# NewsNotes January 2017



I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word.

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

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## **EPS News**

# Economists for Peace & Security

is pleased to welcome

Stephanie Kelton

as our new Chair

Stephanie Kelton, Ph.D. is Professor of Economics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She served as Chief Economist on the US Senate Budget Committee (minority staff) in 2015 and then became an Economic Advisor to the Bernie 2016 presidential campaign. She was the Founder and Editor-in-Chief of the top-ranked blog New Economic Perspectives and a member of the TopWonks network of the nation's best thinkers. In 2016, POLITICO recognized her as one of the 50 people across the country who is most influencing the political debate.

Her book, The State, The Market and The Euro (2001) predicted the debt crisis in the Eurozone, and her subsequent work correctly predicted that: (1) Quantitative Easing (QE) wouldn't lead to high inflation; (2) government deficits

wouldn't cause a spike in U.S. interest rates; (3) the S&P downgrade wouldn't cause investors to flee Treasuries; (4) the U.S. would not experience a European-style debt crisis.

She is a regular commentator on national radio and broadcast television.

Stephanie consults with policymakers, investment banks and portfolio managers across the globe. Her research expertise is in: Federal Reserve operations, fiscal policy, social security, international finance and employment policy. Follow her on Twitter at twitter.com/stephaniekelton.

## EPS at The 2017 ASSA/AEA Annual Meetings

Hyatt Regency Chicago, Illinois

Every year EPS participates in The ASSA/AEA Annual Meetings. This year we organized two sessions and hosted our annual dinner in honor of a prominent member of our community.

Peace Sciences from Theory to Practice (Panel Discussion)

Saturday, Jan. 7, 2:30 PM- 4:30 PM Hyatt Regency Chicago, Ogden

Chair: Jurgen Brauer

- Charles Anderton
- Raul Caruso
- John Paul Dunne
- Raymond Gilpi
- Shikha Silwa

The Future of Growth (Panel Discussion)

Sunday, Jan. 8, 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM Hyatt Regency Chicago, Regency D

Chair: James K. Galbraith

- Jonathan Ostry
- Robert Gordon
- Anwar Shaikh
- Gerald Friedman

Dinner in honor of Sheila Bair

For more information, see <a href="http://www.epsusa.org/">http://www.epsusa.org/</a>

## Call for Papers - 21st Annual Conference on Economics and Security

The 21st Annual Conference on Economics and Security will take place June 22 - 23, 2017 at the Royal Military Academy, Brussels.

This Conference is organized by Cind Du Bois (Royal Military Academy Brussels), Caroline Buts (Vrije Universiteit Brussels) and Paul Dunne (University of Cape Town, EPS UK).

Organizers welcome contributions from economists, political scientists and others from around the world to share ideas and discuss the future developments in different research areas related to peace and security.

Abstracts (up to 300 words) should be submitted before April 1, 2017 to be considered for the conference.

For further information or to submit a paper or panel proposal, contact:

Cind Du Bois: cindy.dubois@rma.ac.be

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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

### Why is Economics Still Largely a White Male Preserve?

By Alexandria Eisenbarth and Rick McGahey for Institute for New Economic Thinking, November 17, 2016

Responding to the wider social turmoil surrounding the Civil Rights struggle, the American Economics Association (AEA) in 1968 created its "Committee on the Status of Minority Groups in the Economics Profession" (CSMGEP), tasking it with "increas[ing] the representation of minorities in the economics profession." Three years later, the AEA formed its "Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession" (CSWEP) to promote "the principle that economics is a woman's field as much as it is a man's field."

Both committees have included very senior economists and have received a good deal of attention within the AEA. It should be both notable and of great concern, then, that a new study some 45 years later confirms that "the economics profession includes disproportionately few women and members of historically underrepresented racial and ethnic minority groups," even when compared to other disciplines. Researchers Amanda Bayer and Cecilia Rouse find that, "this underrepresentation...is barely improving over time."

Their report, titled "Diversity in the Economics Profession: A New Attack on an Old Problem," is a collection of statistics that reveal significant ongoing disparities across the United States. For instance, women receive only 30% of the bachelor's degrees awarded in economics — a proportion unchanged for the past 20 years. Economics lies far below all other disciplines. In the case of the humanities, social sciences and STEM, women now account for nearly 60% of the bachelor's degrees awarded. Though racial and ethnic minority students were awarded 22% of all bachelor's degrees in 2014, the proportion in economics is only 14.7%. While all of the sampled discipline categories are struggling to maintain representative numbers of racial and ethnic minorities equivalent to population ratios, economics consistently trails behind.

## Read the full article here:

https://www.ineteconomics.org/perspectives/blog/why-is-economics-still-largely-a-white-male-preserve

## **Links**

### How States Use Funds Under the TANF Block Grant

By Liz Schott and Ife Floyd for Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, January 10, 2017

States spend only half of their combined federal and state dollars under Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) on the core welfare reform areas of basic assistance for families with children, child care for low-income families, and work-related activities or supports. A handful of states spend less than 20 percent of their TANF funds on these areas. These figures point up fundamental flaws with the TANF block grant, created under the 1996 welfare law, which gives states great flexibility on using the funds. A look at how states spend TANF funds provides compelling evidence on why basic safety net programs should not be block-granted.

### Read the full policy brief here:

http://www.cbpp.org/research/policy-brief-how-states-use-funds-under-the-tanf-block-grant? utm\_source=CBPP+Email+Updates&utm\_campaign=381aeecd93-EMAIL\_CAMPAIGN\_2017\_01\_10&utm\_medium=email&utm\_term=0\_ee3f6da374-381aeecd93-110955965

## Call for papers: 17<sup>th</sup> Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science

Neps welcomes presentations that address any issue relating to peace and security broadly defined. As in the past, neps 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.

All abstracts (150-250 words) with a tentative title must be submitted by January 30th 2017.

#### More information available here:

http://www.europeanpeacescientists.org/Call%20for%20Papers%20-%2017th%20Jan%20Tinbergen%20European%20Peace%20Science%20Conference.pdf

## **Funding & Employment Opportunities**

## Lecturer in Security, Conflict and International Development University of Leicester, UK

The School of History, Politics and International Relations at the University of Leicester is looking to appoint a researcher and teacher to lead and deliver a number of Distance Learning programmes, including the MA in Security, Conflict and International Development. The successful candidate is expected to establish a sound research base within the School of History, Politics and International Relations in order to pursue individual and collaborative research of high quality. Candidates should hold a PhD in International Relations, Politics, Security, International Development, or a related field, and have a record of publications in international journals and with leading publishers, commensurate with career experience. He/she is expected to contribute to the campus-based teaching of one or more modules at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and have the ability to work independently and as part of a team on research and teaching programmes.

### More Information available here:

http://www.jobs.ac.uk/job/AWG583/lecturer-in-security-conflict-and-international-development/

## **EPS Publications**

## EPS Quarterly, Volume 28, Issue 4, December 2016 The Climate and The Military Issue

Climate change is not some future threat. It's here now. Flooding, drought, increased severity of storms, and melting ice caps are already impacting all life on our planet. It seems critically important that we extend the discussion of the appropriate use of our military to include the possible costs and consequences of climate change.

### **Table of Contents**

- Andrew Holland American Security Project
- Letter from the Director Thea Harvey-Barratt
- Climate Change: Does it Pose Real Global Security Concerns Michael Curtin
- Securing Whose Future? Militarism in an Age of Climate Crisis Nick Buxton

- The US Military on the Front Lines of Rising Seas Erika Spanger-Siegfried, Kristina Dahl, Astrid Caldas, Shana Udvardy
- Sea Levels Rise and the US Military's Mission Center for Climate and Security

#### Read the full issue here:

http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2016/dec16.pdf

## The Economics of Peace and Security Journal, Volume 11, Number 2 (2016)

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) has long been researchers' primary source for countries' military expenditure data. For the most part, the data were limited to the time period from 1988 onward. Now, SIPRI is releasing revised and backdated data for, in most cases, 1960 onward. The articles in this issue of EPSJ examine the new data and use them for comparative studies relative to the use of the "old" SIPRI data. By way of introduction, the lead article by Sam Perlo-Freeman and Elisabeth Sköns, the previous and current leaders of SIPRI's military expenditure data project, relates the history of SIPRI's military expenditure data construction. Gulay Gunluk-Senesen compares the "old" and "new" SIPRI data for the cases of Greece and Turkey. So does Eftychia Nikolaidou, but for Greece, Portugal, and Spain and with an emphasis on reexamining the nexus between miltiary expenditure and economic growth, especially in light of the post-2008 global financial and EU-debt crises. Christos Kollias and Suzanna-Maria Paleologou broaden the scope to study the EU15 countries, focusing on growth, investment, and military expenditure. Julien Malizard also studies the EU15, focusing on military versus nonmilitary public expenditure. Mohamed Douch and Binyam Solomon broaden the scope even further, to eleven Middle Power countries. Finally, J. Paul Dunne and Nan Tian include nearly 100 countries in their comprehensive and comparative study of military expenditure and economic growth with the "old" and "new" SIPRI data.

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- •Snakes and ladders: The development and multiple reconstructions of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's military expenditure data Sam Perlo-Freeman, Elisabeth Skons
- •Some exercises with SIPRI's military expenditure alpha (a) data: Same story for Greece and Turkey? Gulay Gunluk-Senesen
- •Greece, Portugal, Spain: New evidence on the economic effects of military expenditure using the new SIPRI data Eftychia Nikolaidou
- •Investment, growth and defense expenditure in the EU15: Revisiting the nexus using SIPRI's new consistent dataset Christos Kollias, Suzanna-Maria Paleologou
- ·Military expenditure and economic growth in the European Union: Evidence from SIPRI's extended dataset Julien Malizard
- A dynamic panel analysis using SIPRI's extended military expenditure data: The cas of Middle Power nations Mohamed Douch, Binyam Solomon
- •Military expenditure and economic growth, 1960-2014 J. Paul Dunne, Nan Tian

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

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: Marshall Auerback

Patrick Honohan Jeffrey Sommers James K. Galbraith

#### Read the full issue here:

http://www.epsusa.org/publications/newsletter/2016/september%2016/sep16.pdf

## **Action Corner**

### Oppose Rex Tillerson as Secretary of State

There are many reasons to be concerned about the nomination of Rex Tillerson for Secretary of State. His close ties with Russia, , support of climate deniers, his lack of support for sanctions as a diplomatic tool, and Exxon's horrible human rights record make him an inappropriate choice to represent our country at the international negotiating table.

Peace Action informs us that "In 2011, Exxon negotiated a deal with the Kurdish government in northern Iraq to buy its oil, despite American diplomats' efforts to negotiate a plan for sharing Iraq's oil with various factions in the country in an effort to reduce the sectarian tensions driving conflict in Iraq. In other words, Tillerson put corporate profits over the stated foreign policy interests of the US government, and in the process undermined stability in Iraq." http://org.salsalabs.com/o/161/t/0/blastContent.jsp?email\_blast\_KEY=1358564

Thehill.com reports that "Senator Kaine, who sits on both the Armed Services and Foreign Relations committees, said he is opposing Rex Tillerson for secretary of State over concerns that the former Exxon Mobile Corp. CEO wouldn't be able to separate the interests of the company from his work as the country's top diplomat... [H]e did not demonstrate the awareness, judgment or independence I expect from our nation's chief diplomat," he said in a statement...Kaine specifically pointed to Tillerson's questions on climate change as well as his relationship with Russian President Vladimir Putin, which has sparked concerns from lawmakers on both sides of the aisle. "The US needs a Secretary of State who can put the interests of the nation above any other loyalty," he said. "Mr. Tillerson did not give me confidence in his ability to fully do that." <a href="http://thehill.com/blogs/floor-action/senate/314152-kaine-to-vote-for-mattis-oppose-tillerson">http://thehill.com/blogs/floor-action/senate/314152-kaine-to-vote-for-mattis-oppose-tillerson</a>

Politifiact reports that "Mr. Tillerson... <u>told reporters</u> that sanctions are "imprecise and ineffective." and that "our [Exxon's] views are being heard at the highest levels," he said, according to the <u>Associated Press."</u>
<a href="http://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/statements/2017/jan/12/rex-tillerson/tillerson-misleads-russian-sanctions-opposition/">http://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/statements/2017/jan/12/rex-tillerson/tillerson-misleads-russian-sanctions-opposition/</a>

And the Sierra Club reminds us that "ExxonMobil - where Tillerson has worked for his entire career - has deliberately concealed its knowledge of climate science while funding denialist groups for decades." https://sierra.secure.force.com/actions/National?actionId=AR0062873

If you would like to join us in opposing Mr. Tillerson as Secretary of State, please phone your senators. You can find their direct numbers here <a href="https://www.senate.gov/senators/contact/">https://www.senate.gov/senators/contact/</a> or call the Senate switchboard at (202) 224-3121.

## 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**

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/

June 22 -23, 2017 The 21st Annual Conference on Economics and Security will be held at the Royal Military Academy in Brussels, Belgium.

#### More information available here:

http://www.defense-realms.com/call-papers-conference-economics-security-2017/

June 25 - 29, 2017 The Western Economic Association International 92nd Annual Conference will be held at the Marriott Marquis & Marina, San Diego, California.

### More information available here:

http://www.weai.org/AC2017

June 26 - 28, 2017 The Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference will be held at the University of Antwerp, Prinsstraat 13, Antwerpen, Belgium.

### More information available here:

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

September 6 - 9, 2017 The European Consortium for Political Research 2017 General Conference will be held at the University of Olsow, Norway.

### More information available here:

https://ecpr.eu/Events/EventDetails.aspx?EventID=96

September 18 - 19, 2017 Conflict Research Society Annual Conference 2017: Ending Violence in Turbulent Times: Exploring the Conflict, Peace and Violence Nexus will be hosted by the Changing Charachet of War programme at Pembroke College, University of Oxford.

### More information available here:

http://conflictresearchsociety.org/ourevents/crs-conference-oxford-2017/

## 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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