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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

REPORTS

National Security Strategy

The White House. May 2010 [PDF format, 60 pages]

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/rss_viewer/national_security_strategy.pdf

"At the dawn of the 21st century, the United States of America faces a broad and complex array of challenges to our national security. Just as America helped to determine the course of the 20th century, we must now build the sources of American strength and influence, and shape an international order capable of overcoming the challenges of the 21st century. To succeed, we must face the world as it is. The two decades since the end of the Cold War have been marked by both the promise and perils of change. The circle of peaceful democracies has expanded; the specter of nuclear war has lifted; major powers are at peace; the global economy has grown; commerce has stitched the fate of nations together; and more individuals can determine their own destiny. Yet these advances have been accompanied by persistent problems. Wars over ideology have given way to wars over religious, ethnic, and tribal identity; nuclear dangers have proliferated; inequality and economic instability have intensified; damage to our environment, food insecurity, and dangers to public health are increasingly shared; and the same tools that empower individuals to build enable them to destroy."

2010 Trafficking in Persons Report

U.S. Department of State. June 14, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2010/>

"The 2010 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report marks the 10th anniversary of key milestones in the fight against modern slavery. In 2000, the United States enacted the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA), and the United Nations adopted the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, also known as the Palermo Protocol. Since then, the world has made great strides in combating this ultimate exploitation – both in terms of what we know about this crime and how we respond. The Palermo Protocol focused the attention of the global community

on combating human trafficking. For the first time, an international instrument called for the criminalization of all acts of trafficking – including forced labor, slavery, and slavery like practices – and that governmental response should incorporate the “3P” paradigm: prevention, criminal prosecution, and victim protection. The annual *Trafficking in Persons Report* serves as the primary diplomatic tool through which the U.S. Government encourages partnership and increased determination in the fight against forced labor, sexual exploitation, and modern-day slavery. This year’s report highlights several key trends, including the suffering of women and children in involuntary domestic servitude, the challenges and successes in identifying and protecting victims, and the need to include anti-trafficking policies in our response to natural disasters, as was evident in the aftermath of this year’s earthquake in Haiti... For the first time, this year’s TIP Report includes a U.S. ranking as well as a full, candid narrative on U.S. efforts to combat human trafficking. The ranking reflects the contributions of government agencies, public input, and independent research by the Department of State. The United States recognizes that, like other countries, it has a serious problem with human trafficking for both labor and commercial sexual exploitation.”

MAKING POLICY IN THE SHADOW OF THE FUTURE

Treverton, Gregory. RAND Corporation. June 4, 2010 [PDF format, 55 pages]

http://www.rand.org/pubs/occasional_papers/2010/RAND_OP298.pdf

"The National Intelligence Council's (NIC's) 2008 report *Global Trends 2025: A Transformed World* projects what the world will look like in 2025 based on recent trends. However, as an intelligence organization, the NIC limits its report to describing the impacts of future trends on the United States — it cannot explore the important question: How should U.S. policy adapt now to account for these trends and the future that will result from them? This paper takes on that task. It focuses on important issues for which a long-term perspective leads to *different* immediate choices for U.S. policy than would result from only a short-term perspective. These include energy and climate change; defense policy, including the diffusion of nuclear weapons and the movement to abolish them; the reshaping of international law and institutions; the structure of the federal government; and the U.S. relationship with Mexico. For some other issues, long- and short-term thinking produce similar conclusions; yet for still others, the two perspectives seem difficult to reconcile." *Greg Treverton, a senior policy analyst at the RAND Corporation, is director of the RAND Center for Global Risk and Security.*

NEW PLAYERS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Menon, Rajan; Wimbush, S. Enders. German Marshall Fund of the U.S. June 2, 2010 [PDF format, 38 pages]

http://www.gmfus.org//doc/GMF_WimbushMenonPaper0528.pdf

"The number of new states seeking some combination of economic, energy, and security gains in the Mediterranean is increasing. Some have historical ties with the Mediterranean region and the Maghreb and are trying to build or rebuild economic and security ties. Others probably see the Mediterranean region through both short- and longer-term filters that reveal more immediate economic interests but that eventually

converge with a larger strategic plan. Still others see purely economic benefits, and a few see purely security benefits. The emerging strategic landscape in the Mediterranean is being constantly shaped by the entry of new players-China, India, Brazil-with strategies that reflect their special economic and security concerns and the re-entry of some old ones-e.g., Russia-with strategies that remind us of pre-Cold War objectives. The landscape is changing rapidly, the dynamics of the individual actors and of their possible combinations are fluid, and the trajectories of their strategies are far from clear. It is of course impossible to know everyone's motivation, but it is possible to identify a number of emerging issues and patterns of behavior with some confidence." *Rajan Menon is Monroe J. Rathbone Professor of International Relations at Lehigh University, Pennsylvania and, starting in September, will hold the Anne and Bernard Spitzer Chair in Political Science at the City College of New York/City University of New York. S. Enders Winbush is Senior Vice President of International Programs and Policy at the Hudson Institute, Washington, D.C.*

The New Levant: Understanding Turkey's Shifting Roles in the Eastern Mediterranean

Werz, Michael. Center for American Progress. April 26, 2010 [PDF format, 20 pages]
http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/04/pdf/turkey_levant.pdf

"The current dynamic in Turkish foreign policy is due to a shift in domestic political power within Turkey to central and eastern regions of the country, which once were considered part of the Levant. Indeed, new geopolitical spaces are coming to life across the new Levant that render foreign policy prescriptions of the Cold War era useless. In the 21st century political diplomacy in this region will be by necessity much more improvisational. Turkey finds itself at the center of this newly developing political constellation in the eastern Mediterranean even as Turkish society grapples with the new roles their nation should or should not play in this new geopolitical dynamic. What's clear for the United States and Turkey is this—the old parameters of foreign policy in both Washington and Ankara that continue to paint the world in simplistic categories and reductionist analyses akin to the two-dimensional Cold War chessboard of the past century are as outdated as the binary lines of that Cold War-driven "us versus them" mentality. This paper explore these trends within Turkey and across its borders throughout the eastern Mediterranean. Understanding how Turkey is changing itself and its region is critical to U.S. foreign policy. Knowing how to respond is even more important. This paper begins to build a map to achieve both goals." *Michael Werz is a Senior Fellow at the Center American Progress. He is also adjunct professor at Georgetown University's BMW Center for German and European Studies.*

A Two-State Solution Requires Palestinian Politics

Dunne, Michele. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace [Carnegie Paper #113]
 June 2010 [PDF format, 24 pages]
http://carnegieendowment.org/files/palestine_politics.pdf

"The Israeli raid on the flotilla of humanitarian aid headed for Gaza dealt a blow to chances for a breakthrough in the peace process. As the U.S. administration struggles to keep indirect talks alive, the author prescribes a different approach. For Dunne it is clear that a two-state solution requires reconciliation between Palestinian factions and

reunification of the West Bank and Gaza. Dunne recommends that the United States should support Palestinian institution building and be open to political competition, including elections. According to the author, the United States should move beyond the short-term thinking—that inconvenient Palestinian politics can and should be delayed because a negotiating breakthrough is just around the corner—that has afflicted its policies for decades. This does not mean that the United States should engage Hamas directly, which would have the unfortunate effect of validating the group's violent and rejectionist tactics. Instead, the United States should develop a strategy that patiently supports Palestinian institution building and tolerates the internal Palestinian political competition and bargaining that must accompany it; seeks breakthroughs in negotiations with Israel; and holds the Palestinian Authority to a commitment to prevent violence against Israel. It is tempting to consider it impossible to negotiate a two-state solution to the Israeli–Palestinian conflict. The United States faces many obstacles in facilitating any such agreement: inter alia, a lack of confidence on the Israeli and Palestinian sides; ongoing Israeli settlement construction; and the rift between Palestinian secular nationalists and Islamists. Moving forward with a new approach requires untangling the various problems as well as considering how previous U.S. policies have contributed to them and how the United States can help the parties extricate themselves." *Michele Dunne is a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and editor of the online journal, the Arab Reform Bulletin.*

Could Al-Qaeda Turn African in the Sahel?

Filiu, Jean Pierre. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace [Carnegie Paper #112] June 2010 [PDF format, 16 pages]

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

"Recent terrorist activity across the Sahel raises the question of whether that region is a new theater for al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) and a land of opportunity for al-Qaeda central. Might the terror group transcend the Arab world, as it did in Afghanistan, and influence African Muslims? The sparsely populated and loosely patrolled borders of the Sahara are fertile ground for jihadi movements to grow unchecked. It is therefore feared that the Sahel could become an al-Qaeda safe haven and, more ominously, a launch pad for attacks throughout Africa, home to roughly equal numbers of Christians and Muslims. But, no matter how troubling the scene in the Sahel is now, those long-term projections seem groundless so far. Terrorist networks linked to al-Qaeda operate in Mauritania, Mali, and Niger, but their roots are shallow; AQIM itself is weakened by deep internal rivalries. It is highly unlikely that al-Qaeda's future in the Sahel will mirror its past in Afghanistan, mainly because a strong ethnic divide persists inside jihadi networks... However, the ethno-racial divide within al-Qaeda has kept African recruits out of leadership roles. AQIM cannot prove its commitment to "Africanized" jihad without Africanizing at least some of its leadership. Also, AQIM has partnered throughout the Sahel with criminals, not local salafi movements, limiting its appeal and preventing it from becoming a revolutionary challenger. Algeria is right to push for regional cooperation to address the threat, and discreet aid from the West is crucial to help the Sahel countries regain control of their territory from al-Qaeda forces and prevent the terror group from taking hold in Africa." *Jean-Pierre Filiu is a professor at the Paris*

Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po, Middle East department) and the author of Apocalypse in Islam (forthcoming, University of California Press).

BUILDING SECURITY IN THE PERSIAN GULF

Hunter, Robert. RAND Corporation. June 2, 2010 [PDF format, 203 pages]

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2010/RAND_MG944.pdf

"Following the war in Iraq, the United States, along with its allies and friends, faces the need to define a new, long-term strategy for the Persian Gulf region. The United States' continued, indeed permanent, engagement in the region has already been determined by its interests, but many elements must be considered and questions answered. To answer these questions, the author analyzes the future of Iraq, the role of Iran, asymmetric threats (including terrorism), regional reassurance, the Arab-Israeli conflict, regional tensions, and the roles of other external actors. The work recommends criteria, parameters, potential models and partners, arms control and confidence-building measures, and specific steps in diplomacy and military commitments for a new security structure for the Persian Gulf region that can meet U.S. interests at a reduced cost and gain the support of the American people. This work has two primary goals. The first is to determine and develop means for increasing the chance of achieving long-term security within the Persian Gulf and environs (as far west as the Levant and as far east as Iran and, in some regards, Afghanistan and Pakistan). The second, within the context of fully securing U.S. interests and those of its allies and partners, is to reduce the long-term burdens imposed on the United States in terms of (1) military engagement and the financial cost of providing security; (2) risk, including to U.S. forces; and (3) opportunity costs, especially in relation to East and South Asia, the Russian Federation, and management of the global economy." *Robert Hunter is a Senior Advisor for the Rand Corporation. He was U.S. Ambassador to NATO under President Clinton and Director of West European Affairs and later Director of Middle East Affairs on the National Security Council during the Carter administration.*

U.S. Alliances in East Asia: Internal Challenges and External Threats

Breer, William. The Brookings Institution [Brookings Northeast Asia Commentary #39] May 2010.

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/05_east_asia_breer.aspx

"May 20 marks the 60th anniversary of the ratification of the U.S.-Japan alliance by Japan's House of Representatives. While the alliance is a bilateral arrangement, it has had a significant impact on Asia as a whole and is regarded by other nations as a key part of the regional security structure. The following is a brief survey of the treaty's role in the maintenance of peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific. It also demonstrates that the tensions currently confronting the U.S.-Japan alliance are not unique, but in fact have been faced by various bilateral alliances in the region; some have been resolved successfully and some have not. Most experts believe that the series of alliances the United States created after World War II was one of the most astute and far-sighted acts of diplomacy in history. The alliance with Japan laid the foundation for reconciliation between two enemy nations and the groundwork for the reconstruction of a nation whose industrial power, infrastructure, and

morale lay in shambles but which rose to become the world's second largest economy. The alliance played a key role in the Cold War by allowing the United States to cover the USSR's eastern flank and demonstrating to China and North Korea that we would defend our interests and those of our allies in East Asia." *William Breer is a Senior Adviser at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.*

Pakistan: Can the United States Secure an Insecure State?

Fair, C. Christine, et.al. Rand Corporation. May 2010 [PDF format, 260 pages]

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2010/RAND_MG910.pdf

This book is intended to help policymakers and analysts understand the security challenges inherent in and emanating from Pakistan as of this writing (August 2009). The authors exposit likely developments in Pakistan's internal and external security environments within the next ten years; assess Pakistan's national will and capacity to solve its problems, especially those relating to security; describe U.S. interests in Pakistan; and suggest policies for the U.S. government to pursue to secure these interests. This book seeks to inform U.S. efforts to achieve an effective foreign policy strategy toward the country. Drawing on interviews of elites, polling data, and statistical data on Pakistan's armed forces, the book presents a political and political-military analysis. Primary data and analyses from Pakistanis and international economic organizations are used in the book's demographic and economic analyses. The book assesses Pakistan's own policies, based on similar sources, on government documents, and on the authors' close reading of the assessments of several outside observers. The book also discusses U.S. policy regarding Pakistan, which was based on interviews with U.S. policymakers and on U.S. policy documents. The policy recommendations are based on an assessment of the findings in all these areas. *C. Christine Fair is an assistant professor in the Center for Peace and Security Studies (CPASS), Georgetown University's Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service.*

IS A REGIONAL STRATEGY VIABLE IN AFGHANISTAN?

Tellis, Ashley J., et. al. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. May 6, 2010 [PDF format, 138 pages]

http://carnegieendowment.org/files/afghan_regional_approach.pdf

"President Obama made decisive changes to U.S. policy in Afghanistan—increasing forces on the ground, modifying the original goals, and placing a greater emphasis on the need for a regional approach. Leading experts analyze the interests of Afghanistan's neighbors, what they mean in practice, and what it could mean for U.S. policy. Seven Carnegie experts address the following questions in his or her own area of expertise: What are the country's real and perceived interests in Afghanistan, and what are its aims regarding coalition political-military activities in Afghanistan?; What policies does that country (or in the case of Central Asia, group of countries) follow to advance these interests?; What is the impact of these policies on achieving stability in Afghanistan?; How do this country's interests and policies intersect with those of others? Who are the relevant "others" for the country in question?." *Ashley J. Tellis is a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, specializing in international security, defense, and Asian strategic issues.*

Fact sheet: United States-Mexico Security Partnership: Progress and Impact

U.S. Department of State. May 19, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2010/05/142019.htm>

"The Mérida Initiative is an unprecedented partnership between the United States and Mexico to fight organized crime and associated violence while furthering respect for human rights and the rule of law. Based on principles of shared responsibility, mutual trust, and respect for sovereign independence, our efforts have built confidence that is transforming our bilateral relationship. The U.S. and Mexican governments have built on the foundations of the Mérida Initiative to establish four strategic areas to guide our cooperation and institutionalize our partnership: Disrupt Organized Criminal Groups; Strengthen Institutions; Create a 21st Century Border; and Build Strong and Resilient Communities in Both Countries."

What's Next for Latin America After the Global Crisis?

Cárdenas, Mauricio. The Brookings Institution. May 2010 [PDF format, 5 pages]

<http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/>

[articles/2010/05_latin_america_economy_cardenas/05_latin_america_economy_cardenas.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/articles/2010/05_latin_america_economy_cardenas/05_latin_america_economy_cardenas.pdf)

The author discusses the challenges that have impacted Latin America's development and the type of investment opportunities that lie ahead. "Latin America has undergone radical political, economic and social changes during the last two decades. The region is no longer the stereotype of populism and economic mismanagement. As the world's center of gravity moves east and south, and as emerging economies and their multinationals take the lead, global corporations cannot overlook Latin America. But it would also be a mistake to argue that the region has entered a smooth path toward development. Many problems remain, including social tensions, imperfect political systems and structural constraints on economic growth. In addition, Latin America is perhaps the only region of the world where an ideological race is alive. Alternative development models are still competing in a way that is somewhat reminiscent of the Cold War, including its corollary of an arms race. While some countries are committed to market orthodoxy and responsible social policies, others proclaim a new form of socialism. In this latter group, anti-market policies and populism have become effective political strategies, especially when combined with swelling revenues from commodity exports." *Mauricio Cárdenas is the director of the Latin America Initiative and Senior Fellow of Global Economy and Development at the Foreign Policy Program of the Brookings Institution.*

Strengthening the Nuclear Nonproliferation Regime

Lettow, Paul. Council on Foreign Relations [Council Special Report #54] April 2010 [PDF format, 61 pages]

http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/Nonproliferation_CSR54.pdf

"In this Council Special Report, The author examines the shortcomings of the nonproliferation regime and proposes a comprehensive agenda to shore it up. He first explores the challenges facing current arrangements, chief among them the spread of enrichment and reprocessing technologies needed to produce fissile material. Lettow then

makes a variety of recommendations. First, he calls for tighter sanctions on Iran with the goal of dissuading it from continuing its nuclear advances and discouraging others from following Tehran's path. To combat the spread of enrichment and reprocessing, the report urges the United States to lead nuclear suppliers in developing a system that would allow the sale of relevant equipment and technology only to countries that meet demanding criteria. As regards a potential multilateral nuclear fuel bank, the report argues for limiting participation to states that have a strong nonproliferation record and agree not to make their own nuclear fuel. Lettow further recommends a larger budget, more authority, and various policy changes for the International Atomic Energy Agency so that it can better detect dangerous violations of nonproliferation agreements." *Paul Lettow is an adjunct senior fellow for national security studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. He is a former senior adviser to the undersecretary of state for democracy and global affairs from 2006 to 2007.*

CAPACITY FOR CHANGE: REFORMING U.S. ASSISTANCE EFFORTS IN POOR AND FRAGILE COUNTRIES

Unger, Noam, et al. The Brookings Institute; Center for Strategic and International Studies. April 2010 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 79 pages] http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/reports/2010/04_aid_unger/04_aid_unger.pdf

"The U.S. government is in the midst of a serious review of how to engage more effectively with developing countries. A significant part of this reflection entails debates about how best to reform foreign aid, and there is a stunningly broad consensus that improvement is needed across the board. New legislation has recently been introduced in the U.S. Congress. The White House, the State Department, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and other federal agencies are fully involved in this issue through Presidential Study Directive–7 on U.S. global development policy (PSD 7) and the first-ever Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review (QDDR). Developing effective strategies and strengthening the civilian capacity of the U.S. government to better assist poor and fragile countries is a critical national security challenge. This is true for stabilization in high-priority conflict zones, emergency response situations, and development efforts in general. The United States, like other donors, is making substantial commitments in poor and fragile countries and not achieving the desired results. Daunting global challenges—like climate change, pandemics, and food insecurity—are having a particularly large impact on poor and fragile countries, increasing their vulnerability with potentially destabilizing effects. Yet no broad strategy has been developed for assisting developing countries that will enable the United States, together with its allies, to address these and other complex problems. This lack of a strategy has resulted in largely ad hoc responses to significant challenges, and, not surprisingly, this nonstrategic approach has led to a lack of capabilities to effectively direct and implement assistance. This report seeks to give policymakers and stakeholders an analytical perspective on the current opportunity to fundamentally improve the U.S. foreign assistance system." *Noam Unger is a Fellow with the Global Economy and Development program at the Brookings Institution and policy director of Brookings' Foreign Assistance Reform project.*

The Russia Factor in Transatlantic Relations and New Opportunities for U.S.-EU-Russia Cooperation

Huterer, Manfred. The Brookings Institution [Working Paper #4] June, 2010 [PDF format, 37 pages]

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2010/06_us_eu_russia_huterer/06_us_eu_russia_huterer.pdf

"This paper attempts to explore the opportunities for increased cooperation between the United States, the European Union and Russia in the Euro-Atlantic area. It focuses on priority topics, where interaction between the United States, the European Union and Russia is critical: European security including arms control; the joint EU-Russia neighborhood, including Central Asia; and energy security. True, the quality of the relationship between the United States and the EU with Russia will also be determined by many other issues outside the Euro-Atlantic area such as cooperation on Iran, Afghanistan, the Middle East, North Korea, global governance and climate change." *Manfred Huterer was a visiting fellow at the Center on the United States and Europe from the Brookings Institution.*

EU CIVILIAN CRISIS MANAGEMENT: THE RECORD SO FAR

Chivvis, Christopher. RAND Corporation. April 19, 2010 [PDF format, 70 pages]

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2010/RAND_MG945.pdf

"Since 2000, the European Union has been developing civilian capabilities for use in civilian missions, including post conflict and other environments. The EU has deployed civilian experts in a variety of capacities to Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kosovo, as well as other countries in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. As the United States assesses and develops its own civilian capabilities, it will be important to understand what the EU is capable of doing in this area. This report looks at the record of EU civilian operations so far, drawing conclusions both for the United States and Europe. The report offers a general overview and assessment of the EU's civilian operations to date, as well as a more in-depth look at the two missions in which the EU has worked alongside NATO: the EU police-training mission in Afghanistan and the integrated rule of law mission in Kosovo. This report offers a preliminary look at what the EU has done in the civilian field, with an eye to improving the planning and coordination of U.S.-EU efforts, within NATO and beyond." *Christopher Chivvis is a political scientist at the RAND Corporation.*

U.S. INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE GLOBAL INTERNET FREEDOM: ISSUES, POLICY, AND TECHNOLOGY

Figliola, Patricia Moloney, et. al. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. April 5, 2010 [PDF format, 26 pages]

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41120.pdf>

"The openness and the freedom of expression allowed through blogs, social networks, video sharing sites, and other tools of today's communications technology has proven to be an unprecedented and often disruptive force in some closed societies. In a political and human rights context, in closed societies when the more established, formal news

media is denied access to or does not report on specified news events, the Internet has become an alternative source of media, and sometimes a means to organize politically. Governments that seek to maintain their authority and control the ideas and information their citizens receive are often caught in a dilemma: they feel that they need access to the Internet to participate in commerce in the global market and for economic growth and technological development, but fear that allowing open access to the Internet potentially weakens their control over their citizens. Legislation now under consideration in the 111th Congress would mandate that U.S. companies selling Internet technologies and services to repressive countries take actions to combat censorship and protect personally identifiable information. The report is divided into several sections: Examination of repressive policies in China and Iran; Relevant U.S. laws; U.S. policies to promote Internet freedom; Private sector initiatives, and Congressional action." *Patricia Moloney Figliola, Coordinator and Specialist in Internet and Telecommunications Policy at the CRS.*

BACKGROUND - THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE REGIME

Council on Foreign Relations. April 20, 2010 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [HTML format, various paging]

http://www.cfr.org/publication/21831/global_climate_change_regime.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fbackgrounder

"The report gives a broad-sweeping look at international efforts to combat climate change. This is part of the Global Governance Monitor, an interactive feature tracking multilateral approaches to several global challenges. "The multi-faceted threats posed by climate change demand policies that address both mitigation and adaptation. Operationally, this will require a variety of flexible partnerships among national, bilateral, and multilateral actors, and a combination of short-term and long-term strategies."

LOST IN TRANSLATION: CLOSING THE GAP BETWEEN CLIMATE SCIENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY

Rogers, Will; Gullledge, Jay. Center for a New American Security. April 25, 2010 [PDF format, 58 pages]

http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/Lost%20in%20Translation_Code406_Web_0.pdf

"Many national security leaders now recognize that global climate change is a national security challenge, perhaps even a defining security challenge of the 21st century. Climate change could dramatically reshape the future security environment by driving migration, undermining community development and weakening state governance. America's political leaders are just beginning to grapple with the implications of climate change for U.S. policy, including how the nation can best reduce or mitigate future greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for or adapt to climate changes that unfold in the United States and abroad. Despite this recognition, national security leaders do not yet have the scientific information they need to make the best possible policy decisions about climate change – policy decisions that will entail large financial commitments to address a range of potential national security risks. Though there has been a significant

improvement in the scope and quality of scientific information available in recent years, a gap persists between available scientific information and decision makers' needs. It is unclear, however, to what degree this gap is caused by a true lack of usable information (i.e., data that policy makers can understand and base decisions on) or to what degree it is caused by a lack of communication and understanding between climate change analysts and decision makers. Regardless, closing the gap between the policy makers who need information and the scientists who produce it is essential for the nation to deal effectively with the challenges of global climate change." *Will Rogers is a Research Assistant at the Center for a New American Security. Dr. Jay Gulledge is a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security and is the Senior Scientist and Science and Impacts Program Director at the Pew Center on Global Climate Change.*

ARTICLES

Obama's Foreign Policy

Nau, Henry R. *Policy Review*. April/May 2010.

<http://www.hoover.org/publications/policyreview/89074287.html>

"American foreign policy swings like a pendulum. Under President George W. Bush, U.S. foreign policy promoted a democracy agenda, used force readily to buttress and at times even displace diplomacy, championed free markets, and risked if not relished unilateralism. Under President Barrack Obama, U.S. foreign policy has swung decisively in the opposite direction. Now, U.S. security interests matter more than democracy, force is a last resort, substantial regulations are needed to end the booms and busts of global capitalism, and multilateralism is the sine qua non of U.S. diplomacy. In his first year Obama addressed every conceivable foreign policy crisis on the globe. He reset relations with Russia; visited China; agonized over Afghanistan, Iraq, North Korea, and Iran; reached out to the Muslim world; attempted to regain Europe's trust; tried to jumpstart the Middle East peace process; and promoted economic recovery, climate change, and energy independence. He rarely indicated which problem was more important than another and bounced from topic to topic and region to region. In this sense, Obama is clearly pragmatic. He is, as he told a Republican congressional audience in January, no ideologue. But his pragmatism is ideological. He has a coherent worldview that highlights "shared" interests defined by interconnected material problems such as climate, energy, and nonproliferation and deemphasizes "sovereign" interests that separate countries along political and moral lines." *Henry R. Nau is professor of political science and international affairs at the Elliott School of International Affairs, The George Washington University.*

HEALTH DIPLOMACY AND THE ENDURING RELEVANCE OF FOREIGN POLICY INTERESTS

Feldbaum, Harley; Michaud, Joshua. *PLoS Medicine*. April 20, 2010 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [HTML format with links]

http://www.plosmedicine.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pmed.1000226?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+plosmedicine%2FNewArticles+%28PLoS+Medicine%3A+New+Articles%29

"The rise of global health issues within the world of foreign policy is precipitating great interest in the concept and practice of health diplomacy. Much discussion of this new field, particularly within the global health community, has narrowly focused on how diplomatic negotiations and foreign policy can be used to support global health goals. New and unprecedented opportunities to bolster global health through diplomacy have emerged, but claims that health now drives foreign policy fail to appreciate how significantly traditional foreign policy interests continue to shape health diplomacy. Foreign policy interests play a critical role in determining which global health issues achieve political priority and attract funding. In addition, an important, but less analyzed trend involves the increasing use of health interventions as *instruments* to advance foreign policy interests. Countries are increasingly using health initiatives as a means to improve security, project power and influence, improve their international image, or support other traditional foreign policy objectives. This paper provides an introduction to the *PLoS Medicine* series on global health diplomacy. It reviews recent research in the field of global health diplomacy, discussing why only select global health issues rise in political priority, examining health diplomacy initiatives driven primarily by foreign policy interests, and seeking to illuminate the constellation of interests involved in health diplomacy. The principal message is that, despite recent commentary to the contrary, foreign policy interests are of primary and enduring importance to understanding the potential and limits of health diplomacy." *Harley Feldbaum is the Director of the Global Health and Foreign Policy Initiative at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University, Washington, D.C. Josh Michaud, Ph.D. is a Senior Research Associate with the SAIS Global Health and Foreign Policy Initiative, and an Adjunct Professor at SAIS.*

The Brussels Wall: Tearing Down the EU-NATO

Drozdiak, William. *Foreign Affairs*. May/June 2010, pp.7-13.

"These days, there is a great deal of talk about the dawn of an Asian century -- hastened by the rise of China and India. But the West is not doomed to decline as a center of power and influence. A relatively simple strategic fix could reinvigorate the historic bonds between Europe and North America and reestablish the West's dominance: it is time to bring together the West's principal institutions, the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). A revitalized Atlantic alliance is by far the most effective way for the US and Europe to shore up their global influence in the face of emerging Asian powers. Anybody who spends time in Brussels comes away mystified by the lack of dialogue between the West's two most important multinational organizations, even though they have been based in the same city for decades. A strong connection between the EU and NATO would serve Western security interests on every major issue." *William Drozdiak is President of the American Council on Germany, Senior Adviser for Europe at the international strategic consultancy McLarty Associates, and Founding Director of the German Marshall Fund's Transatlantic Center, in Brussels.*

NATO's Final Frontier: Why Russia Should Join the Atlantic Alliance

Kupchan, Charles A. *Foreign Affairs*. May/June 2010., pp. 100-112.

"NATO has traditionally treated Russia as a strategic pariah. But now, the West urgently needs Moscow's cooperation on a host of issues. A vision for turning Russia into a productive

member of the Euro-Atlantic community is within reach: Russia should join NATO. Although NATO would run a strategic risk by admitting Russia, the Atlantic alliance is actually running a greater strategic risk by excluding it. At NATO's 2010 summit, planned for November, the alliance's members intend to adopt a new "strategic concept" to guide its evolution. NATO's relationship with Russia is at the top of the agenda. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, the United States and its NATO allies have constructed a post-Cold War order that effectively shuts Russia out. Although NATO and the European Union have embraced the countries of central and eastern Europe, they have treated Russia as an outsider, excluding it from the main institutions of the Euro-Atlantic community. Russia's isolation is in part a product of its own making. The country's stalled democratic transition and occasional bouts of foreign policy excess warrant NATO's continued role as a hedge against the reemergence of an expansionist Russia." *Charles A. Kupchan is Professor of International Affairs at Georgetown University and a Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations.*

Bigger is Better: The Case for a Transatlantic Economic Union

Rosecrance, Richard. *Foreign Affairs*. May/June 2010, pp. 42-50.

"Smaller countries, such as Japan, West Germany, and the "Asian tigers," attained international prominence as they grew faster than giants such as the US and the Soviet Union. These smaller countries -- what the author has called "trading states" -- did not have expansionist territorial ambitions and did not try to project military power abroad. Small trading states failed because the assumptions on which they operated did not hold. In the aftermath of the crisis, the small trading states vowed never to put themselves in a similar position again, and so they increased their access to foreign exchange through exports. The need for a transatlantic economic union will become clearer should the US economic recovery begin to flag. At some point, US policymakers will recognize -- and find a way to convince the country at large -- that trade agreements with other nations are not a means of transferring US production overseas but rather part of a robust recovery strategy to gain greater markets abroad." *Richard Rosecrance is an Adjunct Professor, a Senior Fellow, and Director of the Project on U.S.-China Relations at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.*

Turkey's New Geopolitics

Larrabee, Stephen F. *Survival*. April 2010, pp. 157-180.

"While Turkey remains tied to the West through its membership in NATO, the Council of Europe and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, under the leadership of Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his energetic foreign minister Ahmet Davutoglu, the country has launched a number of new foreign-policy initiatives that have increased its international stature and regional influence. Ankara's new foreign-policy activism has been particularly visible in the Middle East, where Turkey has sought to strengthen ties with its Muslim neighbours, especially Iran and Syria. Relations with Russia have improved as well, especially in the economic field, and Ankara has recently sought to mend fences with Armenia, another long-time adversary. This does not mean, however, that Turkey is turning its back on the West or that 'Econo-Islamism' (a blend of business and religious-political interests) has taken charge in Ankara. Turkey still wants, and needs, strong ties with the United States. But in future Turkey is likely to continue to broaden and diversify its foreign policy and be more hesitant to automatically follow Washington's lead. Managing the US-Turkish relationship will require patience and skilful diplomacy on both

sides, more so now than ever before." *F. Stephen Larrabee holds the Corporate Chair in European Security at the RAND Corporation.*

Turkey's Moment of Inflection

Barkey, Henri. *Survival*. June/July 2010, pp. 39-50.

"Turkey today imagines itself as a major contender on the global scene. It is the world's seventeenth-largest economy and has used its geostrategic position and active diplomacy to assume membership in the UN Security Council for the first time in almost 50 years, to become a member of the G20 and to take on a visible role in international disputes. But it faces daunting obstacles at home and abroad, the two most important being the Kurdish problem and the state of civil-military relations. How the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) handles these two challenges will determine whether the current improvement in the Turkish political economy proves to be fleeting. Turkey is at an inflection moment. If it can resolve these problems it will find that many of the obstacles to European membership and continuing development will rapidly recede. Failure will mean a return to nationalist and autarchic policies as well as continual violence and instability." *Henri J. Barkey is the Bernard and Berta Cohen Professor of International Relations at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania and a Visiting Scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.*

Russia, Ukraine, and Central Europe: The Return of Geopolitics

Larrabee, F Stephen. *Journal of International Affairs*. Spring 2010, pp. 33-53.

"Nov 9, 2009, marked the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, effectively marking the end of the Cold War. The collapse of the Berlin Wall, however, unleashed an incomplete process of integration and political transformation and left a band of states on Russia's Western periphery without a clear political future or clear foreign policy attachment. This band of states includes Ukraine, Georgia, Moldova, and Belarus. This article focuses on the changing security dynamics in Central Europe and the Western periphery of the post-Soviet space. The first section examines Russia's resurgence and the challenges it poses. The second section focuses on Ukraine's transition, while the third section discusses the impact of Russia's resurgence on Central and Eastern Europe. The fourth section examines the increasing cooperation between Russia and Germany. The fifth section analyzes the changing context of NATO enlargement. The final section discusses the implications of these trends for US policy." *F. Stephen Larrabee holds the Corporate Chair in European Security at the RAND Corporation.*

Mexico-U.S. Relations: What's Next?

O'Neil, Sannon K. *Americas Quarterly*. Spring 2010, pp. 68-72.

http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/ONeil_AQSpring2010b.pdf

"As the Obama administration looks to its second year, the Mérida Initiative's designated three-year term is about to end. While U.S. support will likely continue, changes in focus are inevitable. There has already been a shift from a heavy concentration on military equipment to capacity and institution building. Mexico's main problem is not control of its territory, which was the principal challenge that Colombia faced. Mexico's dilemma is

corruption. Without clean cops, clean courts and clean politicians, Mexico's war will never be won. Instead, Mexico's challenge is to remake its law enforcement, judicial and government institutions to work transparently, effectively and fairly. Working with Mexico, the U.S. is starting to shift its focus from the national to the local level—and the even more difficult task of reforming the vast municipal and state police forces. At all levels, both countries must maintain full respect and protections for human rights. If the ultimate goal is to secure a strong, vibrant, secure democracy, fundamental rights and institutions cannot be weakened in the pursuit of public safety." *Shannon O'Neil is the Douglas Dillon Fellow for Latin America Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations.*

Getting the Triangle Straight: China, Japan, and the United States in an Era of Change

Curtis, Gerald L. *American Foreign Policy Interests*. June 2010, pp. 169–182.

"As the balance of power in Asia shifts, relations among China, Japan, and the United States are becoming increasingly important for the future of the region as well as for the rest of the world. Trilateral relationships tend to be unstable, and the dynamics of China–Japan–U.S. relations are further complicated by historical enmities, differing systems of governance, competition in the economic and security realms, and growing interdependence. Whereas most studies of those countries focus on their bilateral ties, the study from which this article was adapted focuses on the ways in which they relate to one another in a trilateral context. Compared with South Asia, the Middle East, and other parts of the world plagued by political instability, violence, pervasive poverty, death, and destruction, East Asia offers a stark contrast as a region that is the dynamic center of the world economy and that is at peace or at least not at war. That reality is rendered all the more remarkable by the fact that it is an area where the interests of three great powers—China, Japan, and the United States—intersect. There are dangers of course. North Korea and Taiwan in particular are potential triggers for armed conflict that would in one way or another involve all three of those countries. Perhaps even more worrisome is the fragility of the global financial system, posing the ever-present danger of renewed economic turmoil, increased protectionism, and the weakening of a relatively free trade regime that makes it possible for China, Japan, Korea, and the countries of Southeast Asia to pursue successful export-led growth policies." *Gerald L. Curtis is the Burgess Professor of Political Science at Columbia University and visiting professor at Waseda University in Tokyo.*

The Geography of Chinese Power

Kaplan, Robert D. *Foreign Affairs*. May/June 2010.

"China's virtual reach extends from Central Asia, with all its mineral and hydrocarbon wealth, to the main shipping lanes of the Pacific Ocean. China's blessed geography is so obvious a point that it tends to get overlooked in discussions of the country's economic dynamism and national assertiveness. Yet it is essential: it means that China will stand at the hub of geopolitics even if the country's path toward global power is not necessarily linear. As states become stronger, they cultivate new needs and -- this may seem counterintuitive -- apprehensions that force them to expand in various forms. China today is consolidating its land borders and beginning to turn outward. Xinjiang and Tibet are the two

principal areas within the Chinese state whose inhabitants have resisted the pull of Chinese civilization. Central Asia, Mongolia, the Russian Far East, and Southeast Asia are natural zones of Chinese influence. But they are also zones whose political borders are unlikely to change." *Robert D. Kaplan is a Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security and a correspondent for The Atlantic.*

THE NEXT EMPIRE

French, Howard. *The Atlantic*. May 2010.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2010/04/the-next-empire/8018/>

According to the author, Chinese companies have cashed in on lucrative oil markets in Angola, Nigeria, Algeria and Sudan and are striking mining deals in Zambia and the Congo. They are prospecting for land all across Africa for agribusiness; to get these resources to market, they are building ports and thousands of miles of highway. China is the biggest lender to Africa, the source of at least one-third of the world's commodities, and China-Africa trade has just pushed past \$100 billion annually. China, on the other hand, has focused on trade and commercially justified investment, rather than aid grants and heavily subsidized loans; it has declined to tell African governments how they should run their countries, or to make its investments contingent on government reform, according to Howard French. "All across Africa, new tracks are being laid, highways built, ports deepened, commercial contracts signed—all on an unprecedented scale, and led by China, whose appetite for commodities seems insatiable. Do China's grand designs promise the transformation, at last, of a star-crossed continent? Or merely its exploitation?" *Howard W. French is an associate professor at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. From 1986 to 2008, Howard was a reporter for The New York Times.*

Prioritizing Strategic Interests in South Asia

Oakley, Robert B. ; Hammes, T.X. *Strategic Forum*. June 2010, pp.1-12.

[http://www.ndu.edu/inss/docUploaded/SF%20256%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.ndu.edu/inss/docUploaded/SF%20256%20(2).pdf)

"The focus on the war in Afghanistan has prevented the United States from developing a South Asia strategy rooted in the relative strategic importance of the nations in the region. India, a stable democracy enjoying rapid growth, clearly has the most potential as a strategic partner. Pakistan, as the home of al Qaeda leadership and over 60 nuclear weapons, is the greatest threat to regional stability and growth. Yet Afghanistan absorbs the vast majority of U.S. effort in the region. The United States needs to develop a genuine regional strategy. This paper argues that making the economic growth and social reform essential to the stability of Pakistan a higher priority than the conflict in Afghanistan is a core requirement of such a strategy." *Robert B. Oakley is a Distinguished Research Fellow in the Institute for National Strategic Studies (INSS) at the National Defense University, and former U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan. Dr. T.X. Hammes, a retired U.S. Marine Corps officer, is a Senior Research Fellow in INSS.*

Africa's Irregular Security Threats: Challenges for U.S. Engagement

Le Sage, Andre. *Strategic Forum*. May 2010, pp.1-12.

http://www.ndu.edu/inss/docUploaded/SF255_LeSage.pdf

"This paper provides an overview of Africa's irregular, nonstate threats, followed by an analysis of their strategic implications for regional peace and stability, as well as the national security interests of the United States. After reviewing the elements of the emerging international consensus on how best to address these threats, the conclusion highlights a number of new and innovative tools that can be used to build political will on the continent to confront these security challenges. This paper is intended as a background analysis for those who are new to the African continent, as well as a source of detailed information on emerging threats that receive too little public or policy-level attention." *Dr. Andre Le Sage is a Senior Research Fellow for Africa in the Institute for National Strategic Studies at the National Defense University.*

AFRICAN ECONOMIES' NEW RESILIENCE

Lewis, Peter. *Current History*. May 2010, pp. 193-199.

Lewis writes that there were hopes that Africa, whose national economies are not so intertwined with the international banking system, would avoid the chaos that the financial system's collapse inflicted on the Western advanced economies. Many African countries, whose economies are dependent on income from exported commodities, did suffer from a decline in prices due to a drop in global demand, as well as declining remittances from overseas workers who lost jobs. The author notes that, while the effect of the financial downturn varied greatly from one country to another, many African nations have enacted political and economic reforms, resulting in improved governance and transparency, which have enabled them to weather the financial crisis. *Peter M. Lewis is an associate professor and director of the African studies program at the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University.*

Grand Strategy of 'Restraint'

Martel, William C. *Orbis*. Summer 2010, pp. 356-373.

"With the end of the Cold War, the subsequent global war on terror, the global economic recession, and wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, one would think that the United States would have formulated a grand strategy for dealing with these problems. This, however, is not the case. This article advances a grand strategy of "restraint," as a guiding concept for our approach to international politics. It builds from the principle that U.S. policy must seek to restrain—individually and collectively—those forces, ideas, and movements in international politics that create instability, crises, and war. For the last two decades, the United States has needed to define new concepts to help guide policymakers in making choices about how to respond to the challenges we confront every day in foreign policy. Yet, the current generation of policymakers and strategists has failed for twenty years to define the principles that could help organize our thinking about U.S. role in the world and the policies that Washington should pursue. The end of the bipolar era and the first decade of the twenty-first century have brought significant changes to the international system. Today, policymakers worry about the risk of nuclear proliferation, particularly with the case of Iran; instability in Pakistan, which possesses dozens of nuclear weapons; wars in Afghanistan and Iraq; China's increasing political, economic, and military power and influence; Russia's growing assertiveness, which, fueled by energy revenues, creates profound anxieties in Eastern Europe. And we are in the midst of a global economic recession which might last for

years. What is the United States to do when our old grand strategy, based on the principles of containment is no longer applicable? In the absence of a coherent grand strategy, it is unclear how precisely the United States should respond to foreign policy challenges." *William C. Martel is Associate Professor of International Security Studies at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University.*

Weak States and Security Assistance

Reveron, Derek S. *Prism*. June 2010, pp. 27-42.

<http://www.ndu.edu/press/weak-states.html>

"Given the large number of U.S. forces deployed around the world and the casualties sustained in Iraq and Afghanistan, it is easy to miss that the Services do much more than engage in combat. On any given day, military engineers dig wells in East Africa, medical personnel provide vaccinations in Latin America, and special operations forces (SOF) mentor militaries in Southeast Asia. Through these activities, the United States seeks to improve its international image, strengthen the state sovereignty system by training and equipping security forces, preempt localized violence from escalating into regional crises, and protect national security by addressing underlying conditions that inspire and sustain violent extremism." *Dr. Derek S. Reveron is a Professor in the National Security Decision Making Department at the Naval War College. This article is adapted from his forthcoming book, Exporting Security: International Engagement, Security Cooperation, and the Changing Face of the U.S. Military (Georgetown University Press, 2010).*

THE NEW RULES OF WAR

Arquilla, John. *Foreign Policy*. March/April 2010, pp. 60-67.

http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2010/02/22/the_new_rules_of_war

The author believes that U.S. armed forces have failed to adapt sufficiently to changed conditions, finding out the hard way that their enemies often remain a step ahead. "Every day, the U.S. military spends \$1.75 billion, much of it on big ships, big guns, and big battalions that are not only not needed to win the wars of the present, but are sure to be the wrong approach to waging the wars of the future. In this, the ninth year of the first great conflict between nations and networks, America's armed forces have failed, as militaries so often do, to adapt sufficiently to changed conditions, finding out the hard way that their enemies often remain a step ahead. The U.S. military floundered for years in Iraq, then proved itself unable to grasp the point, in both Iraq and Afghanistan, that old-school surges of ground troops do not offer enduring solutions to new-style conflicts with networked adversaries." *John Arquilla is a professor of defense analysis at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California.*

U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY AND TRENDS

REPORTS

CHARTING INTERNATIONAL LABOR COMPARISONS

Bureau of Labor Statistics. April 2010 [PDF format, 63 pages]

<http://www.bls.gov/fls/chartbook/chartbook2010.pdf>

“With increasing integration of global markets, international labor statistics assume a fundamental role in assessing the relative performance of individual economies and informing both national and international policy decisions. However, direct comparisons of statistics across countries can be misleading because concepts and definitions often differ. To improve the comparability of international labor statistics, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) International Labor Comparisons (ILC) program adjusts data to a common conceptual framework. *Charting International Labor Comparisons* features data for the most recent year available, as well as trends over time, for the main indicators measured by ILC: gross domestic product (GDP), hourly compensation, labor force, prices, and productivity. To increase country and indicator coverage, data from other organizations also are included. Through non-technical language and visual representations of data, this chart book aims to: Increase knowledge of major economic indicators and their significance; Present comparable data to illustrate the relative position and performance of covered countries; Examine current and recent economic trends for highly industrialized countries; Highlight the increasing importance and performance of major emerging economies; Provide users with sources of comparable international data and, when applicable, caveats concerning comparability.”

MEASURING THE GREEN ECONOMY

Economics and Statistics Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. April 21, 2010

[PDF format, 50 pages]

<http://www.esa.doc.gov/GreenEconomyReport/>

“This study defines and measures the size and scope of the green economy. The Obama Administration has strong commitment to fostering the development of a green economy; that is, a clean and energy-efficient economy. This means encouraging the development of green products and services that contribute to economic growth and improve this nation’s environmental stewardship. The jobs that are created and supported in businesses that produce green products and services are green jobs. This Administration is working to expand the green economy through a number of initiatives, including significant investments under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. A major priority for the Department of Commerce is to support and encourage business initiatives that improve the environment and increase energy efficiency throughout the U.S. This report describes how these green products and services were identified and discusses a variety of different measures of the coverage and size of the green economy”

EXPORTS SUPPORT AMERICAN JOBS

International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. April 15, 2010 [PDF format, 14 pages]

<http://www.trade.gov/publications/pdfs/exports-support-american-jobs.pdf>

The report confirms the importance of exports to the U.S. economy and the increasingly

globalized marketplace. According to the report, in 2008, exports accounted for a record 12.7 percent of U.S. gross domestic product (GDP), and during a period of relatively flat job growth across the economy, supported a record number of jobs, more than 10 million. Additionally, the report links the success in supporting American manufacturing with a successful export policy.

The Future of Small Business Entrepreneurship: Jobs Generator for the U.S. Economy

Baily, Martin Neil, et.al. The Brookings Institution [Policy Brief #175] June 2010 [PDF format, 8 pages]

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2010/0604_innovation_small_business/pb_175.pdf

"As the U.S. strives to recover from the "Great Recession," job creation remains one of the biggest challenges to renewed prosperity. Small businesses have been among the most powerful generators of new jobs historically, suggesting the value of a stronger focus on supporting small businesses—especially high-growth firms—and encouraging entrepreneurship. Choosing the right policies will require public and private decision-makers to establish clear goals, such as increasing employment, raising the overall return on investment, and generating innovations with broader benefits for society. Good mechanisms will also be needed for gauging their progress and ultimate success. This brief examines policy recommendations to strengthen the small business sector and provide a platform for effective programs. These recommendations draw heavily from ideas discussed at [a conference held at the Brookings Institution](#) with academic experts, successful private-sector entrepreneurs, and government policymakers, including leaders from the Small Business Administration. The gathering was intended to spur the development of creative solutions in the private and public sectors to foster lasting economic growth. The authors have identified the following more targeted ideas for fostering the health and growth of small businesses (and, in many cases, larger businesses) over the longer run: improve access to public and private capital; reexamine corporate tax policy with an eye toward whether provisions of our tax code are discouraging small business development; promote education to help businesses struggling with shortages of workers with particular skills, and promote research to spur innovation; rethink immigration policy; explore ways to foster "innovation-friendly" environments, such as regional cluster initiatives; strengthen government counseling programs." *Martin Neil Baily is a senior fellow in Economic Studies at Brookings and the Bernard L. Schwartz chair in Economic Policy Development.*

The State of Metropolitan America

The Brookings Institution. May 6, 2010.

http://www.brookings.edu/reports/2010/0509_metro_america.aspx

The State of Metropolitan America portrays the demographic and social trends shaping the U.S. metropolitan areas. "This report focuses on the major demographic forces transforming the nation and large metropolitan areas in the 2000s. In this sense, it previews what we will learn from the results of the 2010 Census, as well as supplements

those results in important ways. It includes chapters that correspond to nine of the most important subjects tracked by the Census Bureau in its annual American Community Survey, along with the policy implications of the findings. This report shows that our nation now faces five "new realities" that are redefining who we are, where and with whom we live, and how we provide for our own welfare, as well as that of our families and communities. The five "new realities are: growth and outward Expansion; population diversification; aging of the population; uneven higher educational attainment; income polarization."

Immigration: The Effects on Low-Skilled and High-Skilled Native-Born Workers

Levine, Linda. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. April 13, 2010 [PDF format, 17 pages]

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/142751.pdf>

"Immigration has been a contentious issue since the nation's inception. During periods of substantial immigration, it has not been unusual for the native-born population to raise objections on many grounds—cultural, religious, ethnic, and economic. The focus of the latest national debate over high levels of immigration is largely on its economic effects, that is, whether immigration provides net economic benefits to society. The current debate has been concerned with the impact of immigration on the public budget and the private economy. In terms of budgetary effects, the question is whether immigrants receive more in public services than they pay in taxes. Immigrants also affect the private economy in their capacity as workers: if the admission of foreign-born workers lowers wages, which, in turn, results in more goods being produced at lower prices, then U.S. consumers would benefit; however, if immigration results in lower wages, U.S. workers would be harmed. The debate over immigration policy has been devoted more to the well-being of U.S. workers than to consumer welfare. The report opens with a discussion of how to analyze the impact of immigrants on the pay and job opportunities of native-born workers. It then uses this framework to examine and interpret the empirical literature on the subject. The report concludes with a discussion of policy implications." *Linda Levine is an Specialist in Labor Economics at the CRS.*

Exploring the "Job Gap" in April's Employment Numbers

Greenstone, Michael. The Brookings Institution. May 7, 2010.

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/0507_job_gap_greenstone.aspx

"Looking ahead, there are mixed signs about the U.S. job market. On the positive side, the credit markets are operating as well as they have since the crisis began, which allows existing businesses to borrow to expand and new ones to start-up. Additionally, the recent economic growth has largely come through gains in productivity. We may be nearing the point where businesses will need to hire additional workers in order to expand. However, there are several less promising signs. The stimulus plan is beginning to wind down and it is not expected to contribute to growth after the third quarter of this year. Additionally, there continues to be significant oversupply in the housing market with the percentage of homes that are vacant at record levels. Delinquency rates on mortgage payments remain high, which remains a source of weakness going forward. Finally, we have yet to understand how the recent instability in Greece, and Europe more generally, will impact the U.S. markets

and the economy. These are some of our many challenges." *Michael Greenstone is the 3M Professor of Environmental Economics in the Department of Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.*

The Polarization of Job Opportunities in the U.S. Labor Market: Implications for Employment and Earnings

Autor, David. The Center for American Progress; The Hamilton Project. April 2010 [PDF format, 48 pages]

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2010/04_jobs_autor/04_jobs_autor.pdf

"This paper analyzes the state of the U.S. labor market over the past three decades to inform policymaking on two fronts. The first is to rigorously document and place in historical and international context the trajectory of the U.S. labor market, focusing on the evolving earnings, employment rates, and labor market opportunities for workers with low, moderate, and high levels of education. The second is to illuminate the key forces shaping this trajectory, including: the slowing rate of four-year college degree attainment among young adults, particularly males; shifts in the gender and racial composition of the workforce; changes in technology, international trade, and the international off shoring of jobs, which affect job opportunities and skill demands; changes in U.S. labor market institutions affecting wage setting, including labor unions and minimum wage legislation. Despite the extremely adverse U.S. employment situation in 2010, history suggests that employment will eventually return and unemployment will eventually subside. But the key challenges facing the U.S. labor market—almost all of which were evident prior to the Great Recession—will surely endure. These challenges are two-fold. The first is that for some decades now, the U.S. labor market has experienced increased demand for skilled workers. During times like the 1950s and 1960s, a rising level of educational attainment kept up with this rising demand for skill. But since the late 1970s and early 1980s, the rise in U.S. education levels has not kept up with the rising demand for skilled workers, and the slowdown in educational attainment has been particularly severe for males. The result has been a sharp rise in the inequality of wages. A second, equally significant challenge is that the structure of job opportunities in the United States has sharply polarized over the past two decades, with expanding job opportunities in both high-skill, high-wage occupations and low-skill, low wage occupations, coupled with contracting opportunities in middle-wage, middle-skill white-collar and blue-collar jobs." *David Autor is a professor of economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, faculty research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research and Editor in Chief of the Journal of Economic Perspectives*

The Role of Natural Gas in a Low-Carbon Energy Economy

Flavin, Christopher; Kitasei Saya. WorldWatch Institute April 30, 2010 [PDF format, 23 pages]

<http://www.worldwatch.org/files/pdf/Worldwatch%20Gas%20Paper%20April%202010.pdf>

The report provides an initiative designed to explore and communicate the potential of natural gas, renewable energy, and energy efficiency to work together to build a low-carbon economy. The project provides a forum to examine potential environmental, social, and political obstacles that must be addressed if natural gas is to accelerate, rather than delay, a low-carbon energy transformation. Partnering with leading NGOs,

academic institutions, industry, and the public sector, the initiative will propose needed actions, with a focus initially on the United States. The initiative will later focus on energy policies internationally, in particular in India, China, Europe and Africa. *Christopher Flavin is president of the Worldwatch Institute. Saya Kitasei is a MAP Sustainable Energy Research Fellow at the Worldwatch Institute.*

THE IMPACT OF IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ON CHILD WELFARE

Cervantes, Wendy; Lincroft, Yali. First Focus; Migration Child Welfare. Web posted April 7, 2010[PDF format, 12 pages]

<http://www.firstfocus.net/Download/Enforcement4.7.pdf>

The report examines the impact immigration enforcement has on the thousands of children of undocumented immigrants, 73% of whom are U.S. citizens. This includes risks to child safety and well-being, such as separation of children from parents. The report also highlights the growing challenges for state child welfare agencies that encounter separated children. "While children of immigrants have a lot at stake in the discussions surrounding U.S. immigration policy, their interests remain largely ignored in the debate. For instance, little consideration is given to the impact of immigration enforcement on the 5.5 million children, the vast majority of whom are native-born U.S. citizens, living with at least one undocumented parent. The U.S. child welfare system is based on the notion of ensuring the safety and best interest of the child; however, this principle is often compromised in the face of conflicting federal immigration policies and practices. This policy brief examines the intersection of immigration enforcement and child welfare and the difficulties facing immigrant families caught between the two systems. Recommendations are provided to prioritize keeping children with their families and out of the public child welfare system whenever possible and to ensure that separated children who do encounter the child welfare system receive appropriate care and parents receive due process." *Wendy Cervantes is the Senior Director for Child and Family Immigrant Policy at First Focus. Yali Lincroft is a Child and Family Policy Consultant. She was a founding member of the Migration and Child Welfare National Network (MCWNN).*

WILL ARIZONA BE AMERICA'S FUTURE?

Frey, William H. Brookings Institution. April 28, 2010.

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/0428_arizona_frey.aspx#

As the controversy surrounding Arizona's new immigration legislation continues, Frey identifies a "cultural generation gap" in relation to largely white baby boomers and older citizens that may be fueling anti-immigrant sentiment in the state. He explores this trend and provides perspective on what it may mean for the rest of the United States. "Arizona's new immigration law raises many questions. Perhaps most fundamental, as the hue and cry continues, is this: Is Arizona out of touch with the rest of America? Or, is it the precursor of things to come elsewhere? To the extent that racial and ethnic conflict underpins these developments in the Grand Canyon State, there is reason to be wary. Demographically, there is no doubt Latinos and other immigrant minorities are America's future, and on this, Arizona stands on the front lines. Over the past two decades the state has seen its Latino population grow by 180 percent as its racial composition shifted from 72 to 58 percent white." *William H. Frey is Senior Fellow at the Metropolitan Policy Program of*

the Brookings Institution.

AMERICA'S FUTURE: LATINO CHILD WELL-BEING IN NUMBERS AND TRENDS

National Council of La Raza. April 28, 2010 [HTML format with links]

http://www.nclr.org/section/audience/researchers/latino_child_well_being

"This data book offers a comprehensive overview of the state of Latino children by integrating a range of key factors and outcomes in the areas of demography, citizenship, family structure, poverty, health, education, and juvenile justice. It provides an overview of current national and state-level trends for Latino children under age 18 relative to non-Hispanic White and Black children, documenting both regional variations and changing trends since the year 2000. The demography of our nation is changing at an accelerated pace. Over the past 20 years, the number of Latino children under age 18 living in the United States has doubled, making them one of the fastest-growing segments of the national population. By 2035, one-third of all American children and youth will be Latino, and it is projected that by 2050, one-third of the overall population will be Hispanic. Today's 16 million Latino children and youth—92% of whom are U.S. citizens—thus represent a crucial segment of our country's future workers, taxpayers, parents, citizens, voters, and leaders."

GOVERNMENT ONLINE: The internet gives citizens new paths to government services and information

Smith, Aaron. Pew Internet & American Life Project. April 27, 2010 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 44 pages]

http://pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2010/PIP_Government_Online_2010.pdf

"As government agencies at all levels bring their services online, Americans are turning in large numbers to government websites to access information and services. Fully 82% of internet users (representing 61% of all American adults) looked for information or completed a transaction on a government website in the twelve months preceding this survey. Government agencies have begun to open up their data to the public, and a surprisingly large number of citizens are showing interest. Some 40% of adult internet users have gone online for raw data about government spending and activities. This includes anyone who has done at least one of the following: look online to see how federal stimulus money is being spent (23% of internet users have done this); read or download the text of legislation (22%); visit a site such as data.gov that provides access to government data (16%); or look online to see who is contributing to the campaigns of their elected officials (14%)." *Aaron Smith is a research specialist at the Pew Internet & American Life Project.*

HELPING HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS IMPROVE THEIR PROSPECTS

Bloom, Dan; Haskins, Ron. Princeton University; Brookings Institution. April 27, 2010 [Note: contains copyrighted material][PDF format, 8 pages]

<http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/>

papers/2010/0427_helping_dropouts_haskins/0427_helping_dropouts_haskins.pdf

"Dropping out of high school has serious long-term consequences not only for individuals but also for society. According to expert estimates, between 3.5 million and 6 million young Americans between the ages of 16 and 24 are school dropouts. Lowering the number of adolescents who fail to finish high school and helping those who drop out get back on track must be a major policy goal for our nation. The policy brief focuses primarily on how best to provide youngsters who have dropped out of school a second chance. Too many adolescents—especially minorities—drop out of high school and then experience high rates of unemployment, incarceration, drug use, and no marital births. The high incidence of individual and social costs, combined with rigorous evidence of at least modestly successful program models, makes a solid case for investing public funds in programs and research for disconnected youth. In this brief the authors outline a proposal for testing, improving, and, where appropriate, expanding existing youth programs, while simultaneously mounting large-scale demonstration projects to test promising new ideas in areas where there are gaps in current programming." *Ron Haskins is a senior editor of The Future of Children, senior fellow and co-director of the Center on Children and Families at the Brookings Institution. Dan Bloom is co-director of the Health and Barriers to Employment area at MDRC.*

A CLIFF HANGER: HOW AMERICA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS CONTINUE TO FEEL THE IMPACT OF THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN

Ellerson, Noelle. American Association of School Administrators (AASA). April 2010 [PDF format, 33 pages]

[http://www.aasa.org/uploadedFiles/Policy_and_Advocacy/files/CliffHangerFINAL\(1\).pdf](http://www.aasa.org/uploadedFiles/Policy_and_Advocacy/files/CliffHangerFINAL(1).pdf)

"Students and school systems across the U.S. are facing serious challenges as a result of the economic downturn, according to the survey. Almost 18 months have passed since AASA released the first survey in its economic impact series, examining how the economic downturn has affected America's public schools. This is the seventh in the series and the study benchmarks trend data and glean insights as to how the initial impact of the economic downturn differs from how schools are being affected now. The economic welfare of school districts continues to be a lagging indicator. While the federal economy has begun to stabilize and rebound, the recovery at the state and local levels is still estimated to be up to a year or more away." *Noelle Ellerson is a Policy Analyst at the American Association of School Administrators.*

MINORITIES AND THE RECESSION-ERA COLLEGE ENROLLMENT BOOM

Taylor, Paul, et. al. Pew Research Center. June 16, 2010 [Note: contains copyrighted material] [PDF format, 19 pages]

<http://pewsocialtrends.org/assets/pdf/757-college-enrollment.pdf>

The recession-era boom in the size of freshman classes at four-year colleges, community colleges and trade schools has been driven largely by a sharp increase in minority student enrollment, according to this Pew Research Center analysis of new data from the U.S. Department of Education. "Freshman enrollment at the more than 6,000 post-secondary institutions in the U.S. surged by 144,000 students from the fall of 2007 to the fall of 2008. This 6% increase was the largest in 40 years, and almost three-quarters of it

came from minority freshman enrollment growth." This report examines the most recent available college freshman enrollment data to look at the characteristics of these freshmen as well as the nature of the institutions that are educating them. In some ways, the freshman enrollment boom has been quite widespread and in other ways highly circumscribed. In terms of student characteristics, the enrollment boom seems to have been broad-based. For example, both male and female freshman enrollment increased 6%. The next section shows that much of the freshman growth was due to minority or nonwhite students. Reflecting the changing demographics of the nation's high school graduating classes, around three-quarters of the freshman enrollment boom is due to minority freshman enrollment growth." *Paul Taylor, Executive Vice President of the Pew Research Center, directs Pew Social & Demographic Trends.*

NO PATH TO GLORY: DETERRING HOMEGROWN TERRORISM

Testimony of Brian Michael Jenkins before the Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment, United States House of Representatives. May 26, 2010 [PDF format, 10 pages]

<http://hsc.house.gov/SiteDocuments/20100526101532-91592.pdf>

Brian Michael Jenkins, Senior Advisor to the President at the RAND Corporation, testified before the House Committee on Homeland Security together with other U.S. experts in a hearing on "[Internet Terror Recruitment and Tradecraft: How Can We Address an Evolving Tool While Protecting Free Speech?](#)". "According to a recent RAND paper, there were 46 reported cases of radicalization and recruitment to jihadist terrorism in the United States between 9/11 and the end of 2009.³ This number does not include attacks from abroad. In all, 125 persons were involved in the 46 cases. Two more cases and several more arrests in 2010 bring the total to 131 persons. The cases do not indicate an immigration or border-control problem. Almost all of those arrested for terrorist-related crimes are native-born or naturalized U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents. Most of them have lived in the United States for many years. There is no evidence that they were radicalized before coming to the United States. No armies of "sleepers" have infiltrated the country."

THE BUSINESS CASE FOR CLIMATE LEGISLATION

Pew Center on Global Climate Change. June 2010 [PDF format, 16 pages].

<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/business-case-for-climate-legislation-06-2010.pdf>

"In recent years, leading businesses have emerged as some of the strongest advocates for passage of national climate and energy legislation that mandates reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. While many have cheered this business engagement, others have been left confused and at times suspicious of why businesses would support such a policy. In many ways, the confusion is understandable. Environmental politics in this country have often pitted business interests against environmental advocates in a binary struggle over the need for new or more stringent regulations. But today, major corporations cutting across a range of industries are allying themselves with nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), unions, national security hawks, and even religious groups to urge enactment of legislation that requires reductions in GHG

emissions. This brief lays out the business case for national climate and energy policy, and explains why leading companies have decided that legislation that limits GHG emissions is good for their industries. While the details of individual companies' policy positions will vary based on their own specific circumstances, broadly speaking there are three main reasons businesses support legislation that addresses climate change: The need for regulatory certainty; The economic opportunities arising from climate solutions and the the reputational benefits of supporting public policies that combat climate change."

CLIMATE CHANGE INDICATORS IN THE UNITED STATES

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. April 27, 2010 [PDF format, 80 pages]
http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/indicators/pdfs/ClimateIndicators_full.pdf

"The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has published this report to help readers interpret a set of important indicators to better understand climate change. The report presents 24 indicators, each describing trends in some way related to the causes and effects of climate change. The indicators focus primarily on the United States, but in some cases global trends are presented in order to provide context or a basis for comparison. Environmental indicators are a key tool for evaluating existing and future programs and supporting new decisions with sound science. In the years to come, the indicators in this report will provide data to help the Agency decide how best to use its policymaking and program management resources to respond to climate change."

ARTICLES

THE GULF OF MEXICO OIL SPILL: AN ACCIDENT WAITING TO HAPPEN

McQuaid, John. *Yale Environment 360*. May 10, 2010.
<http://www.e360.yale.edu/content/feature.msp?id=2272>

Recent calls to expand offshore drilling in the U.S. reflected a belief that deepwater oil operations had become so safe and technologically advanced that the danger of an accident was infinitesimal. McQuaid writes that the growing volume of crude oil billowing from a ruptured well at the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico, puts to rest the notion that offshore drilling is a risk-free endeavor. While the exact causes of well blowout, explosion and sinking of the Deepwater Horizon offshore rig may not be known for months, systemic problems are becoming apparent, including lax government oversight, complacency by the oil industry, the reluctance of government agencies and oil companies to consider worst-case scenarios, the fragmentation of tasks among different contractors, and the complexities of drilling miles under the ocean floor in an unforgiving environment, according to the author. *John McQuaid is a journalist specializing in science, environment. His work has appeared in the Washington Post, Smithsonian, Slate, U.S. News, Wired, and Mother Jones, among other publications.*

GREEN ECONOMICS

Krugman, Paul. *New York Times Magazine*. April 11, 2010, pp. 34-49.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/11/magazine/11Economy-t.html>

"If you listen to climate scientists — and despite the relentless campaign to discredit their work, you should — it is long past time to do something about emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. If we continue with business as usual, they say, we are facing a rise in global temperatures that will be little short of apocalyptic. And to avoid that apocalypse, we have to wean our economy from the use of fossil fuels, coal above all. But is it possible to make drastic cuts in greenhouse-gas emissions without destroying our economy? Like the debate over climate change itself, the debate over climate economics looks very different from the inside than it often does in popular media. In what follows, I will offer a brief survey of the economics of climate change or, more precisely, the economics of lessening climate change. I'll try to lay out the areas of broad agreement as well as those that remain in major dispute." *Paul Krugman is a Nobel Prize-winning economist and professor of Economics and International Affairs at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University.*

Cap-and-Trade for Immigrants?

Herbert, David Gauvey. *The National Journal*, May 29, 2010, var. pp.

"Economists say that work visas could be offered to the highest-bidding employers -- a system that could work for highly skilled immigrants and agricultural workers. Forget the "danged" border fence, Arizona's controversial new law, and the estimated 12 million illegal aliens in the United States. The biggest battle in the upcoming immigration debate will be over managing the future influx of computer scientists, dishwashers, and every stratum of foreign worker in between. Pro-business lawmakers are squaring off with pro-union Democrats. Perhaps the stalled climate-change bill holds the answer. Leading economists contend that the free-market principles that once made cap-and-trade a palatable compromise in the global-warming debate could work for immigration. It's no secret that Washington's immigration policy does a poor job of recruiting the highly skilled foreign workers who make Silicon Valley buzz. Nor does it offer enough legal paths for the unskilled, undocumented workers who keep America's farms, restaurants, and construction sites humming."

Growing Diversity among America's Children and Youth: Spatial and Temporal Dimensions

Johnson, Kenneth M.; Lichter, Daniel T. *Population and Development Review*. March 2010, pp. 151-176.

"This study documents the changing racial and ethnic mix of America's children. Specifically, we focus on the unusually rapid shifts in the composition and changing spatial distribution of America's young people between 2000 and 2008. Minorities grew to 43 percent of all children and youth, up from 38.5 percent only eight years earlier. In 1990, this figure stood at 33 percent. Among 0–4-year-olds, 47 percent of all children were minority in 2008. Changes in racial and ethnic composition are driven by two powerful demographic forces. The first is the rapid increase since 2000 in the number of minority children—with Hispanics accounting for 80 percent of the growth. The second is the absolute decline in the number of non-Hispanic white children and youth. The growth of minority children and racial diversity is distributed unevenly over geographical space.

Over 500 (or roughly 1 in 6) counties now have majority-minority youth populations. Broad geographic areas of America nevertheless remain mono-racial, where only small shares of minorities live." *Dr. Kenneth M. Johnson is a Professor of Sociology at Loyola University-Chicago. He is a Ph.D. demographer and sociologist specializing in U.S. demographic trends. Dr. Daniel T. Lichter is the Ferris family professor in the Department of Policy Analysis and Management, and Professor of Sociology at Cornell University.*

The Role of Cultural Inertia in Reactions to Immigration on the U.S./Mexico Border

Zárate, Michael A. Shaw, Moira P. *Journal of Social Issues*. March 2010, pp. 45-57.

"Attitudes toward immigrants are determined by both economic and cultural concerns. Here, we further explore cultural factors influencing attitudes toward immigrants and focus on cultural identity and perceptions of cultural change as predictors of attitudes toward immigrants and immigration. We argue that as groups integrate, the process of change itself influences attitudes. Change is often met with resistance. Moreover, assimilated and multicultural societies entail different levels of change for minority versus majority group members. Assimilation and multiculturalism mean different things for different groups, and change, or resistance to change, might account for multiple discrepant findings. This article reviews experimental research conducted at University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) on Mexican Americans' attitudes toward immigrants, focusing on how identity influences perceptions across groups with multiple identities and shifting cultural norms. Finally, it introduces the concept of cultural inertia, which explains divergences between ethnic minority and majority attitudes toward immigrants and immigration." *Michael A. Zarate is a Professor of Psychology at University of Texas at El Paso. Moira P. Shaw is a doctoral student at the University of Texas at El Paso(UTEP).*

Notes on the State of Black America

Glazer, Nathan. *The American Interest*. July/August 2010, pp.110-116.

<http://www.the-american-interest.com/article.cfm?piece=838>

"The election of Barack Obama to the presidency in November 2008 marked a paradox in the long history of race in America that has not been much noticed: The installation of the first black President in American history—black, that is, as Americans define black, despite his white mother and his non-American, African father—coincided with the almost complete disappearance from American public life of discussion of the black condition and what public policy might do to improve it. There was a time not so long ago when we had trouble having a dispassionate, constructive discussion of these matters in public; now we seem unable to have any discussion at all. Not one issue having to do with American blacks was on the explicit agenda of either major political party during the 2008 campaign, or on the agenda of the Obama Administration during the first year of his presidency." *Nathan Glazer is professor emeritus of sociology at Harvard University, and the author of many books on ethnicity, race relations and related issues.*

Closing the Digital Frontier

Hirschorn, Michael. *The Atlantic*. June 2010.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2010/07/closing-the-digital-frontier/8131>

"The era of the Web browser's dominance is coming to a close. And the Internet's founding ideology—that information wants to be free, and that attempts to constrain it are not only hopeless but immoral— suddenly seems naive and stale in the new age of apps, smart phones, and pricing plans. What will this mean for the future of the media—and of the Web itself?. The shift of the digital frontier from the Web, where the browser ruled supreme, to the smart phone, where the app and the pricing plan now hold sway, signals a radical shift from openness to a degree of closed-ness that would have been remarkable even before 1995. In the U.S., there are only three major cell-phone networks, a handful of smart-phone makers, and just one Apple, a company that has spent the entire Internet era fighting the idea of open (as anyone who has tried to move legally purchased digital downloads among devices can attest). As far back as the '80s, when Apple launched the desktop-publishing revolution, the company has always made the case that the bourgeois comforts of an artfully constructed end-to-end solution, despite its limits, were superior to the freedom and danger of the digital badlands." *Michael Hirschorn is an Atlantic contributing editor.*

The Tea Party vs. the Intellectuals

Harris, Lee. *Policy Review*. June/July 2010.

<http://www.hoover.org/publications/policyreview/94344384.html>

"Intellectual critics of the Tea Party movement most often attack it for its lack of ideas, especially new ideas — and these critics have a point. But the point they are making reveals as much about them as it does about the Tea Party. Behind the criticism lies the implicit assumption that comes quite naturally to American intellectuals: Namely, that a political movement ought be motivated by ideas and that a new political movement should provide new ideas. But the Tea Party movement is not about ideas. It is all about attitude, like the attitude expressed by the popular poster seen at all Tea Party rallies. the Tea Party movement most often attack it for its lack of ideas, especially new ideas — and these critics have a point. But the point they are making reveals as much about them as it does about the Tea Party. Behind the criticism lies the implicit assumption that comes quite naturally to American intellectuals: Namely, that a political movement ought be motivated by ideas and that a new political movement should provide new ideas. But the Tea Party movement is not about ideas. It is all about attitude, like the attitude expressed by the popular poster seen at all Tea Party rallies." *Lee Harris is the author of The Next American Civil War: The Populist Revolt Against the Liberal Elite (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010).*

Recession Midterm

Wasserman, David. *National Journal*. June 11, 2010, var. pp.

"Midterm elections tend to get labeled early. The year of the "angry white male" produced the GOP wave of 1994. The election whose results were a wash was the Impeachment Midterm in 1998. The 2002 campaign gave us the pro-Republican Post-9/11 Election. The Democratic sweep of 2006 was the Iraq War Midterm. And now, welcome to the Recession Midterm, a moniker likely to stick in the absence of a last-minute economic turnaround. This could just as easily be called the Fed-Up Midterm, because the voters seem more hostile to the status quo and to Washington than at any time since 2006, and more anti-Democratic

than at any time since 1994. Blue-collar workers, who leaned toward Hillary Rodham Clinton in the 2008 Democratic presidential primaries but hired Barack Obama that fall to turn around the economy, are growing more and more impatient with the Democratic Party as unemployment hovers around 10 percent. Independents, meanwhile, sound increasingly skeptical of one-party control. Seniors, who leaned away from Obama in 2008 and make up a disproportionate share of any midterm electorate, are wary of health care reforms that rejigger Medicare."

THE INSIDERS' INSIDER

Leibovich, Mark. *The New York Times Magazine*. April 25, 2010, pp. 32-48.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/25/magazine/25allen-t.html>

The web site and newspaper Politico has been in existence only three years, the brain-child of former Washington Post editors John F. Harris and Jim VandeHei, with the goal of becoming as central to political addicts as ESPN is to sports junkies. Situated in a building that overlooks the U.S. Capitol, it has now become one of the first sources Washington power brokers read in the morning. The publication, in return, wants to 'win' every news cycle by being the first with a morsel of information, whether or not the information nugget is relevant, or even correct, in the long run. Its most prominent, and influential, reporter is Mike Allen whose e-mail tipsheet, *Playbook*, has now become the principal early-morning document for an elite set of political and news-media 'thrivers and strivers.'" In Politico parlance, "influence" is less a verb than the root of a noun. Politico's top editors describe "influentials" (or "compulsives") as their target audience: elected officials, political operatives, journalists and other political-media functionaries. Since early 2007, Allen's "data points," as he calls the items in *Playbook*, have become the cheat sheet of record for a time-starved city in which the power-and-information hierarchy has been upended. It is also a daily totem for those who deride Washington as a clubby little town where Usual Suspects talk to the same Usual Suspects in a feedback loop of gamesmanship, trivia, conventional wisdom and personality cults." *Mark Leibovich is a reporter in the Washington bureau of The New York Times.*

How to Save the News

Fallows, James. *The Atlantic*, June 2010, var. pp.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2010/06/how-to-save-the-news/8095/>

"Plummeting newspaper circulation, disappearing classified ads, "unbundling" of content—the list of what's killing journalism is long. But high on that list, many would say, is Google, the biggest unbundler of them all. Now, having helped break the news business, the company wants to fix it—for commercial as well as civic reasons: if news organizations stop producing great journalism, says one Google executive, the search engine will no longer have interesting content to link to. So some of the smartest minds at the company are thinking about this, and working with publishers, and peering ahead to see what the future of journalism looks like. Guess what? It's bright." *James Fallows is a National Correspondent for The Atlantic. He is a 25-year veteran of the magazine and former speechwriter for Jimmy Carter.*

AN ENTREPRENEURIAL RECOVERY

Litan, Robert; Schramm, Carl. *The Wilson Quarterly*. Spring 2010, pp. 44-47.

Although big business is more often in the news, small companies run by entrepreneurs are crucial to America's economic success. This leads the author to the conclusion that job creation depends on the founding and development of new, entrepreneurial businesses. He notes that half of the current Fortune 500 corporations began in a recession or a bear market. The entrepreneurs should come from abroad, from universities, and young people should be encouraged to start their own businesses and given access to tools to do so. *Carl Schramm is president and Robert E. Litan is vice president (research and policy) of the Kauffman Foundation.*

SMART WORK AND SMART CITIES PAY

Florida, Richard. *The Atlantic*. April 23, 2010.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2010/04/smart-work-and-smart-cities-pay/39393/>

"Hard work and long hours do not translate into economic wealth, according to a study conducted across major U.S. metropolitan areas. But greater "human capital" -- creative people with better educations -- results in above-average wages. In the top rankings of this study was the San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara area in California; at the bottom were Louisville, Oklahoma City, Memphis, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee, and Nashville. Metro areas populated by people who are considered open to new experiences rank high on creativity and innovativeness. According to the author, the knowledge economy is driving growth, and creative, imaginative people are crucial to that growth. Working smarter, it seems, and not working harder, is what brings wealth and well-being to metros. *Richard Florida is the author of The Creative Class and founder of the Creative Class Group.*"

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