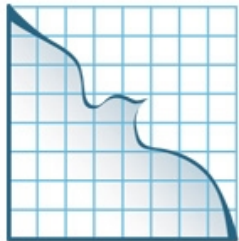


NewsNotes

September 2014



ECONOMISTS for PEACE & SECURITY

Human rights are not only violated by terrorism, repression or assassination, but also by unfair economic structures that create huge inequalities.

-Pope Francis

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EPS News

EPS - France upcoming events

International Conference “The future of the European defense industry at stake”

November 6 - 7, 2014, Grenoble, France

The elections of the European Parliament and the appointment of a new Commission open new perspectives on the construction of the European defense and the evolution of defense industrial and technological base. There are several issues at stake, since defense budgets are increasingly under pressure, defense markets are far from integrated, states are reluctant to engage in a genuine policy of cooperation and harmonization.

This conference will propose a **multidisciplinary approach** by combining economics (industrial restructuring, arms trade, etc.), law (arms export controls, the role of the state in the industry, etc.) and international relations (intra-European transatlantic relations, etc.).

Please note this is a French speaking event.

More information available here:

<http://www.defense-realms.com/events/event-2014/>.

19th International Conference on Economics and Security

June 25 - 27, 2015, Grenoble, France

ENSTA Bretagne (Brest), University Pierre Mendès France (Grenoble) and the Institut d’Etudes Politiques of Grenoble are pleased to announce that the 19th Annual International Conference on Economics and Security will be held

in **Grenoble, France, on June 25-27, 2015**. The conference is co-organized with Economists for Peace and Security.

Proposed topics include:

- Economics of conflict and war
- Post-conflict reconstruction
- Economics of the arms trade
- Procurement and offsets
- Economics of security
- Globalisation and the restructuring of the MIC
- Security sector reform
- Arms races and alliances
- Peace economics and peace science
- Economics of terrorism, etc.

More information as it becomes available will be posted here:

<http://www.defense-realms.com/events/event-2015/>.

Stop Panicking About Our Long-Term Deficit Problem. We Don't Have One.

By James K. Galbraith for *New Republic*, August, 9, 2014

Standard & Poor's did not downgrade the US political system. It did not downgrade the stock market. It downgraded United States Treasury bonds and bills—and did so after Congress had removed whatever tiny chance existed of even a small delay in payments. So it's instructive that, on the next market day, investors moved massively out of stocks, and into the safety of US Treasury bonds and bills. Rarely has stupidity been so quickly and massively shown up.

Some commentators read the downgrade as a rebuke to the Tea Party, but, in fact, S&P was making good on its threat to act if the deficit deal resolving that drama did not reach the arbitrary threshold of \$4 trillion over ten years. It wasn't the Tea Party's Kool-Aid they were drinking, but that of the deficit hysterics.

Read the full post here:

<http://www.newrepublic.com/article/politics/93365/no-long-term-deficit-problem>.

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

The more you use GoodSearch and GoodShop, the more money is raised for EPS, just by searching the internet or shopping online – *at no cost to you*. Every time you search the web with GoodSearch, EPS receives a penny; when everyone uses it, the pennies add up. Shopping with GoodShop generates a percentage of your purchase for EPS. Check out the sites below, and start your shopping!

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

Children of The Monroe Doctrine: The Militarized Roots of America's Border Calamity

By Arturo J. Viscarra, Michael Prentice for *Alternet*, August 11, 2014

It is impossible to understand the root causes of the current wave of Central Americans arriving to the United States, and therefore the appropriate US response, without acknowledging the historical relationship between the US and Central America. Unfortunately, the debate in Congress and in the mainstream media has largely focused on whether or not the US has new obligations under international humanitarian and refugee law or a moral duty to treat non-citizen children with compassion. Vice President Biden recently referred to them as “our kids”, but he was stressing the importance of due process for the children's asylum claims while simultaneously calling for a “Plan Colombia” in Central America. Policy-makers often tout Plan Colombia as a great success, ignoring the over 6000 extrajudicial assassinations by Colombia's military since its implementation in 2000. Before pushing for even more Drug War militarization, the US needs to respond to this long-running crisis by first coming to terms with its history in Central America and accepting its share of the responsibility in creating the current political, social, and economic conditions refugees are fleeing.

Read the full article here:
<http://www.alternet.org/immigration/children-monroe-doctrine-militarized-roots-americas-border-calamity>.

The Traveling Terrorism Fallacy

By David Sterman for *The Weekly Wonk*, September 4, 2014

If you believe the cable-news-o-sphere regarding American extremists fighting with the Islamic State, you might think a plane ticket is all that separates these “homegrown” fighters from executing a terrorist attack on US soil. That some Americans - and Europeans - are flocking to Iraq and Syria to join forces with jihadist groups is certainly

concerning. But making the jump from travel ease to terrorism overlooks a major American strength that's proven to thwart attacks: local communities and domestic law enforcement.

It's a bipartisan mistake to ignore this powerful dynamic, but the most recent example is John McCain and Lindsey Graham's op-ed in the New York Times. "ISIS is now one of the largest, richest terrorist organizations in history," they write. "It occupies a growing safe haven the size of Indiana spanning two countries in the heart of the Middle East, and its ranks are filled with thousands of radicals holding Western passports, including some Americans. They require nothing more than a plane ticket to travel to United States cities." Senator Dianne Feinstein, a California Democrat and Senate Intelligence Committee Chair gave McCain and Graham's analysis a boost telling NBC, "This [the Islamic State] is a vicious, vicious movement. And it has to be confronted. I think Senator McCain and Senator Graham really laid the basis in Saturday's New York Times in an op-ed for confrontation. And I happen to agree with what they said."

Read the full article here:

<http://weeklywonk.newamerica.net/articles/traveling-terrorism-fallacy/>.

[Links](#)

Islamic State Is a Consequence Not a Cause of the Current Catastrophe

By Kawa Hassan, OP-ED in *Annahar English Edition*, September 4, 2014

To understand the recent advances and gains by the Islamic State (IS, formerly Islamic State in Iraq and Syria or ISIS) in both Iraq and Syria in June and August 2014, we need to go back to the beginning of 2000. After 9/11 and 2003, both the Syrian and Iranian regimes saw and used al-Qaeda as a 'potential ally' in their conflict with the United States but, simultaneously, viewed it as a dangerous enemy. But Damascus and Tehran were not the only capitals that used al-Qaeda franchises as a political instrument to advance strategic interests. After the eruption of the Syrian revolution, Riyadh, Ankara, and Doha entered into this dangerous 'geostrategic game' with disastrous consequences for Syria, the Middle East, and beyond.

The political order that emerged in Iraq after the fall of Saddam Hussein dismally failed to produce an inclusive political pact in which all groups and citizens see the state as their Iraq. The Iraq's national budget for 2014 is over \$141 billion, and from August 2006 to March 2014, more than \$38 billion was invested in Iraqi Kurdistan. Ruling elites in the federal government in Baghdad and the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) in Erbil have used these billions to enrich themselves and their cronies, strengthening party militias instead of building inclusive national institutions including professional armies. The fall of Mosul in June and Sinjar in August to IS fighters without a shot being fired demonstrated this bitter reality. Simply put, post-Saddam authoritarianism embodied by, but not only limited to Prime Minister Maliki, led to a sectarianization of politics, a collapse of state institutions, including the army, a marginalization of the Sunnis, a deepening of disputes with the Kurds, a frightening fragmentation between and within religious and ethnic groups, crony capitalism, and corruption at the top in both Bagdad and Erbil.

Read more here:

<http://carnegie-mec.org/2014/09/04/islamic-state-is-consequence-not-aause-of-current-catastrophe>.

[Funding & Employment Opportunities](#)

Jack Shanahan Fellow, Project on Government Oversight

Washington, DC

The Jack Shanahan Fellow will work to deepen and expand awareness of Pentagon reforms generated by the Straus Military Reform Project of POGO's Center for Defense Information.

Founded in 1981, POGO is an independent nonprofit that investigates and exposes corruption and other misconduct in order to achieve a more effective, accountable, open, and ethical federal government. POGO is a multi-issue organization with an expertise in working with inside sources and whistleblowers to expose evidence of waste,

fraud, or abuse in the federal government. In recent years, POGO's investigations and outreach programs have addressed shortcomings in national security, the lack of oversight of government spending, outmoded nuclear weapons programs, inadequate whistleblower protections, excessive government secrecy, and Congress' inability to conduct effective government oversight. POGO's investigations have also been responsible for billions in saved tax dollars and for major policy reforms affecting millions of Americans.

In May 2012, POGO was proud to welcome the Center for Defense Information and the Straus Military Reform Project legacy into our family. **Vice Admiral John "Jack" Shanahan, Jr.**, retired as Commander of the US Navy's Second Fleet and Commander of NATO's Striking Fleet, Atlantic. He enlisted in the US Navy prior to World War II and retired in 1977, having served 35 years on active service. His tours included the Pacific during World War II, Korea off the coast, and in Vietnam where he served a number of tours in the Tonkin Gulf and a year in country as Commander of the Coastal Surveillance and Interdiction Force headquarters in Cam Rahn Bay. Admiral Shanahan joined the Center for Defense Information in the 1980s where he worked to end the corruption in the military industrial complex and to stop wasteful military spending. He became CDI's Executive Director in 1996. He died on September 10, 2013, at the age of 90.

Full details available here:

<http://www.pogo.org/about/work-at-pogo/jack-shanahan-fellow.html>.

Assistant Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies

Swathmore College, Swathmore, Pennsylvania

The Peace and Conflict Studies Program of Swarthmore College invites applications for a full-time three-year position at the assistant professor level, beginning Fall 2015. Swarthmore College is committed to excellence through diversity in its educational program and employment practices and actively seeks and welcomes applications from candidates with exceptional qualifications, particularly those with demonstrable commitment to a more inclusive society and world. Racial minorities and others from underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

Full position details available here:

<http://blogs.swarthmore.edu/academics/pcs/2014/09/09/job-opening/>.

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/economicnationalecurityissues.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

US weapons pouring into the Middle East makes matters worse

Moving from conflict to conflict in the Middle East, trying to keep up with the politics and players involved, the unrelenting violence, the rising death toll and refugee crisis, is as difficult as it is depressing. There is one common thread however - from Gaza to Syria to Iraq to Egypt to Libya to Afghanistan - US military intervention and an ever-ready supply of US weapons pouring into the region make matters worse.

US weapons provided to the Iraqi Army are now in the hands of extremists who are close to tearing the country apart. The success of the extremist offensive has led them to declare themselves the Islamic State, stretching into Syria where they have been fighting to overthrow the Assad government alongside other rebels being vetted by the US to see who is worthy of receiving yet more US weapons transfers, just what the region doesn't need.

The US leads the world in weapons sales. That includes the sale of weapons to undemocratic regimes and nations on the US State Department's list of human rights abusers.

Peace Action is collecting signatures to send to President Obama and Congress here:

http://org.salsalabs.com/o/161/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=16359.

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

- **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/>.

- **November 6 - 7, 2014 International Conference "The Future of the European defense industry at stake"** will be hosted by EPS - France in Grenoble, France.

This conference will propose a multidisciplinary approach by combining economics (industrial restructuring, arms trade, etc.), law (arms export controls, the role of the state in the industry, etc.) and international relations (intra-European transatlantic relations, etc.).

More information available here:

<http://www.defense-realms.com/events/event-2014/>.

- **November 18 - 20, 2014 The 4th Annual Defense, National Security & Climate Change Symposium** will be held at George Washington University, Washington, DC.

Hosted by The Association of Climate Change Officers; The 4th annual Defense, National Security & Climate Change Symposium will focus upon the growing efforts of U.S. defense, intelligence and national security communities on assessing and responding to climate change.

More information available here:

<http://www.climatesecurity.us/index.html>.

- **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>.

- **June 25 - 27, 2015** The 19th International Conference on Economics and Security will be hosted by EPS - France in Grenoble, France.

ENSTA Bretagne (Brest), University Pierre Mendès France (Grenoble) and the Institut d'Études Politiques of Grenoble are pleased to announce that the 19th Annual International Conference on Economics and Security will be held in Grenoble, France, on June 25-27, 2015. The conference is co-organized with Economists for Peace and Security.

More information as it becomes available will be posted here:

<http://www.defense-realms.com/events/event-2015/>.

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.