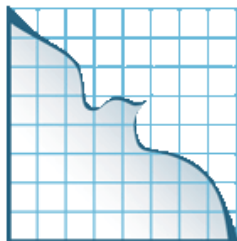


NewsNotes

August 2014



ECONOMISTS for PEACE & SECURITY

Peace is not the product of a victory or a command. It has no finishing line, no final deadline, no fixed definition of achievement. Peace is a never-ending process, the work of many decisions.

~Oscar Arias

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EPS News

EPS at the AEA / ASSA meetings

Boston, Massachusetts, January 3 – 5, 2015, Boston Marriott Copley Place

"Inequality: Challenge of the Century?" (Panel discussion)

- **Panel Moderator:** James K. Galbraith (EPS)
- Olivier Giovannoni (Bard College)
- Branko Milanovic (CUNY)
- Stephen Rose
- Joseph Stiglitz (Columbia University)

US-Russia: Avoiding a New Cold War, Session in honor of Michael Intriligator (Panel discussion)

- **Panel Moderator:** Richard Kaufman (Bethesda Research Institute)
- Ruslan Grinberg (Russian Academy of Science)
- Aleksandr Nekipelov (Russian Academy of Science)
- Sergey Shakin (Moscow School of Economics)
- William Hartung (Center for International Policy)
- Michael Lind (New America Foundation)
- Robert Skidelsky (Warwick University)
- Jeffrey Sachs (Columbia University)

In order to attend EPS sessions you must register to attend The AEA\ASSA Conference.

For more details see,
<https://www.aeaweb.org/>.

Support EPS while shopping online

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

Find out about GoodShop by visiting
<http://www.goodsearch.com/goodshop.aspx>.

Look for EPS on Facebook. Keep up with our latest activities and upcoming events.

Like 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

In Wake of Clashes, Calls to Demilitarize Police

By Julie Bosman and Matt Appuzo for *The New York Times*, August 14, 2014

For four nights in a row, they streamed onto West Florissant Avenue wearing camouflage, black helmets and vests with “POLICE” stamped on the back. They carried objects that doubled as warnings: assault rifles and ammunition, slender black nightsticks and gas masks.

They were not just one police force but many, hailing from communities throughout north St. Louis County and loosely coordinated by the county police.

Their adversaries were a ragtag group of mostly unarmed neighborhood residents, hundreds of African-Americans whose pent-up fury at the police had sent them pouring onto streets and sidewalks in Ferguson, demanding justice for Michael Brown, the 18-year-old who was fatally shot by a police officer on Saturday.

When the protesters refused to retreat from the streets, threw firebombs or walked too close to a police officer, the response was swift and unrelenting: tear gas and rubber bullets.

Read the full article here:
<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/08/15/us/ferguson-missouri-in-wake-of-clashes-calls-to-demilitarize-police.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&version=HpSum&module=a-lede-package-region®ion=lede-package&WT.nav=lede-package&r=0>.

Shoddy US roads and bridges take a toll on the economy

by Don Lee for *The Los Angeles Times*, August 14, 2014

It was a beautiful May afternoon when Donnel Gomes took his week-old silver Mercedes for a spin into the city. He turned onto Broad Street, a main thoroughfare downtown, and ... kaboom!

The car fell into a huge pothole, blowing its right tire, ripping the front axle and knocking out the air-bag system. Cost: \$3,800.

"It was a wreck," said the 48-year-old electrician, although he reckoned he got off easy compared with a motorcyclist whom Gomes saw thrown into the air after hitting a crater on another downtown street. "A damn minefield," he said of traversing many of Providence's roads.

Rhode Island has an unusually large share of shoddy highways, streets and bridges, but it's not much better in the rest of the country.

America's transportation infrastructure, once an engine of mobility and productivity, has fallen into such disrepair that it's become an economic albatross.

Consumers shell out billions of dollars for extra car repairs every year. Insufficient and poorly maintained roads mean costly bottlenecks for businesses, which discourage expansion and hobble American companies competing in the global economy.

Congestion on major urban highways costs the economy more than \$100 billion a year in fuel and lost work time, estimates the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Read the full article here:

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-roads-economy-20140815-story.html>.

Links

Surveillance Costs: The NSA's Impact on the Economy, Internet Freedom & Cybersecurity

By Danielle Kehl, Kevin Bankston, Robyn Greene, Robert Morgus

New America Foundation, July 29, 2014

It has been over a year since *The Guardian* reported the first story on the National Security Agency's surveillance programs based on the leaks from former NSA contractor Edward Snowden, yet the national conversation remains largely mired in a simplistic debate over the tradeoffs between national security and individual privacy. It is time to start weighing the overall costs and benefits more broadly. While intelligence officials have vigorously defended the merits of the NSA programs, they have offered little hard evidence to prove their value—and some of the initial analysis actually suggests that the benefits of these programs are dubious. Three different studies—from the President's Review Group on Intelligence and Communications Technologies, the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, and the New America Foundation's International Security Program—question the value of bulk collection programs in stopping terrorist plots and enhancing national security. Meanwhile, there has been little sustained discussion of the costs of the NSA programs beyond their impact on privacy and liberty, and in particular, how they affect the US economy, American foreign policy, and the security of the Internet as a whole.

Read more here:

http://newamerica.org/publications/policy/surveillance_costs_the_nsas_impact_on_the_economy_internet_freedom_cybersecurity.

State of the Future Index

Study initiated and conducted by Theodore J. Gordon for *The Millenium Project*

The State of the Future Index (SOFI) is a measure of the 10-year outlook for the future based on historical data for the last 20 years. It is constructed with key variables and forecasts that, in the aggregate, depict whether the future promises to be better or worse. The SOFI is intended to show the directions and intensity of change and to identify the factors responsible. It provides a mechanism for studying the relationships among the items in a system — how making a single change ripples throughout a system, in other words, creating some positive and intended consequence as well as unintended results. It has been produced by The Millennium Project since 2000.

Yet, combining many variables into a single index number can lead to loss of detail. Creating an index requires judgments not only in selecting the variables to include, but also in weighting them. An index of global conditions can mask variations among regions, nations, or groups. The apparent precision of an index can easily be mistaken for accuracy. For these reasons, many people interested in tracking social or economic conditions prefer to keep the variables that they consider important separate and distinct. Hence, great attention is given to the variables that make up the index, seeking accurate sources and tracking changes when they occur.

The State of the Future Index was first described in The Millennium Project's *2001 State of the Future*. Since then, the SOFI chapter in the annual *State of the Future* reports has focused on improvements in the data sources and the method itself. Details on all SOFI research and the analysis and supporting data are included in the CDs that accompany the *State of the Future* reports and are also available on the GFIS website.

Read more here:

<http://millennium-project.org/millennium/SOFI.html>.

Funding & Employment Opportunities

Research Associate, Policy Studies

Kroc Institute, University of Notre Dame

The Policy Studies, Research Associate will work closely with the Director of Policy Studies at the Kroc Institute on research projects, curriculum development, and organizing research and education events both at Notre Dame and elsewhere.

The Research Associate will conduct research tasks on topics related to armed conflict, nonviolence, economic sanctions and incentives, the civil society role in peacebuilding, nuclear disarmament, and international policy. He/she will draft research memos, edit and fact-check articles and other documents for publication, and manage the filing and retrieval of research and writing documents.

Full description is available at

https://jobs.nd.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/position/JobDetails_css.jsp?postingId=231540.

Project Manager, Design, Monitoring & Evaluation for Peace

Washington DC

The Project Manager for the DME for Peace Hub is responsible for managing and leading the full functionality of the DM&E for Peace Hub (www.dmeforpeace.org), the strategy, management and support of its content, including content and resource generation, and the active promotion of the site within the fields of peacebuilding and evaluation. The Project Manager is also responsible for liaising with key partners, including Alliance for Peacebuilding and UNICEF, and developing new funding and partnerships. The Project Manager reports to the Sr. Manager for DM&E. The position is based in Washington, DC. There is no international travel involved in this position.

Full position details available here:

<https://sfcg.bamboohr.com/jobs/view.php?id=101>.

EPS Publications

EPS Quarterly, Volume 26, Issue 2 – June 2014 **Costs and Consequences of Austerity Issue**

This issue is comprised of edited transcripts from the session “The Costs and Consequences of Austerity.” presented by EPS at the AEA/ASSA meetings in Philadelphia on January 4, 2014

Table of contents

- Welcoming Remarks - Allen Sinai

- In Search of a Good Fiscal Rule - Olivier Blanchard
- Austerity in Context - Susan Collins
- Austerity and its Discontents - Robert Pollin
- A Menu of Policy Options - Carmen Reinhart
- Beyond the Binary Debate - Robert Zoellick

Read the June issue of EPS Quarterly at

<http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2014/june14/june14.pdf>.

Read the individual articles here:

<http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2014/june14/june2014.html>.

EPS Quarterly, Volume 26, Issue 1 – April 2014 Jobs, Investment and Rebuilding America Symposium Issue

As part of a series of Bernard Schwartz symposia, EPS and New America Foundation co-hosted a conference entitled “Jobs, Investment, and Rebuilding America: Economic and National Security Issues” in Washington DC on November 12, 2013. This issue is comprised of edited transcripts from the sessions and keynote address.

The Dinner Address on page 20, by Jeffrey Sachs, was his speech at the EPS dinner held annually at the AEA meetings. He was the guest of honor for 2014.

Table of contents

- Welcoming Remarks - James K. Galbraith
- Session One: A Jobs-Investment-Security Agenda
- Keynote Address - Jason Furman
- Session Two: US Security Policy After Syria
- Session Three: The Economic and Financial Risks and Dangers
- Dinner Address - Jeffrey Sachs

Read the April issue of EPS Quarterly at

<http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2014/apr14/apr14.pdf>.

Read the individual articles here:

<http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2014/apr14/apr2014.html>.

See video of the symposium here:

<http://www.epsusa.org/events/1113conf/economicnationaleconomicissues.html>.

The Economics of Peace and Security Journal, Volume 9, Number 1 On violence and peace in India symposium, general equilibrium modeling of social conflict, and the likely legacy costs of the US wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

This issue contains a 6-article symposium on violence and peace in India. When India is considered at all, it is predominantly with respect to its neighbors, especially Bangladesh, Pakistan, and China. Violence within India rarely reaches even an academic audience. The symposium is introduced by guest editor Rupayan Gupta. Our authors are Gaurav Khanna, Laura Zimmermann, Saurabh Singhal, Sofia Amaral, Siddhartha Bandyopadhyay, Samrat Bhattacharya, Rudra Sensarma, Kuhuk Bhushan, Prakarsh Singh, Nilanjana Sengupta, Dolon Ganguly, Rikhil Bhavnani, and Saumitra Jha. In addition, Javier Alcantar-Toledo and Yannis Venieris write on general equilibrium modeling of social conflict, and Linda Bilmes examines the likely legacy costs of the U.S. wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

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- *The financial legacy of Afghanistan and Iraq: How wartime spending decisions will constrain future US national security budgets*
Linda J. Bilmes
- *Social capital, sociopolitical instability, and economic development: A general equilibrium model*
Javier Alcántar-Toledo, Yannis P. Venieris
- *Symposium on peace and security in India: An introduction*
Rupayan Gupta
- *Fighting Maoist violence with promises: Evidence from India's Employment Guarantee Scheme*
Gaurav Khanna, Laura Zimmermann
- *The economics of counterinsurgency: Some evidence from Andhra Pradesh*
Saurabh Singhal
- *Crime and social conflict in India*
Sofia Amaral, Siddhartha Bandyopadhyay, Samrat Bhattacharya, Rudra Sensarma
- *The effect of media on domestic violence norms: Evidence from India*
Kuhuk Bhushan, Prakarsh Singh
- *Gender, poverty, and domestic violence in rural Bengal: The Jeevika Development Society's journey through women's rights-based microcredit programs*
Nilanjana Sengupta, Dolon Ganguly
- *Gandhi's Gift: Lessons for peaceful reform from India's struggle for democracy*
Rikhil Bhavnani, Saumitra Jha

The *Journal* is a peer-reviewed online publication hosted by EPS-UK. Published twice yearly, it raises and debates 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 qualify for the subscription discount):

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

Learn more about this issue of the *Journal* by visiting

<http://www.epsjournal.org.uk/Vol8/No2/issue.php>.

Action Corner

Keep military-grade weapons off our streets

Police in Ferguson, Missouri are treating the people they're supposed to serve and protect as the enemy. Armed with weapons and riot gear, the police officers look like they're coming from a war zone. Their equipment did.

The Ferguson Police Department received military-grade equipment -- free of charge -- from the Pentagon as part of the 1033 program. And they've been using the weapons and gear against protesters following the police shooting of Mike Brown, and unarmed 18-year-old.

Rep. Hank Johnson is about to introduce legislation that would stop local police departments from getting weapons designed for war from the Pentagon.

To find out how you can take action, visit

<http://capwiz.com/fconl/issues/alert/?alertid=63298701&PROCESS=Take+Action&debug=>.

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.

To learn more about Global Solutions PAC, visit <http://globalsolutions.org/>.

To access the email addresses, phone and fax numbers, or websites of your elected officials in Congress, enter your zip code at <http://www.contactingthecongress.org/>.

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

- **September 2 – 4, 2014 Peace and Conflict: an Interdisciplinary Conference.** The Annual Conference of the Conflict Research Society will be held at The University of Leeds, UK.

The Conference of the British Conflict Research Society is an interdisciplinary event that brings together academics, practitioners and policymakers to discuss a broad range of issues relating to peace and conflict studies.

More information can be found at <http://www.crsconference.net/index.php>.

- **September 30, 2014 "Whats Next? Fostering the Next Generation of Energy Security" Conference** hosted by The American Security Project will be held in New York, NY.

The conference will discuss how to truly ensure that natural gas is the transition fuel that it has been touted as - not a "bridge to nowhere." It will look at the challenges of how to bring more renewable power into an antiquated energy system - and how to overcome those challenges. It will discuss how to catalyze the development of new energy technologies that can bridge the gap between what has been promised and what current technology can achieve.

More details here: <https://www.americansecurityproject.org/event/whats-next-fostering-the-next-generation-of-energy-security-conference/>.

- **October 10 - 11, 2014 The Peace Science Society Conference** will be held in Philadelphia, PA, hosted by the University of Pennsylvania.

A primary concern of the Society is the improvement of social science theory as it relates to international relations. PSS(I) facilitates acquaintance and provides a vehicle for discussion among its members and others worldwide. It encourages and supports the publication of research, particularly but not exclusively quantitative research. PSS(I) avoids social, religious, or national bias. It does not promote political action or polemical discussion.

More information available here: <http://pss.la.psu.edu/>.

- **January 3 - 5, 2015 The American Economics Association Annual Meetings** will be held in Boston, MA.

More information available here:

[http://www.aeaweb.org/Annual_Meeting/.](http://www.aeaweb.org/Annual_Meeting/)

- **January 8 - 11, 2015 Western Economics Association International 11th Pacific Rim Conference** will be held at Victoria University of Wellington and Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand.

More information available here:

<http://www.weai.org/index.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, you will 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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