

## What's New – May 19, 2008

### Significant E-Documents



#### Global

The 2010 Biodiversity Target in EU Development Cooperation. [World Wildlife Fund]. Web posted April 29, 2008.  
[http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wwf\\_biodiversity\\_final.pdf](http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wwf_biodiversity_final.pdf) [PDF format, 8 pages].

Does More Mean Better? Sibling Sex Composition and the Link between Family Size and Children's Quality. [Institute for the Study of Labor]. Web posted May 9, 2008.  
<http://ftp.iza.org/dp3472.pdf> [PDF format, 42 pages].

Does Rail Transit Save Energy or Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions? [Cato Institute]. Web posted May 3, 2008.  
<http://www.cato.org/pubs/pas/pa-615.pdf> [PDF format, 24 pages].

An Exploration of Technology Diffusion. [Harvard Business School Working Papers]. Web posted April 30, 2008.  
<http://www.hbs.edu/research/pdf/08-093.pdf> [PDF format, 48 pages].

Freedom of the Press 2008: Draft Country Reports. [Freedom House]. Web posted May 1, 2008.  
<http://www.freedomhouse.org/uploads/fop08/CountryReportsFOTP2008.pdf> [PDF format, 239 pages].

A Gendered Assessment of the Brain Drain. [Policy Research Working Paper, World Bank]. May 2008.  
[http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/IW3P/IB/2008/05/06/000158349\\_20080506085333/Rendered/PDF/wps4613.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/IW3P/IB/2008/05/06/000158349_20080506085333/Rendered/PDF/wps4613.pdf) [PDF format, 34 pages].

Global Agricultural Supply and Demand: Factors Contributing to the Recent Increase in Food Commodity Prices. [Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture]. Web posted May 2, 2008.  
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/WRS0801/WRS0801.pdf> [PDF format, 30 pages].

Global HIV/AIDS: A More Country-Based Approach Could Improve Allocation of PEPFAR Funding. [U.S. Government Accountability Office]. Web posted April 29, 2008.  
<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08480.pdf> [PDF format, 73 pages].

Human Rights and Natural Disasters. [Brookings-Bern Project on Internal Displacement, Brookings Institution]. Web posted May 12, 2008.  
[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2008/spring\\_natural\\_disasters/spring\\_natural\\_disasters.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2008/spring_natural_disasters/spring_natural_disasters.pdf) [PDF format, 93 pages].

Ranking Port Cities with High Exposure and Vulnerability to Climate Extremes. [OECD Environment Working Papers]. April 2008.

<http://oberon.sourceoecd.org/vl=1705792/cl=11/nw=1/rpsv/cgi-bin/wppdf?file=5kzssgshj742.pdf> [PDF format, 63 pages].

State and Trends of the Carbon Market 2008. [World Bank]. Web posted May 13, 2008.

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/NEWS/Resources/State&Trendsformatted06May10pm.pdf> [PDF format, 78 pages].

Violent Islamist Extremism, the Internet, and the Homegrown Terrorist Threat. [United States Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs]. May 8, 2008.

[http://hsgac.senate.gov/public\\_files/IslamistReport.pdf](http://hsgac.senate.gov/public_files/IslamistReport.pdf) [PDF format, 24 pages].

Worst of the Worst: The World's Most Repressive Societies 2008. [Freedom House]. May 2008.

[http://www.freedomhouse.org/uploads/special\\_report/62.pdf](http://www.freedomhouse.org/uploads/special_report/62.pdf) [PDF format, 124 pages].

## USA

2007 Wiretap Report. [U.S. Courts]. Web posted May 2, 2008.

<http://www.uscourts.gov/wiretap07/2007WTTText.pdf> [PDF format, 11 pages].

Capital Budgeting. [Congressional Budget Office]. May 2008.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/91xx/doc9167/05-08-Capital.pdf> [PDF format, 25 pages].

Chemical Cuisine: A Guide to Food Additives. [Center for Science in the Public Interest]. Web posted May 5, 2008.

<http://www.cspinet.org/new/pdf/additives.pdf> [PDF format, 7 pages].

Deploying Federal Civilians to the Battlefield: Incentives, Benefits, and Medical Care. [U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Oversight & Investigations]. Web posted April 30, 2008.

<http://armedservices.house.gov/pdfs/Reports/CiviliansonBattlefieldReport.pdf> [PDF format, 77 pages].

Differentiating Church and State (Without Losing the Church). [Villanova University Legal Working Paper Series]. Web posted May 6, 2008.

<http://law.bepress.com/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1116&context=villanovalwps> [PDF format, 35 pages].

Education and Tech Entrepreneurship. [Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation]. Web posted May 7, 2008.

[http://www.kauffman.org/pdf/Education\\_Tech\\_Ent\\_042908.pdf](http://www.kauffman.org/pdf/Education_Tech_Ent_042908.pdf) [PDF format, 16 pages].

Fixing Food Safety: Protecting America's Food Supply from Farm-to-Fork. [Trust for America's Health, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation]. Web posted May 5, 2008.

<http://www.rwjf.org/files/research/20080428tfahfoodsafety.pdf> [PDF format, 26 pages].

Geography Matters: Child Well-Being in the States. [Every Child Matters Education Fund]. Web posted May 7, 2008.

<http://www.everychildmatters.org/homelandinsecurity/geomatters.pdf> [PDF format, 13 pages].

Human Capital and Women's Business Ownership. [U.S. Small Business Administration]. Web posted April 28, 2008.

<http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/rs323tot.pdf> [PDF format, 75 pages].

Measuring Immigrant Assimilation in the United States. [Center for Civic Innovation, The Manhattan Institute]. May 2008.

[http://www.manhattan-institute.org/pdf/cr\\_53.pdf](http://www.manhattan-institute.org/pdf/cr_53.pdf) [PDF format, 56 pages].

A Nation Accountable: Twenty-five Years After A Nation at Risk. [U.S. Department of Education]. Web posted May 2, 2008.

<http://www.ed.gov/rschstat/research/pubs/accountable/accountable.pdf> [PDF format, 25 pages].

Offshore Marine Aquaculture. [U.S. Government Accountability Office, GAO-08-594]. May 2008.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08594.pdf> [PDF format, 58 pages].

Oil Industry Profit Review 2007. [Congressional Research Service, RL34437, Library of Congress]. Web posted April 28, 2008.

[http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34437\\_20080404.pdf](http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34437_20080404.pdf) [PDF format, 11 pages].

An Outcome Evaluation of the Spirituality for Kids Program. [RAND Corporation]. May 2008.

[http://rand.org/pubs/technical\\_reports/2008/RAND\\_TR575.pdf](http://rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/2008/RAND_TR575.pdf) [PDF format, 71 pages].

Philanthropy Annual: 2007 Review. [ Foundation Center ]. Web posted May 2, 2008.

<http://foundationcenter.org/gainknowledge/philanthropy2007/philanthropyannual2007.pdf> [PDF format, 100 pages].

Public Health Workforce Shortages Imperil Nation's Health. [Center for Studying Health System Change]. Web posted April 26, 2008.

<http://www.hschange.org/CONTENT/979/979.pdf> [PDF format, 8 pages].

Putting Meat on the Table: Industrial Farm Animal Production in America . [Pew Charitable Trusts and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health]. Web posted April 30, 2008.

[http://www.ncifap.org/\\_images/PCIFAP%20FINAL%20REPORT.pdf](http://www.ncifap.org/_images/PCIFAP%20FINAL%20REPORT.pdf) [PDF format, 124 pages]

The Reversal of Fortunes: Trends in County Mortality and Cross-County Mortality Disparities in the United States . [Public Library of Science Medicine] April 2008.

[http://medicine.plosjournals.org/archive/1549-1676/5/4/pdf/10.1371\\_journal.pmed.0050066-S.pdf](http://medicine.plosjournals.org/archive/1549-1676/5/4/pdf/10.1371_journal.pmed.0050066-S.pdf) [PDF format, 12 pages]

Small Vessel Security Strategy. [ U.S. Department of Homeland Security]. Web posted May 1, 2008.

<http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/small-vessel-security-strategy.pdf> [PDF format, 57 pages].

Trends in Infancy/Early Childhood and Middle School Well-Being, 1994-2006. [The Foundation for Child Development]. Web posted May 3, 2008.

[http://www.fcd-us.org/usr\\_doc/EarlyChildhoodWell-BeingReport.pdf](http://www.fcd-us.org/usr_doc/EarlyChildhoodWell-BeingReport.pdf) [PDF format, 32 pages].

Understanding Stagflation and the Risk of Its Recurrence. [Congressional Research Service, RL34428, Library of Congress]. Web posted April 28, 2008.

[http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34428\\_20080331.pdf](http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34428_20080331.pdf) [PDF format, 17 pages].

USEPA MTBE Pilot Project Report: Investigate Potential Sources of MTBE Contamination on Long Island That Could Impact Water Supplies or Environmentally Sensitive Areas. [Water Compliance Branch , U.S. Environmental Protection Agency]. Web posted April 27, 2008.

[http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/remediation\\_hudson\\_pdf/mtbepilot1.pdf](http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/remediation_hudson_pdf/mtbepilot1.pdf) [PDF format, 54 pages].

Wealth Enhancement and Storage. [American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research]. May 2008.

[http://www.aei.org/docLib/20080430\\_23059EOMay\\_g.pdf](http://www.aei.org/docLib/20080430_23059EOMay_g.pdf) [PDF format, 4 pages].

## **Africa**

Islam in Africa. [Congressional Research Service, RL22873, Library of Congress]. Web posted May 12, 2008.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RS22873.pdf> [PDF format, 5 pages].

Rolling Back Malaria: Rhetoric and Reality in the Fight against a Deadly Killer. [Health Policy Outlook, American Enterprise Institute]. Web posted May 5, 2008.

[http://www.aei.org/docLib/20080423\\_0423023HPOBateApril\\_g.pdf](http://www.aei.org/docLib/20080423_0423023HPOBateApril_g.pdf) [PDF format, 9 pages].

## **East Asia & Pacific**

Do Consumer Price Subsidies Really Improve Nutrition? [Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard University]. Web posted May 12, 2008.

[http://ksgnotes1.harvard.edu/Research/wpaper.nsf/rwp/RWP08-025/\\$File/rwp\\_08\\_025\\_miller.pdf](http://ksgnotes1.harvard.edu/Research/wpaper.nsf/rwp/RWP08-025/$File/rwp_08_025_miller.pdf) [PDF format, 21 pages].

Rising Food Prices in East Asia: Challenges and Policy Options. [World Bank]. May 2008.  
[http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTEAPREGTOPRURDEV/Resources/573691-1141228934263/East\\_Asia\\_and\\_Rising\\_Food\\_prices\\_5\\_5\\_2008.pdf](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTEAPREGTOPRURDEV/Resources/573691-1141228934263/East_Asia_and_Rising_Food_prices_5_5_2008.pdf) [PDF format, 18 pages].

USAID Responds to Cyclone Nargis. [U.S. Agency for International Development]. Web posted May 12, 2008.  
[http://www.usaid.gov/locations/asia/countries/burma/cyclone\\_nargis/documents/051208BurmaCycloneNargis\\_fs5.pdf](http://www.usaid.gov/locations/asia/countries/burma/cyclone_nargis/documents/051208BurmaCycloneNargis_fs5.pdf) [PDF format, 3 pages].

Walking on Thin Ice – Control, Intimidation, and Harassment of Lawyers in China . [Human Rights Watch]. Web posted April 30, 2008.  
<http://hrw.org/reports/2008/china0408/china0408web.pdf> [PDF format, 146 pages].

## Europe & Eurasia

Against All Odds?: National Sentiment and Wagering on European Football. [Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin ]. Web posted May 2, 2008.  
<http://sfb649.wiwi.hu-berlin.de/papers/pdf/SFB649DP2008-032.pdf> [PDF format, 18 pages].

Air Pollution by Ozone Across Europe During Summer 2007. [European Environment Agency]. Web posted May 1, 2008.  
[http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical\\_report\\_2008\\_5/en/technical\\_report\\_5\\_2008](http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2008_5/en/technical_report_5_2008) [PDF format, 38 pages].

Mind the Gap – Women’s and Men’s Quality of Work and Employment. [European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions]. Web posted April 30, 2008.  
<http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/pubdocs/2008/39/en/1/ef0839en.pdf> [PDF format, 12 pages].

Never the Same After the First Time: The Satisfaction of the Second-Generation Self-Employed. [Institute for the Study of Labor]. Web posted May 4, 2008.  
<http://ftp.iza.org/dp3476.pdf> [PDF format, 26 pages].

## Near East

Illicit Drug Trends in Afghanistan. [Office on Drugs and Crime, United Nations]. Web posted May 9, 2008.  
[http://www.unodc.org/documents/regional/central-asia/Illicit%20Drug%20Trends%20Report\\_Afghanistan.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/regional/central-asia/Illicit%20Drug%20Trends%20Report_Afghanistan.pdf) [PDF format, 38 pages].

OPEC Revenues Fact Sheet. [Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy]. Web posted May 6, 2008.  
[http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/OPEC\\_Revenues/pdf.pdf](http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/OPEC_Revenues/pdf.pdf) [PDF format, 3 pages].

Rethinking Counterinsurgency. [RAND Corporation ]. Web posted May 7, 2008.  
[http://rand.org/pubs/monographs/2008/RAND\\_MG595.5.pdf](http://rand.org/pubs/monographs/2008/RAND_MG595.5.pdf) [PDF format, 81 pages].

The Shi’ite Gamble: Rolling the Dice for Iraq ’s Future. [Center for Strategic & International Studies]. Web posted May 1, 2008.  
[http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/080421\\_cordesman\\_shiite\\_gamble.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/080421_cordesman_shiite_gamble.pdf) [PDF format, 7 pages].

War in Iraq : The Public Perspectives. [Center for Strategic & International Studies]. Web posted May 6, 2008.  
[http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/080430\\_langer-csis.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/080430_langer-csis.pdf) [PDF format, 70 pages].

## The Americas

The Discrete Charm of the Washington Consensus. [The Levy Economics Institute of Bard College ]. Web posted May 1, 2008.

[http://www.levy.org/pubs/wp\\_533.pdf](http://www.levy.org/pubs/wp_533.pdf) [PDF format, 24 pages].

Frameworks of Integrated Care for the Elderly: A Systematic Review. [Canadian Policy Research Networks]. Web posted May 6, 2008.

[http://www.cprn.org/documents/49813\\_EN.pdf](http://www.cprn.org/documents/49813_EN.pdf) [PDF format, 35 pages].

Gangs in Central America. [Congressional Research Service, RL34112, Library of Congress]. Web posted May 10, 2008.

[http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34112\\_20080327.pdf](http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34112_20080327.pdf) [PDF format, 21 pages].

## ARTICLES



### DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

Hans, Valerie; Vidmar, Neil THE VERDICT ON JURIES (Judicature, vol. 91, no. 5, March-April 2008, pp. 226-230)  
After surveying nearly 50 years of research studies, Hans and Vidmar, law professors at Cornell and Duke universities respectively, conclude that judges agree with jury verdicts in most cases. Juries carefully weigh evidence and deliberate in substantive discussions about the finer points of the cases. Juries are more diverse, minorities are represented more fully on juries than within the judiciary. Judges who run for re-election might also be predisposed to look favorably at litigants who were campaign contributors. The authors recommend clearer written jury instructions, allowing jurors to ask witnesses questions and other changes to trials. Citizen participation in legal decision-making has positive carryover effects. After serving on a jury, jurors are more likely to vote than the rest of the population. Former Soviet republics and other countries are introducing or reintroducing the jury into their legal systems. Currently available online at [http://www.ajs.org/ajs/publications/Judicature\\_PDFs/915/Hans\\_915.pdf](http://www.ajs.org/ajs/publications/Judicature_PDFs/915/Hans_915.pdf)

Quirk, Matthew HOW TO GROW A GANG (Atlantic Monthly, vol. 301, no. 4, May 2008, pp. 24-25)  
By deporting record numbers of Latino criminals, the U.S. may make its gang problem worse, says Quirk, staff editor at The Atlantic Monthly. Using the Salvadoran gang MS-13 as an example, Quirk notes that Salvadoran police report that 90 percent of deported gang members return to the United States, and many use their free trip south to bring others back with them upon their return. As a result, MS-13 members now control many of the “coyote” services that bring undocumented immigrants up from Central America. Those “free trips” are increasing, although not all of the travelers are gang members. During 2006 and 2007, the number of deportation proceedings jumped from 64,000 to 164,000. This year, it is expected to hit 200,000, an all-time high. Quirk recommends anti-gang intervention programs and lengthy American prison sentences as the more effective means for dealing with Latino gangs. Currently available online at <http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/200805/world-in-numbers>

Rector, Kevin FOREIGN AFFAIRS (American Journalism Review, vol. 30, no. 2, April/May 2008, p. 16)  
As established new organizations cut back on international reporting, a new Web Site, Global News Enterprises, aims to cover the world. Set to be launched in early 2009, it will be the first U.S.-based Web site dedicated entirely to foreign news. Global News will rely on dozens of reporters in almost 70 countries to provide in-depth enterprise stories on

issues affecting a globalizing world. Global news is the brainchild of Philip Balboni, founder and former president of New England Cable News, the U.S.'s largest regional television news network.

Simendinger, Alexis **NEW MEDIA AS THE MESSAGE** (National Journal, vol.40, no. 16, April 19, 2008, pp. 40-44)  
National Journal staff writer Simendinger describes the Obama campaign's deft use of mainstream media to attract potential voters to its "offline" campaign network. Using text messaging and e-mail signals to young voters that Obama understands who they are and they should trust him, says political communications expert Kathleen Hall Jamison. The author quotes Arizona State University Professor Matthew Hindman, who adds that "Hillary Clinton would have been the nominee but for the Internet, and she would have secured the nomination -- as her campaign expected -- by Super Tuesday." Other experts wonder if the medium is as important as the message. All agree that the Internet, social networking and other new technologies for organizing potential voters will become even more important in future elections as young people rely less on mainstream media for news and political information.

Stevenson, David G. **PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE: LONG-TERM CARE AND THE 2008 ELECTION** (New England Journal of Medicine, May 8, 2008, pp. 1985-1987)

The author, a professor at Harvard Medical School, argues that the presidential candidates should be better addressing the nation's growing long-term care needs. About 10 million people in the U.S need constant assistance completing basic daily activities such as eating, bathing and dressing – and that number will only increase as baby boomers age. Currently long-term care, which is not usually covered by Medicare or private insurance, accounts for about 10 percent of U.S. health care costs. Although health care has been mentioned more than 1,000 times in the presidential debates, long-term care has only been mentioned by the candidates 11 times. Stevenson says it is important to address the issue now, because spending on long-term care for the elderly is projected to more than double over the next 30 years, and the longer political leaders decide not to address it, the harder it is to lower these costs. Stevenson argues that the presidential candidates should “exercise leadership in devising a cohesive and sustainable way forward,” for planning and paying for long-term health care needs.

Varady, Robert G., et al. **STRENGTHENING GLOBAL WATER INITIATIVES** (Environment, vol. 50, no. 2, March/April 2008, pp. 19-31)

The growing global shortage of clean fresh water is one of the most serious environmental issues facing the world today, say these authors. They analyze the global initiatives that have been at work for decades to resolve water issues, and suggest ways to improve them. “Proficient at their best and weak and corrupt at their worst, the systems that govern the planning and management of water resources need attention,” the authors write. A 2004 survey of water experts found overlap of purpose, proliferation of organizations, and imprecision of goals to be major problems in this network of organizations that operate regionally and globally to attempt to provide some solutions for water problems. They suggest several means by which these organizations might attempt to address these inefficiencies, even while admitting that the initiatives “elude easy evaluation.” Still, the authors credit these global water initiatives with providing important assistance to nation-states contending with local water issues.

Waldrop, M. Mitchell **SCIENCE 2.0** (Scientific American, vol. 298, no. 5, May 2008, pp. 69-73)

Is posting raw results online for all to see a tool or a risk? Science 2.0 refers to the new practice of scientists posting raw experimental results, theories, claims of discovery and draft papers on the Web for others to see and comment on. Proponents say these "open access" practices make scientific progress more collaborative and productive. Critics say scientists who put preliminary findings online risk having others copy or exploit the work to gain credit or even patents. Despite pros and cons, Science 2.0 sites are starting to proliferate; one example is the OpenWetWare projects started by biological engineers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

## **ECONOMIC SECURITY**

Backer, Larry C. **ODIOUS DEBT WEARS TWO FACES: SYSTEMIC ILLEGITIMACY, PROBLEMS, AND OPPORTUNITIES IN TRADITIONAL ODIOUS DEBT CONCEPTIONS IN GLOBALIZED ECONOMIC REGIMES** (Law and Contemporary Problems, vol. 70, no. 4, Autumn 2007, pp. 1-46)

The author, a law professor at Pennsylvania State University, examines how the traditional notion of odious debt as a method of repudiating sovereign debt may undergo a conceptual revolution as it changes focus from the illegitimacy of governments obtaining loans to the illegitimacy of the systems through which such loans are made and enforced generally. The focus of this analysis is the conceptual framework Cuban leader Fidel Castro sought to introduce into the debate about the legitimacy of sovereign debt and the extent to which this reframing might influence international institutional approaches. The two faces of odious debt are a much more complicated development in global governance. With international capital systems now potentially subject to the same legitimacy expectations as private

and municipal systems, the simpler days of binary contractual arrangements between states, or between states and private entities for the provision of capital, are soon to pass into history. As Castro has not tired of explaining, these global systems now have acquired the burdens of legitimacy once limited to state actors. Development of the odious debt doctrine, like sovereign-debt forgiveness, may be as good for the banks as it is for the borrower, as each seeks to maximize the strategic value of this doctrine. Currently available online at [http://www.law.duke.edu/shell/cite.pl?70+Law+&+Contemp.+Probs.+1+\(autumn+2007\)](http://www.law.duke.edu/shell/cite.pl?70+Law+&+Contemp.+Probs.+1+(autumn+2007))

Hemp, Paul WHERE WILL WE FIND TOMORROW'S LEADERS? A CONVERSATION WITH LINDA A. HILL (Harvard Business Review, vol. 86, no. 1, January 2008, pp. 123-129)

Corporations and other organizations need new leaders to deal with the increasingly global, diverse, interdependent and complex environment, says Linda Hill, a business administration professor at Harvard Business School. Companies need leaders who know and are from the emerging markets, where the fastest economic growth is occurring, but they also need a new type of leader who can adopt a more inclusive, collaborative style. Calling this model "leading from behind", Hill argues that its followers must be able to create a context or culture in which other people are willing and able to lead. This doesn't mean that new leaders abrogate responsibility; they still will need to nudge and prod if the "flock" strays too far off the track or into danger. Such potential leaders already exist in organizations, Hill says. But they often are "invisible", or not considered for leadership roles, because they don't fit the traditional leadership model developed in the U.S. and Western Europe. Instead, they need to be nurtured by today's leaders, who can make space and provide opportunities for them to grow. Many situations, for example crises, will still require traditional, set-the-course, inspire-people type of leaders. But emphasis needs to be shifted toward the leading-from-behind model.

Klare, Michael THE END OF THE WORLD AS YOU KNOW IT ... AND THE RISE OF THE NEW ENERGY WORLD ORDER (Tomdispatch.com, posted April 16, 2008)

Klare, professor of world security studies at Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts, writes that soaring oil prices in recent weeks are "just a taste of the latest energy news", which portend a fundamental shift in the modern world, which will only intensify as global energy supplies dwindle. We are witnessing the creation of a new world order, characterized by growing competition for the remaining supplies of fossil fuels and uranium, an unprecedented transfer of power and wealth from energy-deficit states such as the U.S., China, Japan and Europe, to energy-surplus states such as Saudi Arabia, Russia and Venezuela. Sources of renewable energy, while promising, are not being developed and built out fast enough to avoid the multifaceted energy crisis that lies ahead. Klare writes, "in the new, energy-centric world we have all now entered, the price of oil will dominate our lives and power will reside in the hands of those who control its global distribution." He believes that the most urgent decision facing the next U.S. president and Congress is how to speed the transition from fossil fuels to sustainable alternatives. Available online at <http://www.alternet.org/audits/82476/?page=entire>

MacKenzie, Debora WHY THE DEMISE OF CIVILISATION MAY BE INEVITABLE (New Scientist, no. 2650, April 2, 2008)

Civilization is ineluctably headed toward collapse, not because of a massive asteroid, global nuclear war or a catastrophic pandemic, but because of its very success in solving challenges. In presenting this intriguing hypothesis, MacKenzie discusses the views of scholars from a variety of disciplines who are reaching the same conclusion via different routes. The thread of reasoning that connects archaeologists, environmentalists, a political scientist, a futurologist and a scholar of industrial accidents is that civilization develops by solving problems. Each solution produces another level of complexity; each new level of complexity diminishes the available energy. This continues to the point that all the resources and energy of a society are required to maintain the existing level of complexity, setting the scene for an inevitable collapse. "What emerges is a less complex society, which is organized on a smaller scale or has been taken over by another group," MacKenzie writes. The views presented in this article are not uniformly dire. The author quotes futurologist and industry consultant Ray Hammond as saying, "I don't see a collapse in society because of increased complexity. Our strength is in our highly distributed decision making." Currently available online at <http://www.climateark.org/shared/reader/welcome.aspx?linkid=97741>

Rasmussen, Robert K. SOVEREIGN DEBT RESTRUCTURING, ODIIOUS DEBT, AND THE POLITICS OF DEBT RELIEF (Law and Contemporary Problems, vol. 70, no. 4, Autumn 2007, pp. 249-261)

The author, professor of law at the University of Southern California, believes that odious debt is more of a literature than a doctrine. Going back to at least the 1920s, one can find arguments that countries should not have to pay back debts that are labeled "odious." The central tenet is that citizens of a country should not have to pay debts incurred by a prior "odious" regime when those funds did not benefit them, especially when the lender knew of this fact when it made the loan. The doctrine traditionally has an "ex-post" flavor to it. The question is whether the acts of the past are such that we should relieve a country of what would otherwise be a current obligation; the guiding intuition is moral rather than economic. The problems of debt overhang and corrupt regimes can be tackled either simultaneously or separately, notes the author; regardless of the strategy that one adopts, one cannot ask for too much from the system. Debt relief in

this context is as much a matter of statecraft as it is of financial theory. Rasmussen believes that modest relief as a matter of right coupled with more generous relief as a matter of self-interest may lead to more overall debt relief than would otherwise be available. Currently available online at [http://www.law.duke.edu/shell/cite.pl?70+Law+&+Contemp.+Probs.+249+\(autumn+2007\)](http://www.law.duke.edu/shell/cite.pl?70+Law+&+Contemp.+Probs.+249+(autumn+2007))

## INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

AFTER BUSH (Economist, vol. 386, no. 8573, March 29, 2008, pp. 3-16)

In this special report on America and the world, The Economist notes that America's foreign policy may change under the next president, but confusion over Iraq, worries about overstretch and divisions over the country's role in the world will remain. When it comes to foreign policy, there really are two Americas; the divisions are at their sharpest over Iraq, but they extend much further. Among the contentious issues: whether America should put the war on terrorism at the heart of its foreign policy or treat it as just one concern among many, or whether the U.S. should conduct military action against Iran or allow Iran to obtain nuclear weapons. The authors note that these divisions are the legacy of a president who came into office promising anything but a bold foreign policy. The report includes sections on the status of the Bush doctrine on global involvements, the Democratic surge as they will try to change U.S. foreign policy, the focus on international terrorism, the improvement of its global image, and the future of foreign policy now that the uncertainties of the Cold War have gone.

Byman, Daniel IRAN, TERRORISM, AND WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (Studies in Conflict & Terrorism, vol. 31, no. 3, 2008, pp. 169-181)

Terrorism expert Byman notes from recent research that, despite Iran's very real support for terrorism for more than 25 years and its possession of chemical weapons for more than 15 years, the Tehran regime has not transferred any unconventional weapons to terrorists. First, to do so, it offers Iran no tactical advantages. Byman also notes that terrorists traditionally tend to go with what works and not with weapons that are overly complex or sophisticated. He notes that in recent years Iran has become more cautious in backing terrorist groups. Finally, Iran's leaders know that a significant escalation in support for terrorism would incur U.S. wrath and international condemnation, Byman says. He argues that the U.S. should maintain pressure on Iran to prevent it from transferring unconventional weapons systems to rogue organizations, encourage Iran to sever ties with al-Qaida, and make detection of weapons of mass destruction a top intelligence priority.

Englebort, Pierre; Tull, Denis POSTCONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION IN AFRICA: FLAWED IDEAS ABOUT FAILED STATES (International Security, vol. 32, no. 4, Spring 2008, pp. 106-139)

Englebort, professor at Pomona College and Tull, researcher at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, assert that post-conflict state reconstruction has become a priority of donors in Africa. Still, externally sponsored reconstruction efforts have met with limited success in the region. This is partly due to three flawed assumptions on which reconstruction efforts are predicated. The first is that Western state institutions can be transferred to Africa; the poor record of past efforts to reshape African political and economic institutions casts doubts on the overly ambitious objectives of failed-state reconstruction. Secondly, Western donors mistakenly believe that African leaders share their objectives; donors typically misread the nature of African politics. For local elites, reconstruction is the continuation of war and competition for resources by new means, hence their strategies are often inimical to the building of strong public institutions. Finally, donors believe they are capable of rebuilding African states; however, their ambitious goals are inconsistent with their means. Nonetheless, the authors believe that African societies are capable of recovery, as Somaliland and Uganda illustrate. Encouraging indigenous state formation efforts and constructive bargaining between social forces and governments might prove a more fruitful approach for donors to the problem of Africa's failed states.

Esterhuysen, Abel THE IRAQIZATION OF AFRICA? LOOKING AT AFRICOM FROM A SOUTH AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE (Strategic Studies Quarterly, vol. 2, no. 1, Spring 2008, pp. 111-130)

The author, a lecturer at the South African Military Academy, says the decision to create a new U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) reflects increased U.S. national security interests on the continent. It is uniquely structured to include military and civilian leaders so that both will influence U.S. policy coordination in Africa in a positive way. AFRICOM becomes fully operational in the fall of 2008 and will focus mainly on humanitarian aid and countering terrorism, but also emphasize public health, economic development, security-sector reform, and infrastructure rehabilitation. "The promise that the creation of AFRICOM will result in informed, consistent, coherent, and sustained engagement by the United States in Africa," Esterhuysen says, "is something that ought to be welcomed throughout the continent." He says the command, now headquartered in Stuttgart, Germany, provides the first real test for sustained U.S. involvement in Africa. The new command will raise Africa's strategic profile and African militaries will benefit from the transfer of



expertise, resources and post-conflict reconstruction. It will also establish a career path in the U.S. military for dedicated African specialists. Currently available online at <http://www.maxwell.af.mil/au/ssq/2008/Spring/esterhuysen.pdf>

Everett, Terry ARGUING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE SPACE PROTECTION STRATEGY (Strategic Studies Quarterly, vol. 1, no. 1, Fall 2007, pp. 20-35)

Everett, a Republican member of Congress from Alabama, addresses American dependence upon space in military and commercial terms. Rep. Everett has proposed legislation that he feels will protect American interests in space. Given our dependency, America needs to develop a comprehensive space protection strategy to detect, deter, and respond to space-threat contingencies. Although the U.S. is the leader in the use of and access to space, this leadership cannot be maintained unless America adapts to new and emerging challenges in order to stay ahead of competitors and overcome vulnerabilities in space. This article is currently available on the Internet at:

<http://www.maxwell.af.mil/au/ssq/2007/Fall/Everett.pdf>

Gaddy, Clifford; Kuchins, Andrew PUTIN'S PLAN (Washington Quarterly, vol. 31, no. 2, Spring 2008, pp. 117-129)  
Gaddy, senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, and Kuchins, director of the Center for Strategic and International Studies' Russia and Eurasia Program, write that the primary aim of Russia's electoral process has been to legitimize "Putin's Plan," ensuring a degree of continuity and stability after the end of Putin's presidency. Defined as the political course of President Putin, the concept has been around since 2000, although the term was introduced into the political vocabulary by the chairman of the United Russia party only in 2007. Rooted in a Western business theory studied by Putin when he was with the KGB, the principal idea is that true strategic planning has to take into account unforeseen changes by establishing "a hierarchical system of interrelated subplans that address different dimensions of the problems being faced." The strategic planner (CEO) is responsible for making needed adjustments but defines a course that appears stable and predictable to subordinates. According to Putin, Russian society needs unity and cohesion if it is to fulfill its destiny; that unity can best be guaranteed by the dominance of a single political party, United Russia. The growing economic power of Russia should be better reflected in the Bretton Woods institutions that manage the global economy. Long-term stability and predictability will continue to be vital to the Russian people, who "want their children to live better and their country to endure as a strong power" — the goals of Putin's Plan. Currently available online at [http://www.twq.com/08spring/docs/08spring\\_gaddy.pdf](http://www.twq.com/08spring/docs/08spring_gaddy.pdf)

Haass, Richard N. THE AGE OF NONPOLARITY: WHAT WILL FOLLOW U.S. DOMINANCE? (Foreign Affairs, vol. 87, no. 3, May/June 2008, pp. 44-56)

The age of hegemony is over, says Haass, president of the Council on Foreign Relations. The defining characteristic of today's international system is not unipolarity or multipolarity, but rather "nonpolarity" — dozens of state and non-state actors possessing various types of power. Traditional military and economic powerhouses are joined by regionally strong states, global and regional international organizations, multinational corporations, global media outlets, and transnational actors both beneficial (such as charitable foundations and religious institutions) and dangerous (terrorists and drug cartels). "America no longer has the luxury of a 'with-us-or-against-us' foreign policy," says the author, arguing that multilateralism will be key to future U.S. success as it addresses its energy consumption, continues to build strong international security partnerships against terrorism and nuclear proliferation, confronts poverty and disease, and strengthens the global economy in the name of promoting stability. Available online at

<http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20080501faessay87304/richard-n-haass/the-age-of-nonpolarity.html>.

Idov, Michael THE HIBERNATION: MEET DMITRI MEDVEDEV, A DOCILE PRESIDENT FOR A DOCILE RUSSIA (New Republic, vol. 238, no. 7, April 23, 2008, pp. 31-34)

As Dmitri Medvedev takes office as Russia's next president, the author takes stock of contemporary Russian politics since Vladimir Putin came to power in 2001. Idov dissects the Kremlin's concept of "Sovereign Democracy," finding marginalized and corrupted governing institutions, a "superfluous" youth movement, and an outsized state-owned network of industries such as Gazprom, "a parasite country piggybacking on Russia," headed by none other than Medvedev. Living standards have improved, but growing cynicism has prompted many average Russians to disengage politically, says the author, warning that their seeming complacency should not be mistaken for contentedness. But for now, as Medvedev represents the end of the Putin era, he also represents no less than its ultimate triumph. Currently available online at <http://www.tnr.com/environmentenergy/story.html?id=461ab55b-91d5-46b9-812e-8265e9ebd1fe>

Jones, Seth THE RISE OF AFGHANISTAN'S INSURGENCY: STATE FAILURE AND JIHAD (International Security, vol. 32, no. 4, Spring 2008, pp. 7-40)

The author, a political scientist at RAND Corporation and professor at Georgetown University, notes that in 2002 Afghanistan began to experience a violent insurgency as the Taliban and other groups conducted a sustained effort to overthrow the Afghan government. Jones believes that this resurgence has important policy implications, most importantly, the collapse of governance after the overthrow of the Taliban regime. The author argues that the Afghan government was unable to provide basic services to the population, its security forces were too weak to establish law

and order, and there were too few international forces to fill the gap. Also, the primary motivation of insurgent leaders was ideological -- leaders of the Taliban, al-Qaida, and other insurgent groups wanted to overthrow the Afghan government and replace it with one grounded in an extremist interpretation of Sunni Islam.

Miller, Aaron David THE LONG DISTANCE: SEARCHING FOR ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE (Wilson Quarterly, vol. 32, no. 2, Spring 2008, pp. 38-44)

Miller, a former State Department negotiator under both Republican and Democratic presidents, discusses tactics that have been successful in earlier peace negotiations and also possible pitfalls. At the more successful Arab-Israeli negotiations, outside events precipitated compromises from each side. Miller describes how the U.S.-Israeli trust relationship can be leveraged effectively but warns that productive change won't come unless both sides are ready for it. Miller suggests that the upcoming Annapolis negotiations should be about laying a framework for peace; the next administration will have the difficult task of maintaining continuity.

Munson, Robert DO WE WANT TO "KILL PEOPLE AND BREAK THINGS" IN AFRICA? A HISTORIAN'S THOUGHTS ON AFRICA COMMAND (Strategic Studies Quarterly, vol. 2, no. 1, Spring 2008, pp 97-110)

U.S. Air Force Reserve Major Robert Munson says not to expect a great transformation in U.S. policy in Africa with the establishment of U.S. Africa Command in October 2008. Such a transformation is unlikely, he writes, because it would mean the U.S. would have to shift its emphasis away from its traditional European ties, expanding bonds with Asia, and attention to conflict in the Middle East. He says AFRICOM should be structured so that U.S. interests and programs coincide with traditional U.S. allies and partners in Africa and the U.S. military effort has to be integrated with cross-continent political and development initiatives. The new command, Munson writes, should emphasize non-traditional military missions. The U.S. must approach African nations as equals and work to build beneficial relationships, according to the author. AFRICOM can especially help African peacekeepers with the transportation, equipment and supplies that they need to be effective. By partnering with Africans and helping solve their problems, Munson said future U.S. access to ports and airports will ease. This article is available on the Web at <http://www.au.af.mil/au/ssq/2008/Spring/munson.pdf>

Murphy, Dennis M.; White, James F. PROPAGANDA: CAN A WORD DECIDE A WAR? (Parameters, vol. 37, no. 3, Autumn 2007, pp. 15-27)

Murphy and White, of the U.S. Army War College, review the history of American propaganda efforts. It is difficult for the U.S. to balance the principles of a free, democratic society with the need to counter disinformation in an effort to establish credibility. Our adversaries have the advantage in an information environment uninhibited by the internal criticism of propaganda facing American leaders. Information power was previously limited to nation-states, but the Internet allows inexpensive, easily accessible propaganda, where messages can have an immediate impact. To counter these information attacks, America must react quickly, accurately, and with messages tailored to local populations. This article is currently available on the Internet at: <http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usawc/parameters/07autumn/murphy.pdf>

Ross, Michael L. BLOOD BARRELS: WHY OIL WEALTH FUELS CONFLICT (Foreign Affairs, vol. 87, no. 3, May/June 2008, pp. 2-8)

Oil-rich countries increasingly account for global instability, as rising energy prices provide autocratic and corrupt governments greater wealth, insulates them from international opprobrium of human-rights abuses, and gives would-be insurgencies incentive to enter into conflict. The author argues in support of adapting new international mechanisms to reverse the "oil curse." Citing the success of the cooperation between national governments, international organizations and NGOs in addressing Africa's "conflict diamonds" in the 1990s, the author advocates putting pressure on consumers to purchase energy from responsible governments; demanding greater transparency from producers; and urging energy companies to experiment with providing more development and infrastructure projects to poorer producing nations to ensure that all citizens benefit from their nation's energy largesse.

Simon, Steven THE PRICE OF THE SURGE (Foreign Affairs, vol. 87, no. 3, May/June 2008)

In the long run, the Bush administration's troop surge may hurt rather than help chances for building a viable Iraqi state, says Simon, Senior Fellow for Middle Eastern Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. The surge may have produced a short-lived decrease in violence, but "it has done so by stoking the three forces that have traditionally threatened the stability of Middle Eastern states: tribalism, warlordism, and sectarianism," he writes. "States that have failed to control these forces have ultimately become ungovernable, and this is the fate for which the surge is preparing Iraq. By empowering the tribes and other networks without regulating their relationship to the state, the United States has enabled them to compete with one another for local control and what is mostly criminal revenue." According to Simon, the United States currently has no good option in Iraq. He recommends that the United States make clear its intention to withdraw and suggests that reconciliation among the factions may be possible if it is under UN auspices and

led by a credible special envoy. Currently available online at <http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20080501faessay87305/steven-simon/the-price-of-the-surge.html>

Zakaria, Fareed THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN POWER: HOW AMERICA CAN SURVIVE THE RISE OF THE REST (Foreign Affairs, Vol. 87, No. 3, May-June 2008, pp. 18-43)  
According to Zakaria, editor of Newsweek International, the era of American dominance is over, but an era when America can still lead is possible. The U.S. need not become bankrupt as Great Britain, the former superpower, did a century earlier. The United States, in fact, can remain economically potent for decades to come, especially if it remains attractive to talented immigrants. The country has become politically dysfunctional, however. Bitter partisanship has prevented politicians in the middle from making the compromises needed to fix Social Security, Medicare, the tax system, subsidies, immigration policy and other national problems. Meanwhile, most of the rest of the world is challenging U.S. industrial, financial, social, and cultural power. Whether the United States can fix its political system in order to keep its economy and society competitive is unclear. Currently available online at <http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20080501facomment87303/fareed-zakaria/the-future-of-american-power.html>

## U.S. SOCIETY & VALUES

Capriccioso, Rob THE PHRASELATOR II: A HIGH-TECH MILITARY DEVICE IS HELPING TO PRESERVE THE TRIBAL LANGUAGES OF AMERICAN INDIANS (The American, October 9, 2007)  
More than 90 American Indian tribes are using the Phraselator -- a speech interpretation device developed by the U.S. military to translate Arabic words into English -- to capture words and phrases in native Indian languages before they disappear. Most tribes have very few living members who know their native tongue, and "it is increasingly rare to find young Indians who communicate with their elders in the tribal language," says author Rob Capriccioso. Don Thorton, a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, paired up with Voxtec, a Maryland-based company, to adapt the Phraselator to the preservation and teaching of American Indian languages. It can record and translate both audio and video files and can store up to 85,000 words or phrases on a flash memory card. The information can then be transferred to other computers so the tribe can build up a database, create dictionaries and teach younger tribe members the language. The tribes can do it all themselves and retain the copyright on their materials. Phraselators cost about \$3,300 plus \$500 for additional software; approximately half the tribes using the device have purchased them via grants from the U.S. government. Currently available online at <http://www.american.com/archive/2007/october-10-07/the-phraselator-ii>

Field, Kelly LAW STUDENTS TEACH COURTROOM SKILLS, AMERICAN STYLE: A CALIFORNIA LAW SCHOOL ENGAGES IN PROJECTS BOTH SILLY AND SERIOUS TO AID LEGAL REFORM IN CHILE (Chronicle of Higher Education, Vol. 54, No. 31, April 11, 2008, pp. A27-29)  
In 1997, the U.S. Information Agency (now part of the State Department) invited California Western School of Law professor Janeen Kerper to Chile to help Chilean lawyers develop their trial skills. In partnership with Catholic University of Chile, Kerper got grants from Chile's Ministry of Education and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and created Proyecto Acceso, which 11 years later is not only going strong but has expanded to eight other countries in Latin America. Acceso has trained nearly every public defender in Chile, which is switching to an adversarial, transparent system of justice, as well as a number of the country's prosecutors and judges, according to Field. Acceso has also worked in collaboration with the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (the German equivalent of AID) to educate ordinary Chileans about their legal rights, using such popular means as puppet shows, cartoons and coloring books. In 2004, Acceso began partnering with the [German] University of Heidelberg's Center for Latin America to offer postgraduate programs for Chilean lawyers. Six California Western law students recently spent a semester in Chile studying the country's judicial system, shadowing attorneys and sitting in on trials. At the end of the semester, the students became teachers, providing their Chilean mentors with feedback. "We're putting the U.S.'s best foot forward," says James M. Cooper, the California Western professor who now directs Proyecto Acceso. But financing remains a constant challenge. A second article by Field focuses on Proyecto Acceso's legal reform work with the Mapuche community in southern Chile.

Jones, Jeff HOW TO START A NONPROFIT: A DIGITAL RESOURCE (Searcher, vol. 16, no. 4, April 2008, pp. 20-25)  
Starting and managing a nonprofit [NGO] is a rewarding, but complex undertaking, notes Jones, a law librarian and writer. He outlines, in broad terms, the necessary steps it takes to tackle the process and suggests key online resources that help pave the way. Among other material, the long-established New York City-based Foundation Center produces a concise 12-step startup guide with links to relevant outside organizations. Noting that both state and federal

laws must be followed in creating a nonprofit, Jones cites to representative government agencies, such as the Internal Revenue Service, and state associations that can be helpful. The websites of the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits [MCN] and the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations are noted for offering streaming video, identifying alternatives to starting a nonprofit, and suggesting standards of conduct to help govern and manage nonprofits. The trade press and organizations that delve into the specifics of running a nonprofit or provide statistical analysis are also described.

MacDonald, Stuart; Uribe, Luis Martinez LIBRARIES IN THE CONVERGING WORLDS OF OPEN DATA, E-RESEARCH, AND WEB 2.0 (Online, vol. 32, no. 2, March/April 2008, pp. 36-40)

Information and communication technologies (ICT) are transforming the way researchers work. The new forms of research enabled by the latest technologies bring about collaboration among researchers in different locations, institutions, and even disciplines. This new collaboration has two key features -- the prodigious use and production of data. This data-centric research manifests itself in such concepts as e-science, cyber infrastructure, or e-research. Over the last decade there has been much discussion about the merits of open standards, open source software, open access to scholarly publications, and most recently open data. There are a range of authoritative weblogs that address the open movement, some of which include: 1. DCC's Digital Curation Blog, 2. Peter Suber's Open Access News, and 3. Open Knowledge Foundation Weblog. The data used and produced in e-research activities can be extremely complex, taking different forms depending on the discipline. In the hard sciences, such as biochemistry, data can take the form of images and numbers representing the structure of a protein.

Massing, Michael THE VOLUNTEER ARMY: WHO FIGHTS AND WHY? (New York Review of Books, April 3, 2008, pp. 34-36)

After reviewing survey data and interviewing a number of soldiers at 10th Mountain Division, based at Watertown, New York, the author concludes that most volunteers come from working- and lower-middle-class families, and that they seek but are unable to achieve middle-class status in a "hypercompetitive and expensive market economy" where college, in particular, is increasingly unaffordable. The military, with its housing and employment guarantees, its health insurance and educational assistance programs, "seems the last outpost of the welfare state in America."

Mathews, Jay BAD RAP ON THE SCHOOLS (Wilson Quarterly, vol. 32, no. 2, Spring 2008, pp. 15-20)

Mathews, an education reporter and columnist at The Washington Post, disputes a recently aired documentary called Two Million Minutes that suggests American students don't study as long and as hard as their counterparts in India and China, and, as a result, the U.S. may be losing the economic race to these countries. Mathews acknowledges that U.S. businesses are having trouble hiring skilled people and must often go abroad to find more, and that American high schools have not shown much improvement in math and reading in the last 30 years. However, Mathews notes that the U.S. school system is greatly superior to those in China and India -- the real problem is the bottom 30 percent of U.S. schools in urban and rural communities full of low-income children. "Not only are we denying the children who attend them the equal education that is their right, but we are squandering almost a third of our intellectual capital," he writes. Currently available online at [http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=wq.essay&essay\\_id=403291](http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=wq.essay&essay_id=403291)

Shivel, Gail SCIENCE AND THE HUMANITIES (Choice, vol. 45, no. 9, May 2008, pp. 1451-1458, 1460-1461)

The author, a lecturer in English, University of Miami, believes that the widening gap between science and the humanities is actually quite a recent phenomenon, from Copernicus's and Galileo's challenges of the religious establishment during the scientific revolution to the over-optimistic embrace by the Victorians of the possibilities for scientific answers to all the world's ills. The author begins with a discussion of the early literature, beginning with ancient times through the Renaissance and up to the early 18th century and the Enlightenment, and a discussion on whether the 20th century saw a division between humanists and scientists. The author explores the relationship between science and the mind, and science in the context of creative behavior.

Viadero, Debra INSIGHTS GAINED INTO ARTS AND SMARTS (Education Week, vol. 27, no. 27, March 12, 2008, pp. 1, 10-11)


Since the 1990s, a popular, but unproven theory has circulated that the arts, and music in particular, could make children smarter. Now, recently released findings have lent credibility to this claim. After three years of studies by university neurologists and cognitive psychologists, a tentative conclusion can be made that training in the arts might improve general thinking skills of children and adults. The report, released in March, does not provide any definitive answers to the "arts-makes-you-smarter" question, but lays to rest the notion that students are either right- or left-brained learners. As one of the researchers involved in the studies says, "the work done here suggests a much closer connection between the cognitive processes that give rise to the arts and the cognitive processes that give rise to the sciences." Arts advocates applaud the report's overall findings as supporting their efforts to maintain arts education in schools where the emphasis, most recently, has been on raising test scores in mathematics, reading, and science.

Dana Gioia, poet and chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, concurs and points out that "the purpose of education is to realize the full human potential of every child."

Zehr, Mary Ann **SCHOOLS BRACE FOR BHUTANESE WAVE** (Education Week, Vol. 27, No. 35, April 30, 2008, pp. 1, 14-15)

In the early 1990s, about 100,000 members of a Nepalese-speaking, primarily Hindu minority fled or were expelled by the Buddhist-majority nation of Bhutan. The refugees, known as the Lhotshampas, or "People of the South," have lived ever since in refugee camps in eastern Nepal. The U.S. State Department is now interviewing 60,000 or more of the refugees with the aim of resettling an undetermined number in the U.S. Schools are bracing for the linguistic and cultural challenges of this latest immigrant group. In Syracuse, New York, for example, the first two Bhutanese children have enrolled in a school in which 300 of the 720 students are English-language learners and the principal accepts all the refugees she can because she believes it is good for the American children. A State Department spokesman told the author that 5,000 Bhutanese refugees are expected in the U.S. by the end of September. Although they are trying to learn all they can about Bhutanese culture and language, teachers and principals say they typically don't know what to expect until the children of refugee families arrive at the schoolhouse door.

## **IIP Publications**

<b><u>Electronic Journals</u></b>	
	<b><u>Venture Capital Meets High Tech (E-Journal, May 2008, Vol.13, No.5)</u></b> This eJournal explores the phenomenon that drives uncounted Americans — and now citizens of other nations — to create fledgling “start-up” businesses that explore and exploit the latest developments in high technology. It also investigates the closely related “venture capital” phenomenon. How investors match their funds to (hopefully) winning ideas is a big part of the start-up story.

## **Ask America**

Ask America allow foreign audiences to interact with American citizens on wide range of topics using a chat tool over the Internet. U.S. government and private sector subject experts, academics, journalists, and everyday citizens are brought on as guests to do webchats on USINFO. You may visit the [USINFO Webchat Homepage](http://www.usinfo.gov/webchat/) to see upcoming ones, and read the transcripts of the previous webchats.

## **Podcasts**

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/podcast.html>

## **Videos**

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/video.html?videoid=1498976413>

**If you have any questions, please contact the  
American Information Resource Center at Tel: 0-312-457 72 77**