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ARTICLE ALERT: DECEMBER 2014

The Information Resource Center (IRC) is pleased to offer you Article ALERT, the monthly current awareness publication of the U.S. Embassy Bangkok's IRC. It offers abstracts of approximately 25 current articles and policy briefs from leading American journals and think tanks in six thematic areas with an emphasis on East Asian regional affairs. The views expressed in the articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect U.S. government policies.

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SPOTLIGHT: DEMOCRACY PROMOTION

1. "From Politics to Protest"

Ivan Krastev. *Journal of Democracy*, October 2014, 15 pages.

Why have political protests emerged in democratic and nondemocratic countries alike? What makes the politics of disruption so evidently attractive across so many different societies? The author, a permanent fellow at the Institute of Human Sciences, analyzes epidemics of political protests around the world.

2. "The New Challenge to Market Democracies"

William A. Galston. The Brookings Institution, October 2014, 20 pages.

The author analyzes what makes democracy work and provides recommendations for fixing the broken bargain between governments and citizens.

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HUMAN RIGHTS

3. “Human Rights without Political Participation?”

Walter J. Riker. *Human Rights Review*, December 2014, 22 pages.

Can benevolent absolutisms honor rights without honoring a right to political participation? The author, a professor at the Department of Philosophy, University of West Georgia, identifies three ways of relating political participation rights to human rights.

4. “Women and Security”

Albright, Madeleine. *The Fletcher Forum of World Affairs*, Summer 2014, 2 pages.

In this address, former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright calls for a continued focus on women’s empowerment as she describes the crucial intersection of women and security.

5. “On Setting Priorities among Human Rights”

Jos Philips. *Human Rights Review*, September 2014, 19 pages.

Should conflicts among human rights be dealt with by including general principles for priority setting at some prominent place in the practice of human rights? The author discusses whether principled priorities should be set at some prominent spot in the practice of human rights, such as a human rights treaty or declaration.

U.S. POLITICS

6. “The Millennial Scramble”

Robby Soave. *Reason*, October 2014, 6 pages.

As millennials have become less enthusiastic about the Democratic Party, the Republican Party has become more open to the social issues millennials care about. The author examines Millennials' impact on the U.S. politics.

7. “Beyond Identity Politics”

Ruy Teixeira and John Halpin. *The Washington Monthly*, June-August 2014, 3 pages.

The authors explore ways to reach the white working class voters in the United States and why the Democratic candidate lost among white working-class voters in the last three presidential elections.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

8. “From Asian to Global Financial Crisis: Recovery amidst Expanding Labour Precarity”

Hwok-Aun Lee and Rene E. Ofreneo. *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, October 2014, 23 pages.

The authors examine the labor impacts and social consequences of the 1997-98 Asian financial crisis and 2008-09 global financial crisis on Southeast Asia, which shook the region and affected employment, livelihoods and socio-economic conditions in varying ways.

9. “The Financial Crisis: Why the Conventional Wisdom Has It All Wrong”

Richard Kovacevich. *CATO Journal*, Fall 2014, 16 pages.

What does cause a financial crisis? What should regulators be looking for in order to anticipate trouble ahead? The author, Chairman Emeritus of Wells Fargo, examines the causes of the 2008 financial crisis and U.S. financial regulation.

10. “Democratization and Foreign Direct Investment Liberalization, 1970-2000”

Sonal S. Pandya. *International Studies Quarterly*, September 2014, 14 pages.

Why do countries restrict foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows despite the central role of FDI in global economic integration? The author analyzes the sources of FDI liberalization using a comprehensive new data set of national foreign ownership restrictions spanning over 90 countries for the period 1970-2000.

11. “Bank Regulation, Macroeconomic Management, and Monetary Incentives in OECD Economies”

W. Kindred Winecoff. *International Studies Quarterly*, September 2014, 14 pages.

How does the location of regulatory authority impacts private sector behaviors? The author, an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Indiana University Bloomington, examines a relationship between risk behaviors of banks and the location of regulatory and monetary authority.

12. “It's All Change in Your Pocket”

[Paola Subacchi](#). *The World Today*, October/November 2014, 4 pages.

With so many different forms of payment now available, from smart phones to bitcoins, what is the future of money? The author discusses the way physical money is a means of exchange and a store of value, the use of reserve currencies, and whether the U.S. dollar will be replaced as a reserve currency in a way similar to how physical money has been replaced by electronic money.

13. “What Stiglitz and Stockman Have in Common”

Randall G. Holcombe. *CATO Journal*, Fall 2014, 11 pages.

The author analyzes the commonality of ideas of a Nobel laureate economist Joseph Stiglitz and former budget director in the Reagan administration David Stockman on the causes of the major economic and political problems they perceive in the United States.

ASIA**14. “Public Policy Studies and the 'Asian Century': New Orientations, Challenges, and Opportunities”**

Sara Bice and Helen Sullivan. *Governance*, October 2014, 6 pages.

How will policy studies change in light of the “Asian Century”? The authors examine the influence of economic growth and activities in the Asian region on global policy studies, focusing on the idea of Asian cultural, political, and economic dominance that will alter the perspectives of Western conceptualizations.

THE UNITED STATES AND WORLD AFFAIRS**15. “U.S. Grand Strategy: World Leader or Restrained Power?”**

Barry Posen and Robert Kagan. The Brookings Institution, October 17, 2014, 48 pages.

Brookings Senior Fellow Robert Kagan and Massachusetts Institute of Technology Professor Barry Posen discuss U.S. grand strategy and whether the United States should pursue a strategy that seeks to maintain U.S. pre-eminence and global leadership or whether the United States can or must adopt a more restrained posture.

16. “National Insecurity”

David Rothkopf. *Foreign Policy*, September/October 2014, 8 pages.

The author, CEO and editor of the FP Group, discusses the U.S. national security policy and the challenges facing the Obama administration, focusing on how President Obama can achieve new gains by the end of his second term.

17. “The Unraveling”

Richard N. Haass. *Foreign Affairs*, November/December 2014, 10 pages.

Why is the balance between world order and disorder shifting toward the latter? The author, President of the Council on Foreign Relations, examines the challenges to global order and the potential dissolution of the post-Cold War world order.

18. “Geopolitics and Cyber Power: Why Geography Still Matters”

John B. Sheldon. *American Foreign Policy Interests*, September-October 2014, 8 pages.

What role, if any, does cyber power play in classical geopolitics? The author, the executive director of the George C. Marshall Institute in Arlington, examines the geographic and geopolitical implications of the physical infrastructure of cyberspace, and discusses the fact that targets in cyberspace have a geographic setting and geopolitical meaning.

19. “Rediscovering Internationalism”

Glenda Sluga. *Current History*, November 2014, 7 pages.

The author discusses the legacy of World War I in regard to the concept of internationalism, and examines the significance of organizations such as the United Nations (UN) and the League of Nations to internationalism and international cooperation, how nationality was determined, and the role of women and other traditionally marginalized groups in influence in international affairs.

GLOBAL ISSUES AND ENVIRONMENT**20. “Is Long-Term Food Insecurity Inevitable in Asia?”**

Jose Cuesta. *The Pacific Review*, December 2014, 17 pages.

Why has progress in reducing undernutrition not been achieved across the entire Asian region? Will the region as a whole be able to feed its growing population, estimated to reach 5 billion by 2050, and do so nutritiously? The author, a senior economist at the World Bank, discusses the nutrition trends in Asia and the role that future sociodemographic changes will likely have on the demand for more food and a more diversified diet in the region.

21. “The Machine Is a Garden”

Amanda Kolson Hurley. *Foreign Policy*, September/October 2014, 6 pages.

The author explores the concept of “garden cities” which offer a limited number of residents with ownership over their community's land, spacious, well-built homes for people of diverse means, clean air and ample green space, and center of employment, education, and culture that could easily be reached on foot. Would this idea help save the planet?

22. “The Future of Futurists: Can a Machine Produce This Forecast?”

Randall Mayes. *The Futurist*, November/December 2014, 4 pages.

The author, Field Editor for Digital Economy at TechCast Global, discusses the changing trends in the usage of artificial intelligence technique that helps in conducting useful analysis and forecasting using the advances in data and cognitive analytics.

23. “The Logic of Ecosystems: Capitalism, Rights and the Law of ‘Ecosystem Services’”

Bruce Pardy. *Journal of Human Rights and the Environment*, September 2014, 17 pages.

Do people have a right to ecosystem services (ES)? Does the right to non-interference mean that people have a right to restrict other people from changing ecosystems on which they depend? The author

discusses how current proposals for the targeted protection of ES ignore the logic of ecosystems.

JOURNALISM

24. “Can News Literacy Grow Up?”

Lindsay Beyerstein. *Columbia Journalism Review*, September/October 2014, 5 pages

The author examines the growing "news-literacy" movement in the United States, an initiative designed to educate journalism students on how to be critical consumers of news and information.

LIBRARY TRENDS

25. “Library Futures: From Knowledge Keepers to Creators”

Sohail Inayatullah. *The Futurist*, November/December 2014, 5 pages.

As the information explosion has led to the cybrary, or e-library, the author discusses the future of libraries, focusing on the technological advancements in the trends of keeping books and how to change the “keeper of the collection” to the “innovator in the gardens.”

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