# NewsNotes

November 2011



I have the audacity to believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality and freedom for their spirits.

~ Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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# EPS News

"One in Ten" - Veterans Day on 11/11/11 This Veteran's Day, EPS fellow Jurgen Brauer shared some of his thoughts with us.

"Quick: How many Veterans (former military personnel) are alive today in the United States? Alright, not TODAY, but give me a round-about number, an estimate, your best guess!

"According to the Department of Veterans Affairs – and it should know – the answer is about 22.7 million as of Sept. 30, 2010. Since the US population was about 307 million, this would come to 7.4 percent. But wait, only adults qualify. That segment of the population amounted to about 236 million people, so that the Veterans percentage is more on the order of 9.6 percent: **one in ten persons of the US adult population has Veterans status**. California is home to most Veterans, about 2 million of them. Then follow Texas and Florida, with about 1.7 million each.

"These are rather substantial numbers and they imply equally substantial outlays, US\$108.6 billion in fiscal year 2010 (which ended on Sept. 30, 2010), the latest numbers available. In terms of federal monies, Justice and International Affairs each had to make due with half that, for example."

Read Dr. Brauer's full blog post at <a href="http://stonegardeneconomics.com/blog/?p=1736">http://stonegardeneconomics.com/blog/?p=1736</a>.

If We Don't Solve the Jobs Crisis We May End Up With Our Streets in Flames and Society Dysfunctional

by EPS fellow Marshall Auerback, November 10, 2011, for Alternet

Unless our policy makers can make job creation the top priority, the mass riots and burning streets of Europe may be coming soon to a neighborhood near you.

"Employers added fewer jobs than was forecast in October, which lots of folks scratching their heads over what to do about it.

"In response to the latest unemployment figures, our nation's central bank, the Federal Reserve, has again begun talking about additional stimulus measures, such as the purchases of mortgage backed securities (MBS) or a bondbuying program known as 'QE3'. But neither of these measures worked before, so why should we expect more success this time?

"The Fed's policies are akin to putting a Band-Aid on a massive bleeding wound. Right now, the US economy is crushed by massive private indebtedness and sluggish job growth. What we really need are policies designed to promote job growth, so that people can service their debts and become open to spending again. Admittedly, the Fed isn't the only problem. Our whole constellation of policy makers - the Fed, Congress, the Treasury and the White House - keep obsessing about the faux 'costs' of the growing budget deficit, rather than the real costs of long term unemployment. And if they don't give up this flawed economic thinking, then the burning streets and mass riots happening in Europe may soon be coming to a neighborhood near you."

#### To read the full article, see

http://www.alternet.org/economy/153000/if\_we\_don%27t\_solve\_the\_jobs\_crisis\_we\_may\_end\_up\_with\_our\_streets\_in\_flames\_and\_society\_dysfunctional/.

You are cordially invited to join Economists for Peace & Security for dinner in Honor of

Robert J. Gordon

Saturday, January 7, 2012 6:30 - 10:00pm at Swissotel Chicago, Illinois

For more information on attending the EPS dinner honoring Robert J. Gordon, please visit our events page <u>http://www.epsusa.org/events/events.htm</u>.

*Oil: A Time Machine - Journey Beyond Fanciful Economics and Frightful Politics* by EPS member Cyrus Bina

From the Linus Publications website's description: "This book is a systematic study of oil in its historical stages, as a time machine. This is a groundbreaking theoretical (and empirical) innovation in step with *The Economics of the Oil Crisis* (1985). This volume unites separate domains of economics, politics, and international relations into an organic whole, capturing domestic, foreign, and global environmental policies. As a specific exploration in political economy, this book is about the evolution of a commodity that eventually transformed into the pervasive, almost mystical force that it is today."

More information about the book and the author can be found at <a href="http://www.linusbooks.com/more\_details.php?id=284">http://www.linusbooks.com/more\_details.php?id=284</a>.

**EPS raised \$65 last year with GoodSearch.** The more you use GoodSearch, the more money you can raise for EPS, just by searching the internet or shopping online - *at no cost to you*. With every search you do, EPS receives a penny; when everyone uses it, the pennies add up.

To start using GoodSearch, see <a href="http://www.goodsearch.com/about.aspx">http://www.goodsearch.com/about.aspx</a>.

**EPS now has a group page on LinkedIn.** If this is your preferred social network, check in with us at www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2009987&trk=anetsrch\_name&goback=.gdr\_1263369639671\_1.

Don't forget EPS is on Facebook. Become a fan and keep up with our latest activities and upcoming events.

Become a fan of EPS at <a href="http://www.facebook.com/pages/Economists-for-Peace-and-Security/114370951337">http://www.facebook.com/pages/Economists-for-Peace-and-Security/114370951337</a>.

## <u>Links</u>

**Network of European Peace Scientists** An international association for the advancement of peace research and related studies in Europe

The Network of European Peace Scientists is a network of scholars committed to the advancement of Peace Research in Europe. In line with Peace Science tradition, the NEPS welcomes scholars from an interdisciplinary community from a variety of disciplines such as economics, political science, regional science, mathematics, and history. Since 2000, NEPS holds an annual conference entitled *Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference*.

A link for more information about the conference can be found under our "*In Other News*" section under "Call for Papers" in this issue of NewsNotes.

Learn more about NEPS by visiting <a href="http://www.europeanpeacescientists.org/">http://www.europeanpeacescientists.org/</a>.

Nuclear Threats and Countermeasures

A new report by the American Security Project uses compelling visuals and facts to depict modern nuclear security challenges to encourage debate among policy makers and the American public.

"The American Security Project (ASP), with support from the Consensus for American Security, released a new report entitled 'Nuclear Security Index: Assessing Modern Nuclear Threats and the Tools to Combat Them' (NSI). This unbiased, fact-based report describes the nuclear threats to the United States and the tools that the US and its partners use to defend against such threats.

"The spread of nuclear weapons continues to be an urgent national security concern for the United States. The analysis included within the NSI is intended to encourage productive, informed debate about nuclear security challenges while also encouraging broader citizen participation in that debate. The NSI was produced with the American public in mind and it distills this highly technical subject and the complex debate surrounding it."

For more details and to read the full report, see <a href="http://americansecurityproject.org/featured-items/2011/report-nuclear-threats-and-countermeasures/">http://americansecurityproject.org/featured-items/2011/report-nuclear-threats-and-countermeasures/</a>.

#### Disarmament Today

Disarmament Today is a series of podcasts about present-day disarmament issues, produced by the United Nations office for Disarmament Affairs.

Available podcasts include:

An interview with Ms. Theresa Hitchens on: SPACE SECURITY

• An interview with Dr. Kathleen Sullivan on: DISARMAMENT AND NON-PROLIFERATION EDUCATION For more information about Disarmament Today, go to http://www.un.org/disarmament/education/podcasts/.

# In Other News

Delayed Global Fund money a sign of economic times November 8, 2011 for IRIN Plus News Global HIV/AIDS news and analysis

"The Global Fund to Fight HIV, TB and Malaria has more than halved the estimated amount of money available in its next round of funding, the disbursement of which has been delayed until 2013, due to the world economic crisis.

"The delay in Round 11 funding was announced at the Fund's latest board meeting on September 26, the second such delay, which has pushed the application deadline back to at least March 1, 2012.

"The size of the pot has also shrunk - to US\$800 million, less than half of the \$1.5 billion projected for the round as of mid-2011, according to Christoph Benn, director of the Fund's external relations and partnerships.

"More than 70 percent of antiretroviral drugs in the developing world are funded by the Global Fund and in Africa, and it finances about 85 percent of TB programming, according to Stop TB director, Mario Raviglione. Reductions in Global Fund money and international global health funding are likely to reverse recent gains in the fight against TB and increase mortality, he cautioned."

The complete article is posted at

http://www.plusnews.org/report.aspx?reportID=94161.

### The Globalization of Protest

by Joseph E. Stiglitz, November 4, 2011 for Project Syndicate

"The protest movement that began in Tunisia in January, subsequently spreading to Egypt, and then to Spain, has now become global, with the protests engulfing Wall Street and cities across America. Globalization and modern technology now enables social movements to transcend borders as rapidly as ideas can. And social protest has found fertile ground everywhere: a sense that the 'system' has failed, and the conviction that even in a democracy, the electoral process will not set things right - at least not without strong pressure from the street.

"In May, I went to the site of the Tunisian protests; in July, I talked to Spain's *indignados*; from there, I went to meet the young Egyptian revolutionaries in Cairo's Tahrir Square; and, a few weeks ago, I talked with Occupy Wall Street protesters in New York. There is a common theme, expressed by the OWS movement in a simple phrase: "We are the 99%'."

#### To read the full blog post, see

http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/stiglitz144/English.

#### **Call for papers**

The 12th Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference, annual meeting of NEPS has announced a call for papers.

All abstracts (150-250 words) with tentative title submitted before February 18, 2012 will be considered for the conference. Proposals received after February 18, 2012 will only be considered if any presentation slots are still available.

For more details about this call for papers, visit http://www.europeanpeacescientists.org/jan.html.

# Funding & Employment Opportunities

### Kanta Marwah Research Grant in Peace and Security

The Kanta Marwah research grant in Peace and Security was officially announced October 2, 2011 at the unveiling ceremony of Mahatma Gandhi's statue at Carleton University.

This research grant is set up as a memorial to Mahatma (M.K.) Gandhi, and in recognition of the work being carried by international affiliates of *Economists for Peace and Security (EPS)* and *Mahatma Gandhi Peace Council of Ottawa*.

For more information about the Kanta Marwah Research Grant, see <a href="http://www.epsusa.org">http://www.epsusa.org</a>.

# EPS Publications

### The Piracy Issue

EPS Quarterly, September 2011. The articles in this issue explore the effects of piracy on economics and the possible uses of the discipline of economics on the problem of piracy.

#### Table of contents

- Letter from the Director
- Keeping Pirates At Bay: The Atalanta Mission In The Horn Of Africa Renaud Bellais
- The Economic Cost of Piracy Oceans Beyond Piracy Project
- Governance and Piracy Olaf J. de Groot and Anja Shortland

Read this issue of EPS Quarterly at <a href="http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2011/sept2011/sept2011.pdf">http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2011/sept2011.pdf</a>.

### Crisis in the States and Cities: What Should Be Done? Symposium Issue

EPS Quarterly, June 2011. This issue contains summaries of the proceedings from the Bernard Schwartz symposium held at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill, Washington DC on April 12, 2011. The Symposium was organized by Economists for Peace and Security and co-sponsored by The New America Foundation, Washington DC.

#### Read this issue of EPS Quarterly at

<u>http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2011/jun2011/jun2011.pdf</u>. **To watch video of the symposium, visit** <u>http://www.epsusa.org/events/411conf/statecrisisprogram.htm</u>.

# Economics of Peace and Security Journal Vol. 6, No 2 - On peace, war, and violence - is now available online

Contents

•Sterling Huang and David Throsby on economic, political, and social determinants of peace

 $\cdot \text{Alvaro}$  Riascos and Juan Vargas on violence and growth in Colombia

•Steve Pickering on the (supposed) bellicosity of "mountain people"

·Vincenzo Bove on the demand and supply of peacekeeping

·John Gilbert, Tanigawa Takahiko, Krit Linananda, Edward Tower, and Alongkorn Tuncharoenlarp on the deadweight cost of war

·Zachary Tambudzai on determinants of military expenditure in Zimbabwe

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. Previous contributors include Joseph Stiglitz, James Galbraith, and Lawrence Klein. The Journal's website also features book reviews submitted by members and subscribers.

EPS members receive a 25% discount on the annual subscription to the Economics of Peace and Security Journal. A regular one-year subscription is \$40; for EPS members, it's only \$25! Non-subscribers can access the abstracts and contents pages.

For more information about the Journal or to subscribe: <u>http://www.epsjournal.org.uk/</u>. To become a member of EPS (and to qualify for the subscription discount): http://www.epsusa.org/membership/membership.htm.

# Action Corner

### Support the Local Farms, Food, and Jobs Act

Currently, billions of taxpayer dollars subsidize unhealthy, processed foods, while farmers who grow healthy foods work without support - but that can change.

Leaders in Congress have introduced the Local Farms, Food, and Jobs Act to support local farmers and food markets. A recent Union of Concerned Scientists report found that expanding local food systems will boost local economies, create jobs, and encourage consumption of fruits and vegetables. As a bonus, these farmers are also more likely to embrace practices that protect our air, water, and soil.

With enough support, this bill could become part of the larger Food and Farm Bill, currently moving through Congress at a lightning pace. Write to your members of Congress and ask them to cosponsor the Local Farms, Food, and Jobs Act today!

To find out more about The 2012 Farm Bill, visit <a href="http://www.ucsusa.org/food\_and\_agriculture/solutions/big\_picture\_solutions/the-2012-farm-bill.html">http://www.ucsusa.org/food\_and\_agriculture/solutions/big\_picture\_solutions/the-2012-farm-bill.html</a>.

Get the word out on the topics that matter most to you! The ACLU has a tool that helps write and send letters to local papers. With such a letter, 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.

For a list of media outlets by state, with tips on how to write a letter in your own words plus talking points for the listed topics, see

http://action.aclu.org/site/PageServer?pagename=LTE\_SOTU\_2007&JServSessionIdr001=3bu4 9o8t91.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.

To access the Foreign Policy Staffer Locator, go to <u>http://globalsolutions.org/hill/fpstaff</u>.

If you would like to post an EPS flyer on a departmental bulletin board or similar venue, please contact Thea Harvey at <u>theaharvey@epsusa.org</u>.

## <u>Upcoming Events</u>

• January 6 – 8, 2012 Annual meetings of the Allied Social Sciences Association and American Economics Association in Chicago, IL.

EPS will present two sessions on Friday, January 6. The EPS Dinner in honor of Robert J. Gordon will be held Saturday, January 7.

Details are now available at our website's events page <a href="http://epsusa.org/events/events.htm">http://epsusa.org/events/events.htm</a>

 January 13 – 14, 2012 EURASIAN PEACE SCIENCE CONFERENCE at Koç University in Istanbul, Turkey. The Conference's goals are to broaden cooperation among Eurasian and Middle Eastern peace science scholars, encourage interaction with the worldwide peace science community, and bring together research on conflict and peace-related topics from throughout the world.

For more information, visit <a href="http://conflictstudiescenter.ku.edu.tr/call.html">http://conflictstudiescenter.ku.edu.tr/call.html</a>.

• March 9 – 11, 2012 Eastern Economic Association 38th Annual Conference will be held at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, MA. The Eastern Economic Association is a not-for-profit corporation whose object is to promote educational and scholarly exchange on economic affairs. Towards that end, the Association encourages the freedom of research and discussion.

Further information about the conference is available at <a href="http://www.ramapo.edu/eea/">http://www.ramapo.edu/eea/</a>.

• June 21 – 22, 2012 The sixteenth International Conference on Economics and Security will be held in Cairo, Egypt, hosted by Economists for Peace and Security (Egypt), and the American University in Cairo.

For more information contact Hamid E. Ali <u>hali@aucegypt.edu</u>

 June 25 – 27, 2012 The 12th Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference, and annual meeting of NEPS, will be held at the DIW Berlin, Department of Development and Security, Mohrenstr. 58, 10117 Berlin, Germany.

Details about the conference can be found here <a href="http://www.europeanpeacescientists.org/jan.html">http://www.europeanpeacescientists.org/jan.html</a>.

### How Can I Help?

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 continue to be heard. Membership dues and other donations are fully tax-deductible.

To become a member, go to

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

Join us on Facebook and LinkedIn.

Sign up for GoodSearch. EPS gets a penny every time you use it for an online search, at no cost to you.

Visit our website at <u>www.epsusa.org</u>. Donate at <u>www.chi-cash-advance.com/sforms/appeal1130/Contribute.aspx</u>.

Remove my name from all future email correspondence