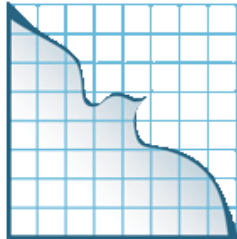


NewsNotes

June 2014



ECONOMISTS for PEACE & SECURITY

Those who make peaceful revolution impossible will make violent revolution inevitable.

~John F. Kennedy

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EPS News

The Eighteenth Annual Conference on Economics and Security

Hosted by EPS Italy and Perugia University in Perugia, Italy

June 19 – 20, 2014

The Annual International Conference on Economics and Security has been running for eighteen years. It has become the main international forum for defense and peace economists, attracting participants from all around the world.

Main topics:

- Regional security
- Economics of security
- Corruption and military spending
- Globalization and the restructuring of the MIC
- Militarism and development
- Security sector reform
- Economics of conflict and war
- Post-conflict reconstruction
- Economics of the arms trade
- Procurement and offsets
- Arms races and alliances
- Peace economics and peace science
- Conversion and demilitarization
- Economics of terrorism

For further information, visit

<https://sites.google.com/site/conferencees18/home>.

How Tax Reform Can Save the Middle Class

A conversation with Joseph E. Stiglitz, Moyers & Company
June 6, 2014

A new report by Citizens for Tax Justice and the US Public Interest Research Group finds that over 70 percent of Fortune 500 companies use offshore tax havens to avoid paying US taxes.

The Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph E. Stiglitz tells Bill Moyers that such lucrative loopholes are contributing to America's inequality problem and persistent unemployment rate. In fact, corporate greed, combined with a tax code too biased toward the very rich, is hurting our economy and reducing public investment at a time when we really need it.

Stiglitz says it doesn't have to be this way. He has a new plan for overhauling America's current tax system, which he believes contributes to making America the most unequal society of the advanced countries.

Watch the full interview here:

<http://billmoyers.com/episode/full-show-how-tax-reform-can-save-the-middle-class/>.

Disarray at the VA

Linda Bilmes has pragmatic proposals for presidential commission, system overhaul
By Christina Pazzanese for *The Harvard Gazette*, June 6, 2014

Amid public furor over revelations that employees at a US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hospital in Phoenix concealed a massive backlog of patients waiting up to a year for treatment, VA Secretary Eric Shinseki resigned. The hospital reportedly placed patients on a secret list to evade scrutiny by federal regulators who grant bonuses for maintaining short patient wait times. Whistleblowers have alleged treatment delays are to blame for the deaths of at least 40 veterans at the facility.

Reports of similar scheduling manipulations and patient backlogs at two dozen other VA hospitals nationwide have prompted a comprehensive review by the VA Office of Inspector General and a system-wide audit by the Veterans Health Administration. Preliminary findings from both inquiries confirm many of the accusations about gross mismanagement and misconduct. The Pentagon has announced that it will review its own health care system.

On June 5, the US Senate passed a reform bill that would allow veterans to seek medical care outside the VA system if wait times are too long or if the closest VA facility is more than 40 miles from their home. The measure still requires approval from the House of Representatives and President Obama.

Linda Bilmes, the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Senior Lecturer in Public Policy at Harvard Kennedy School, is a leading national authority on veterans and defense costs, as well as public finance and US budgeting. Bilmes has written extensively about veterans issues and co-authored "The Three Trillion Dollar War: The True Cost of the Iraq Conflict" (2008) with Joseph E. Stiglitz, a Nobel laureate in economics. Bilmes spoke with the Gazette from England, where she is teaching at Oxford University, about Shinseki's departure and the systemic challenges facing the troubled agency.

Read the full article here:

<http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2014/06/disarray-at-the-va/>.

Support EPS while shopping online

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To start using GoodSearch, go to

<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

Inequality is the Civil Rights Issue of Our Time

Walmart and other low-wage workers are striking for basic human dignity
by Robert Reich in *Alternet*, June 3, 2014

"I spent several days in New York last week with students from around the country who were preparing to head into the heartland to help organize Walmart workers for better jobs and wages.

"Almost exactly fifty years ago a similar group headed to Mississippi to register African-Americans to vote, in what came to be known as Freedom Summer.

"Call this Freedom Summer II.

"The current struggle of low-wage workers across America echoes the civil rights struggle of the 1960s."

Read the full post here:
<http://www.alternet.org/economy/robert-reich-inequality-civil-rights-issue-our-time>.

Rand study tries to focus on lessons from Iraq and Afghanistan, but what have we learned?

by Walter Pincus for *The Washington Post* June 9, 2014

What lessons should we have learned from Iraq and Afghanistan?

Put in current terms: Who wants to forecast the ultimate result of US commitments to increasing military and economic support for selected insurgents in Syria and the new government of President Petro Poroshenko in Ukraine?

President Obama, backed by Congress, is making these critical moves.

My questions about it all arose while I was reading a Rand Corp. paper released Thursday: "Initial Thoughts on the Impact of the Iraq War on US National Security Structures."

The United States, along with several allied countries, supported insurgents in Afghanistan in the 1980s who overthrew a Soviet-installed regime. Then Washington walked away. By 2001, Afghanistan was ruled by an extremist Taliban regime, supportive of Osama bin Laden and al-Qaeda.

Read the full article here:
http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/rand-study-tries-to-focus-on-lessons-from-iraq-and-afghanistan-but-what-have-we-learned/2014/06/09/a92e990c-ee72-11e3-b84b-3393a45b80f1_story.html?tid=hpModule_308f7142-9199-11e2-bdea-e32ad90da239&

[hpid=z15.](#)

Call for papers: The 12th International Post Keynesian Conference

Kansas City, Missouri
September 25-28, 2014

Cosponsored by the University of Missouri-Kansas City, *Journal of Post Keynesian Economics*, and Levy Economics Institute of Bard College, with support from the Ford Foundation

The 2014 Post Keynesian Conference will address all of the traditional areas of research covered by Post-Keynesian and other heterodox approaches to economics, with keynotes by Lord Robert Skidelsky, James K. Galbraith, and Bruce Greenwald.

Paper or panel submissions in the following areas are particularly encouraged:

- Money and the Real World: Paul Davidson's Economics
- Global Financial Crisis: Causes, Consequences, and Reforms
- Central Bank Responses to the Crisis: Tapering QE, Too-Big-to-Fail?
- Can Euroland Survive?
- MMT, Functional Finance, Job Guarantee
- Post Keynesian Pricing Theory, Phillips Curve, and Inflation
- Heterodox Pricing Theory and the Nonconstrained Economy
- Market Governance and Controlling Markets
- The Future of Post Keynesian Economics
- Post Keynesian Macro Models from the 1970s Onward
- The BRICs and the Developing World
- Has China Offered a New Economic Model?
- Is Sovereign Debt Sustainable? Lessons from the Reinhart-Rogoff Fiasco

Submission deadline: July 1, 2014.

Details are available at

<http://www.levyinstitute.org/news/the-12th-international-post-keynesian-conference>.

Links

Elizabeth Warren And Thomas Piketty

HuffPost Live Discussion, Originally aired June 2, 2014

Sen. Elizabeth Warren and economist Thomas Piketty discuss a new economic populism that could be gaining broad public support if their book sales are any measure. This event was sponsored by PatrioticMillionaires.org

Watch the discussion here:

<http://live.huffingtonpost.com/r/segment/elizabeth-warren-thomas-piketty-capital/537e0e47fe34444b6c000048>.

An Economist's Guide to War and Peace

by Steve Killelea for Project Syndicate

Stories of conflict fill today's headlines: whether it is Syria's civil war, street battles in Ukraine, terrorism in Nigeria, or police crackdowns in Brazil, the gruesome immediacy of violence is all too apparent. But, while commentators debate geostrategic considerations, deterrence, ethnic strife, and the plight of ordinary people caught in the middle, dispassionate discussion of another, vital aspect of conflict - its economic cost - is rare.

Violence comes with a hefty price tag. The [global cost of containing violence](#) or dealing with its consequences reached a staggering \$9.5 trillion (11% of global GDP) in 2012. This is more than twice the size of the global agriculture sector and dwarfs total spending on foreign aid.

Read more here:

<http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/steve-killelea-makes-the-case-for-more-investment-in-the-prevention-and-reduction-of-violent-conflict>.

Funding & Employment Opportunities

Research Fellow - Global Economy

Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI)
Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

The Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) is a global think tank based in Waterloo, Ontario. CIGI conducts policy research on international governance issues, including the global economy, international law, and global security and politics.

CIGI has an opening for a resident Research Fellow position carrying a one year contract. This position may be renewed for an additional two more years subject to performance and project approvals.

Reporting to the Director of the Global Economy Program, the Research Fellow will contribute to the design and implementation of program research and policy analysis, including some related administrative tasks. The program's research and policy analysis covers global economic governance issues -- including the G20, multilateral financial institutions, international monetary relations, international trade, and the financing of climate change and their intersection with the global economy.

The successful candidate is also expected to participate and be engaged in the program's broader activities, such as, seminars and conferences.

The full job description is available at

http://www.aeaweb.org/joe/listing.php?JOE_ID=201406_400491.

Assistant Professor in Economics

Osaka University, Institute of Social and Economic Research
Ibaraki, Osaka, Japan

The Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) of Osaka University has a job opening for one assistant professor position in economics beginning in or after October 2014 at the earliest possible time. The appointment is for the fixed term of three years with no renewal. A successful candidate may be in any field of economics, but should demonstrate a strong potential for research in his/her field.

Full position details available here:

http://www.aeaweb.org/joe/listing.php?JOE_ID=201406_400470.

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>.

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

This issue announces 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>.

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>.

Action Corner

Bring Our Troops Home

Our longest war just got even longer.

President Obama just announced that US troops will remain in Afghanistan for another 2 ½ years. When Congress voted to authorize the war way back in 2001, they surely didn't know they were authorizing a 15-year occupation.

Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR) has a bill calling for a congressional vote on any US troop presence in Afghanistan after 2014. As the senator said in response to the president's announcement, "Automatic renewal is fine for Netflix and gym memberships, but it is not the right approach when it comes to war."

While it's encouraging that the administration is reducing the number of troops in Afghanistan and setting a clear timeline for withdrawal, it's not good enough. 9,800 troops is 9,800 too many, and we need our tax dollars here at home.

To find out how you can take action, visit
http://org.salsalabs.com/o/161/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=15819.

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 emailaddresses, 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

- **June 19 – 20, 2014** The 18th Annual International Conference on Economics and Security will be hosted by the University of Perugia and Economists for Peace and Security (Italy).

For more information, see

<https://sites.google.com/site/conferences18/home>.

- **June 20, 2014** Global Peace Index release at the United Nations, New York City.

The theme for this event is: Peace and Development Post-2015 - Assessing Country Risk. What is the state of global peace and development? What are the risks that threaten the peacefulness of nations and communities and what are their implications for policy planning and development? The peace and development discussion on the occasion of the launch of the 2014 Global Peace Index will explore these questions, examining recent trends, including in safety, security and conflict, while also exploring the links between peace and development, particularly conflict risk, institutions and resilience in the post-2015 era.

More information available here:

<http://www.visionofhumanity.org/#/page/news/914>.

- **June 23 – 25, 2014** The 14th Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference, annual meeting of Network of European Peace Scientists, will be held in the Hague at the International Institute of Social Studies, Kortenaerkade 2518, Den Haag, The Netherlands.

Further information is available at

<http://www.europeanpeacescientists.org/jan.html>.

- **June 27 - July 1, 2104** Western Economic Association International 89th Annual Conference will be held at the Grand Hyatt Denver, Colorado.

More information available here:

<http://www.weai.org/index.html>.

- **July 2 – 4, 2014** Archbishop Desmond Tutu Centre for War and Peace Studies Annual Conference 2014 "Arts, Peace and Conflict"

The conference is organized by the Archbishop Desmond Tutu Centre for War and Peace Studies at Liverpool Hope University. The venue will be the Capstone Theatre, Liverpool Hope University Creative Campus, Liverpool, UK.

Details can be found here:

<http://tutu.hope.ac.uk/newsevents/upcomingevents/annualconference2014artspeaceandconflict.html>.

- **July 4, 2014** Sixth conference on Conflict Management, Peace Economics and Peace Science will be held at Presidency University, Kolkata, India.

For more information contact:

Manas Chatterji, mchatter@binghamton.edu

- **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>.

- **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/.

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