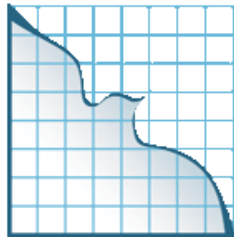


NewsNotes

August 2016



ECONOMISTS for PEACE & SECURITY

Where justice is denied, where poverty is enforced, where ignorance prevails, and where any one class is made to feel that society is an organized conspiracy to oppress, rob and degrade them, neither persons nor property will be safe.

~Frederick Douglass

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EPS News

Disarm! For a Climate of Peace - Creating an Action Agenda

IPB World Congress 2016 on Military and Social Spending
September 30 - October 3, 2016 Technische Universität Berlin, Germany

In 2014 the world's governments spent over \$1,700 billion on the military sector. The Congress organizers believe this money must instead be spent on:

- Climate change mitigation/adaptation, preserving biodiversity
- Humanitarian programs to support the most vulnerable
- Peace: disarmament, conflict prevention & resolution, human security
- Public services/social justice, human rights, gender equality and green job-creation
- Sustainable development, new production and consumption patterns, ante-poverty programs

We strongly believe the absolutely necessary 'great transformation' of global human society can only be achieved when also reallocating military expenditure and handling conflict differently. After all, we are facing a crisis of civilization, which is more far-reaching than an ecological and economic crisis alone. We are living on one single Planet Earth but exploiting its resources as if we had three. We witness how our predominant economic and

Developmental model has failed to provide justice, livelihood and human security for all. We now also face the resurgence of militarism and confrontational politics. Hence, we view this priority shift in government spending as one element in a much broader global transformation towards a green, socially just and peaceful society. The main aim of this congress is to bring the issue of military spending, often seen as a technical question, into broad public debate and to strengthen the global community of activism.

More information available here:

<https://www.ipb2016.berlin/program/program-structure/>

Why We Need New Rules to Tame Globalization

By Joseph E. Stiglitz for *World Economic Forum* August 8, 2016

Fifteen years ago, I wrote a little book, entitled *Globalization and its Discontents*, describing growing opposition in the developing world to globalizing reforms. It seemed a mystery: people in developing countries had been told that globalization would increase overall wellbeing. So why had so many people become so hostile to it?

Now, globalization's opponents in the emerging markets and developing countries have been joined by tens of millions in the advanced countries. Opinion polls, including a careful study by Stanley Greenberg and his associates for the Roosevelt Institute, show that trade is among the major sources of discontent for a large share of Americans. Similar views are apparent in Europe.

How can something that our political leaders - and many an economist - said would make everyone better off be so reviled?

Read the full article here:

[https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/08/joseph-stiglitz-why-we-need-new-rules-to-tame-globalization-d7c8fc88-5ea4-4b6e-9540-01bc983274cd?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+inside-the-world-economic-forum+\(Inside+The+World+Economic+Forum\)](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/08/joseph-stiglitz-why-we-need-new-rules-to-tame-globalization-d7c8fc88-5ea4-4b6e-9540-01bc983274cd?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+inside-the-world-economic-forum+(Inside+The+World+Economic+Forum))

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

Twitter

<https://twitter.com/epsusa>

In Other News

A Top Priority to Address Poverty: Strengthening the Child Tax Credit for Very Poor Young Children

By Chuck Marr, Chloe Cho and Arloc Sherman for *Center on Budget and Priorities Project*, August 9, 2016

With a growing body of research showing that boosting the incomes of poor families can yield important long-term benefits for young children, policymakers should make it a priority to strengthen the Child Tax Credit (CTC) for the poorest young children. Today, the poorest children qualify for only a very small CTC or no tax credit at all (as explained below under “How the CTC Works Now”), even though they are the children who need it most and for whom it would have the largest beneficial impact.

Research indicates that the income that the CTC and Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) deliver provides important benefits for children, improving their health and education and their expected earnings as adults. The positive effects of such income support in both the short term and the long term are clearest for the poorest and youngest children.

See full report here:

http://www.cbpp.org/research/a-top-priority-to-address-poverty-strengthening-the-child-tax-credit-for-very-poor-young?utm_source=CBPP+Email+Updates&utm_campaign=4b8f12e168-8_10_16CTC_Elert&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ee3f6da374-4b8f12e168-110955965

The Growing Issue of Climate Migration

By Sari Klein for *American Security Project*, July 20, 2016

Climate change is usually presented as an environmental issue, but its consequences also present legitimate threats to global security. The societies we have built are founded on stable environmental conditions, and climate change is already weakening this foundation enough to cause major repercussions. As that foundation crumbles, people will move to places of less danger and with more opportunity putting an increasing numbers of migrants and displaced on the road. Migration is serious secondary effect of climate change. The United Nations (UN) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) estimate between 50 million and 200 million people could be displaced by 2050 because of climate change’s effects. The IOM also estimates the likelihood of being displaced by a natural disaster is 60 percent higher today than 40 years ago.

One of the biggest challenges in addressing climate-induced migration is that legally the term ‘climate refugee’ does not exist. Even though the phrase is frequently used, climate and environmental issues do not fall within the definition of a refugee established in the 1951 Refugee Convention (the United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Status of Refugees and Stateless Persons). This is important because people who have been legally declared a refugee are given protection in the international system such as having safety from being returned to the dangers they have fled; access to fair and efficient asylum procedures; and measures to ensure that their basic human rights are respected to allow them to live in dignity and safety while helping them to find a longer-term solution.

Read the full article here:

<http://www.americansecurityproject.org/the-growing-issue-of-climate-migration/>

Call for Proposals: Carnegie-Rochester-NYU Conference on Public Policy

The Carnegie-Rochester-NYU Conference on Public Policy is now soliciting papers for a conference on “Accounting for Slow Growth: Consumers, Producers, or Governments?” The conference will be held at New York University on April 21-22, 2017. The papers and comments are slated for publication in the January 2018 issue of the *Journal of Monetary Economics*.

More information available here:

<http://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-monetary-economics/call-for-papers/call-for-proposals-carnegie-rochester-nyu-conference-on-publ>

Links

An Interactive Map of American Gun Violence

By *The Trace* updated June 22, 2016

In relentless succession, a parade of towns and cities have joined the bloodstained ranks of American mass shooting locations. The mere mention of the places – Charleston, Chattanooga, Colorado Springs, San Bernardino – evokes images made familiar at Columbine and Virginia Tech and Tucson and Newtown: the police battalions rushing to respond, the shocked survivors and bereft loved ones, the eerie portraits of newly infamous killers.

But the truth is that these cities and towns and the events that now define them, however lethal they were and however large they understandably loom, comprise just a small fraction of the gun violence recorded in America during this or any year. In 2013, the last year for which government statistics are available, less than 2 percent of more than 33,000 gun deaths in the country were due to mass shootings. Tallies of gun-related fatalities are in turn dwarfed by totals for gun injuries. Every 12 months, more than 118,000 people are shot; many are left with devastating physical impairments and crippling health care bills.

Thanks to a nonprofit, nonpartisan project known as the Gun Violence Archive, data on gun homicides and non-fatal shootings is now available well before the federal government releases its statistics. That data includes location information that makes it possible to plot those shootings on a map showing how many have taken place in your vicinity. Where someone was killed, the shooting is coded in red (this includes multiple victim incidents with a mix of fatalities and injuries). Shootings resulting in injuries but not deaths are coded in yellow.

See more here:

<https://www.thetrace.org/2015/12/gun-deaths-interactive-map-2015/>

Funding & Employment Opportunities

Professor of Economics and Public Policy

University Canberra, Australia

The Institute for Governance and Policy Analysis (IGPA) and the Faculty of Business, Government and Law are delighted to announce an opening for a highly skilled, socially aware and self-motivated academic to join Australia's leading centre for microsimulation and policy modelling - NATSEM. NATSEM grapples with many of the fundamental public policy problems of our time from combatting social exclusion in education, health and housing to economic development and the management of government finances. We combine disciplinary expertise in applied public policy and the generation of evidence based research with a focus on practical problem-solving.

More information available here:

<http://www.canberra.edu.au/about-uc/work-at-uc/vacancies/all>

EPS Publications

EPS Quarterly, Volume 28, Issue 2, June 2016

The "National Security and Transparency" Issue

This issue is comprised of edited transcripts from a panel session held during the Allied Social Sciences Associations meetings in San Francisco, CA, January 3, 2016.

Panel

Chair: Richard Kaufman

- Linda J. Bilmes
- Ron Unz
- Richard P.F. Holt
- Daniel Ellsberg

Read the full issue here:

<http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2016/june16/june16.pdf>

EPS Quarterly Volume 28 Issue 1, March 2016

The Inequality, Austerity, Jobs, and Growth Issue

This issue is comprised of edited transcripts from a conference held on November 18, 2015, in Washington, DC.

Table of Contents

- Welcome
James K. Galbraith
- Keynote Address
Sarah Bloom-Raskin
- Panel One
Jobs, Growth, Wages and Inequality: What's The Agenda?
- Panel Two
Austerity and Global Finance: Cure or Poison?
- Panel Three
Global Security and Economics: Dangers and Hopes

Read the full Issue here

<http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/newsletter.htm>

The Economics of Peace and Security Journal, Volume 11, Number 1 (2016)

Two stand-alone articles by Frank Lehrbass and Valentin Weinhold on Russian risk-taking and by J. Paul Dunne and Ron P. Smith on the top-100 firms in the global arms industry are followed by a three-article symposium on Greece and Turkey. The first of these, by Eftychia Nikolaidou, examines the role of military expenditure and arms imports in the Greek debt crisis; the second, by Christos Kollias, Suzanna-Maria Paleologou, and Andreas Stergiou, looks at the economic constraints on Greek military expenditure; and the third, by Gulden Ayman and Gulay Gunluk-Senesen, explores Turkey's security policies and expenditures during the reign of the AKP party.

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- *A rationalist explanation of Russian risk-taking*
Frank Lehrbass, Valentin Weinhold
- *The evolution of concentration in the arms market*
J. Paul Dunne, Ron P. Smith
- *The role of military expenditure and arms imports in the Greek debt crisis*
Eftychia Nikolaidou
- *Military expenditure in Greece: Security challenges and economic constraints*
Christos Kollias, Suzanna-Maria Paleologou, Andreas Stergiou
- *Turkey's changing security perceptions and expenditures in the 2000s: Substitutes or complements?.*
Gulden Ayman, Gulay Gunluk-Senesen

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:

<http://www.epsjournal.org.uk/>.

To become a member of EPS (and qualify for the subscription discount):

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

Action Corner

What is The Cost of The B-21 Bomber Contract?

"There are only two phases of a program. The first is 'It's too early to tell.' The second: 'It's too late to stop,'" said veteran Pentagon reformer Ernie Fitzgerald.

Because of this, it is troubling that the Air Force is hiding the initial price of the new B-21 stealth bomber. Congressional auditors found that the cost of Pentagon weapon systems grew \$469 billion beyond initial estimates. Given the complexity and cost risks inherent to this program, the public deserves to know the baseline contract price of the B-21 program so the Pentagon and the contractors can be held accountable for any cost overruns.

The Air Force has promised to deliver an effective and affordable bomber. But price estimates released by the Air Force for the program have ranged from \$33.1 billion to \$58.4 billion—an increase of \$25 billion, or 76 percent. Publicly releasing the actual contract price is key to oversight of this program and of the rest of our planned nuclear modernization, which is currently projected to cost taxpayers \$1 trillion.

The Air Force has resisted releasing the figure, claiming the contract price would allow potential adversaries to identify some of the new plane's capabilities, like its range and how many weapons it can carry. The Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator John McCain (R-AZ), has said this argument is "nonsense" since the program's budget is unclassified and the Air Force has already released the per-unit cost, drawings of the new bomber, and a list of top-tier suppliers for the program.

In a closed-door 19-7 vote, members of the Senate Armed Services Committee eliminated the Chairman's requirement to publicly disclose the cost.

Find out how you can take action on this issue here:

<https://secure3.convio.net/pogo/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=525>

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 30 - October 3, 2016** Disarm! For a Climate of Peace - Creating an Action Agenda IPB World Congress 2016 on Military and Social Spending will be held at Technische Universitat Berlin, Germany.

More information available here:

<https://www.ipb2016.berlin/program/program-structure/>

- **October 13 - 16, 2016** The 2016 International Conference on Global Economy and Governance will be held in Qingdao, China.

More information available here:

<http://2016geg.jzsoft.cn/>

- **January 3 - 6, 2017** The Western Economic Association International 13th International Conference will be held in Santiago, Chile.

More Information available here:

<http://www.weai.org/PR2017>

- **January 6 - 8, 2017** The 2017 ASSA/AEA Annual Meetings will take place in Chicago, IL.

More information available here:

<http://lftp.ius.edu.ba/>

- **February 23 - 27, 2017** The 43rd Annual Eastern Economics Association Conference will be held in New York, New York at the Sheraton Times Square.

More information available here:

<https://www.qu.edu/eea/conferences/>

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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