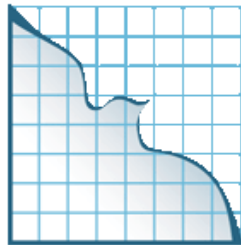


NewsNotes

October 2011



ECONOMISTS for PEACE & SECURITY

Where justice is denied, where poverty is enforced, where ignorance prevails, and where any one class is made to feel that society is an organized conspiracy to oppress, rob and degrade them, neither persons nor property will be safe.

-Frederick Douglass

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EPS News

Economists for Peace and Security
cordially invites you and a guest to join us for an evening at the home of
Kathleen Stephansen and Andrew Racine
with special guest

Dr. Alan Blinder

Wednesday, November 16, 2011

6:30 - 9:00pm

Hosted by Kathleen Stephansen and Andrew Racine
Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served

To attend this event please contact [Thea Harvey](#).

A Roadmap for Effective Economic Reconstruction in Conflict-Affected Regions October 26, 2011

9:00am - 1:00pm

U.S. Institute of Peace Washington DC

Join USIP for this event, which aims to outline appropriate strategies for effective and lasting economic transformation in countries or regions affected by violent conflict. More than 1.5 billion people live in fragile and conflict-affected states. Recent attempts to foster stability and economic growth in fragile and conflict-affected

states have had limited impact and millions remain destitute and insecure. This event builds on an online discussion hosted by the International Network for Economics and Conflict and the insightful commentary by a distinguished panel of experts, who reviewed aspects of the World Bank's 2011 World Development Report on Conflict, Security and Development. This half-day event will bring together of leading scholars and experienced practitioners to examine strategies for economic reconstruction in conflict-affected countries.

The event will also launch a new USIP Special Report, *The Economics of Peace: Five Rules for Effective Reconstruction* <<http://inec.usip.org/resource/economics-peace-five-rules-effective-reconstruction>>, with a presentation by author, Dr. Graciana del Castillo and remarks by former executive vice president of the U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation and founding partner of Total Impact Advisors, Ambassador John Simon.

For more information please visit the USIP event page
<http://inec.usip.org/event/2011/oct/17/roadmap-effective-economic-reconstruction-conflict-affected-regions>.

Balanced Budget Amendment Follies

by [Micah Hauptman](#) and [Marshall Auerback](#), October 12, 2011 for *The Huffington Post*

"'Balance the budget!' It's the endlessly repeated narrative heard in Washington. Implicit in this narrative is that budget deficits are crippling our economy and the US government is on the verge of insolvency. If we only imposed strict fiscal discipline like Greece, we'd be on the road to recovery in no time! Ask yourself how that's working out for Greece right now.

"We are currently in what Republicans in Congress are calling 'Balanced Budget Month.' But it's not just Republicans who have embraced a commitment to drastically slash deficit spending. Virtually everyone in Washington agrees that budget deficits are dragging our economy down and that they must therefore be dealt with swiftly and vigorously."

To read the full article, visit
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/micah-hauptman/balanced-budget-amendment_b_1004138.html?ref=email_share.

Government spending key to cure the economy

by [Joseph E. Stiglitz](#), October 9, 2011, for *The Gulf Times*

"As the economic slump that began in 2007 persists, the question on everyone's minds is obvious: Why? Unless we have a better understanding of the causes of the crisis, we can't implement an effective recovery strategy. And, so far, we have neither.

"We were told that this was a financial crisis, so governments on both sides of the Atlantic focused on the banks. Stimulus programmes were sold as being a temporary palliative, needed to bridge the gap until the financial sector recovered and private lending resumed. But, while bank profitability and bonuses have returned, lending has not recovered, despite record-low long- and short-term interest rates.

"The banks claim that lending remains constrained by a shortage of creditworthy borrowers, owing to the sick economy. And key data indicate that they are at least partly right. After all, large enterprises are sitting on a few trillion dollars in cash, so money is not what is holding them back from investing and hiring.

"Some, perhaps many, small businesses are, however, in a very different position; strapped for funds, they can't grow, and many are being forced to contract."

See the entire article at
http://www.gulf-times.com/site/topics/article.asp?cu_no=2&item_no=462893&version=1&template_id=46&parent_id=26.

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
<http://www.goodsearch.com/about.aspx>.

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
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Economists-for-Peace-and-Security/114370951337>.

Links

Structures of Peace

Structures of Peace is a report produced by the Institute for Economics and Peace that identifies what leads to peaceful societies

Structures of Peace is a new conceptual framework for understanding and describing the factors that create a peaceful society, derived from an empirical and statistical analysis of the Global Peace Index. Over 300 country data sets were used to define the key economic, political and cultural determinants that foster the creation of a more peaceful society.

The Structures of Peace, derived from the analysis presented in the report, consist of the following elements:

- Well-functioning government
- Sound business environment
- Equitable distribution of resources
- Acceptance of the rights of others
- Good relations with neighbors
- Free flow of information
- High levels of education
- Low levels of corruption

These eight factors were found to be associated with peaceful environments and can be seen as both interdependent and positively reinforcing of each other. This means the relative strength of any one 'structure' has the potential to influence peace either positively or negatively.

For more information and to read the full report, visit
<http://www.visionofhumanity.org/info-center/structures-of-peace-2/>.

The Cost of Tax Cuts

The National Priorities Project launched costoftaxcuts.com, three rolling counters that show the revenues lost to the US Treasury by the Bush tax cuts for the top 1% of earners, the next 4%, and the total top 5% of earners in the United States. It calculates the cost of the tax cuts to date, and how much money will be lost to the US Treasury if the cuts are extended out over the next decade, as some lawmakers are proposing.

Clicking on the Richer & Poorer tab provides some great facts about the impact of the tax cuts. For instance, did you know that the average *tax cut* received by the top 1% of earners (\$66,384) is more than the average household *income* (\$58,506) of the remaining 99%?

Check out the counters and facts here
<http://costoftaxcuts.com/>.

In Other News

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, go to
<http://www.europeanpeacescientists.org/jtinbergen.html>.

Call for Papers

The Eastern Economic Association announces its call for papers for the 2012 meetings, for papers in all subject areas of economics. Please follow the submission directions on the website.

Paper Submission Deadline: November 8, 2011

Full details available at
<http://www.ramapo.edu/eea/2012/>.

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 an international group of *Economists for Peace and Security (EPS)*, and *Mahatma Gandhi Peace Council of Ottawa*.

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

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

<http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2011/sept2011/sept2011.pdf>.

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

<http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2011/jun2011/jun2011.pdf>.

To watch video of the symposium, visit

<http://www.epsusa.org/events/411conf/statecrisisprogram.htm>.

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

• 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 \$30! Non-subscribers can access the abstracts and contents pages.

For more information about the Journal or to subscribe:

<http://www.epsjournal.org.uk/>.

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

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

Action Corner

The Complex Crises Fund: Rapid Response Funding to Help Prevent Deadly Conflict

Instead of pouring billions of dollars into warmaking, the United States should invest in the Complex Crises Fund, an innovative tool to help prevent wars before they start. The lack of flexible funding for civilian agencies has contributed to the militarization of the US's response to global crises. Without rapid response funds available for civilian agencies to act, the military has been left to fund and direct many activities that should be civilian-led.

To find out more about The Complex Crises Fund, visit http://fcnl.org/issues/ppdc/diplomacy_flexible_funding_for_state/.

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 <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.

Upcoming Events

- **November 11 - 13, 2011.** ICAPE's 3rd international research conference: **Re-thinking economics in a time of economic distress** will be held at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Amherst, MA.

The 2007-08 financial crisis and subsequent economic downturn have raised many questions about how well prevailing economic approaches identify and explain pressing economic problems and suggest sound ways to solve them. Exploring what needs to change in economics and identifying productive paths forward are the central themes of The International Confederation of Associations for Pluralism in Economics 3rd international research conference.

Full details about the conference are available at <http://www.icafe.org/conferences.html>.

- **November 16, 2011.** EPS benefit, an evening with Dr. Alan Blinder. Kathleen Stephansen and Andrew Racine will host an evening at their home with special guest speaker Dr. Alan Blinder. All proceeds will help further the work done at EPS.

For further details about the event, please contact Thea Harvey at theaharvey@epsusa.org.

- **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.

Please check for details and updates soon on our website:

www.epsusa.org

- **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

<http://conflictstudiescenter.ku.edu.tr/call.html>.

- **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

<http://www.ramapo.edu/eea/>.

- **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.

For more details, see

<http://www.europeapeacescientists.org/jtinbergen.html>.

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>.

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Sign up for [GoodSearch](#). EPS gets a penny every time you use it for an online search, **at no cost to you.**

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