NewsNotes

June 2016



Conscience, if such we have, cannot allow us to ignore the poor either at home or abroad—to be less than concerned, less than generous. And it is thus, over time, that we will help to assure for others and for ourselves a better, more peaceful world.

~John Kenneth Galbraith

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EPS News

20th Annual International Annual Conference on Economics and Security

The Twentieth International Annual Conference on Economics and Security will be held at TED University, Ankara, Turkey on June 16-17, 2016.

ICES welcomes presentations that address any issue relating to peace and security broadly defined. The conference strives for a multi-disciplinary program comprising contributions with a wide range of theoretical and methodological approaches, including strictly theoretical work, game theory and formal modeling, statistical and econometric analysis, qualitative studies, and experiments.

More information availabe at: http://ices2016.tedu.edu.tr/en/ices2016/

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 ä 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 ä much broader global transformation towards ä 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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Facebook

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

Twitter

https://twitter.com/epsusa

In Other News

The Most Powerful Medical Association In The US Gears Up To Fight Congress Over Guns By Alex Zielinski for *Think Progress* June 15, 2016

The largest medical organization in the United States, the American Medical Association, passed a historic resolution last night in response to the weekend's mass shooting. After years of tiptoeing around the topic of gun control, AMA leaders voted to officially call gun violence a public health issue — and respond accordingly. That means flexing the organization's powerful political muscle on Capitol Hill to refocus federal funds toward studying gun violence.

To see this through, however, Congress would need to lift a 20-year-old ban that blocks the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from funding any research related to gun violence. But the AMA, with one of the largest political lobbying budgets of any organization in the US, appears ready to fight.

Read the full article here:

http://thinkprogress.org/health/2016/06/15/3788662/ama-gun-violence-research/? utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=tptop3&utm_term=1&utm_content=53&elqTrackId=1c8a42289ecc4d06a169d90121041edc&elq=cb5be6e1047e486_3a1f352570791ce1f&elqaid=30458&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=5820_

20 years on, UN waits for working nuclear-test-ban treaty By George Jahn for *Associated Press*, June 12, 2016

The world was a more peaceful place when a newly sworn-in President Barack Obama pledged to "aggressively pursue" a global ban on nuclear arms tests. But as his term winds down, a working test-ban treaty remains a dream and some of the loudest voices out of Washington are hostile.

Seven years on, the Obama administration continues to publicly back ratifying the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Secretary of State John Kerry vowed late last year to "re-energize" efforts for congressional approval - a move that the head of the UN organization created to enforce a ban says would lead at least some of the other holdouts to do the same.

"The US needs to show leadership," said CTBTO chief Lassina Zerbo ahead of the 20th anniversary of his organization. "We need to keep the momentum on what President Obama said in 2009."

Read the full article here:

http://www.salon.com/2016/06/12/20 years on un waits for working nuclear test ban treaty/

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

<u>Links</u>

Global Peace Index 2016: 10 Years of Measuring PeaceBy The Institute for Economics and Peace

The 2016 Global Peace Index (GPI) shows the world became less peaceful in the last year, reinforcing the underlying trend of declining peace over the last decade. Results also show a growing global inequality in peace, with the most

peaceful countries continuing to improve while the least peaceful are falling into greater violence and conflict.

The 2016 GPI report provides a comprehensive update on the state of peace. It shows that amidst the global deterioration the world continues to spend enormous resources on creating and containing violence but very little on peace. The key to reversing the decline in peace is through building Positive Peace - a holistic framework of the key attitudes, institutions and structures which build peace in the long term. The UN's Sustainable Development Goal 16, which focuses on peace, justice and strong institutions is critical to focusing the international community on the goal of attaining a more peaceful world. But measuring it and developing the data to know if countries are improving is a serious challenge that needs greater investment and levels of cooperation.

Read more here:

http://www.visionofhumanity.org/#/page/indexes/global-peace-index

Medicaid Expansion Producing State Savings and Connecting Vulnerable Groups to Care By Jesse Cross-Call for Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, June 15, 2016

A new CBPP paper explains how health reform's Medicaid expansion has produced net budget savings for many states, which expect continued savings in the coming years, even after they begin paying a modest part of the expansion's cost.

Medicaid expansion is a good deal for states financially, and it also gives states an opportunity to provide needed care to uninsured people whose health conditions have been a barrier to employment.

Connecting vulnerable populations with needed care can improve health, stabilize housing, and support employment, while saving states money and resources.

Read the full paper here:

http://www.cbpp.org/research/health/medicaid-expansion-producing-state-savings-and-connecting-vulnerable-groups-to-care

Funding & Employment Opportunities

Presidential Transition Fellow, Inclusive Security Inclusive Security, Washington, DC

The Presidential Transition Fellow will work with Inclusive Security staff to ensure women's inclusion in peace and security processes is prioritized by the next US administration. The Fellow will provide support to staff working on materials and programs to ensure key officials within the incoming administration are equipped with the knowledge and skills to integrate women into US policy and actions related to peace and security. Collaboration between traditional national security and foreign policy institutions and other civil society leaders in the US and abroad to advance women's inclusion in decision making and programs related to peace and security will be a core part of these efforts. As needed, the Fellow will also provide assistance to Inclusive Security's congressional liaisons as well as its Security Assistance Team working to advance women's strategic integration in all areas of US, NATO, and other partner nations' security assistance programming including efforts to counter violent extremism.

More details available here:

https://jobs-huntalternatives.icims.com/jobs/1095/presidential-transition-fellow,-inclusive-security/job?mobile=false&width=950&height=500&bga=true&needsRedirect=false&jan1offset=-300&jun1offset=-300

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.

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- Welcome
- James K. GalbraithKeynote 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

Oppose New Nuclear Cruise Missiles

The President has stated that he wants to reduce the role that nuclear weapons play in national security policy. Yet, his Administration plans to build a new cruise missile that would keep nuclear weapons in the forefront. In total, this new weapon could cost between \$15 and \$20 billion, no small part of the \$1 trillion that the United States plans to spend on the nuclear arsenal over the next 30 years.

Congressman Mike Quigley (D-IL-05) will offer an amendment to the House Defense Appropriations Act to reduce funding for a new nuclear cruise missile by \$75 million. The amendment is co-sponsored by Armed Services Committee Ranking Member Adam Smith (D-WA-09), US Congressmen Earl Blumenauer (D-OR-03), Jared Polis (D-CO-02), and John Garamendi (D-CA-03).

The Quigley amendment restores common sense to U.S. nuclear weapons policy by delaying development of the nuclear-armed cruise missile by two years. In so doing, it ensures that the United States is not spending precious resources on a weapon whose mission and affordability have not been fully justified.

More information available here: http://www.congressweb.com/wand

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 20 - 22, 2016 The 16th Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference, annual meeting of NEPS, will be held at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Largo Gemelli 1, 20123 Milan.

More Information available here:

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

• June 20 - July 4, 2016 The 3rd International Summer School in Sarajevo and Srebrenica, Learning from the past - Exploring the Role of Transitional Justice in Rebuilding Trust in a Post-conflict Society will be held at The International University of Sarajevo (IUS).

More information available here:

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

 June 29 - July 3, 2016 91st Annual Conference: The Western Economics Association International will be held in Portland, Oregon.

More information available here:

http://www.weai.org/AC2016b

• 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 informationa available here:

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

• 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/

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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