

ECONOMISTS for PEACE & SECURITY

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The primary near-term security concern of the United States is the global economic crisis and its geopolitical implications.

~ Director of National Intelligence Dennis Blair reporting the National Intelligence Review from the nation's 16 intelligence agencies to the Senate Intelligence Committee Friday, February 13, 2009

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5ihAXPSJmJyAAP84YbLNw4suaPfNQD96A9OFG0>

EPS News

EPS is pleased to welcome Prof. Amita Batra, Associate Professor in the School of International Studies at J. Nehru University (JNU), as the new head of EPS-India. She will be working with EPS Fellow Manas Chatterji to organize a conference in January 2010 in New Delhi. We look forward to working with her to build a stronger, more active presence in India.

Correction: the version of this letter, run in last month's NewsNotes, was as originally submitted. The Wall Street Journal would not publish with three signatures. The version below is as published January 6, 2009.

To the Editor,

Martin Feldstein's December 24 Op-Ed "Defense Spending Would Be Great Stimulus" argues for a \$30 billion increase in military spending as part of the economic stimulus package, claiming it could create about 300,000 additional jobs. There are many other ways to stimulate the economy that would be more effective both in terms of job creation and usefulness.

Military spending is notorious for creating low employment per dollar. But more importantly, the US is spending more than the rest of the world combined on defense, spending that is already way out of proportion to what our mission in the world should be. The defense budget contains much that is useless and could be cut, such as missile defense, and ships and planes designed to fight the Cold War, as well as funding for the huge American presence in Iraq. There is no shortage of useful civilian projects to which these funds could be shifted.

Michael D. Intriligator, Professor of Economics, Political Science, and Public Policy, University of California, Los Angeles.

Call for Papers: The 13th Annual International Conference on Economics and Security will take place June 24–26, 2009 at CITY College in Thessaloniki, Greece.

Offers of papers are invited for a conference sponsored by EPS-UK; EPS-Greece; the Business Administration and Economics Department, CITY College, an affiliated institution of the University of Sheffield; the University of the West of England; and SEERC (South East European Research Centre). The conference will have plenary sessions with keynote speakers, plus specialist workshop streams.

Proposed topics include:

- Security in the Balkan region
- European security
- Economics of security
- Globalization and the restructuring of the MIC
- Militarism and development
- Security sector reform
- Economics of conflict and war
- Economics of post-conflict reconstruction
- Economics of arms procurement, trade and offsets
- Arms races and alliances
- Peace science
- Conversion and demilitarization
- Economics of terrorism

Offers of papers on other related topics are welcome. Please send a title and abstract as soon as possible and before March 15, 2009 to:

Dr. Eftychia Nikolaidou, Business Administration & Economics Department,
CITY College, Affiliated College of the University of Sheffield,
17 Mitropoleos St, 546 24, Thessaloniki, Greece.
Tel. (+30) 2310 253477, (+30) 2310 224026
Fax. (+30) 2310 253478
email: enikolaidou@city.academic.gr

The conference website is http://www.city.academic.gr/special/events/economics_and_security09/index.html

Vol. 4, No. 1 of the *Economics of Peace and Security Journal* is now available online. Non-subscribers can access the abstracts and contents pages. This issue contains symposia on defense innovation and the economics of conflict with contributions by:

- Renaud Bellais on defense innovation and venture capital
- Sylvain Daffix and Yves Jacquin on European defense R&D and national R&D systems
- Peter Hall and Andrew James on industry structure and innovation in the British defense sector
- Philip Verwimp introduces the symposium articles
- S. Mansoob Murshed on greed, grievance, and social contract
- M. Zulfan Tadjoeddin and Anis Chowdhury on violence in Indonesia
- Ana María Ibáñez on forced displacement in Colombia
- Steven Spittaels and Filip Hilgert on conflict mapping in the Congo

And articles by:

- Christopher E.S. Warburton on war and exchange rate valuation
- Steve Chan on the democratic peace proposition
- Steve Townsend on Thomas Friedman's First Law of Petropolitics
- Ronen Bar-El, Kobi Kagan, and Asher Tishler on military planning

EPS members receive a **25% discount on the annual 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, 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>

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In Other News

An early February collision between a defunct Russian satellite and a commercially-owned US satellite has reinvigorated the discussion of the problem of space debris. Debris caused by such incidents was discussed in the recent EPS report, [Space, Security and the Economy](#). The buildup of space debris from intentional and accidental causes could threaten the safety of space operations and the viability of space based infrastructure. This accidental collision has long been predicted by space experts and is the first of its kind.

An article from [New Scientist](#) summarizes the preliminary findings about the incident by a scientist at the University of Southampton and other experts in the UK. According to them, the collision may have caused 10,000 shards of debris in a high density cloud orbiting in an area through which other satellites of the same company will pass through. The debris is expected to take many decades to decay. <http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn16604-satellite-collision-more-powerful-than-chinas-asat-test.html>

“Given we rely so much on space-based assets for communications, navigation and Earth observation as part of our critical national infrastructure, this is one of the weak links in the chain that needs more attention.”

US Director of National Intelligence Dennis C. Blair told Congress recently that instability in countries around the world caused by **the current global economic crisis is the primary near-term security threat to the United States**. “Roughly a quarter of the countries in the world have already experienced low-level instability such as government changes because of the current slowdown,” Blair told the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, delivering the first annual threat assessment in six years in which terrorism was not presented as the primary danger to this country.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/02/12/AR2009021202365.html?hpid=sec-nation>

Economic Death Spiral at the Pentagon

Recently, reviewing lobbying disclosure reports, the Washington Times discovered “that 18 of the top 20 recipients of federal bailout money spent a combined \$12.2 million lobbying the White House, the Treasury Department, Congress, and Federal agencies during the last quarter of 2008.”

In 2008, Northrop Grumman almost doubled its lobbying budget to \$20.6 million (from \$10.9 the previous year); Boeing upped its budget from \$10.6 million to \$16.6 million in the same period; and Lockheed-Martin, the company that received the most contracts from the Pentagon last year, hiked its lobbying efforts by a whopping 54 in 2008.

Interview with Chalmers Johnson discussing the article: <http://tomdispatch.blogspot.com/2009/02/interview-with-chalmers-johnson.html>


On a similar note, Shaun Waterman, UPI Homeland and National Security Editor, writes ***Why the US Can't Afford Its Military***:

“WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (UPI) With the combined cost of the economic stimulus package and the Wall Street bailout now projected by some estimates to top \$2 trillion, and the federal deficit spiraling, US officials are fretting that current levels of defense spending may be unsustainable.


“Moreover, military leaders argue that they will need more money in future years to repair or replace equipment worn out or destroyed in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; transform the force to fight modern wars; and invest in new generations of high-tech weaponry. ‘The spigot of defense spending that opened on September 11 is closing,’ Defense Secretary Robert Gates told a hearing last month of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

“According to the Congressional Budget Office, defense spending currently constitutes more than half of US domestic discretionary spending – that is, the part of the federal budget that is not spent on mandatory items like Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security. That is about 4.5 percent of US gross domestic product – more than double the proportion of national wealth most other industrialized countries spend on defense.”


http://www.upi.com/Emerging_Threats/2009/02/11/Why_the_US_cant_afford_its_military/UPI-27741234368622/

 **The 2009 National Security and Nonproliferation Briefing Book** is a project coordinated by the Peace and Security Initiative (PSI), and generously supported by the Connect US Fund. PSI is a coalition of over 250 advocacy organizations, grassroots groups, think tanks, academics, and funders (including EPS) working together to increase their capacity to influence US policy to promote a more secure, peaceful, and just world. The book consists of 22 articles written by members of the PSI community, and covers such topics as Preventing Nuclear Terrorism, US Homeland Security, The Iraq War, Missile Defense and Weapons in Space.


<http://www.peaceandsecurityinitiative.org/files/2009-national-security-and-non-proliferation-briefing-book.pdf>

 **Does tenure security reduce poverty?** Land reform, whether through titling, privatization or redistribution, is often meant to improve tenure security and lead to poverty reduction and economic development. A consideration of how people currently negotiate their access to land, as well as the ways in which policies are implemented, will significantly affect on the outcome of reforms.


<http://www.id21.org/rural/land.html>

 **Public policies to address child poverty** Many countries have been unable to set an economic agenda that eliminates poverty at the rate foreseen by the MDGs and which is required to achieve the rights of the child. In addition, inequalities have persisted or even increased.

<http://www.id21.org/society/clusters/chpoverty.html>

 **Request for Submissions:** The *Peace and Conflict Review* is looking for academic articles, conference papers, and book reviews for our spring 2009 issue. All themes relevant to Peace and Conflict Studies are welcome, although priority will be given to articles focusing on International Law, Environmental Security, Gender, Media, and/or International Organization.

The Review is a fully peer-reviewed, open-access journal hosted at the headquarters of the UN mandated University for Peace. Please visit <http://www.review.upeace.org> for submission guidelines and additional information.

 **Call for papers:** the annual Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference will take place June 29 – July 1, 2009 at the Tinbergen Institute, Roeterstraat 31, 1018 WB Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

At the conference there will be continuing emphasis on research methods in peace science, but also papers dealing with all aspects of the peace science field, from pure abstract theory to practical applied research will be accepted. As a guide to topics, recall those in previous conferences:

- Arms Control and International Security
- Deterrence Theory
- Harmony and Conflict
- Cooperation, Alliances and Games
- Game and Related Theory
- Mathematical Approaches to Conflict Management
- Mathematical Models of Arms Races and Wars

- Empirical and Historical Studies on the Causes of War
- Crises and War Studies
- World Models
- Critical Economic Aspects of the Global Crises
- Long-Run Aspects of the Behavior of International Systems
- Peace Science Methodology and Theory
- Conflict Analysis and Management
- Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Studies
- Behavioral Studies
- Hierarchy Theory

The papers presented can be considered for publication in Conflict Management and Peace Science, Peace Economics, Peace Science and Public Policy, The Journal of Conflict Resolution, and International Interactions.

All abstracts (150-250 words) with tentative title submitted before **February 1, 2009** will be considered for the conference. Proposals received after February 1, 2009 will only be considered if any presentation slots are still available. Those who are interested in participating should submit their proposal (abstract, tentative title, author name(s) and affiliation(s)) either in a word document or in a plain text e-mail to NEPSconference@gmail.com.

Request for submissions: Peace Economics, Peace Science and Public Policy, a journal founded by Walter Isard and published by Bepress, is launching a new policy. In order to improve scientific communication within the field of Peace Science and Peace Economics, PEPS will publish “Letters” to provide accounts of new original research. Letters will not normally exceed 2,000 words in length, exclusive of equations, graphs, and figures. Letters can be either theoretical or applied, and will be subject to the peer-review process. In order to make a decision in a short time, reviewers will be asked to give only an “accept/reject” evaluation. Only minor revisions will be allowed.

For more information, please visit www.bepress.com/peps

Call for papers: Elsevier is seeking manuscripts for its *Building Insights; Breaking Boundaries* initiative.

The Editors-in-chief of Elsevier Journals are currently accepting manuscripts in all fields of human endeavor. Authors are invited to submit manuscripts reporting recent developments in their fields. Papers submitted will be sorted out and published in any of the numerous journals that best fit.

Elsevier will also organize seminars at strategic cities all over the world to showcase the research work gathered by this special publication procedure.

The submitted papers must be written in English and describe original research not published nor currently under review by other journals. All submitted papers, if relevant to the theme and objectives of the journal, will go through an external peer-review process. Submissions should include an abstract, 5–10 key words, and the e-mail address of the corresponding author. The paper length should not exceed 30 double-spaced pages including figures and references on 8.5 by 11 inch paper using at least 11 point font. Authors should select a category designation for their manuscripts (article, short communication, review, etc.).

Papers should be submitted electronically via email as Microsoft Word or PDF attachments, and should include a cover sheet containing corresponding author’s name, paper title, affiliation, mailing address, phone, fax number, email address etc.

Would-be authors should send their manuscript to: elsevierpublishers@live.co.uk

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Funding and Employment Opportunities

The Robert S. McNamara Fellowships Program of the World Bank provides support to young researchers working in academic institutions from eligible countries preparing a doctoral thesis. The fellowships support full-time study or research at the postgraduate level in fields related to economic development, to be carried out at a recognized institution in a Bank member country.

Deadline for application is February 28. For more information or to download an application, please visit:
<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/WBI/EXTWBISFP/EXTRSMFP/0,,contentMDK:20276861~menuPK:552352~pagePK:64168445~piPK:64168309~theSitePK:551843,00.html>

The Georgetown University Graduate Program in Conflict Resolution is seeking Adjunct Professors to teach in the following areas for 2009–2010:

- Conflict Resolution Theory
- Ethnic Conflict
- Armed Conflict
- Research Methods

A graduate degree in Conflict Resolution or related field required. PhD preferred. Candidates should demonstrate an extensive record of conflict-related research or practice, scholarly publications and classroom experience.

Submit a curriculum vitae, a cover letter, sample syllabi, and two letters of reference (to be sent directly to Georgetown) to Dr. Fathali Moghaddam, Director, Conflict Resolution Program, Georgetown University, 3240 Prospect Street, NW, Washington DC 20007. No phone calls or e-mails please.

More information at <http://www1.georgetown.edu/departments/government/conflictresolution/about/employment/>

The Advocacy Project (AP) is a Washington DC-based non-profit dedicated to strengthening civil society around the world. Using a grassroots approach, their mission is to produce social change by helping advocates for marginalized communities become catalysts for social justice and claim their rights. Each summer, they recruit **Peace Fellows** to volunteer directly with partner organizations in the field.

Currently, they have a number of international Peace Fellowships available for summer 2009. All positions are fulltime (~40 hours/weeks), unpaid, and for the duration of the summer (roughly 10–12 weeks, June – August), unless otherwise noted. All Fellows report to the director of their host organization as well as to the AP Fellowship Coordinator.

Deadline to apply: March 1, 2009. To see these opportunities on their website, visit:
<http://advocacynet.org/page/summer2009fellowships>

The Initiative for Policy Dialogue (IPD) at Columbia University is looking to hire a professional with strong organizational and management skills to be its new **Managing Director**.

The IPD was founded in July 2000 to help developing countries explore economic policy alternatives and enable wider civic participation in economic policymaking. IPD is now a global network of more than 250 leading economists, political scientists, and practitioners from the North and South with diverse backgrounds and views. It is supported by a wide array of foundations, development agencies, and international organizations. It is chaired by Nobel Prize winner Joseph E. Stiglitz, formerly chief economist of the World Bank, and Jose Antonio Ocampo, formerly UN Undersecretary for Economic and Social Affairs and head of the UN Commission for Latin America. It has active and successful programs involving country dialogues, education, journalism training, research, and conferences on development issues. The results of its research and conferences are published by Oxford University Press and Columbia University Press. While the focus of IPDs work is on research and education, it engages in advocacy on behalf of the interests of developing countries in certain arenas.

For complete job listing, please see <https://jobs.columbia.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/frameset/frameset.jsp?time=1227203800734>

In order to spur new thinking and policy initiatives to address today's most urgent proliferation threats, the [James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies](http://cns.miis.edu/npr/) and its journal, the *Nonproliferation Review*, are sponsoring an **essay contest** to identify and publish the most outstanding new scholarly papers and reports in the nonproliferation field. The contest features a \$10,000 grand prize and a \$1,000 prize for the most outstanding student essay. For more information, please visit <http://cns.miis.edu/npr/contest.htm>.

The New Ideas Fund is seeking to support individuals to generate and develop new ideas in the fields of foreign policy and national security. NIF projects should result in a policy brief or a “white-paper” style report detailing the author's new


vision for American foreign policy. The New Ideas Fund will also consider publicizing already published material.

NIF funds ambitious projects that promise to shift foreign policy and national security debates in new, progressive directions. When submitting a project proposal, prospective grantees should explain the focus of their project, its significance to the foreign policy and national security disciplines, how it differs from past approaches, and its potential to effect progressive change either in the near future or in the long term.

Grants are available in the \$5,000 to \$25,000 range. For more information visit <http://www.newideasfund.org/>

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Food for Thought

 **The Great Real Estate Bubble of the Roaring Twenties** by EPS member Polly Cleveland for her blog *economici*. <http://www.dollarsandsense.org/blog/2009/02/great-real-estate-bubble-of-roaring.html>

Economists conventionally attribute the Great Depression to blunders by the then-new Federal Reserve Bank. According to this story, promoted by Milton Friedman and the Chicago School, after the stock market crash of 1929, the Fed kept interest rates too high, strangling the economy. This story made most economists confident that it couldn't happen again.

But there's a different story: the story of the great 1920s real estate bubble. It began with cars. Starting in 1899, the auto industry took off exponentially... Production reached a peak of over 4 million vehicles in 1929, before collapsing... The auto suddenly opened up vast suburban and rural areas to housing...

The real estate bubble helped set off and then worsen the Depression. Collapsing land values left people suddenly much poorer, so they cut spending. They also defaulted on mortgages, sticking the banks with "toxic" assets: liens on near-worthless property. The struggling banks in turn cut off lending even to good customers. Bank runs – panicky depositors withdrawing cash – further crippled the banking system. Between drops in spending and lending, businesses failed, unemployment soared, and prices fell.

 ***A More Humane Way to Measure Progress***, by Simon Briscoe writing in the Financial Times.


"For much of the postwar period, statisticians have concentrated on dry, macro-economic measures to document the changes going on in societies around the world – changes in gross domestic product and international trade flows, for example... There is a growing sense that we are not measuring the right things, that what matters is not just macro-economic growth but a more general notion of 'progress.' Central to this is the need to capture more of the changes that affect people in their daily lives – local crime figures, health outcomes and so on – and so to provide information that will have more meaning for them.

"[T]he Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan has long asserted its preference for a concept of "gross national happiness" over measures of GDP. The theory behind GNH is simple – economic growth is not the end in itself but a means to achieve other aims, such as peace, security, greater well-being and happiness. It's clear that the new agenda is gaining ground in the developed world, too: crystallizing around terms such as wellbeing, quality of life, social capital, sustainable development, progress, community strength, working together, competitiveness reports and benchmarking... Some even claim that debates based on the sound foundation that figures can offer could help to bind the world, benefit democracy and improve engagement."

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/b2926d7e-eb63-11dd-bb6e-0000779fd2ac.html>

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EPS Publications and Resources

 Economists for Peace and Security is proud to announce the release of a report on the Bush Administration's outer space policy. The report, ***Space, Security and the Economy***, warns that the present policy of space dominance could transform outer space into a military battleground.

Official US policy asserts the right to deny any nation access to space if its actions are “perceived” to be hostile. This policy, together with other actions such as withdrawal from the ABM treaty and the ongoing development of weapons intended to attack objects in space, could lead to the deployment of weapons in space. If the US stations weapons in space other nations are likely to do the same, and we will be faced with an arms race in space.


The report concludes that no one can prevail and all stand to lose in an arms race in space. Among other consequences would be negative effects on the growing scientific and commercial uses of space, and on the economy. In particular, private investors are unlikely to place additional resources at risk in a vulnerable area of potential military conflict.


The report calls for changes in the policy of space dominance, greater transparency in military space spending, and detailed information about government and commercial space activities.

To view a PDF of the report, please visit: <http://www.e/psusa.org/publications/papers/spacesecurity.pdf>

To request a hard copy, please email Thea Harvey theaharvey@epsusa.org


Read YubaNet’s blog about the report: <http://yubanet.com/usa/Report-Economic-Impact-of-Arms-Race-in-Space.php>

 **Proceedings from the EPS conference *War and Poverty, Peace and Prosperity***, held May 30 – June 1, 2007 in Annandale-on-Hudson, NY, are available in hard copy or [PDF](#). [Audio and transcripts](#) of each session are also posted on our website. To request a hard copy, please email Thea Harvey at theaharvey@epsusa.org.

 **“Arms, War and Terrorism in the Global Economy Today: Economic Analyses and Civilian Alternatives”** is a volume published by Bremer Schriften zur Konversion that presents papers of two joint seminars of EPS and the European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy (EAEPE) which took place in Rethymon, Crete, Greece, complemented by papers from the Second International Conference on Defense, Security, and Economic Development held in Larissa, Greece in 2004.


Contributing authors include Michael Intriligator, Fannie Coulomb, Jacques Fontanel, Jurgen Brauer, Gulay Gunluk-Senesen, J. Paul Dunne, Luc Mampaey, Claude Serfati, Christos Kollias, Clark Abt, and Lucy Law Webster, as well as many other notable economists.

The book is available from the publishers, LIT Verlag, for €24.90 at <http://www.lit-verlag.de/isbn/3-8258-0045-1>.

 **Fact Sheets:** Periodically, we release 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 a general-interest style, 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.

Conflict or Development is also a valuable resource in teaching economics, political science, and international relations courses. To review a copy for use in your syllabus, email Thea Harvey at theaharvey@epsusa.org.

 **The Full Cost of Ballistic Missile Defense.** This 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 Thea Harvey at theaharvey@epsusa.org.


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Action Corner

 On January 30 the International Criminal Court was finally able to start its first trial, that of accused war criminal Thomas Lubanga Dyilo. Lubanga, a militia commander in the Democratic Republic of Congo, is accused of recruiting and utilizing child soldiers in the brutal conflict taking place there. A second trial is likely to begin this year against Congolese rebel leaders Germain Katanga and Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity.


Despite this groundbreaking progress towards international justice, the US still does not engage with the ICC. Bill Clinton, as one of his final acts at President, signed the Rome Statute that set the framework for the court, but George Bush dispatched John Bolton to the UN to “un-sign” the agreement in 2002, beginning a unilateral campaign of active opposition to the court.

The new administration in Washington offers a new opportunity for the US to recommit to the ideals of the ICC, and to even become a leader in providing justice for the victims of the worst atrocities. Our new President is already making strides towards increased US global cooperation. To write to the administration and show your support for the US re-signing the ICC treaty, please follow this link: http://org2.democracynaction.org/o/5550/t/3505/campaign.jsp?campaign_KEY=1000

 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 as well, 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

 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.

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Upcoming Events

 March 20 – 21, 2009. **Entrepreneurship and Conflict** a UNU-WIDER Project Workshop in Londonderry, Northern Ireland. http://www.wider.unu.edu/events/project-meetings/2009-project-meetings/en_GB/20-03-2009/.


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 March 20 – 22, 2009. **Midwest Economics Association annual meeting** in Cleveland, Ohio. <http://web.grinnell.edu/MEA/>.
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 April 9 – 10, 2009. The **2009 Global Nonviolence International Conference**, hosted by the Mahatma Gandhi Center for Global Nonviolence at James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia. Call for papers and more information at <http://internationalpeaceandconflict.ning.com/forum/topics/call-for-papers-2009-global>.
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 May 7 – 8, 2009. **10 Years of the Euro: Adjustment in Capital and Labor Markets** conference sponsored by the Economic Policies Research Unit of the University of Minho, Braga, Portugal. Paper submissions will be accepted until February 28, 2009. For updates and more information, visit <http://www3.eeg.uminho.pt/economia/nipe/euro10years>.
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 June 24 – 26, 2009. **The 13th Annual International Conference on Economics and Security** will take place at CITY College in Thessaloniki, Greece, sponsored by EPS-UK; EPS-Greece; the Business Administration and Economics Department, CITY College, an affiliated institution of the University of Sheffield; the University of the West of England; and SEERC (South East European Research Centre). The conference will have plenary sessions with keynote speakers, plus specialist workshop streams. http://www.city.academic.gr/special/events/economics_and_security09/index.html.
- 
 June 24 – 26, 2009. Technology and Economic Development Conference, **3rd International Conference on Innovation, Technology and Knowledge Economics** in Ankara, Turkey, hosted by METU-TEKPOL, Science and Technology Policies Research Center, Middle East Technical University (METU). Deadline for abstract submission is **February 9, 2009**. For application and submission details, and for further information, please refer to: <http://conf09.metu.edu.tr>
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 June 29 – July 1, 2009. **Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference** in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Fee is 50 Euros. Email NEPSconference@gmail.com for more information.
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 July 10 – 12, 2009. **New Directions for International Relations**, a conference at the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy at IDC-Herzliya, Israel. Topics include: Behavioral Approaches to International Relations; Rational Choice and International Relations; Quantitative and Formal Analysis of Conflict and Conflict Resolution; Negotiations and Mediation in International Conflicts; Methodological Innovations in IR; and a special panel on Conflict Resolution in the Middle East: Bridging the Gap between Academia and Practice.
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 July 26 – 31, 2009. **Economic Crisis, War and the Rise of the State**, Cato University 2009 in San Diego, California. More information at Allison Horton at www.cato-university.org

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How Can I Help?

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 Become 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.
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 If you have enjoyed this issue of EPS NewsNotes, or if you wish to support our mission, please consider donating 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

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