

AMERICAN CORNER

IZMIR/TURKEY

E-DOCS ALERT FY11 16

November 26, 2010

REPORTS

International Climate Change: A Negotiations Side-by-Side. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Jane A. Leggett. November 18, 2010.

Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), signed in

1992, gather for their 16th annual meeting in Cancun, Mexico, from November 29 to December

10, 2010. Several formal and informal negotiating sessions in 2010, intended to resuscitate the global negotiations to address climate change beyond the year 2012, have followed the 2009

meeting in Copenhagen, with which many countries and observers were disappointed. Few expect much progress at the Cancun talks, although many seek a decision to extend the

negotiating mandates with a deadline of 2011 for comprehensive, legally binding agreements on

further GHG mitigation, financing, technology cooperation, and adaptation.

Full Text:

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/151972.pdf> [PDF format, 23 pages].

Item#11AD301
Global

MSRP Theme: 14B

Geo:

Preventing Odious Obligations: A New Tool for Protecting Citizens from Illegitimate Regimes. Center for Global Development. November 22, 2010.

The report sets out a way to prevent an all-too-common form of theft from some of the world's poorest people. An illegitimate, unelected regime signs a contract with a foreign agent, handing over part of the national patrimony in exchange for a short-run payment, which the regime appropriates or uses in part to finance repression. Legitimate successor regimes often need to levy taxes to fulfill debt contracts incurred in this manner for fear of legal retribution and loss of reputation with investors if they fail to repay. And in the case of natural resource contracts, citizens continue to suffer from the sweetheart contracts that deprive the government of deserved revenues.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1424618/> [HTML format with links].

Item#11AD302
Global

MSRP Theme: 1H

Geo:

Reflections on the Global Food Crisis. International Food Policy Research Institute. Derek Headey and Shenggen Fan. November 2010.

The dramatic surge in food prices from 2005 to 2008 seriously threatened the world's poor, who struggle to buy food even under normal circumstances, and led to protests and riots in the developing world. The crisis eventually receded, but such surges could recur unless steps are taken to prevent them. Using up-to-date information, the authors identify the key causes of the food price surge, its consequences for global poverty, and the challenges involved in preventing another crisis.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/rr165.pdf> [PDF format, 142 pages].

Item#11AD303
Global

MSRP Theme: 5A

Geo:

Taking Action on Climate Change: The Forecast for Cancun and Beyond. Brookings Institution. Katherine Sierra et al. November 22, 2010.

Negotiators to the 16th Conference of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) will meet in Cancun (COP16) November 29 to December 10, 2010. The Mexican hosts have tried hard to avoid the overblown hopes of last year's meetings in Copenhagen—and expectations remain modest. Instead of striving for a master agreement, delegates in Cancun will look to agree on the building blocks that tackle key issues for global cooperation. Nevertheless, while there is no expectation for a binding international treaty,

elements of these individual building blocks remain contentious, and success in negotiating a balanced package of actions therefore remains uncertain.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2010/11_climate_sierra_hultman/11_climate_sierra_hultman.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

Item#11AD304
Global

MSRP Theme: 14B

Geo:

The World Is Adrift as Nations Skirmish. YaleGlobal. Kishore Mahbubani. November 23, 2010.

As the world becomes totally integrated, organizing principles and institutional structures have not kept up. Members of the G-20, the global group of powerful economies, continue to jockey, avoiding the tough assessments and sacrifices required to resolve pressing global issues from climate change and terrorism to economic crises. Kishore Mahbubani relies on an analogy, comparing the Earth to a boat: Long ago, nations could act as individual vessels and avoid one another. But a shrunken, interconnected world is now similar to one large boat, with every nation occupying a separate cabin: Irresponsibility in one cabin disrupts the others; with no captain or crew, there's minimal coordination or direction.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/world-adrift-nations-skirmish> [HTML format, various paging].

Item#11AD305
Global

MSRP Theme: 1H

Geo:

Closing Doors?: The Narrow of Democratic Space in Burundi. Human Rights Watch. November 23, 2010.

The report documents abuses including torture, arbitrary arrests, banning of opposition activities, and harassment of civil society groups. Human Rights Watch called on the government to end the abuses and to strengthen institutional mechanisms to promote accountability by government officials and security forces.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2010/11/23/closing-doors-1> [HTML format with links].

Item#11AD306

MSRP Theme: 12HR

Geo: AF

Can China Afford to Confront the World? – Part I. Jonathan Fenby. YaleGlobal. November 25, 2010.

China's emersion into free-market capitalism was gradual and cautious. Now the world's second largest economy, China often clashes with its largest trade partner, the U.S., most recently over currency revaluation measures at the G20 meeting in Seoul. The series analyzes China's new assertiveness, both regionally and with the U.S., and the directions this can take. China's leaders are no longer shy about the nation's intentions to work within current rules and compete with other powers on high-value technology, energy security and regional partnerships. Fenby notes that engaging in spats over petty matters will only lead to protectionism and economic troubles for both China and the U.S. Or, leaders can adopt an attitude of respect deserved by each nation, joining forces to solve global problems.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/china-confront-world-part-i> [HTML format, various paging].

Item#11AD307
EAP

MSRP Theme: 1E

Geo:

Don't Rush Back to the Six-Party Talks: A Call for Vigilant Disregard. Brookings Institution. Ho-Jin Lee. November 23, 2010.

According to the author, rigorous enforcement of existing sanctions and resolutions will create such dire economic straits for the regime that it will have no choice but to show "seriousness of purpose" and return to the Six-Party Talks with the aim of exchanging its nuclear weapons for survival, not just for targeted assistance and aid. A Korean aphorism that "the thirsty person must dig the well" is appropriate to this situation.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2010/1123_north_korea_lee.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

Item#11AD308
EAP

MSRP Theme: 1E

Geo:

Understanding and Confronting North Korea. Brookings Institution. Michael E. O'Hanlon. November 23, 2010.

Why does North Korea continue to provoke, often with lethal force? At one level, no one knows. The Hermit Kingdom is famously opaque, and with a leadership transition from Kim Jong-Il to his son Kim Jong-Un likely in the works as well, the current mystery is even deeper than usual. At another level, according to the author, North Korea carries out such shenanigans because it gets away with them. And it does so because it has few other ways to demand the world's attention. Brinkmanship brings it global prominence.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/1123_north_korea_ohanlon.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

Item#11AD309
EAP

MSRP Theme: 1E

Geo:

Uranium and Artillery: North Korean Revelations and Provocations. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Victor Cha. November 24, 2010.

On November 12, nuclear scientist Siegfried Hecker and his colleagues were taken on a tour of the recently updated Yongbyon Nuclear Complex in North Korea. Hecker and his colleagues expressed surprise at the sophistication and cleanliness of the new plant, characteristics that were not previously attributed to Yongbyon. After he returned from his trip, Hecker privately informed the White House of these new revelations regarding the North's nuclear program, which the administration had suspected was continuing despite UN sanctions. Following Hecker's revelations, North Korea fired scores of artillery rounds on November 23 near Yeonpyeong Island along the Northern Limit Line (NLL) in the Yellow Sea. Two South Korean marines and two civilians were killed in the clash, and the island's 1,600 residents were partially evacuated.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://csis.org/publication/uranium-and-artillery-north-korean-revelations-and-provocations> [HTML format, various paging].

Item#11AD310
EAP

MSRP Theme: 2G

Geo:

Egypt's Unobserved Elections. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Michele Dunne and Amr Hamzawy. November 23, 2010.

Even though the Obama administration was unable to persuade President Mubarak to accept international election monitors, it is important to continue showing U.S. support for political reform and human rights in Egypt.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=41993> [HTML format, various paging].

Item#11AD311
NEA

MSRP Theme: 12EL

Geo:

Elections in Egypt: State of Permanent Emergency Incompatible with Free and Fair Vote. Human Rights Watch. November 23, 2010.

The report documents the vague and subjective criteria in Egypt's Political Parties Law that allow the government and ruling party to impede formation of new political parties. Egypt remains under an Emergency Law that since 1981 has given security officials free rein to prohibit or disperse election-related rallies, demonstrations, and public meetings, and to detain people indefinitely without charge.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2010/11/23/elections-egypt-0> [HTML format with links].

Item#11AD312
NEA

MSRP Theme: 12EL

Geo:

Astana on the Atlantic: Transatlantic Strategy in Central Asia and the OSCE. Atlantic Council. Chuck Hagel et al. November 22, 2010.

The report offers recommendations to the Obama Administration on the eve of the OSCE Summit in Astana, Kazakhstan, in order to reposition the U.S. in Central Asia and build an enduring OSCE presence in the region. The report's authors propose how the organization can

enhance transparency and conflict resolution mechanisms in Eurasia and throughout the 56 member-states of the OSCE. The report also provides a blueprint for a transatlantic strategy that engages Central Asia in a balanced, sustained way and advances issues of common interest to the region without abandoning important principles of U.S. diplomacy.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/403/112210_ACUS_AstanaAtlantic.pdf [PDF format, 28 pages].

Item#11AD313

MSRP Theme: 1E

Geo: SCA

Country Analysis Briefs: Kazakhstan. Energy Information Administration. November 2010.

Full development of its major oilfields could make Kazakhstan one of the world's top 5 oil producers within the next decade. With production of 1.54 million barrels per day (bbl/d) in 2009, Kazakhstan is already a major producer, and continued development of its giant Tengiz, Karachaganak, and Kashagan fields is expected to at least double its current production by 2019. Kazakhstan's sector of the Caspian Sea is believed to hold several other major oil and natural gas deposits as yet unexploited.

Full Text:

<http://www.eia.gov/emeu/cabs/Kazakhstan/pdf.pdf> [PDF format, 10 pages].

Item#11AD314
SCA

MSRP Theme: 4E

Geo:

Hydropolitics in Pakistan's Indus Basin. U.S. Institute of Peace. Daanish Mustafa. November 2010.

The report examines the Indus Waters Treaty and its role in contemporary international hydro-politics in the Indus basin, paying particular attention to the most recent river development projects on the Indian side of the Indus's three western tributaries. Conflicts around contemporary large-scale water development projects in the Indian and Pakistani parts of the Indus basin are also reviewed.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR261%20-%20Hydropolitics_in_Pakistan's%20_Indus_Basin.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

Item#11AD315

MSRP Theme: 14F

Geo: SCA

Realignment: Management a Stable Transition to Afghan Responsibility. Center for American Progress. Caroline Wadhams et al. November 23, 2010.

The report outlines how to promote a self-sustaining government in Afghanistan.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/11/pdf/afghanistanleadership.pdf> [PDF format, 39 pages].

Item#11AD316
SCA

MSRP Theme: 12CS

Geo:

The War in Afghanistan: Key Trends in Fighting and ANSF Development in the November 2010 1230 Report. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Anthony H. Cordesman. November 24, 2010.

The author discusses the state of the war in Afghanistan.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://csis.org/files/publication/101124_AfghanNov2010Dod_1230.pdf [PDF format, 21 pages].

Item#11AD317
SCA

MSRP Theme: 1H

Geo:

Cooperative Mexican-U.S. Antinarcotics Efforts. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Sidney Weintraub and Duncan Wood. November 22, 2010.

Because of high U.S. narcotics consumption and Mexico's role as the main transit country for cocaine from Colombia, the dominant narcotics activity in the Western Hemisphere takes place between the United States and Mexico. Competition among the large Mexican drug-trafficking organizations to maximize their sales in the United States has led to terrible

violence in Mexico, and that country's "war" against those organizations has amplified that violence.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://csis.org/files/publication/101108_Weintraub_MexicanUSAntinarc_web.pdf [PDF format, 134 pages].

Item#11AD318
WHA

MSRP Theme: 9E

Geo:

Cuba: Issues for the 111th Congress. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Mark P. Sullivan. November 12, 2010.

Cuba remains a one-party communist state with a poor record on human rights. The country's political succession in 2006 from the long-ruling Fidel Castro to his brother Raúl was characterized by a remarkable degree of stability. The government of Raúl Castro implemented limited economic policy changes in 2008 and 2009, and in September 2010 began a significant

series of reforms to reduce the public sector and increase private enterprise. Few observers expect the government to ease its tight control over the political system, although it has reduced the number of political prisoners over the past several years, including more than 50 released since July 2010 after talks with the Cuban Catholic Church.

Full Text:

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/151978.pdf> [PDF format, 83 pages].

Item#11AD319
WHA

MSRP Theme: 1E, 12DEI

Geo:

The Gains From Trade: South American Economic Integration and the Resolution of Conflict. Center for Economic and Policy Research. Mark Weisbrot and Jake Johnston. November 2010.

It has long been argued that expanding commercial relations between countries acts as an incentive for countries to avoid hostilities up to and including armed conflict. The case of Venezuela and Colombia may provide an example of how economic integration can establish important incentives to conflict resolution.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/gains-from-trade-2010-11.pdf> [PDF format, 12 pages].

Item#11AD320
WHA

MSRP Theme: 05

Geo:

North American Transportation Statistics: Over 97 Million Personal Vehicles Entered the U.S. in 2009. U.S. Department of Transportation. Dave Smallen. November 18, 2010.

More than 97 million personal vehicles entered the United States in 2009, 26.7 million from Canada, and 70.3 million from Mexico, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS) (Table 1). Additionally, 9.3 million trucks, 344,809 buses, and 31,509 trains entered the U.S. in 2009 (NATS database, Table 12-3).

Full Text:

<http://nats.sct.gob.mx/nats/sys/index.jsp?i=3> [HTML format with links].

<http://nats.sct.gob.mx/nats/sys/index.jsp?i=1> In French [HTML format with links].

<http://nats.sct.gob.mx/nats/sys/index.jsp?i=2> In Spanish [HTML format with links].

Item#11AD321
WHA

MSRP Theme: 5C

Geo:

Conventional Prompt Global Strike and Long-Range Ballistic Missiles: Background and Issues. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Amy F. Woolf. October 25, 2010.

Prompt global strike (PGS) would allow the U.S. to strike targets anywhere on earth with conventional weapons in as little as an hour. This capability may bolster U.S. efforts to deter and defeat adversaries by allowing the United States to attack high-value targets or “fleeting targets” at the start of or during a conflict. Congress has generally supported the PGS mission, but it has restricted funding and suggested some changes in funding for specific programs.

Full Text:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/nuke/R41464.pdf> [PDF format, 40 pages].

Item#11AD322
USA

MSRP Theme: 2E

Geo:

Countering Radicalization in America: Lessons from Europe. U.S. Institute of Peace. Lorenzo Vidino. November 2010.

In response to the recent surge in the number of American Muslims involved in terrorist activities, several agencies in the U.S. government have begun devising a comprehensive counter radicalization strategy. In doing so, they are following the lead of certain European countries that have invested significant human, financial, and political capital in counter radicalization programs.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR262%20-%20Countering_Radicalization_in_America.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

Item#11AD323
USA

MSRP Theme: 11C

Geo:

Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA): Congressional Interest and Executive Enforcement. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Michael V. Seitzinger. October 21, 2010.

The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 (FCPA) was intended to prevent corporate bribery of foreign officials. The act has three major provisions; they concern the accounting standards of corporations, the requirements of Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) registered issuers, and anti-bribery. The act was amended in 1988 and in 1998, but the three major areas of coverage remain.

Full Text:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41466.pdf> [PDF format, 6 pages].

Item#11AD324
USA

MSRP Theme: 12DEC

Geo:

The Growing Gap between Landline and Dual Frame Election Polls. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. Scott Keeter et al. November 22, 2010.

The analysis of pre-election surveys finds that support for Republican candidates was significantly higher in landline-only samples than in samples that included cell phone interviews. The difference in the margin among likely voters this year is about twice as large as in 2008.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://pewresearch.org/assets/pdf/1806-cell-phones-2010-election.pdf> [PDF format, 12 pages].

Item#11AD325
USA

MSRP Theme: 12ELG

Geo:

Housing Policy is School Policy: Economically Integrative Housing Promotes Academic Success in Montgomery County, Maryland. The Century Foundation. Heather Schwartz. November 2010.

The education reform debate is dominated by efforts to make high-poverty schools work better, but the report suggests that a more promising strategy involves providing low-income families a chance to live in more-advantaged neighborhoods, where their children can attend low-poverty public schools.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://tcf.org/publications/pdfs/housing-policy-is-school-policy-pdf/Schwartz.pdf> [PDF format, 57 pages].

Item#11AD326
USA

MSRP Theme: 12ED

Geo:

***** Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2010. National Center for Education Statistics. Simone Roberts et al. November 23, 2010.

A joint effort by the Bureau of Justice Statistics and National Center for Education Statistics, this annual report examines crime occurring in school as well as on the way to and from school. It provides the most current detailed statistical information to inform the Nation on the nature of crime in schools. This report presents data on crime at school from the perspectives of students, teachers, principals, and the general population from an array of sources--the National Crime Victimization Survey, the School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey, the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, the School Survey on Crime and Safety and the School and Staffing Survey. Data on crime away from school are also presented to place school crime in the context of crime in the larger society.

Full Text:

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011002.pdf> [PDF format, 193 pages].

Item#11AD327
USA

MSRP Theme: 12ED, 12SIB

Geo:

Policing Content in the Quasi-Public Sphere. OpenNet Initiative. Jillian C. York. November 2010.

Online conversations today exist primarily in the realm of social media and blogging platforms, most of which are owned by private companies. Such privately owned platforms now occupy a significant role in the public sphere, as places in which ideas and information are exchanged and debated by people from every corner of the world. The paper highlights the practices of five platforms—Facebook, YouTube, Flickr, Twitter, and Blogger—in regard to TOS and account deactivations. It will highlight each company's user policies, as well as examples of each company's procedures for policing content.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://opennet.net/sites/opennet.net/files/PolicingContent.pdf> [PDF format, 29 pages].

Item#11AD328

MSRP Theme: 12ICF

Geo: USA

The Rise of College Student Borrowing. Pew Research Center Social & Demographic Trends Project. Paul Taylor et al. November 23, 2010.

Undergraduate college student borrowing has risen dramatically in recent years. Graduates who received a bachelor's degree in 2008 borrowed 50% more, in inflation-adjusted dollars, than their counterparts who graduated in 1996, while graduates who earned an associate's degree or undergraduate certificate in 2008 borrowed more than twice what their counterparts in 1996 had borrowed, according to the analysis.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://pewsocialtrends.org/files/2010/11/social-trends-2010-student-borrowing.pdf> [PDF format, 18 pages].

Item#11AD329
USA

MSRP Theme: 12EDF

Geo:

Subprime Opportunity: The Unfulfilled Promise of For-Profit Colleges and Universities. The Education Trust. November 2010

Three years after the U.S. housing market collapse, U.S. continues to suffer the effects of misplaced priorities and weak regulation of subprime mortgage lenders. The report warns that the most vulnerable Americans are being targeted by yet another set of corporations peddling access to the American dream but delivering little more than crippling debt. This time, it's under regulated for-profit colleges.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.edtrust.org/sites/edtrust.org/files/publications/files/Subprime_report.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

Item#11AD330

MSRP Theme: 12EDF

Geo: USA

Thanksgiving Day November 25, 2010. U.S. Census Bureau. 2010.

In the fall of 1621, the Pilgrims, early settlers of Plymouth Colony, held a three-day feast to celebrate a bountiful harvest, an event many regard as the nation's first Thanksgiving. Historians have also recorded ceremonies of thanks among other groups of European settlers in North America, including British colonists in Virginia in 1619. The legacy of thanks and the feast have survived the centuries, as the event became a national holiday in 1863 when President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday of November as a national day of thanksgiving. The bulletin gives current statistics on U.S. Census.

Full Text:

http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/pdf/cb10ff-20_thanksgiving.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

Item#11AD331
USA

MSRP Theme: 12SI

Geo:

Use of the Internet in Higher-Income Households. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Jim Jansen. November 24, 2010.

According to the report, almost all Americans who live in households earning \$75,000 or more a year use the internet compared with 70% of those with less income. The well-off are also more likely to own and use various types of technology.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2010/PIP-Better-off-households-final.pdf> [PDF format, 13 pages].

Item#11AD332
USA

MSRP Theme: 12ICF

Geo:

U.S. Foreign Aid Reform Meets the Tea Party. Center for American Progress. John Norris. November 22, 2010.

John Norris discusses how foreign aid reform can continue to gain traction in the 112th Congress.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/11/pdf/foreign_aid_meets_tea_party.pdf [PDF format, 34 pages].

Item#11AD333
USA

MSRP Theme: 3D

Geo:
