



# ECONOMISTS for PEACE & SECURITY

NewsNotes - June 2007

In This Issue (click on a button or heading to jump to that section)

- [EPS News](#)
- [Links](#)
- [In Other News](#)
- [Food for Thought](#)
- [Funding and Employment Opportunities](#)
- [EPS Publications](#)
- [Action Corner](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [How Can I Help?](#)

Former Rotary World Peace Fellow Umar Shavurov is fond of quoting a proverb popular in his native Kyrgyzstan:

"The wise invest in people, fools invest in wars."

## EPS News

- The EPS conference, *War and Poverty, Peace and Prosperity*, which took place at our home at the Levy Institute May 30 - June 1, was a great success. The conference was attended by over 50 participants. Photographs of the conference are now posted on the website, and transcripts of the sessions will be posted as they become available.  
  
Please visit <http://www.epsusa.org/events/07conf/program.htm> to review the conference and follow the updates.
- The 11th Annual Conference on Economics & Security** will take place July 5 - 7, 2007 in Bristol, UK. The conference is sponsored by Economists for Peace and Security-UK, the Arms Production and Trade Group, the University of the West of England and the University of Bristol. The conference will have a public lecture, plenary sessions with keynote speakers, plus specialist workshop streams.

Program and registration information at <http://carecon.org.uk/Conferences/Conf2007/CONF2007.html>

□ Congratulations to EPS Fellow David Gold and co-editor Sean Costigan on the publication of their new book, *Terroronomics*.

Today, no single issue dominates the global political landscape as much as terrorism. Aware of their unique position in the newly unipolar world, terrorist leaders - Osama bin Laden foremost among them - have articulated that economic warfare is a key component of the new terrorist agenda. Governments have accentuated the role of economic tools in their counter-terrorism policies while maintaining emphasis on the application of military force, or "hard power," even though such tools often prove unnecessarily blunt, or in

some cases are sorely inadequate. Given the complexity of the global threat posed by modern transnational terrorist groups, combating terrorism with a mix of hard and "soft power" is more important than ever. The need for management flexibility and a full complement of choices in the policy toolkit is a pressing concern.

Retail price \$69.95, published May, 2007 by Ashgate. More on the book and a special 35% discount is available at:

[http://www.isn.ethz.ch/about/css/css\\_publications.cfm#Terroronomics](http://www.isn.ethz.ch/about/css/css_publications.cfm#Terroronomics)

[http://www.isn.ethz.ch/about/css/css\\_publicationform\\_ashgate.cfm](http://www.isn.ethz.ch/about/css/css_publicationform_ashgate.cfm)

□ One of the benefits of membership in EPS is a 25% **discounted subscription to the Economics of Peace and Security Journal**. Regular one-year subscriptions are \$40 per year. For EPS members the one-year subscription is \$30.

The journal is a peer-reviewed online publication hosted by EPS-UK. Published twice yearly, it raises and debates all issues related to the political economy of personal, communal, national, international, and global peace and security. Past contributors have included Joseph Stiglitz, James Galbraith, and Lawrence Klein. The journal's website also includes book reviews submitted by members and subscribers.

For more information or to subscribe to the journal, please visit: <http://www.epsjournal.org.uk/>

To become a member of EPS (and to qualify for the subscription discount) please visit:

<http://www.epsusa.org/membership/membership.htm>

□ The June issue of the EPS Quarterly, with its focus on Africa, is now in the mail. Articles include:

- [The Economics of Intrastate Conflict: Observations from the Case of Sierra Leone](#). K. Maeve Powlick
- [China in African oil: Guilty as charged?](#) Åshild Kolås
- [A Trusteeship for Zimbabwe: Citizens as the Main Actors](#). Norman Reynolds
- [Into Africa](#). Conn Hallinan

□ *Contributions to Conflict Management Peace Economics and Development* is a book series edited by EPS Fellow Manas Chatterji, and published by Elsevier. The Series publishes both theoretical and empirical papers on conflict and peace related to economic, social and political development, primarily of the developing countries. The role of uneven distribution of resources, inequity in income distribution, social and political discrimination, poverty, and arms spending on conflict within and between countries is

covered. Developmental issues related to water resources, energy-environment, health, urbanization, globalization and population growth and their impact on conflict are areas of interest. Although the subject appears very broad, the focus is on conflict and its management and possible resolution.

[http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/bookdescription.cws\\_home/BS\\_CCMP/description#description](http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/bookdescription.cws_home/BS_CCMP/description#description)

Essays proposed for submission may be sent to Manas Chatterji, Professor of Management, Binghamton University - State University of New York by phone (607) 777-2475; fax (607) 777-4422; or e-mail: [mchatter@binghamton.edu](mailto:mchatter@binghamton.edu)

On May 22, The Newshour with Jim Lehrer did a piece on the costs of the war in Iraq, in which EPS Trustee Joseph Stiglitz, EPS Fellow Linda Bilmes, and Greg Speeter of the National Priorities Project were interviewed. A transcript of the interviews is at [http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/middle\\_east/jan-june07/warcost\\_05-22.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/middle_east/jan-june07/warcost_05-22.html)

[back to top](#)

## Links

**We're # 1! A Nation of Firsts Arms the World** by Frida Berrigan for Tomdispatch.com.

Face it, the United States is a proud nation of firsts. Among them:

- First in Oil Consumption: The United States burns up 20.7 million barrels per day, the equivalent of the oil consumption of China, Japan, Germany, Russia, and India combined.
- First in Carbon Dioxide Emissions: Each year, world polluters pump 24,126,416,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) into the environment. The United States and its territories are responsible for 5.8 billion metric tons of this, equal to China (3.3 billion), Russia (1.4 billion) and India (1.2 billion) combined.
- First in External Debt: The United States owes \$10.040 trillion, nearly a quarter of the global debt total of \$44 trillion.
- First in Military Expenditures: The White House has requested \$481 billion for the Department of Defense for 2008, but this huge figure does not come close to representing total US military expenditures projected for the coming year. To get a sense of the resources allocated to the military, the costs of the global war on terrorism, of the building, refurbishing, or maintaining of the US nuclear arsenal, and other expenses also need to be factored in. Military analyst Winslow Wheeler did the math recently: "Add \$142 billion to cover the anticipated costs of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; add \$17 billion requested for nuclear weapons costs in the Department of Energy; add another \$5 billion for miscellaneous defense costs in other agencies.... and you get a grand total of \$647 billion for 2008."

Read the whole articles at <http://www.tomdispatch.com/index.mhtml?pid=196017>.

A shorter version of this piece was also published on the *Opinion* page of the *Los Angeles Times*.


<http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/la-oe-berrigan21may21,0,4748613.story?coll=la-home-commentary>

However, the US ranked 96 out of 121 countries in a [Global Peace Index](#) (GPI) released last week by the [Economist Intelligence Unit](#) and an international team of peace experts. This places the US one small notch above Iran (ranked 97), in the standings. Iraq ranked dead last (121), while Afghanistan is in such bad shape that it could not be scored due to lack of available data.

With them at the bottom of the heap were: Sudan (120, with its ongoing genocide in Darfur); Israel (119, with its continuing occupation of Palestine); and Russia (118, with its bloody civil war in Chechnya); Colombia (116 for its ongoing drug wars); Pakistan (115); and India (109, as arch-rival neighbor to bordering Pakistan).

The GPI uses twenty-four key "[indicators](#)" or "measures" - of ongoing domestic and international conflict, domestic security, and militarization - to arrive at its rankings. Factors bringing down the US score include extremely high prison rates, massive troop deployments, excessive military spending, and potential for terrorist acts.


See <http://www.visionofhumanity.com/index.php> for the complete index.

 **WashingtonWatch.com** is a digital community that ranks legislation by popularity, cost or savings. The site has been around since the beginning of the 109th Congress, and this April added a "wiki" component, allowing visitors to add, remove and edit content. The site has thousands of entries for each piece of legislation moving through Congress. The goal is to increase transparency, particularly with respect to the cost of legislation.


<http://dyn.politico.com/printstory.cfm?uuid=B58909BD-3048-5C12-00109777963F536A>

[back to top](#)


## In Other News

 Recent research highlights on id21 Global Issues forum focus on conflict:

- Reintegrating ex-fighters of the Lord's Resistance Army of Uganda  
<http://www.id21.org/society/s10cta1g2.html>
- Changing relations between military and humanitarian actors  
<http://www.id21.org/society/s10avw1g1.html>
- African peacemaking must not ignore social justice <http://www.id21.org/society/s10bpd1g1.html>
- Uncertain return of displaced people in southern Sudan <http://www.id21.org/society/s10bjp1g1.html>
- Policing development: linking security and poverty reduction  
<http://www.id21.org/society/s10amt1g1.html>

 The Global Policy Forum has released a 110-page **study documenting and analyzing violations of international law by the United States and its Coalition in Iraq**. The report, entitled "War and Occupation in Iraq," also looks at other aspects of the occupation, such as the very high mortality of Iraqis and the huge displacement. Every chapter of the report has been checked by outside experts and the text is heavily footnoted.

<http://www.globalpolicy.org/security/issues/iraq/occupation/report/index.htm>

 The original cost of the Army's Future Combat System was to be \$92 billion; now it's up to over \$200 billion, and the classic phase for major cost overruns has not even begun. Worse still is that the whole concept is proving itself in Iraq to be an abject failure. A recent article explains the multiple fiascos inherent in this money guzzling fantasy of the wizards of the so-called "revolution in military affairs." "*Fighting Folly*," by Greg Grant, was published May 1, 2007 in *Government Executive* magazine.

[http://www.governmentexecutive.com/story\\_page.cfm?filepath=/features/0507-01/0507-01s3.htm](http://www.governmentexecutive.com/story_page.cfm?filepath=/features/0507-01/0507-01s3.htm)

□ The Department of Defense recently announced that more than 13,000 National Guard troops will be deployed - some of them for the second time - to Iraq or Afghanistan within the next year. As reserve forces are continuously relied upon for the wars and as the readiness for international and/or domestic missions has hit bottom because of how these troops and their equipment are deployed, questions arise: What are the consequences to security both at home and abroad and to the National Guard members themselves? How close are we to the breaking point? In a recent study, CDI Senior Advisor Lawrence Korb discusses these questions.

[http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2007/05/national\\_guard.html](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2007/05/national_guard.html)

□ Share The World's Resources (STWR) has published a new article, *International aid and economy still failing sub-Saharan Africa*.

"A recent report by the United Nations has revealed that not a single country in sub-Saharan Africa is on track to achieve the internationally agreed target for halving extreme poverty by 2015. This dire failure is unsurprising given the G8's undelivered aid commitments, the inability of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to negotiate development-friendly trade rules, and the financial burdens imposed on many African countries by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and The World Bank.

"According to the report, published at the midway point in the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) process, the number of people living on less than one dollar a day has barely changed over the past seven years, declining less than 5 per cent to 41.1%. As much of a concern is the increasingly slow rate by which the number of people living in extreme poverty is reducing."

Read the entire article at <http://www.stwr.net/content/view/1970/37/>

Read the UN report at <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/docs/MDGafrica07.pdf>

□ The annual SIPRI Yearbook is out. The Yearbook is SIPRI's annual compendium of data and analysis of developments in security and conflicts, military spending and armaments and non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament.

The new annual total for world military expenditure is US\$ 1204 billion, an increase of 3.5% over the 2005 figure, and 37% more than a decade ago. In addition, we learn that 50% more conventional weapons were transferred internationally in 2006 than in 2002. These amounts constitute a huge treasury that should be redirected to the fight against mass poverty and the threat of climate change. The UN's Millennium Project (2005) has estimated that the annual costs of meeting the Millennium Development Goals by the target date of 2015 are of the order of \$135 billion per year, little more than 10% of the money currently allocated to the military sector.

<http://yearbook2007.sipri.org/>

[back to top](#)

□ “While all eyes are on Iraq, the United States is quietly promoting a new arms race in Asia,” writes William Hartung of the Arms Trade Resource Center. “Example number one of this new arms push is a campaign to pressure the parliament of Taiwan to approve the purchase of \$10 billion in US armaments. After Taiwan’s elected representatives recently turned down the package for the 70th time, they were roundly criticized by Stephen Young, the top US official in Taipei. ‘We believe that Taiwan is not responding appropriately to the steady buildup of the military across the Taiwan Strait,’ asserted Young. He suggested that the failure to buy more US arms - from submarines to Patriot missiles - ‘causes Taiwan’s friend, the United States, to question whether our security partner here is serious about maintaining a capable defense...’

“Why the rush to pour US arms into the region? The answer is one part ideology and one part greed. Hard-line elements within the administration ...have been busily working to portray China as the ultimate ‘rogue state’ - a more economically vibrant version of the old Soviet Union.”

Read the entire piece at [www.worldpolicy.org/projects/arms](http://www.worldpolicy.org/projects/arms)

□ **WHEN EMPIRES WANE: The End of Power** by Niall Ferguson writing in the *Opinion Journal*.

"We tend to assume that power, like nature, abhors a vacuum. In the history of world politics, it seems, someone is always bidding for hegemony. Today it is the United States; a century ago it was Britain. Before that, it was the French, the Spaniards and so on. The 19th-century German historian Leopold von Ranke, doyen of the study of statecraft, portrayed modern European history as an incessant struggle for mastery, in which a balance of power was possible only through recurrent conflict...

"Anyone who dislikes US hegemony should bear in mind that, instead of a multipolar world of competing great powers, a world with no hegemon at all may be the real alternative to it. This could turn out to mean a new Dark Age of waning empires and religious fanaticism; of endemic rapine in the world's no-go zones; of economic stagnation and a retreat by civilization into a few fortified enclaves."

<http://www.opinionjournal.com/editorial/feature.html?id=110005244>

[back to top](#)

## Funding and Employment Opportunities

□ The Center for American Progress has several job openings in its economic policy group. Open positions include Senior Economist and several associate director positions in the fields of macro economics, innovation, labor economics, economic mobility, and public finance.

See <http://www.americanprogress.org/aboutus/jobs> for more information.

□ The Arms Control Association, a national, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to promoting public understanding of and support for effective arms control policies, has two positions available.

**Research Analyst, Nonproliferation Issues.** The analyst is responsible for writing, media outreach, and policy advocacy on key aspects of the Association's agenda. The analyst is responsible for regular news reporting for *Arms Control Today* on issues in his/her portfolio and writing fact sheets and issue briefs on a regular basis, and other analytical and educational materials as assigned.




Salary range: middle to upper 30s, depending on experience. The Arms Control Association provides employees with four weeks vacation, health insurance, and after one year of employment, contribution to a retirement plan. Deadline for applications is July 9. To apply, mail or fax cover letter, resume, and two or three writing samples and/or published articles to:

Attn: Analyst Position  
Arms Control Association  
1313 L St NW, Suite 130  
Washington DC 20005  
Tel: (202) 463-8270; Fax (202) 463-8273; Email: [aca@armscontrol.org](mailto:aca@armscontrol.org)  
ACA is an equal opportunity employer  
(No calls, please)

**Managing Editor**, a full-time managing editor for the monthly journal, *Arms Control Today*. Filling a key position, the managing editor is responsible for editing news and other content, coordination of the writing and production schedule, and support for marketing and circulation. The managing editor is also responsible for some reporting for *Arms Control Today* and for providing substantive expertise on certain issues.


Demonstrated expertise in writing and editing as well as a strong familiarity with arms control issues are required. Journalism experience is a plus. Salary range: middle to upper 30s, depending on experience. The Arms Control Association provides employees with four weeks vacation, health insurance, and after one year of employment, contribution to a retirement plan. Deadline for applications is July 2. To apply, mail or fax cover letter, resume, and two or three clips to:

Miles A. Pomper, Editor, *Arms Control Today*  
1313 L St NW, Suite 130  
Washington DC 20005  
Tel: (202) 463-8270; Fax (202) 463-8273; Email: [act@armscontrol.org](mailto:act@armscontrol.org)  
ACA is an equal opportunity employer  
(No calls, please)

 The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, a leading Washington DC-based think tank specializing in international affairs, seeks a **Research Assistant / Web Editor**. Position will maintain, expand, and promote the program website, conduct research on all aspects of nuclear proliferation, produce and manage program's bi-weekly newsletter, and support project staff in various activities.

Qualified candidates should have 1-3 years' related experience, but will also consider recent grads with a degree in national security/international relations. Strongly prefer an excellent working knowledge of HTML coding, Dreamweaver, Photoshop, Content Management Systems, and website management. Excellent writing skills and attention to detail are a must.


Salary in the low \$30s plus generous benefits. Send resume, letter of interest and salary history to: Human Resources-RANPP, Carnegie Endowment, 1779 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington DC 20036, e-mail to [hr@ceip.org](mailto:hr@ceip.org) or FAX to (202) 939-2392. EOE

 Thorstein Veblen was born on July 30, 1857. To commemorate the 150th anniversary of his birth, the Association For Evolutionary Economics (AFEE) and EAEPE are co-sponsoring the **Veblen 150 Prize Competition**. Candidates for the prize are asked to submit written works on the nature of institutions, the theory of institutional evolution, the philosophical foundations of institutional and evolutionary economics,

or the application of institutional or evolutionary theory to economic policy. These specialist themes reflect Veblenian concerns. The prize is £2000 (GBP).

The prizes will be judged by a panel nominated jointly by AFEE and EAEPE and by the Foundation for European Economic Development (FEED). The results of this competition will be announced in about September 2007. The awards will be made at the EAEPE Conference from November 1 - 3, 2007 in Porto, Portugal.

**Deadline for submission is June 30, 2007.** More information about submission at <http://eaepe.org/eaepe.php?q=node/view/189>

 The Levy Economics Institute of Bard College invites applications for a **resident research scholar in the Gender Equality and The Economy program**. The scholar will collaborate with a team of economists on extending current research in this program area with an emphasis on gender and macroeconomics, gender and international economics, and gender and poverty. Given the nature of their research agenda, a wide variety of interests can be complementary. Subject to approval, the Institute is planning to launch a PhD program in economics by Fall 2008 that will include courses in gender-aware economics. They are, therefore, especially interested in candidates who are able to make a contribution to the PhD program.


A completed PhD is required, but candidates expecting the degree in the immediate future will also be considered. The successful candidate will have a background in macroeconomics, feminist economics and other heterodox approaches to economics, solid quantitative skills and a strong interest in policy issues.

For more information on the Gender Equality and the Economy program, please visit: [http://www.levy.org/default.asp?view=research\\_gee](http://www.levy.org/default.asp?view=research_gee)

To apply, please submit letter of interest, current c.v., references, and sample papers to: Human Resources - 1707, Bard College, PO Box 5000, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504 5000 or fax to 845-758-7826. AA/EOE

[back to top](#)

## EPS Publications and Resources

 The **Economics of Peace and Security Journal** ([www.epsjournal.org.uk](http://www.epsjournal.org.uk)). This online journal hosted by EPS-UK raises and debates all issues related to the political economy of personal, communal, national, international, and global peace and security. The scope includes implications and ramifications of conventional and non-conventional conflict for all human and non-human life and for our common habitat. Special attention is paid to constructive proposals for conflict resolution and peacemaking. While open to non-economic approaches, most contributions emphasize economic analysis of causes, consequences, and possible solutions to mitigate and resolve conflict. The journal is aimed at non-specialist readers, including policy analysts, policy and decision makers, national and international civil servants, members of the armed forces and of peacekeeping services, the business community, members of non-governmental organizations and religious institutions, and others. Contributions are scholarly-based, but written in a general-interest style.

Issues of the journal generally are theme-based and contributions are by invitation only; however, readers are invited to write to the editors ([editors@epsjournal.org.uk](mailto:editors@epsjournal.org.uk)) with proposals for a specific contribution or theme-based symposium (2 - 4 papers). Short letters of less than 500 words commenting on the published pieces are welcome.



The first issue is based on the ECAAR Review 2003, "Conflict or Development." (<http://www.epsjournal.org.uk/Vol1/No1/issue.php>). Volume 1, No. 2 is entitled "Peacemaking and Peacekeeping." These two issues are available free of charge as an introduction to the journal.

Annual subscription rates for future issues are as follows:

- Standard £22/\$40/€34;
- EPS members £16/\$30/€25;
- Unwaged/Developing countries £11/\$20/€17;
- Institutional £55/\$100/€85.

***Are We Safer? Five Years After the September 11th Attacks: Assessing the US Security Situation and Alternatives for Moving Forward. An Anthology of National Security Essays - September 2006,*** published by the Security Policy Working Group.

- *Pyrrhus on the Potomac: How America's Post-9/11 Wars Have Undermined US National Security.* Carl Conetta, Project on Defense Alternatives  
<http://www.proteusfund.org/spwg/pdfs/Pyrrhus%20On%20The%20Potomac.pdf>
- *Terrorism or All-Hazards? Broadening Homeland Security.* Anita Dancs, National Priorities Project  
<http://www.proteusfund.org/spwg/pdfs/Terrorism%20Or%20All-Hazards.pdf>
- *America's Post 9/11 Military: Can Congress Reform Our Shrinking, Aging, Less Ready, More Expensive Forces?* Winslow T. Wheeler, Center for Defense Information  
<http://www.proteusfund.org/spwg/pdfs/Post%209-11%20Military.pdf>
- *Funding for Defense, Military Operations, Homeland Security, and Related Activities Since 9/11.* Steven Kosiak, Center for Strategic & Budgetary Assessments  
<http://www.proteusfund.org/spwg/pdfs/Funding%20For%20Defense,%20Military%20Operations.pdf>
- *National Security Budgets to Make America Safer.* Cindy Williams, MIT Security Studies Program  
<http://www.proteusfund.org/spwg/pdfs/National%20Security%20Budgets%20To%20Make%20America%20Safer.pdf>
- *Fighting the "Good Fight: " An Alternative to Current Democratic Proposals For a New National Security Strategy.* William D. Hartung, World Policy Institute, Arms Trade Resource Center  
<http://www.proteusfund.org/spwg/pdfs/Fighting%20The%20Good%20Fight.pdf>
- *Is the War on Terror "Worth it?"* David Gold, New School University  
<http://www.proteusfund.org/spwg/pdfs/Is%20The%20War%20On%20Terror%20Worth%20It.pdf>
- *Special Threat: US Nuclear Weapons Policy under the Bush Doctrine.* Michael D. Intriligator, Economists for Peace & Security  
<http://www.proteusfund.org/spwg/pdfs/Special%20Threat.pdf>
- *Terrorism in Context: Assessing Risks and Solutions.* David Colt, Economists for Peace & Security  
<http://www.proteusfund.org/spwg/pdfs/Terrorism%20In%20The%20Context%20of%20Other%20Threats.pdf>

**Fact Sheets:** Periodically, we release these two-sided fact sheets designed to give an accessible, graphic look at one specific issue of concern to our members and constituency.

***Global Arms Trade 2004*** examines the world's supplies of conventional weapons and small arms.  
<http://www.epsusa.org/publications/factsheets/globalarmstrade.pdf>

***Military vs. Social Spending: Warfare or Human Welfare*** compares US and global military spending with the costs of achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals.  
<http://www.epsusa.org/publications/factsheets/milexMDG.pdf>

- ❑ **Conflict or Development?** This book has a regional focus on Africa, the site of most of the world's current armed conflicts. In its pages some of the leading economists of the day analyze and reflect on the relationships among military spending, domestic and foreign policy, security, and human welfare. Features include country studies, sections on business and conflict, and "Trends in World Military Expenditure." Written in clear English, with informative maps, tables, and graphs, the series is designed to inform the debate among policymakers, activists, journalists, academics, students, and citizens worldwide.

You can order *Conflict or Development* by emailing [theaharvey@epsusa.org](mailto:theaharvey@epsusa.org).

*Conflict or Development* can be a valuable teaching tool in economics, political science, and international relations courses. If you are interested in teaching this book, please contact Thea Harvey ([theaharvey@epsusa.org](mailto:theaharvey@epsusa.org)) for a copy to review.

- ❑ **The Full Cost of Ballistic Missile Defense.** The study estimates that the total life cycle cost for a layered missile defense system could reach \$1.2 trillion through 2035. You can download the PDF file from <http://www.epsusa.org/publications/papers/bmd/bmd.pdf>, or order a copy of the report from the cosponsor of the study at <http://www.armscontrolcenter.org/nmd/fullcost.html>.

- ❑ **Data Resource webpage** offers links to data sources for:

- International military expenditure and conflict indicators
- US military expenditure and capabilities
- Western Europe
- Russia

<http://www.epsusa.org/network/data.htm>. If you know of a data source that you feel should be added to our list, please contact our webmaster, Leilah Ward at [leilahward@epsusa.org](mailto:leilahward@epsusa.org)

[back to top](#)

## Action Corner

- ❑ Thanks in part to the work of EPS Fellow Linda Bilmes, and the actions of EPS members, Congress has passed a budget that recognizes the responsibilities that we have as custodians of our veterans. This budget provides increases for VA health care by \$6.7 billion over 2007 figures and increases funding \$3.6 billion over the Administration's request.

House Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Bob Filner said in a statement, "As a Congress, we are acting on behalf of a grateful nation. This budget is significant because it begins to address the needs of America's veterans." This is the largest annual increase in VA health care spending in 77 years.

Along the same lines: on the heels of Memorial Day, Congressman Phil Hare (D-IL), a member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, introduced the **Assured Funding for Veterans Health Care Act of 2007**, a bill to make VA health care a mandatory spending item within the federal budget.

"VA health care is the only major federal health program that is not funded through mandatory appropriations," Hare said. "As we continue to fight a global war on terror, it is critical that we forge a new strategy to meet the needs of our veterans."

- ❑ The United States is failing to pay its fair share of UN peacekeeping. The President's budget request this

year shortchanges UN peacekeeping by \$500 million. Considering the US has already accumulated \$500 million in prior unpaid bills to UN peacekeeping alone, the United States could owe more than \$1 billion to the United Nations by the end of 2007.

Congress must now address this shortfall. And it is up to us to remind them that the price of UN peacekeeping is far less than the tragic human and financial costs of war and insist we keep our promise to fully fund the UN peacekeeping missions for which we're voting. To tell Congress to honor its commitments to UN peacekeeping for an effective means of sharing the burdens for international security and stability, visit [www.priceofpeace.org](http://www.priceofpeace.org) to watch a video and sign a petition to Members of Congress.

- Want to get the word out on the topic that matters most to you? With a letter to your local paper, you can help bring your message not only to your neighbors, but directly to the offices of your Members of Congress, where staffers and our lawmakers themselves follow opinions from home with an especially watchful eye.

The ACLU has a **tool that helps write and send letters to local papers**. Available are a list of media outlets by state, tips on how to write a letter in your own words, plus talking points for the listed topics.

[http://action.aclu.org/site/PageServer?pagename=LTE\\_SOTU\\_2007&JServSessionIdr001=3bu49o8t91.app20a](http://action.aclu.org/site/PageServer?pagename=LTE_SOTU_2007&JServSessionIdr001=3bu49o8t91.app20a)

- Do you have a foreign policy alternative that should be heard in the halls of government? Citizens for Global Solutions provides an easy to use tool to find the foreign policy staffer for your Member of Congress. Click here to access the Foreign Policy Staffer Locator: <http://globalsolutions.org/hill/fpstaff>

- If you would like to post an EPS flyer on a departmental bulletin board or similar venue, please contact Thea Harvey at [theaharvey@epsusa.org](mailto:theaharvey@epsusa.org).

[back to top](#)

## Upcoming Events

- June 25 - 27, 2007. 5th Annual Jan Tinbergen Peace Science Conference in Amsterdam, organized by the Network of European Peace Scientists. More information is available at <http://pss.la.psu.edu/Newsletters/NEPS2007Announcement.pdf>
- June 25 - 26, 2007. Carnegie International Nonproliferation Conference at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center in Washington DC. <http://www.carnegieendowment.org/events/index.cfm?fa=eventDetail&id=986&&prog=zgp&proj=znpp>
- July 5 - 7, 2007. The 11th Annual Conference on Economics & Security will take place in Bristol, UK, sponsored by Economists for Peace and Security, the Arms Production and Trade Group, the University of the West of England and the University of Bristol. The conference will have a public lecture, plenary sessions with keynote speakers, plus specialist workshop streams.  
  
To keep up with conference developments, visit:  
<http://carecon.org.uk/Conferences/Conf2007/CONF2007.html>
- August 8 - 9, 2007. **Symposium on Peace Science and Peace Studies** at School of International Studies, J.

Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, India. Registration Fee \$50 for participants from outside India and Rs 500 for Indian participants. Persons interested to participate should contact Manas Chatterji, School of Management, Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY 13902. Tel: 607-777-2475, Fax: 607-777-4422, e-mail: [mchatter@binghamton.edu](mailto:mchatter@binghamton.edu). For local arrangements (hotels, registration, etc), please contact Professor Sahadevan, e-mail: [saha62@yahoo.co.in](mailto:saha62@yahoo.co.in).

August 10 - 12, 2007. **Workshop on Peace Science and Regional Science** at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development in Mumbai, India. For more information contact Manas Chatterji, Professor of Management, Binghamton University - State University of New York by phone (607) 777-2475; fax (607) 777-4422; or e-mail: [mchatter@binghamton.edu](mailto:mchatter@binghamton.edu).

August 17 - 18, 2007. **Australasian Conference on Security, Peace Economics, and Peace Science** at the University of Western Sydney, Campbelltown Campus, Australia, in cooperation with the International Center for Conflict Prevention and Management University of Western Sydney and State University of New York at Binghamton. **Registration deadline is June 30.** For more information contact Manas Chatterji, Professor of Management, Binghamton University - State University of New York by phone (607) 777-2475; fax (607) 777-4422; or e-mail: [mchatter@binghamton.edu](mailto:mchatter@binghamton.edu).

September 5 - 7, 2007. 60th Annual Conference for Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) associated with the UN Department of Public Information will take place at UN headquarters in New York. The theme of this year's conference is "Climate Change: How it Impacts Us All." More information can be found at <http://www.un.org/dpi/ngosection/index.asp>

October 26, 2007. A conference on **Corporate Responsibility in Conflict-Affected Countries** organized by the Flemish/Dutch affiliate of EPS in Antwerp, Belgium. Watch this space for more information.

November 2 - 4, 2007. The Peace Science Society (International) will hold its 41st North American Meeting in Columbia, South Carolina. The Department of Political Science at University of South Carolina will serve as host. Zaryab Iqbal will serve as local coordinator. Call for papers is at [http://pss.la.psu.edu/2007-conference\\_files/2007-conference.htm](http://pss.la.psu.edu/2007-conference_files/2007-conference.htm) The deadline for submissions is June 15, 2007

January 4 - 6, 2008. The annual meetings of the Allied Social Sciences Associations in New Orleans, Louisiana. See [http://www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/Annual\\_Meeting/index.htm](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/Annual_Meeting/index.htm) to register for the conference. EPS will honor Paul Krugman at our annual dinner, and present three sessions: Disaster Economics, The Future of the Defense Budget, and The Plight of the Soldier.

March 26 - 29, 2008. The Annual Convention of the International Studies Association (ISA) will take place in San Francisco. A panel on Feminist Security Studies is planned. <http://www.isanet.org/sanfran2008/>

[back to top](#)

## How Can I Help?

Giveline is a new way to support Economists for Peace and Security when you shop online. Giveline has over a million best-selling products, and every purchase you make generates a significant donation. We invite you to check out the store by clicking this link: <http://www.giveline.com/default.asp?v=V013334298>

Shop now to get FREE SHIPPING! (Use discount code NCD07 during checkout.)

■ Please consider becoming a member of EPS. Your annual membership entitles you to discounts on publications, invitations to events, our informative newsletters, and more. Most importantly, by joining us you help to ensure that reasoned perspectives on essential economic issues will continue to be heard. Membership dues and other donations are fully tax-deductible. Visit <http://www.epsusa.org/membership/membership.htm> for more information.

■ If you have enjoyed this issue of EPS NewsNotes, or if you wish to support our mission, please consider making a donation to EPS. You can do so securely online through our [website](#) or by sending a check to:

Economists for Peace and Security  
at the Levy Economics Institute  
Box 5000  
Annandale on Hudson, NY 12504  
USA

If you have any questions call (845) 758-0917, or email [info@epsusa.org](mailto:info@epsusa.org)

- 
- For more information about EPS, please visit our website [www.epsusa.org](http://www.epsusa.org).
  - To contribute to NewsNotes, please send an email to [theaharvey@epsusa.org](mailto:theaharvey@epsusa.org). We reserve the right to edit submissions for space or content.
  - To unsubscribe from this list, please send an email to [newsnotes@epsusa.org](mailto:newsnotes@epsusa.org) with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

[back to top](#)