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ARTICLE ALERT

SEPTEMBER 2012

SPOTLIGHT: ASIA

1. "Southeast Asia's Strategic Landscape"

[Marvin Ott](#). *The SAIS Review of International Affairs*, Winter-Spring 2012, 12 pages.

The author, an adjunct professor and visiting research scholar at Johns Hopkins University, analyzes the strategic balance of power on Asia's rim and a sudden reengagement of U.S. strategic attention away from Southeast Asia and the Western Pacific.

2. "Asia's Hybrid Dynasties"

[Mark R. Thompson](#). *Asian Affairs*, July 2012, 17 pages.

The author, Director of the Southeast Asia Research Centre, analyzes how the descendents of charismatic leaders play a major role in Asian politics by discussing the situations in countries as varied as North Korea and India, Singapore and Thailand, Japan and the Philippines.

3. "East Asian Regional Security"

[Jörg Friedrichs](#). *Asian Survey*, July/August 2012, 23 pages.

The author assesses the performance of East Asian security regionalism in terms of their ability to meet key security challenges, and compares their performance to more conventional forms of international relations, focusing on what the ASEAN regional security toolbox can, or cannot, accomplish.

ECONOMICS DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA

4. "Asia's Role in Twenty-First-Century Global Economic Governance"

Srinivasa Madhur. *International Affairs*, July 2012, 17 pages.

Can Asia play a much bigger role in shaping global economic governance in the twenty-first century than it did in the latter half of the twentieth? What challenges would Asian countries face in playing such a role? The author discusses challenges that Asian policy-makers would need to address if they were to enable the region to play a much bigger role in shaping global economic governance.

Note: Full texts of documents are available free of charge in print format for subscribers only.
To subscribe: <http://bangkok.usembassy.gov/serviceform.html>

5. “Working on, Through and Around the State: The Deep Marketisation of Development in the Asia-Pacific”

[Toby Carroll](#). *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, August 2012, 27 pages.

The author, a senior research fellow at Centre on Asia and Globalisation, explores an important new push by international financial institutions towards broadening and deepening capitalist social relations in the developing countries in ways well beyond Washington Consensus structural adjustment or even post-Washington Consensus forms of institutionally-oriented “participatory neo-liberalism.”

GLOBAL ECONOMY

6. “How to Prevent Other Financial Crises”

[Nassim Nicholas Taleb](#) and [George A. Martin](#). *The SAIS Review of International Affairs*, Winter-Spring 2012, 12 pages.

The authors analyze the varied behaviors, ideas and effects that in combination created a financial meltdown, and discuss the players responsible for the consequences and the best risk-management rule.

7. “How to Succeed in Business: And Why Washington Should Really Try”

[Alexander Benard](#). *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2012, 11 pages.

The author, Director of Gryphon Partners, examines U.S. commercial diplomacy and how to help U.S. firms compete with China's state-owned corporations for private-sector dominance in emerging markets.

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

8. “Head of State”

[Susan B. Glasser](#). *Foreign Policy*, July/August 2012, 10 pages.

What Hillary Clinton has actually been up to as Secretary of State? Will she run in the presidential election in 2016? Here is an exclusive interview with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton about the art of diplomacy in the Twitter era, her advocacy of a strategic U.S. “pivot” to Asia, and her accomplishments in the last four years.

9. “Obama’s New Global Posture”

[Michèle Flournoy](#) and [Janine Davidson](#). *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2012, 10 pages.

The authors examine the strategies proposed in the major review of the U.S.'s global military posture undertaken by U.S. President Barack Obama, and discuss the value of keeping U.S. troops stationed in strategically important places around the globe in terms of what they call “forward engagement.”

U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2012

10. “Republican Elites and Foreign Policy Attitudes”

[Joshua W. Busby](#) and [Jonathan Monten](#). *Political Science Quarterly*, Spring 2012, 38 pages.

The authors discuss the foreign policy attitudes of whom they term elites of the U.S. Republican Party in the latter 20th century and early 21st century, compare and contrast the emphasis upon domestic policy and foreign policy of the American people, and debate within the Republican Party on foreign policy.

11. “Obama and Romney: The Path to the Presidency”

[Jon Decker](#). *Policy Review*, August/September 2012, 13 pages.

The author, a media fellow at the Hoover Institution, discusses the 2012 U.S. presidential election campaigns of President Barack Obama and former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney in the pursuit of votes from the U.S. Electoral College.

12. “Can Obama Be Beaten?”

James W. Thomson. *USA Today Magazine*, July 2012, 2 pages.

With the high unemployment and economic problem, does U.S. President Barack Obama have a chance of being re-elected in the 2012 election? The author, a freelance writer, discusses the factors that will determine the winners and losers.

DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

13. “Rising Income Inequality and Declining Civic Participation”

[Oren Levin-Waldman](#). *Challenge*, May-June 2012, 20 pages.

The author, a professor of public policy at Metropolitan College of New York, discusses the relationship between rising income inequality and declining civic engagement, focusing on why its impact is particularly problematic in a democratic society and the important of civic participation, a cornerstone of democracy.

14. “Taking Account of Violations: Rethinking Equality and Human Rights”

Caroline Walsh. *Journal of Human Rights*, April-June 2012, 16 pages.

What should commitment to the norm of equality mean in human rights discourse? The author, a research consultant, examines the relation between the intrinsically individualistic character of human rights and the other equalities that human rights discourse has found it necessary to endorse.

15. “Outreach, Impact, Collaboration: Why Academics Should Join to Stand Against Poverty”

[Thomas Pogge](#) and [Luis Cabrera](#). *Ethics & International Affairs*, Summer 2012, 20 pages.

The authors discuss why academics should feel compelled to play a more direct role --in both practical and political terms-- in efforts to eradicate global poverty, and offer more specific examples of such engagement, including some existing intervention projects.

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

16. “Living High”

[Sarah Williams Goldhagen](#). *The New Republic*, June 7, 2012, 4 pages.

Can a high-rise, high density residential tower ever become more than an oversized packing crate for people, or even a desirable place to live for anyone but the super-rich? The author, a historian of modern and contemporary architecture, examines the challenges of high-rise residential buildings and architectural designs for innovative residential-tower complexes in Asia.

17. “A Global Synthesis Reveals Biodiversity Loss as a Major Driver of Ecosystem Change”

[David U. Hooper](#), et al. *Nature*, June 7, 2012, 4 pages.

The authors examine how the effects of species loss on productivity and decomposition are of comparable magnitude to the effects of many other global environmental changes, using two approaches -- meta-analysis of effect sizes from biodiversity experiments, plus direct comparison of effect sizes from factorial experiments that examine both biodiversity loss and other global change factors.

HEALTH

18. “Can Technology Save Breakfast?”

Corby Kummer. *Smithsonian*, June 2012, 12 pages.

Focusing on breakfast cereals, the author discusses the potential of technology to create less processed foods, closer to their natural state, and explores the possibility of a reduction in artificial coloring.

19. “Waiting to Explode”

[Fred Guterl](#). *Scientific American*, June 2012, 6 pages.

The author, an executive editor of Scientific American, explores the debate about restrictions on research versus open inquiry that was sparked by the creation of a genetically engineered bird influenza virus with the potential to spread easily among human beings.

JOURNALISM AND SOCIAL MEDIA

20. “This Isn't CNN”

[Daniel Foster](#). *National Review*, July 30, 2012, 2 pages.

The author discusses why viewership for the CNN cable-television network has fallen dramatically and the challenge from social media when covering breaking news stories.

21. “The Voice of God is Dead”

[Jena Heath](#). *American Journalism Review*, March/April 2012, 6 pages.

The author, a veteran news editor, discusses the role of tone and voice in newswriting as a result of the influence of the Internet, the use of innovative techniques in journalistic writing, the danger of political bias on the part of reporters, and U.S. public opinion regarding journalistic objectivity.

22. “The Call of the Future”

[Tom Vanderbilt](#). *The Wilson Quarterly*, Spring 2012, 5 pages.

The author of the 2008 book *Traffic: Why We Drive the Way We Do (and What It Says About Us)* discusses the potential social impact of the Internet and mobile technology as means of communication as of 2012, and how smartphones interrupt personal interaction.

23. “The Facebook Fallacy”

[Michael Wolff](#). *Technology Review*, August 2012, 3 pages.

The author, a contributing editor to *Vanity Fair*, discusses online advertising and Facebook, focusing on how the nature of people's behavior on the Web and of how they interact with advertising, as well as the character of those ads themselves and their inability to command attention, has meant a marked decline in advertising's impact.

EDUCATION**24. “Why Online Education Won't Replace College--Yet”**

[David Youngberg](#). *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, August 17, 2012, 3 pages.

The author, an assistant professor of economics at Bethany College, explores the role of online courses in higher education and the consortium of universities offering them in a project called Massive Open Online Courses, which is provided through a technology company Udacity, and discusses the need for higher education to adapt to online models.

25. “Top-Ten IT Issues 2012”

[Susan Grajek](#) and [Judith A. Pirani](#). *Educause Review*, May/June 2012, 13 pages.

The authors explore the 10 major information technology issues for 2012 in higher education including issues that are essential for strategic success, those that grow in significance, and those that need high human and financial resources.

LIBRARY TRENDS**26. “The Library of Utopia”**

[Nicholas Carr](#). *Technology Review*, June 2012, 7 pages.

As Google's ambitious book-scanning program is foundering in the courts, the author, a contributing writer, discusses a universal online library and its challenge, focusing on the Digital Public Library of America, launched by a Harvard University-led group and its effort to put literary heritage online.

27. “Strategic Information about Database Content”

[Marydee Ojala](#). *Online*. May/June 2012, 3 pages.

The author, an editor of *Online*, discusses the features and advantages of subscription databases for information professionals, focusing on some of the most notable databases including EBSCO, Factiva, ProQuest and LexisNexis.