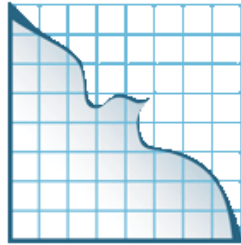


NewsNotes

August 2012



ECONOMISTS for PEACE & SECURITY

Today, there is no economic justification for nuclear power.

~Dennis Kucinich

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EPS News

Where the New Deal meets Reaganomics

By Linda Bilmes and Shelby Chodos, for *The Washington Post*, July 1, 2012

"Twenty-five years ago, President Ronald Reagan angered many Democrats with a broad effort to eliminate red tape and allow states discretion over federal grants. He called it the New Federalism. A half-century earlier, President Franklin Roosevelt angered many Republicans by using federal dollars to put millions back to work through a variety of programs that became known as the New Deal.

"Although we think of these two presidents and their initiatives as ideological opposites, there is no law of nature (or of economics) that prevents us from combining their ideas to help address the faltering economy today. A Reagan-Roosevelt approach—a sort of decentralized recovery that sends money directly to the states—has the best chance of putting people back to work and making America stronger."

Read the full article at

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/rw/WashingtonPost/Content/Epaper/2012-07-01/Bx3.pdf>.

Top 5 Reasons Why Raising the Minimum Wage Is Good for You and Me

It's smart economics and beneficial to society. What are we waiting for?

By Marshall Auerback for *Alternet*

"In recent months, a number of states have again taken the lead on measures to raise the minimum wage. Massachusetts is moving toward a minimum of \$10 per hour. Other measures are on the table in New York, Illinois, New Jersey, Connecticut and Missouri. Meanwhile Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, is pressing for the federal minimum wage to rise to \$9.80 per hour by 2014.

"This is far more sensible policy than symbolic nods to the left through gimmicks such as the so-called Buffett Rule, which might raise new revenues from the mega-wealthy through taxes, but will likely amount to very little because gazillionaires can hire clever accountants to help them get around it. No, we need policies that clearly do something for hard-working people who have been clobbered by a financial crisis they didn't create."

Find out what the five reasons are when you visit

<http://www.alternet.org/economy/top-5-reasons-why-raising-minimum-wage-good-you-and-me>.

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, go to

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

Look for EPS 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>.

EPS has a group page on LinkedIn. If this is your preferred social network, check in with us.

Keep up with EPS at

www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2009987&trk=anetsrch_name&goback=.gdr_1263369639671_1.

In Other News

Economic Effects of Reductions in Defense Outlays

Policy analysis By Benjamin Zycher for *Cato*, August 8, 2012

"This study examines the prospective economic effects of a reduction below the current baseline in defense outlays of \$100 billion per year over 10 years.

"Several recent studies have attempted to estimate the supposedly adverse economic and employment effects of reductions in government spending generally, and defense outlays in particular. Such studies have tended to exaggerate the harmful effects of spending cuts and have ignored or understated the beneficial effects associated with redirecting resources to more productive uses."

Read the full study here:

<http://www.cato.org/publications/policy-analysis/economic-effects-reductions-defense-outlays>.

Guess What Percentage of Americans Know Military Spending is Increasing

Americans are consistently misinformed about the amount we spend on the military--and many don't like the truth when they hear it.

By David Swanson, for *Alternet*, July 29, 2012

"And keep guessing some more, because pollsters are unlikely to ask that question. A year and a half ago, a poll found that Americans drastically underestimate how high US military spending is.

"This fits with consistent polling showing slim majority support for cutting military spending, but strong support for major military cuts when the people polled are told what the current budget is.

Setting aside, however, the absolute size of the US military budget, its size in comparison to the rest of the world's militaries, or its size in comparison to the rest of the federal budget, are people able to process the fact that it's been growing every year for the past 15 years – in the face of the steady news reports that it's shrinking?"

To read more, see

<http://www.alternet.org/guess-what-percentage-americans-know-military-spending-increasing>.

Defense Contractor Time Machine: Less Spending, More Jobs, Analysis Reveals

August 6, 2012 for *Project on Government Oversight*

"For nearly a year, defense contractors have been arguing that potential cuts in Pentagon spending could have a devastating effect on jobs. If military spending is cut via the sequestration mechanism outlined in last year's Budget Control Act, more than 1 million jobs could be lost, an industry group has argued. The North Carolina News and Observer reported that Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) told a Fayetteville, NC audience on July 30 that the impact of sequestration on employment would be so severe that it 'would be like every major employer in my home state closing down at one time or cutting their business in half.'

"Or would it? According to the Congressional Budget Office, if the sequestration axe falls, the Department of Defense's base budget would still be larger than it was in 2006 (adjusting for inflation).

"And, at the end of 2006, according to an analysis by the Project On Government Oversight, the nation's five top defense contractors employed more people than they did at the end of 2011."

Read the full story at

<http://pogoblog.typepad.com/pogo/2012/08/defense-contractor-time-machine-less-spending-more-jobs-analysis-reveals.html#more>.

Links

The Business of Peace

Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs

"Peace studies are usually the domain of humanities departments, earnest advocacy groups, and nonprofits, the Carnegie Council among them. But this audio program looks at two groups with tech sector roots who are looking to quantify and measure peace. Their ultimate goal? To use that hard data to make the case that the private sector should get into the peace business.

"This audio program first focuses on Steve Killelea, an Australian surfer, IT entrepreneur, and poverty activist turned peace advocate... A few years later, Killelea turned his attention to peace, founding the Institute for Economics and Peace. He brought his quantitative skills to bear by starting an indicator that measures the peacefulness of different countries. It's called the Global Peace Index.

"At Stanford's [Peace Innovation Lab](#), researcher Mark Nelson and lab director Margarita Quihuis are looking to get businesses involved in encouraging peace. The way they see it, if members of conflict-ridden groups interact in a positive way, it gets easier for businesses to operate safely and profitably. So Nelson and Quihuis have started tracking positive interactions across conflict borders on Facebook and other social media, and they are looking for models to get business owners involved on the ground."

To read the transcript of the program, or listen to the audio recording, go to

<http://www.carnegiecouncil.org/studio/multimedia/20120716/index.html?sourceDoc=002134>.

Funding & Employment Opportunities

Chief Executive Officer, The Elders

London, UK

The Elders is an independent group of eminent global leaders, brought together by Nelson Mandela, who work together for peace and human rights worldwide.

The Elders now seek a dynamic Chief Executive Officer to support them in implementing their mission to advance peacebuilding and human rights. (S)he will hold executive responsibility for strategy, execution and resources and lead a small team based in London.

Applicants should have a track record that combines senior leadership with high integrity, credibility and experience in the fields of international affairs, human rights and/or development. An understanding of international policymaking and/or donor relations management would be valuable.

For full details on this position, visit
<http://appointments.egonzehnder.com/?page=Details&id=79>.

Assistant, Associate or Full Professor - Conflict Resolution Program Portland State University, Portland, Oregon

Portland State University's Conflict Resolution Graduate Program is seeking to expand its faculty with a new hire who will bring wide ranging transnational experience. Optimal candidates will be able to effectively bridge the scholar/practitioner worlds and will have experience in the field, as well as in the classroom. They are looking for candidates who are conflict resolution scholars with a focus on peace studies, area of specialization in peacebuilding process at the international level and through international organizations, and with strong competence in human rights.

More information on the position can be found at
<http://www.pdx.edu/hr/faculty-administrative-openings>.

EPS Publications

The Economics of Peace and Security Journal Vol. 7, No. 2 – On Afghanistan, Rwanda, Punjab
July 2012

Contents:

Does development assistance reduce violence? Evidence from Afghanistan
CHOU, Tiffany

Intimate partner violence, female employment, and male backlash in Rwanda
FINNOFF, Kade

Designing institutions for global security
GUPTA, Rupayan

Insurgency, crime, and agricultural labor expenditure: Evidence from Punjab, 1978-1990
SINGH, Prakarsh

Analyzing the costs of military engagement
DE GROOT, Olaf J.

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 \$32; for EPS members, it's only \$24! 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>.

Learn more about this issue or subscribe to EPSJ by visiting
<http://www.epsjournal.org.uk/Vol7/No2/issue.php>.

EPS Quarterly, June 2012 – *The Sustainability Issue*

This issue contains summaries of the proceedings from the *Sustainability* session at the January 2012 ASSA/AEA annual meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

Table of contents

- Sustainable Growth
Robert J. Gordon
- Sustainable Energy
J. Barkley Rosser, Jr.
- Sustainable Jobs
Allen Sinai
- Sustainable European Union
Richard Parker

Read this issue of EPS Quarterly at
<http://epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2012/jun2012/jun201.pdf>.

Audio recordings from the session are available at
<http://www.epsusa.org/events/aea.htm>.

Action Corner

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=3bu49o8t91.app20a.

Do you have a foreign policy alternative that should be heard in the halls of government?

Citizens for Global Solutions Political Action Committee (Global Solutions PAC) works to elect federal candidates who support building effective democratic global institutions that will apply the rule of law while respecting the diversity and autonomy of national and local communities.

Learn more about Global Solutions PAC at
<http://globalsolutions.org/>.

To access the email or ground mail addresses of your representatives in Congress or the Senate, enter your zip code at
<http://congress.org/congressorg/directory/congdir.tt>.

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

- **August 20, 2012 US Drones Policy: Strategic Frameworks and Measuring Effects:** a fact-based discussion with leading experts on counterterrorism about how we can better understand the effects and effectiveness of America's drone campaign hosted by the American Security Project.

For more information about this ASP event, see

<http://americansecurityproject.org/events/2012/asp-event-u-s-drones-policy-strategic-frameworks-and-measuring-effects/>.

- **September 18 – 20, 2012 Peace and Conflict: an International Interdisciplinary Conference** hosted by the Conflict Research Society and The Centre for Peace and Reconciliation Studies at Coventry University. The conference embraces theory, evidence and practice - it invites presentation and discussion. It seeks to bring together developments in the 'real' world and developments in academic understanding, topical issues and enduring issues. Moreover it recognizes the existence of disagreement: concepts, theories and approaches can be contested.

The 2012 conference carries forward the work of the annual conferences that have been running since 2003. The Tuesday and Wednesday constitute the core of the conference and follow the pattern of previous years. New this year is the Thursday which is for those who have a special interest in the scientific study of peace and conflict.

Further details about the conference are at

<http://www.conflictresearchsociety.org.uk/2012%20CRS%20Annual%20Conference.html>.

- **October 19 – 20, 2012 Conflict Studies Conference: The New Generation of Ideas, Ninth Biennial Graduate Student Conference** organized by the UMass Boston Graduate Programs in Conflict Resolution, Conflict Studies.

The New Generation of Ideas brings together graduate students from a variety of fields to present their work and share ideas. Since 1996, graduate students and recent graduates from universities across the United States, Canada, and numerous other countries have gathered in Boston for this biennial event.

Full details on the event are available here:

http://www.umb.edu/academics/mgs/crhsgg/conflict_studies_conference/.

- **October 26 – 27, 2012 Twenty-Third BREAD Conference on Development Economics**, sponsored by University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, (Department of Business Economics and Public Policy, Ross School of Business; Department of Economics; Ford School of Public Policy; International Policy Center, Ford School; Population Studies Center, Institute for Social Research; and William Davidson Institute) Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD) and Hewlett Foundation at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

View the full program here:

<http://ipl.econ.duke.edu/bread/conferences/cf23/cfAnnouncement.php?w=1680&h=920>.

- **December 3 – 4, 2012 The 8th Annual Households in Conflict Network Workshop and 2nd AMSE Economic Development Conference**, jointly organized by the Aix-Marseille School of Economics and the Households in Conflict Network, will take place in Aix-en-Provence France.

This year's workshop will have a focus on the relationship between violent conflict and socio-economic development. Submissions that address key issues in conflict and economic development analysis are invited, as well as submissions from other disciplines on the usual HiCN topics around the empirical analysis of violent conflict from a micro-level perspective. Theoretical papers about violent conflict issues are also welcome. Submissions should be in English, and be completed but unpublished papers. Submissions by early stage researchers are encouraged.

Workshop information and calls for papers can be found at either of these sites:

http://www.hicn.org/wordpress/?page_id=24.

<http://www.thehivefcv.org/Pages/BuzzIndi.aspx?bid=16>

- **December 18 – 19, 2012 Fourth Conference on Conflict Management Peace Economics and Peace Science** hosted in cooperation with Mahatma Gandhi Center for Conflict Prevention and Management - Department of Sociology, Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith, Varanasi (UP), India Binghamton University, State University of New York at Binghamton at Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith, Varanasi (UP), India.

For more information about the conference, contact

Ravi Prakash Pandey, Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith, Varanasi (U.P.), India - ravisociology@rediffmail.com

- **January 4 – 6, 2013 The ASSA/AEA Annual Meetings will be held in San Diego, CA.** EPS will be hosting two sessions during the Annual Meetings, as well as hosting a dinner in Honor of EPS Vice-Chair Michael Intriligator.

Session I

Is War Over? The Economics of National Security after Iraq and Afghanistan

Moderator: Michael Lind (New America Foundation)

Linda Bilmes (Harvard University)

Richard Kaufman (Bethesda Research Institute)

Lloyd J. Dumas (University of Texas at Dallas)

J. Paul Dunne (University of Cape Town)

Session II

Up from Here? Challenges and Barriers to Recovery from the Crisis

Moderator: James K. Galbraith (University of Texas at Austin)

Kenneth Arrow (Stanford University)

Robert Gordon (Northwestern University)

Eric Laursen (Independent Journalist)

Yanis Varoufakis (University of Athens)

Find more information about our involvement at past ASSA/AEA Annual Meetings at

<http://www.epsusa.org/events/aea.htm>.

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 www.epsusa.org.
Donate at www.chi-cash-advance.com/sforms/appeal1130/Contribute.aspx.