

## NewsNotes

July 2014

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# ECONOMISTS for PEACE & SECURITY

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Mankind must remember that peace is not God's gift to his creatures; peace is our gift to each other.

-Elie Wiesel

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### EPS News



**Michael D. Intriligator**  
**1938 – 2014**

*EPS mourns the passing of Trustee Michael D. Intriligator.*

Statement by James Galbraith, on behalf of the EPS Board:

We mourn the passing of Michael Intriligator, a wise and generous man, a great spirit in our lives and a driving force in the work of Economists for Peace and Security.

Mike Intriligator became known to me long years ago, when as a student I first read his lucid text on mathematical economics. We became friends when I joined the Board of Economists Allied for Arms Reduction "as it then was"

about twenty years ago, and made the fortunate decision to ask him to serve as a Vice Chair.

From that point, we worked together closely. Everyone at EPS drew on his insights, on his contacts, on his reputation and above all on his inexhaustible energies and dedication. On internal matters we enjoyed his counsel, his constant encouragement and his unfailing support. He even came to meetings, hopping a red-eye to attend, and between meetings he gave his time on matters large and small. He would respond, almost at once, to pleas for help.

Mike's knowledge ranged over many fields, from pure theory, to armaments and strategic interaction, to the economics of health care, and to the practical difficulties of the Russian economy in the post-Soviet era. He was honored by membership in the Russian Academy of Sciences the only American economist with that distinction. He was a stalwart for us during the challenging moments of recent US political history, especially at the start of the Iraq war.

Kate Cell, a former EPS Director, writes for us all:

"Mike was a wonderful person--brilliant, humane, generous, cultured, curious, and kind. A great loss to the profession and especially to EPS whom he guided with wisdom, and supported by deploying his own peaceful weapons: his vast network of colleagues, editors, publishers, former students, and other friends and admirers."

For everyone at EPS Mike Intriligator was a friend. And those who knew him best, loved him most.

June 27, 2014

**Read his full Obituary here:**

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/latimes/obituary.aspx?n=mike-intriligator&pid=171564452>.

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## Yesterday's VA Is Serving Today's Veterans. Therein Lies The Problem.

by Linda Bilmes, July 8, 2014

The media storm engulfing the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) misses the main story. The disability claims backlog, the scheduling delays, the bonuses paid to VA officials, fudging the data to meet arbitrary performance targets; these are serious issues. But the root of the VA's problem is that it was designed for a world that has long since disappeared.

The VA was set up to serve a military that was pre-Internet, pre-antibiotics, pre-all-volunteer armed forces. It was an era when far fewer soldiers survived their battlefield injuries. In the First World War, America lost 100,000 men. Twice that number came home wounded. By contrast, in the Iraq-Afghanistan conflicts, there have been approximately 15 severely wounded survivors for every fatality. Of the 1.8 million soldiers who served in these conflicts and have already been discharged, more than one million have received medical treatment from the VA.

**Read the full article here:**

<http://cognoscenti.wbur.org/2014/07/08/va-scandal-linda-bilmes>.

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## Support EPS while shopping online

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**Find out about GoodShop by visiting**

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

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**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>.

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**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](http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2009987&trk=anetsrch_name&goback=.gdr_1263369639671_1).

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## **In Other News**

### **The Founding Fathers backed Thomas Piketty - and feared a powerful 1 percent**

by Joseph Blasi in *Salon*, July 4, 2014

Many of America's Founders believed that excessive wealth inequality would be incompatible with having a representative republic. They did not expect wealth to be identically distributed, but many did envision a thriving middle class with very broad-based capital ownership and they supported muscular government policies to allow citizens to acquire property on an ongoing basis. Following their lead, our principal strategy to deal with wealth inequality should be to make every citizen a capitalist by encouraging meaningful broad-based profit sharing and employee ownership and remaking our tax system to make this possible.

Read the full article here:

[http://www.salon.com/2014/07/04/the\\_founding\\_fathers\\_backed\\_thomas\\_piketty\\_%E2%80%93\\_and\\_feared\\_a\\_powerful\\_1\\_percent/](http://www.salon.com/2014/07/04/the_founding_fathers_backed_thomas_piketty_%E2%80%93_and_feared_a_powerful_1_percent/).

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### **Political Reform in China: Elections, Public Goods, and Income Distribution**

by Monica Martinez-Bravo, Gerard Padró i Miquel, Nancy Qian & Yang Yao  
*The Cato Institute* July 9, 2014

The control of large bureaucracies is a difficult task. State-level officials, for example, often lack the information they need for appropriate oversight of local officials. In autocratic countries, controlling local officials is further complicated by the weakness of established channels to receive feedback from citizens. To address this problem, several autocratic governments have introduced local elections in recent years. China is a prominent example. The difficulties facing state officials who seek to control local (village) officials takes several forms. For instance, village officials are responsible for raising funds from villagers in order to provide local public goods such as schooling. But state bureaucrats cannot easily monitor village officials, who shrink from the substantial effort required to raise funds and run schools. Local officials can also exercise control over collectively owned means of production, such as land or village enterprises, to favor themselves and their cronies.

Read the full policy report here:

[http://www.cato.org/publications/research-briefs-economic-policy/political-reform-china-elections-public-goods-income?mc\\_cid=94c3390d97&mc\\_eid=0a194abc1a](http://www.cato.org/publications/research-briefs-economic-policy/political-reform-china-elections-public-goods-income?mc_cid=94c3390d97&mc_eid=0a194abc1a).

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## **Links**

### **The US Military and Oil**

*Union Concerned of Scientists*

The US military is the largest institutional consumer of oil in the world. Every year, our armed forces consume more than 100 million barrels of oil to power ships, vehicles, aircraft, and ground operations—enough for over 4 million trips around the Earth, assuming 25 mpg.

Using that much oil makes the military vulnerable to price spikes. In fact, a \$10 increase in the price of a barrel of oil costs the military *billions* of dollars. That's money we can't use on protecting and training our troops.

It's also dangerous. Moving oil on the battlefield requires large convoys of oil tankers, a major target. At the height of operations in Afghanistan, one in 24 convoys ended in an American casualty.

Read more and watch a video here:

[http://www.ucsusa.org/clean\\_vehicles/smart-transportation-solutions/us-military-oil-use.html](http://www.ucsusa.org/clean_vehicles/smart-transportation-solutions/us-military-oil-use.html).

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## Good News Agency

Positive News from the World

A news bulletin in Italian, English and Portuguese that carries news from the world of the UN, institutions, NGOs, service associations and volunteer groups. It is sent free through the Internet to more than 10,000 media and editorial journalists of the daily newspapers and periodical magazines and of the radio and television stations in 54 countries as well as 3,000 NGOs, universities and colleges.

The direct distribution of this e-newsletter is multiplied by the fact that many NGOs and service groups forward our publication to those on their mailing lists and/or insert a link to Good News Agency in their web sites. Today, we estimate that the global distribution of the Good News Agency be well over 200,000 copies and on the increase, considering the spontaneous distribution that has been generated. The concept of good news, that is being registered by consciousnesses, has started to call media's attention.

Read more here:

<http://www.goodnewsagency.org/en/home.php>.

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## Funding & Employment Opportunities

### PhD scholarships 2015, National Centre for Peace & Conflict Studies University Otago, New Zealand

Applications are invited for two 3-year PhD scholarships in the National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Otago. These have been funded by the Global Future Charitable Trust.

The NCPACS is New Zealand's first Centre to combine global cross-disciplinary expertise on the issues of non-violence, development, peacebuilding and conflict transformation. It offers postgraduate programmes at the Masters and PhD level; conducts high-level research on the causes of violent conflict and the conditions for sustainable peace, and provides training, evaluation expertise, and expert advice to government and non-governmental organizations engaged in humanitarian intervention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding. It is a postgraduate theory, research and practice centre, located within the Division of Humanities. Our aim is to provide PhD graduates with the most advanced theoretical insight into the origins and management of violent conflict as well as skills for dealing with that in their future academic or practical work. Our regional foci are Aotearoa -New Zealand, Oceania, East, South East and South Asia.

Applicants pursuing projects which build on the following existing strengths of the Centre are particularly encouraged to apply:

- Development and Peace Building
- Nonviolent movements and Pacifism
- Post Conflict Reconstruction: Transitional Justice, Reconciliation and Social Healing
- Peace Education
- Critical Peace Studies
- Arms Control and Disarmament

Full description is available at

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/ncpacs/otago074773.pdf>.

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Director of Development, School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution  
George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia

The George Mason University, School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution (S-CAR) and Office of Advancement and Alumni Relations invite highly accomplished professionals to apply for the position of S-CAR Director of Development.

Full position details available here:  
<https://jobs.gmu.edu/postings/33352>.

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## **EPS Publications**

### **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.

#### **Table of Contents**

- ***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>.

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### ***EPS Quarterly, Volume 25, Issue 4 – December 2013*** ***EPS Affiliates Issue***

This issue announce the formation of our new Italian affiliate, and is made up of articles by representatives from our affiliates in Germany, Egypt, South Africa, and more.

#### **Table of contents**

- From the Director - Thea Harvey
- The Dutch Flemish Affiliate of EPS - Joel van der Beek
- ECAAR/EPS Germany: Engaged in the National Dialogues - Wolfram Elsner
- Optimal Corruption Level Hypothesis - Hamid E. Ali
- The South African Arms Deal Saga - Terry Crawford-Browne
- Tensions around China: appearances and reality - Juan Carlos Martínez Coll

Read the December issue of EPS Quarterly at

<http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2013/dec13/dec2013.pdf>.

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### ***EPS Quarterly, Volume 25, Issue 3 – September 2013*** ***Costs of Violence Containment***

This issue is comprised of articles by Christopher Petrella, J. Paul Dunne, and others on the costs of prison speculating, bullying, and armed conflicts. There is also a commentary by Jeffrey Sachs reflecting on the anniversary of Martin Luther King's March on Washington.

#### **Table of contents**

- From The Director - Thea Harvey
- How Speculating on Prisons Leads to Mass Incarceration - Christopher Petrella
- An Economic Analysis of the Challenge of Armed Conflicts - J. Paul Dunne
- The Financial Costs of Bullying, Violence, and Vandalism - Rick Phillips
- Commentary: Anniversary of the March on Washington - Jeffrey Sachs

Read the September issue of EPS Quarterly at

<http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2013/sep13/sep.pdf>.

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## **Action Corner**

### **Power Plant Rule to Reduce Global Warming Emissions**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently proposed rules that would limit the carbon pollution from power plants—the largest source of global warming emissions in the United States. This is a significant step forward in our efforts together to tackle climate change and protect our health, environment, and economy.

While the proposal has many promising elements, it could be stronger. The EPA wants to know what you think and is now accepting comments on this new rule before it is finalized.

To find out how you can take action, visit

<https://secure3.convio.net/ucs/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=4230&autologin=true>.

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**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/>.

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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](mailto:theaharvey@epsusa.org).

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## Upcoming Events

- **August 17 - 27, 2014 2nd International Summer Academy in Peace-building & Intercultural Dialogue** will be hosted by the Institute for Peace & Dialogue in Baar Switzerland.

The main goal of the international summer academy is to support institutional academic peace education and strengthen peace-building skills and intercultural dialogue of the international society.

Conference details available here:

<http://www.ipdinstitute.ch/International-Summer-Academy-2014/>.

- **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>.

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### ***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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Donate at [www.chi-cash-advance.com/sforms/appeal1130/Contribute.aspx](http://www.chi-cash-advance.com/sforms/appeal1130/Contribute.aspx).