCAL BURDEN OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION ON UNITED STATES TAXPAYERS

Federation for American Immigration Reform. Jack Martin and Eric A Ruark. July 2010.

[PDF format, 104 pages]

http://www.fairus.org/site/DocServer/USCostStudy_2010.pdf?docID=4921

"The report estimates the annual costs of illegal immigration at the federal, state and local level to be about \$113 billion; nearly \$29 billion at the federal level and \$84.2 billion at the state and local level. It also notes that today's debate over what to do about illegal aliens places the country at a crossroads. One choice is pursuing a strategy that discourages future illegal migration and increasingly diminishes the current illegal alien population through denial of job opportunities and deportations. The other choice would repeat the unfortunate decision made in 1986 to adopt an amnesty that invited continued illegal migration."

THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF REDUCING THE DROPOUT RATE AMONG STUDENTS OF COLOR IN THE NATION'S LARGEST METROPOLITAN AREAS

Alliance for Excellent Education. July 7, 2010 [Note: contains copyrighted material]

[HTML format with links]

http://www.all4ed.org/publication_material/EconMSAsoc

"Years of data have consistently underscored the persistent graduation gap between America's students of color and their peers. The most recent estimate shows that high school graduation rates for African American, Latino, and American Indian students hover only slightly higher than 50 percent. This is more than 20 percentage points lower than that of their white peers. In addition to the moral imperative to provide every student with an equal opportunity to pursue the American dream, there is also a strong economic argument for helping more students of color graduate from high school. Lowering the dropout rate brings a range of benefits to a community, many of which most people do not realize. Graduating more students from high school can have a profound impact on increased earnings potential, home and auto sales, and other important economic indicators for communities and states."

HELP WANTED: PROJECTIONS OF JOBS AND EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS THROUGH 2018

Anthony P. Carevale et al. Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce. June 2010 [PDF format, 122 pages]

<http://www9.georgetown.edu/grad/gppi/hpi/cew/pdfs/FullReport.pdf>

The study forecasts that by 2018, 63 percent of all jobs will require at least some postsecondary education. Employers will need 22 million new workers with postsecondary

degrees – and the report shows that we will fall short by three million workers without a dramatic change in course. This translates into a deficit of 300,000 college graduates every year between now and 2018.

MEETING THE ENERGY CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE: A GUIDE FOR POLICYMAKERS

National Conference of State Legislatures. July 25, 2010 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 50 pages]

<http://www.ncsl.org/documents/energy/FutureEnergyChallenges0710.pdf>

The guide provides an overview of the challenges facing states as they attempt to meet the electricity demands of the 21st century. It investigates regional diversity, fuel sources, and the economic and environmental effects of energy choices. It also explores the long-term supply outlook, options for meeting growing energy demand, the challenges of building and updating the electricity transmission and distribution system, and options for improving efficiency. "Energy issues are paramount in the United States, dominating the news in most cities and states and at the federal level. Whether it is a discussion about rising electricity prices, increasing efficiency or the growth in certain energy sectors, the issues are at the front of many policy discussions nationwide. Recognizing this increased interest in energy policy and that many good policy ideas are conceived in state legislatures, the NCSL Executive Committee formed the Task Force on Energy Supply in 2009 to look at current energy challenges and create a report. One of the results of their efforts is this document, which provides a background on the current energy situation as it related to electricity production distribution and principles states can use as they work to meet the pressing energy demands of the future."

PUBLIC REMAINS CONFLICTED OVER ISLAM: NYC MOSQUE OPPOSED, MUSLIMS' RIGHT TO BUILD MOSQUES FAVORED

Pew Research Center for the People & the Press; The Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life. August 24, 2010. [PDF format, 10 pages]

<http://people-press.org/reports/pdf/647.pdf>

According to this new poll, conducted Aug. 19-22 among 1,003 adults, the public continues to express conflicted views of Islam. "Favorable opinions of Islam have declined since 2005, but there has been virtually no change over the past year in the proportion of Americans saying that Islam is more likely than other religions to encourage violence. As was the case a year ago, slightly more people say the Islamic religion does not encourage violence more than other religions (42%) than say that it does (35%). Amid controversy over the proposed construction of an Islamic cultural center and mosque near the former site of the World Trade Center, more Americans agree with those who object to the building of the center than with the supporters of the project (51% to 34%). At the same time, 62% say that Muslims should have the same rights as other religious groups to build houses of worship in their local communities."

ARTICLES

With 2012 in Mind, Parties Focus on Governorships

Monica Davey. New York Times. August 9, 2010.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/10/us/politics/10govs.html>

'For all the talk of midterm elections and control of Congress, the political parties are obsessing this year more than ever over the nation's 37 races for governor.

There is ample cause for so much attention. At stake is far more than local policy making in a few state capitals. The new crop of governors will play a major role in deciding which party benefits from the pivotal redrawing next year of Congressional and state legislative districts, a once-in-a-decade occurrence. Across a swath of states here, near the Great Lakes, especially, Republican leaders sense a rare opportunity to seize key governorships that have been dominated recently by Democrats. The results in the Midwest will also help to define crucial party organizing efforts leading up to the 2012 presidential campaign in some of the most coveted, up-for-grab states — like Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. A governor, the thinking goes, can open fund-raising doors, get-out-the-vote operations and volunteer lists for his or her party's presidential candidate."