## NewsNotes July 2016



Our inequality materializes our upper class, vulgarizes our middle class, brutalizes our lower class.  $\hbox{-Matthew Arnold}$ 

## **Table of Contents**

EPS News
In Other News
Links
Funding & Employment Opportunities
EPS Publications
Action Corner
Upcoming Events
How Can I Help?

## **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 Universitat 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/

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

#### **EPS on Social Media**

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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

As Bastille Day Attack in France Kills 84, Is the War on Terror a "Self-Fulfilling Prophecy"? Democracy Now! July 15, 2016

More than 84 people are dead in Nice, France, after an attack on a crowd of people celebrating Bastille Day in the city in the French Riviera. Witnesses said a man in a large truck deliberately drove into a massive crowd watching a fireworks celebration. The truck continued driving a mile, mowing down people in the crowd. No group has taken responsibility for the attack. French media have identified the driver of the truck as Mohamed Lahouaiej Bouhlel, a French man of Tunisian descent who lived in Nice. French President François Hollande announced he would extend the state of emergency put in place after the Paris attacks which killed 130 people eight months ago.

#### See full interview here:

http://www.democracynow.org/2016/7/15/as bastille day attack in france

**DoD Comptroller tells Congress DOD is on track to meet audit goals** June 24, 2016 for American Society of Military Comptrollers

The Department of Defense (DoD) is making sound progress toward meeting full audit accountability and DoD's leaders expect to meet the goal of full financial statement audit readiness by FY2018, according to DoD's Comptroller Mike McCord.

Testifying before the House Armed Services Committee, McCord told the committee achieving auditability is a key element of Secretary Ash Carter's goal of reforming how DoD does business. He said Secretary Carter and the senior leaders of the Military Departments were committed to "achieving and sustaining auditable financial statements."

McCord stressed that the successes experienced to date demonstrate that DoD is on track to meet its audit goals. "Our focus on the audit has yielded substantial and measurable results over the past couple of years," he said. He pointed out that the Military Departments audited their budgets for FY2015 and there have been "successful recurring audits" by other DoD components, e.g., the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) and Defense Commissary Agency, and Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA).

#### Read the full article here:

http://www.asmconline.org/2016/06/dod-comptroller-tells-congress-dod-is-on-track-to-meet-audit-goals/

## Call for Papers: Tenth Biennial Federal Reserve System Community Development Research Conference

The Federal Reserve System Community Development Research Conference is a unique event that convenes researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to consider important issues people and their communities face.

This conference will focus on the economic futures of America's kids and communities. Kids with strong cognitive and social foundations are better-equipped to manage their financial circumstances, succeed in the labor market, and contribute to society at large. Recognizing that not all children have the same opportunities to grow and develop, how can leaders and decision-makers help set young people on a strong course?

The 2017 conference will explore the interplay between the development of kids and their communities, with an understanding that "development" factors into key economic and social aspects of kids' lives. High-quality and emerging research from multiple disciplines will be presented in a dialogue with policymakers and community practitioners who can utilize the lessons gleaned from the research. This conference will spotlight research that can inform questions about key drivers to success, differences across subpopulations, scalable intervention strategies, and policy considerations. Research that explores the implications for lower-income, minority, or diverse populations is of particular interest.

Conference organizers seek to create a robust discussion around the state of—and the role for—community development in child and youth development, and the implications that such development has for the economy. The Community Affairs Officers of the Federal Reserve System invite original, high-quality research from economics, education, health, housing, sociology, public policy, psychology, and other pertinent fields that can spur engaging dialogue.

#### More Information available here:

https://minneapolisfed.org/community/community-development/tenth-biennial-federal-reserve-system-community-development-research-conference

#### Links

# Police Violence Is A Public Health Issue By Alex Zielinski for *Think Progress* July 14, 2016

The recent spate of police shootings — leaving two black men dead on opposite ends of the country — inspired a familiar response from lawmakers across the United States, many of whom called for policy changes and powerful legislation. However, a growing number of human rights advocates are pushing officials to address this kind of racial violence from an entirely different angle: Public health.

"We're talking about people responding to their environment like they are in a war zone," said David Love, author and former director of the Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus. "What you have is disparate impacts on health—it's not a matter of political opinions."

A day after a police officer in Minnesota shot and killed Philando Castile, Love published an editorial with CNN, demanding the public recognize the health outcomes linked to racial violence.

"With each successive fatal shooting of an African-American by law enforcement, the human element gets lost in the shuffle," he wrote. Love argues that the country's "denial of racism" has allowed officials to incorrectly deny that racism

has any impact on a person's well-being. "We know this stress can affect people in serious ways. We need to address that."

#### Read more here:

http://thinkprogress.org/health/2016/07/14/3797934/racial-violence-public-health/

# <u>Funding & Employment Opportunities</u> Call for Applications, TED Fellows Program

The TED Fellows program provides transformational support to a global network of 400 visionaries - scientists, artists, activists, entrepreneurs, doctors, journalists and inventors - who collaborate across disciplines to create positive change around the world.

Every year, through a rigorous open application process, TED selects a group of rising stars to be TED Fellows. We choose Fellows based on remarkable achievement, their strength of character and on their innovative approach to solving the world's tough problems. Fellows are invited to attend a TED conference, where they meet, exchange ideas and connect with the larger TED community. They also give their own TED Talk - an unprecedented opportunity to disseminate their unique ideas to the world.

#### More Information available here:

http://www.ted.com/participate/ted-fellows-program/apply-to-be-a-ted-fellow

## **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.

#### <u>Panel</u>

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.

#### **Table of Contents**

- 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: <a href="http://www.epsjournal.org.uk/">http://www.epsjournal.org.uk/</a>.

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

## **Action Corner**

## The Iran Deal Turns One

One year ago, Iran and six world powers (United States, United Kingdom, Russia, China, France, and Germany) signed the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), a landmark agreement that prevented Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon and prevented war with Iran.

The historic accord blocked Iran's pathways to a nuclear weapon and lifted harsh nuclear-related sanctions on Iran's economy. As of May 2016, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has affirmed that Iran is complying with the agreement. In practical terms, this means that Iran went from being two-to-three months to over a year away from acquiring enough material to build a nuclear weapon. In addition, it means that Iran will be caught if it is found to be in noncompliance, because it agreed to unprecedented intrusive monitoring and inspections by the IAEA.

In exchange, the United States and the international community have lifted secondary economic sanctions, or those tied to Iran's nuclear program. We are hopeful that lifting sanctions will provide greater economic opportunity for the Iranian people and continue to integrate Iran into the international community. Yet, we are mindful that change will not happen overnight. Iran is still guilty of human rights abuses, regional saber rattling, and sponsoring terrorist organizations; the important difference today is the greatly diminished threat of an Iranian nuclear weapon.

Find out how you can take action on this issue here: http://www.congressweb.com/wand/96

## 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 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/

 October 19 - 20, 2016 The World Peace Congress 2016 will be hosted in Waterford, Ireland under the theme of Universal Disarmament.

More information available here:

http://worldpeacecongress2016.com/

 January 3 - 6, 2017 The Western Economic Association International 13<sup>th</sup> 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 43<sup>rd</sup> 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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