



July/August 2010

INFO-ALERT brings to your attention a selection of abstracts of current articles and new materials from American publications on current political, economic, social issues and trends in the United States. These materials are available upon request from the **Information Resource Center**.

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POLITICS & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

1. HORIZONTAL ASIA

Anthony Bubalo and Malcolm Cook
The American Interest, May/June 2010, 8 pages

Anthony Bubalo and Malcolm Cook, Program Directors at the Lowy Institute for International Policy, argue that Asia should be perceived as a "horizontal" entity, with infrastructure and economic ties stretching west into the heart of the Asian continent. The implications for Western countries are also discussed.

2. OBAMA'S FOREIGN POLICY

Henry R. Nau
Policy Review, April/May 2010, 21 pages

Henry Nau, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at the Elliott School of International Affairs, examines four areas of American foreign policy cycles between democracy and security, force and diplomacy, markets and regulation, and unilateralism and multilateralism, and analyzes where the Obama administration seems to be heading.

3. **GIVE 'EM HELL, BARRY**

Robert Kuttner

The American Prospect, May 2010, 4 pages

What can President Barack Obama learn from former President Harry Truman's inspired use of partisanship? Robert Kuttner, co-founder and co-editor of *The American Prospect*, examines the Truman Presidency, which had to deal with transitioning the war economy to a peacetime economy, as a role model for the Obama Presidency.

4. **ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AND ARCHITECTURE**

C. Fred Bergsten

Speech at the Conference on Asia-Pacific Regional Economic Integration and Architecture, March 25, 2010, 3 pages

Fred Bergsten, Director of the Peterson Institute for International Economics, discusses the importance of moving in parallel on Asia-Pacific trade liberalization along with similar movements from inside Asia, and the implications of an Asia trade bloc for the rest of the world.

5. **WHAT KIND OF SOCIALIST IS BARACK OBAMA?**

Jonah Goldberg

Commentary, May 2010, 7 pages

Does President Obama's preference for wealth redistribution in order to create an equitable society sound like a socialist? Jonah Goldberg, an editor-at-large of *National Review Online*, discusses President Obama's political philosophy and its relationship to various types of socialism.

ECONOMIC SECURITY AND TRADE

6. **GETTING OUR VALUES AROUND COPYRIGHT**

Lawrence Lessig

Educause Review, March/April 2010, 11 pages

Lawrence Lessig, Director of the Edmond J. Safra Foundation Center for Ethics at Harvard University, discusses the existing system of copyright and its challenges in the digital age.

7. **FREE, TOLERANT, AND HAPPY**

Richard Florida

The Atlantic Online, April 19, 2010, 9 pages

To what extent is economic freedom associated with tolerance and happiness? To what extent is economic freedom also associated with other factors like affluence and material well-being, the level of human capital, and the transition to postindustrial economic structures? And what is the relationship between freedom and economic inequality? Richard Florida, a founder of the Creative Class Group, discusses these correlations.

8. **BIGGER IS BETTER**

Richard Rosecrance

Foreign Affairs, May/June 2010, 7 pages

Richard Rosecrance, Director of the Project on U.S.-China Relations at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, examines the trading-state model and a transatlantic economic union, focusing on the need for the growth of global markets and financial assets.

SOCIAL ISSUES & VALUES, EDUCATION & THE ARTS

9. **FICTION IN THE AGE OF E-BOOKS**

Paul Theroux

The Atlantic, May 2010 Fiction Supplement, 2 pages

What does the proliferation of Kindles, Nooks, iPads, and other e-readers portend for the publishing industry? What does the e-reader mean for writers, storytellers, and the place of fiction in the cultural landscape? Author Paul Theroux discusses the magical qualities of electronic books and readers, differences between American literary culture and that of other countries, and advice for young writers.

10. **DANCING WITH HISTORY: A CAUTIONARY TALE**

Brenda Gourley

Educause Review, January/February 2010, 12 pages

Brenda Gourley, former Vice Chancellor of The Open University, discusses the challenges of the integration of technology on the teaching models in higher education, and the benefits of using technology in the educational system.

11. **TRACKING A GLOBAL ACADEMIC REVOLUTION**

Philip G. Altbach, et al.

Change, March/April 2010, 10 pages

The author discusses the basic forces that have propelled the academic revolution in the late 20th and early 21st centuries, and the relationship between education and globalization, which has been formed by elements such as a structured world economy, new communications, and information technologies.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

12. **SUSTAINING QUALITY JOURNALISM**

Jill Abramson

Daedalus, Spring 2010, 6 pages

Rather than battling over whether bloggers are real journalists or whether newspapers need to be preserved, the author argues that this fight should focus more on championing serious, quality journalism, no matter who produces it or where it is published. The need to sustain quality journalism and its challenges are discussed.

13. **WHAT IS NEWS IN THE AGE OF BLOG AND TWEET?**

Robert Knight

The Quill, March/April 2010, 5 pages

The author, a veteran wire service, print and broadcast reporter, discusses how the increasing use of social media, like Twitter, affects journalism. A look at the value of newsworthiness and how the social media has provided a different definition in handling issues is also provided.

14. **THINK AGAIN: THE INTERNET**

Evgeny Morozov

Foreign Policy, May/June 2010, 5 pages

The author, a contributing editor to *Foreign Policy*, discusses whether the Internet is the ultimate tool to foster tolerance, destroy nationalism, and transform the planet into one great wired global village.

15. **JOURNALISM ETHICS AMID STRUCTURAL CHANGE**

Jane B. Singer

Daedalus, Spring 2010, 11 pages

The author examines key aspects of structural change in journalism in the 21st century, focusing on how they affect the ethical beliefs and behaviors of journalists.

16. **HOW TO SAVE THE NEWS**

James Fallows

The Atlantic, June 2010, 12 pages

James Fallows, a national correspondent for *The Atlantic*, discusses efforts by search engine giant Google to define a profitable business plan for news organizations, noting the social importance of news organizations in reporting news and their need for an updated business model.

17. **NEW ECONOMIC MODELS FOR U.S. JOURNALISM**

Robert H. Giles

Daedalus, Spring 2010, 13 pages

The author discusses the search for workable business models for U.S. journalism, focusing on how high-quality journalism can survive and thrive in the internet age.