# NewsNotes March 2015



Saving our planet, lifting people out of poverty, advancing economic growth... these are one and the same fight. We must connect the dots between climate change, water scarcity, energy shortages, global health, food security and women's empowerment. Solutions to one problem must be solutions for all. -Ban Ki-moon

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# **EPS News**

Please join us for an evening at the home of Kathleen Stephansen and Andrew Racine with Special Guest

## James K. Galbraith

Dr. Galbraith will give a first-hand account of the efforts to save Greece and the European Union, in the wake of the election of Alexis Tsipras and the selection of his finance minister, EPS Fellow Yanis Varoufakis. The stakes are very high, with implications for global financial stability and world security.

Monday, April 27, 2015 6:30 - 9:00pm New York, NY

Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

More information available here: http://www.epsusa.org/events/events.htm

**19<sup>th</sup> 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.

Deadline for submitting paper and session proposals: April 15, 2015 Call for papers is available here: <u>http://www.defense-realms.com/events/event-2015/</u>.

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

### **EPS on Social Media**

Linkedin

www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2009987&trk=anetsrch\_name&goback=.gdr\_1263369639671\_1

Facebook

http://www.facebook.com/pages/Economists-for-Peace-and-Security/114370951337

Twitter https://twitter.com/epsusa

## In Other News

**Cost for US Weapons Programs Increased by \$27 Billion Last Year** By Anthony Capaccio for *Bloomberg*, March 4, 2015

The costs for 47 of the Pentagon's top 78 weapons programs increased last year by a combined \$27 billion, according to Congress's watchdog agency.

"This undesirable cost performance shows the need for continued oversight" as "programs continue through the acquisition cycle," the Government Accountability Office said in the draft of its annual report on weapons costs,

which is scheduled for release this month.

Many of the programs that increased in cost did so by less than 5 percent, including a 1.3 percent increase for Lockheed Martin Corp.'s F-35 fighter, the most expensive U.S. weapons system. The F-35 program's "costs have risen over the past year without any change in quantity, meaning it is paying more for the same amount of capability," the GAO said.

#### Read the full article here:

http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-03-04/cost-for-47-u-s-weapons-increased-by-27billion-gao-finds

Nato Chief in Warning Over Russian Wargames By Julian Borger for *The Guardian*, March 13, 2015

Nato's secretary general Jens Stoltenberg has warned that increasing numbers of Russian wargames, with no prior warning, combined with the withering of regular military communications channels between the alliance and Moscow raises the danger of misunderstandings between the two sides escalating rapidly.

Jens Stoltenberg, a former Norwegian prime minister, voiced his concern a few days after Russia pulled out of a joint forum with Nato countries for discussing conventional arms control in Europe.

#### Read the full article here:

http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/mar/13/nato-chief-in-warning-over-russian-wargames

# <u>Links</u>

#### **Natural Resources and Conflict: A Guide for Mediation Practitioners** United Nations Department of Political Affairs and United Nations Environment Programme

Natural resources such as land, timber, water as well as extractive resources have played an important role in igniting and prolonging conflict - particularly in fragile states where management and oversight of such resources is often weak. In parallel, there is a growing recognition of the role of mediation for preventing and resolving natural resource conflicts.

In an effort to provide mediation professionals with good practices and strategies in this context, the UN Department of Political Affairs (DPA) and the UN Environment Programmed (UNEP) have jointly produced a landmark publication entitled: "Natural Resources and Conflict: A Guide for Mediation Practitioners." It aims to inform mediators and stakeholders addressing conflicts over natural resources - whether those disagreements are violent, have the potential to turn violent, or are part of a larger political struggle, including within a peace process. It draws on the field experiences of mediators and mediation experts. It also features lessons learned from UNEP's work on environmental diplomacy in different conflict-affected countries, with a particular focus on how to use impartial technical knowledge to equalize stakeholder information in a mediation process. Helping to identify paths towards resolution through mediation and third-party involvement, the Guide can be applied for localized and transboundary conflicts, as well as natural resource disputes that arise in the context of broader peace negotiations.

Read full report here: http://postconflict.unep.ch/publications/UNDPA\_UNEP\_NRC\_Mediation\_full.pdf

# Funding & Employment Opportunities

Head of Economy and Peacebuilding International Alert, London, UK

The Head of Economy and Peacebuilding (E&PB) manages a team within the Peacebuilding Issues Programme (PIP). He or she provides conceptual and hands-on leadership for International Alert's work in understanding economic

drivers of peace, and influencing the economic policies and governments, international organisations and businesses so that they are conflict-sensitive and conducive to peace.

# Full details available here: <a href="http://oxfordhr.co.uk/job/head-epb-alert/">http://oxfordhr.co.uk/job/head-epb-alert/</a>

## **EPS Publications**

### **EPS Quarterly, Volume 26, Issue 4 – December 2014** The Cost of Climate Change Issue

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The Costs of Climate Change Far Outweigh the Costs of Actions to Slow it Letter from a Former Director Climate Security 101: Why the US National SecurityEstablishment Takes Climate Change Seriously What Carbon Costs Us The Economic Impacts of Future Coal Production in West Virginia Rachel Cleetus Kate Cell Caitlin Werrell & Francesco Femia Elizabeth A. Stanton Jeremy Richardson

#### Read the full issue here:

http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2014/dec14/dec14.pdf

Read the individual articles here:

http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2014/sep14/sep14.html

## The Economics of Peace and Security Journal, Volume 9, Number 2 (October 2014) Afghanistan, Burundi, Cyprus, South Africa, and anti-corruption in the defense sector

This issue contains several case studies. Travers B. Child writes on the relative lack of effectiveness of US reconstruction spending in Afghanistan. Topher McDougal and Lars Almquist write on an agricultural cooperative in civil-war afflicted Burundi. Omer Goksecus, Claire Finnegan, and Huseyin Cakal write on beekeepers in northern Cyprus. And Jeremy Seekings and Kai Thaler write on violence in Cape Town. In addition, Oliver Cover and Saad Mustafa report on a study of Transparency International's anti-corruption index in the defense and security sector.

#### Table of Contents

- The effects of agricultural cooperatives on land conflicts, violence, and community trust: Householdlevel evidence from rural Burundi Topher L. McDougal, Lars Almquist
- External actors' role in solving local collective action problems in a post-conflict setting: A case study of Turkish Cypriot beekeepers
  - Omer Gokcekus, Clare Finnegan, Huseyin Cakal
- Identifying corruption risks in the defense and security sector: Empirical evidence using the Government Defense Anti-Corruption Index
- Oliver Cover, Saad Mustafa
- Violence and socioeconomic conditions in Cape Town Jeremy Seekings, Kai Thaler
- Hearts and minds cannot be bought: Ineffective reconstruction in Afghanistan Travers Barclay Child

The *Journal* is a peer-reviewed online publication hosted by EPS. 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 50% discount on the annual subscription to the *Economics of Peace and Security Journal*. A regular one-year subscription is \$50; for EPS members, it's only \$25!

For more information about the *Journal* or to subscribe: <u>http://www.epsjournal.org.uk/</u>.

To become a member of EPS (and qualify for the subscription discount): <a href="http://epsusa.org/membership/membership.htm">http://epsusa.org/membership/membership.htm</a>.

**EPS Quarterly, Volume 26, Issue 3 – September 2014** The "Back to Iraq?" Issue

This issue brings together analysis and discussion of the issues facing the people of Iraq and the world in light of the development of ISIS. These pieces were written in late June through August, and so reflect the shifting situation on the ground. The articles are arranged in chronological order to follow the progression of thought as ISIS developed and changed. The Situation is, of course, complex.

Table of contents

- ISIS, Iraq, and the War in Syria: Military Outlook Jeffrey white
- From the Director Thea Harvey-Barratt
- Organizing Middle East Peace Chris Patten
- 2014 is Looking a Lot Like 1914 Jeffrey Sachs
- Responsibility to Protect? Peter Galbraith
- What Should the US Do in Iraq: Stop What is Counterproductive Andrew Bacevich
- Can the US Afford Another \$3 Trillion War? Linda Bilmes
- EPS Iraq Statement

Read the individual articles here:

http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2014/sep14/sep14.html

# <u>Action Corner</u>

#### Gender Equality and Earths Future

Twenty years ago, the adoption by 189 governments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action marked a turning point in the history of women's rights. This progressive blueprint remains a powerful source of inspiration in the effort to realize equal opportunities for women and girls.

But while much progress has been made in the intervening decades, much more remains to be done to ensure that women and children are guaranteed healthy lives, education, and full social inclusion. In just 42 countries do women hold more than 30% of seats in the national legislature, and girls still do not have the same educational opportunities as boys in Sub-Saharan Africa, Oceania, and western Asia.

Gender equality is not just the concern of half of the world's population; it is a human right, a concern for us all, because no society can develop - economically, politically, or socially - when half of its population is marginalized. We must leave no one behind.

More Information here: http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/gender-equality-sustainable-development-bymary-robinson-et-al-2015-03

#### 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 <a href="http://globalsolutions.org/">http://globalsolutions.org/</a>.

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 <u>theaharvey@epsusa.org</u>.

# **Upcoming Events**

- March 19, 2015 The Paradox of Income and Happiness session part of The United Nations' celebration of The International Day of Happiness will be held at the UN Headquarters in New York City. More Information Available here: <a href="http://outreach.un.org/ngorelations/files/2015/03/Happiness-Flyer-19-March-2015.pdf">http://outreach.un.org/ngorelations/files/2015/03/Happiness-Flyer-19-March-2015.pdf</a>
- April 10 11, 2015 The Business and Economics of Peace Conference will be held at American University in Washington, DC.
   More information is available here: http://economicsandpeace.org/education/tertiary/conference
- June 22 24, 2015 The 15th Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference will be held at the Department of Politics and International Studies at the University of Warwick, UK. More information is available here: <a href="http://www.europeanpeacescientists.org/jan.html">http://www.europeanpeacescientists.org/jan.html</a>
- 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'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.
   More information available here:

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

- June 28 July 2, 2015 The 90th Annual Western Economics Association International Conference will be held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, Waikiki. More information is available here: <u>http://weai.org/index.html</u>
- July 24 26, 2015 The 6th International Meeting on Conflict Management, Peace Economics and Peace Science will be held at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand. Organized in cooperation with Chulalonkorn University, The State University of New York at Binghamton, and The International Center for Conflict Prevention and Management.

For more information email Manas Chatterj mchatter@binghamton.edu

# 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.

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