

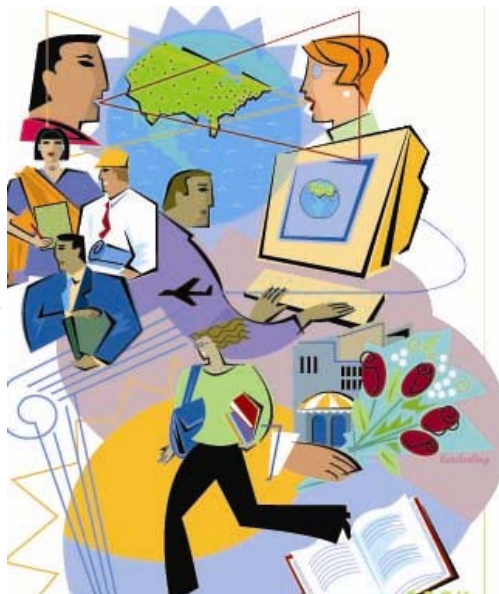
IRC ALERT

August—September 2005

FOCUS: Higher Education in the United States

In today's knowledge-driven era, higher education is a precondition to full and satisfying participation in the global economy and society. Globally, the rate of participation in higher education continues to rise. Today's colleges and universities continue to prosper and adapt by letting many flowers bloom. Differing institutional structures have emerged to address the changing educational and economic needs of changing populations. New information technologies are developed and adapted to serve differing learning styles. Higher education institutions have moved far away from the ivory tower and now extend into the very fabric of the diverse societies in which they operate.

The United States is the premiere destination for international students from all over the world. The US hosts more international students than any other country in the world, a number fast approaching 600,000. In fact, international students comprise approximately 4% of the total undergraduate US University and US college population, and 10% for US graduate school. These international students from every continent in the world choose to study in the US because they believe that a US education would afford them the best preparation for their future. They leave homes, families and friends in order to pursue their dreams of an education in the US. In fact, International students who study in the US contribute more than \$13 billion to the US economy!



US universities, US colleges and US schools constantly rank very high in world rankings, just one of the reasons to study in the US. Schools such as Harvard University, Stanford University, MIT, Julliard, Berkley School of Music, West Point, are all world famous and welcome international students. Most American colleges and universities offer top-notch education programs with highly qualified teaching staff. The research at many of these universities is cutting-edge and often published in journals worldwide. Many of the professors at these schools are leading authorities in their field. The US offers international students the most exciting, rewarding and comprehensive array of study options in the world. International students who choose to study in the US have almost unlimited study choices. Furthermore, international students who successfully complete

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their US study are highly sought-after by employers worldwide.

One of the best things about studying in the USA is the vast number of academic options offered to students. Since the USA is such a large country with vast resources, almost every field of study is available in the country. One can study everything from Russian history to nuclear physics. That is why so many foreigners choose to obtain their training in the USA.

'Research programs' are offered in most academic fields, including engineering, mathematics and computer science, physical and life sciences, and the humanities. These programs lead to either a master's degree or a doctorate, and also can include postdoctoral study and research. 'Professional programs' lead to a master's (MBA or MPA) or other degree, such as the JD or MD, which allows students to work in fields such as law, medicine, social work, or business.

Without a doubt, the United States of America offers very high quality higher education. The partnership between students and their families, the states, the federal government, the private sector, individual philanthropists, and institutions of higher learning has created a system long recognized as a model of quality, diversity, and opportunity. Having more foreign students helps to create this high quality experience.

HIGHER EDUCATION IN U.S. — Articles & DOCUMENTS

5-1/FOC*

AMERICA NEEDS A NEW SYSTEM FOR SUPPORTING THE ARTS

By Bill Ivey

Chronicle of Higher Education, Vol. 51, No. 22, February 4, 2005, p. B6.

Ivey, Director of the Curb Center for Art, Enterprise and Public Policy at Vanderbilt University and former Chairman of the National Endowment of the Arts, believes that the U.S. needs to revamp the ways it supports the arts for the next half century. He says that it is no longer viable to treat non-profit and for-

profit organizations as distinct entities, with for-profit organizations always producing lower-quality art. Non-profits also need to become more involved in legislative and regulatory affairs. He cites the example of the Federal Communications Commission's deregulation of radio station ownership -- this led to more stations being concentrated in fewer hands and using the same material, so fewer performing artists could get past the "gateway" and make themselves known. Ivey says that the nearly 50-year-old model by which corporate foundations match grants from the public sector has proven so successful that there are insufficient funds for the plethora of art organizations and artists that the funding helped develop. He argues that a better understanding of the arts is needed to ensure that we have a strong support system for the future.

5-2/FOC*

CREDIT HOUR: Counting What Counts

By Jane Wellman

Change, Vol. 37, No. 4, July/August 2005, pp. 19-23.

The basic unit of measurement in American higher education is the student credit hour (SCH). Originally developed at the beginning of the twentieth century as a measure of student time in the classroom and to quantify high school graduation and college admission requirements, the credit hour has today thoroughly permeated American higher education, and is used for cross-institutional transfer, external reporting, state and federal funding, faculty staffing requirements, accounting and physical facilities. The author, a senior associate at the Institute of Higher Education Policy, notes that there has been growing criticism about the rigidity of the credit hour, now that technology has broken the link between time in the classroom and teaching and learning. However, the credit hour persists because it is a "common currency" with which different institutions can recognize one another's degrees. Wellman notes that any attempt at wholesale change would be counterproductive and drawn-out, and advocates making smaller, incremental changes, such as breaking the link between time and credits.

**5-3/FOC
FULBRIGHT FUNDING GROWS TO \$150
MILLION; HEC, USAID Broaden PhD
Opportunities**

July 7, 2005

<http://islamabad.usembassy.gov/pakistan/h05070401.html>

Approximately \$15 million will be available annually for Fulbright master's scholarships and an equal amount will support PhD scholarships. Expanding the number of scholarships for PhD students "represents a great opportunity for future Pakistani scientists, researchers, and university professors," said Dr. Clark. "More than 1,000 Pakistanis should receive scholarships to pursue masters and PhD degrees in America in coming years," Dr. Clark said. "This is a smart investment – for Pakistan, for its future, and for continued close ties between Pakistan and the United States. It should also strengthen professional, research, and people-to-people ties between Pakistani and American universities."

**5-4/FOC
LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL: Young People
Talk about Their Hopes and Prospects
By Jean Johnson and Others
Public Agenda, 2005.**

http://www.publicagenda.com/research/research_reports_details.cfm?list=31

This survey of young adults examines the decisions they make about work or college. We found the vast majority of young adults, of all races, strongly believe in the value of higher education. But the study raises questions about the shortage of high school counselors and the economic pressures felt by many young adults, especially minorities. The study also portrays the hit-or-miss career path experienced by those who enter the work force with a college or technical degree.

**5-5/FOC
MARKET-BASED EDUCATION: What Can We
Learn From Universities?
By Richard Vedder
Cato Journal, Vol.25, No. 2, Spring 2005, pg. 279-296.**

There is a widespread perception that American

universities are the best in the world, dominating the Nobel laureate affiliations and luring foreign students from throughout the world. Yet virtually no one claims America has the best K-12 educational system in the world. Indeed, many writers, citing international test results, complain that US schools are fairly mediocre relative to overseas counterparts. Why are American universities perceived as being of high quality compared with primary and secondary schools? Two differences between K-12 and higher education are worth noting. First, American higher education is far more privately controlled than primary and secondary education. Second, and most relevant to this article, higher education has a far greater amount of market involvement than is typical in K-12 education. These characteristics of American universities may well contribute to better learning experiences than exist at the K-12 levels. Competitive forces require universities to pay more attention to consumer (student) needs and deliver a reasonably high-quality product. This article looks at higher education with the goal of identifying practices most promising for use at the K-12 level, as well as problems that would arise with simply introducing an element of market forces into the current K-12 system along the lines prevalent in universities.

**5-6/FOC
THE POCKET GUIDE TO U.S. HIGHER
EDUCATION
EDUCAUSE, 2005.**

<http://www.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/PUB2201.pdf>

Higher education is a rich tapestry. No volume can capture this richness and complexity comprehensively. *The Pocket Guide to U.S. Higher Education* provides a series of markers that outline the shape and complexity of higher education. More importantly, this guide identifies a variety of resources and organizations that can add detail to specific aspects of this enterprise. And, of course, many colleges and universities maintain informative Web sites that detail specifics about their history, offerings, faculty, and student body.

5-7/FOC

PUTTING THE WORLD INTO WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION

BY Sharon Lynn Kagan and Others

Phi Delta Kappan, Vol. 86, No. 3, November 2004, pp. 195-241.

Many people in the United States are aware that American students' knowledge of other countries, cultures, and languages has not begun to keep pace with the increasing importance of this knowledge to U.S. economic prosperity and national security, says Kagan. In a series of articles, the editors of this special section on international education present a discussion of the need to strengthen international education in American schools. Noting the gap between American students' international knowledge and skills and those they will need to effectively navigate an increasingly interconnected world, the editors sound a call not only to promote international education in U.S. schools, but to rethink the intent of education into the 21st century.

HIGHER EDUCATION IN U.S. — Internet Sites

Please note that the U.S. Embassy assumes no responsibility for the content and availability of the resources listed below. Internet resources were active as of September 3, 2005.

American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)

<http://www.aascu.org>

American Council on Education

<http://www.acenet.edu>

The Chronicle of Higher Education

<http://chronicle.com/>

Education USA

<http://www.educationusa.state.gov>

Education USA: Advising students in Pakistan

<http://www.useducation.com.pk/stpages/default.html>

Fullbright Program: U.S. Department of State

<http://exchanges.state.gov/education/fulbright>

Hubert Humphrey Program in Pakistan

<http://www.usefpakistan.org/HHumphreyProgram.html>

Info USA

<http://usinfo.state.gov/usa/infousa>

Internet Public Library

<http://www.ipl.org/div/subject/browse/edu00.00.00>

U.S. Department of Education: Especially for Students

<http://www.ed.gov/students/landing.jhtml>

USA Study Guide

<http://www.usastudyguide.com>

US Educational Foundation

<http://www.usefpakistan.org/>

US Educational Foundation: Fullbright Programs in Pakistan

<http://www.usefpakistan.org/fulbrightPakistaniProgram.html>

US News and World Report

<http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/eduhome.htm>

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

5-8/IS

ADDRESSING STATE FAILURE

By Stephen D. Krasner and Carlos Pascual

Foreign Affairs, Vol. 84, No. 4, July/August, pp. 153-163.

In today's increasingly interconnected world, weak and failed states pose an acute risk to U.S. and global security. Indeed, they present one of the most important foreign policy challenges of the contemporary era. States are most vulnerable to collapse in the time immediately before, during, and after conflict. When chaos prevails, terrorism, narcotics trade, weapons proliferation, and other

forms of organized crime can flourish. Left in dire straits, subject to depredation, and denied access to basic services, people become susceptible to the exhortations of demagogues and hatemongers. It was in such circumstances that in 2001 one of the poorest countries in the world, Afghanistan, became the base for the deadliest attack ever on the U.S. homeland, graphically and tragically illustrating that the problems of other countries often do not affect them alone.

5-9/IS*

DETECTING TERRORISTS: Thoughts on a Framework

By Daniel Whiteneck

The Washington Quarterly, Vol. 28, No. 5, Summer 2005, pp. 187-199.

Seeking to deter terrorists, especially committed, utopian groups such as Al Qaeda willing to use weapons of mass destruction (WMD), poses significant challenges. Against what would one threaten to retaliate? What do these groups value? Unlike traditional states preoccupied with protecting territory and regime survival, terrorist groups use different scales to weigh costs and benefits, often calculating risks and evaluating rewards in ideological and religious terms. Evidence suggests, for example, that Al Qaeda might not only use WMD simply to demonstrate the magnitude of its capability but that it might actually welcome the escalation of a strong U.S. response, especially if it included catalytic effects on governments and societies in the Muslim world. An adversary that prefers escalation regardless of the consequences cannot be deterred. Given the inadequacy of traditional state-based deterrence, it is tempting to assert that the only feasible ways to counter a WMD attack is prevention, by denying terrorist groups access to WMD through nonproliferation efforts, safeguards, and interdictions.

5-10/IS

THE FAILED STATES INDEX

Foreign Policy, No. 149, July/August 2005, pp. 56-65

Failed states have made a remarkable odyssey from the periphery to the very center of global politics. During the Cold War, state failure was seen through the prism of superpower conflict and was rarely addressed as a danger in its own right. In the 1990s,

"failed states" fell largely into the province of humanitarians and human rights activists, although they did begin to consume the attention of the world's sole superpower, which led interventions in Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, and Kosovo. For so-called foreign-policy realists, however, these states and the problems they posed were a distraction from weightier issues of geopolitics. Now, it seems, everybody cares. The dangerous exports of failed states—whether international terrorists, drug barons, or weapons arsenals—are the subject of endless discussion and concern. For all the newfound attention, however, there is still uncertainty about the definition and scope of the problem.

5-11/IS

FIGHTING THE ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF SMALL ARMS

By Rachel J. Stohl

SAIS Review, Vol. 25, No. 1, Winter-Spring 2005, pp. 59-68.

The author notes that illicit trafficking in small arms is a transnational phenomenon. Terrorist groups are dealing in small arms on a global scale, and combating this trade is critical to the U.S. campaign against extremism. Stohl writes that the line is often blurred between the legitimate and illicit trade in small arms, aided by the lack of strict international controls; she also points out that the profits from illegal exploitation of resources such as timber, drugs and diamonds in developing countries perpetuates conflicts and corruption. Arms brokers operate freely because they are able to circumvent national arms controls and international arms embargoes or to obtain official protection. Stohl argues that policing the illicit trafficking in small arms cannot be done in a vacuum or by the United States unilaterally. Other countries must also develop stronger controls over the legal sales and illicit trade of small arms.

5-12/IS

FUELING THE DRAGON

By Margaret Kriz

National Journal, Vol. 37, No. 32, August 6, 2005, pp. 2510-2513.

Kriz, National Journal staff writer on the environment, explores the political implications of the dramatic increase in China's energy consumption. She

notes that acid rain from China's coal-burning plants has triggered diplomatic tensions with downwind Asian countries such as Japan and South Korea. Kriz points out that China feels vulnerable because the U. S. controls the shipping lanes on which they depend for oil imports; to meet the nation's escalating oil demand, Beijing is forming new political and economic alliances around the world, which could shake up the balance of power among the oil-consuming and oil-exporting countries.

5-13/IS

**THE INDIA IMPERATIVE: A Conversation
with Robert D. Blackwill**

The National Interest, No. 80, Summer 2005, pp. 9-18.

An interview with Robert D. Blackwill, former ambassador to India from 2001-2003 and currently president of Barbour, Griffith & Rogers International is presented. Among other things, Blackwill talks about the origins of the transformation of the US-Indian relations. "Since the September 11 attacks, the Bush Administration has radically altered U.S. policy toward the Greater Middle East. Previous administrations focused on attempting to manage existing conflicts while supporting autocratic regimes. That approach offered neither lasting stability nor peace to the region or the world at large. George W. Bush believes that the promotion of democracy and freedom is the central strategic concept offering a serious, long-term alternative to Islamic extremism. As this decade progresses, India will be an ever more active partner with the United States in this noble pursuit, as a central part of the continuing transformation of U.S.-Indian relations, based in addition on largely congruent vital national interests."

5-14/IS

THE MEDIA AS AN INSTRUMENT OF WAR

By Kenneth Payne

Parameters, Vol. 35, No. 1, Spring 2005, pp. 81-93.

<http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usawc/parameters/05spring/payne.htm>

Payne, a BBC news producer, examines the effect of the media on international conflicts. In the Iraq War, a method employed by the U.S. military to influence the media included embedding reporters in specific military units, in order to give them a small-scale view

of the battlefield and encourage camaraderie between the military and journalists. Central Command briefings were also offered to give reporters a big picture of the battle, as presented by senior military personnel.

5-15/IS

MENDING NATO: Sustaining the Transatlantic Relationship

By James Kwok

Harvard International Review, Vol. 27, No. 2, Summer 2005, pp. 36-39.

The author, Associate Editor of the Harvard International Review, focuses on the role of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in U.S.-European relations. Although NATO was established, during post-World War II, to protect Europe from the Soviets, it was never intended as a purely military organization. Today, NATO remains a touchstone in the transatlantic relationship. European opinion is important to the United States and NATO provides a crucial, multilateral forum in which to work on common goals, including the spread of democracy.

5-16/IS*

THE NUCLEAR POSTURE REVIEW: Setting the Record Straight

By Keith B. Payne

The Washington Quarterly, Vol. 28, No. 3, Summer 2005, pp. 135-151.

The author, former deputy assistant secretary of defense in 2002-03, says that criticisms of the Bush administration's 2001 Nuclear Posture Review (NPR) are "errors of fact or interpretation" because they are based on "a strategic environment that no longer exists." He avers that deterrence has not been abandoned in favor of war-fighting. Payne notes that the NPR does not presume rogue leaders to be inherently irrational -- he believes that improving understanding of potential adversaries can reduce errors and surprises. Importantly, nuclear capabilities that minimize threat to civilians may be critical to deterrence. He writes that America now has many opponents with varying perceptions of the nuclear threshold, and that the credibility of the U.S. nuclear deterrent is essential to nonproliferation.

5-17/IS

PREEMPTION AND THE EVOLUTION OF AMERICA'S STRATEGIC DEFENSE

By Harry S. Laver

Parameters, Vol. 35, No. 2, Summer 2005, pp. 107-120.

Laver, military historian at Southeastern Louisiana University, analyses the evolution of U.S. strategic defense policy, contending that the events of 9/11 signaled a paradigm shift in strategic planning similar to that ushered in by the dropping of the atomic bombs in August 1945. He describes how U.S. defense policy evolved as successive post-World War II administrations undertook to contain communism. Eisenhower, for example, built up the nuclear arsenal, Nixon emphasized diplomacy, and Reagan reversed the "perceived strategic anemia" of Carter. Sept. 11 added a new dimension to defense strategy, requiring new ways of thinking and a greater use of covert operations and special forces, notes Laver. He presents various viewpoints about preemptive and preventive war and the 2002 National Security Strategy. Laver points out that the U.S. will not succeed in the war against terrorism through military superiority; he argues that our defense doctrine must include "more sophisticated and nuanced diplomatic initiatives and humanitarian programs to reduce the underlying sources of terrorist motivation and recruitment."

DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

5-18/DHR

THE CLASH BETWEEN SECURITY AND LIBERTY IN THE U.S. RESPONSE TO TERROR

By Carol W Lewis

Public Administration Review, Vol. 65, No. 1, January/February 2005, pp. 18 -30.

This study examines U.S. public opinion on civil liberties and security in response to the politically pivotal events of September 11, 2001 - what shape it is in, what shapes it, and what it shapes. Public opinion is a critical restraint on political and administrative action today because so many

regulators, rule makers, and law enforcers are making decisions or advocating policies that directly affect the balance between liberty and security. The general importance that is popularly attributed to terrorism is gauged by its ranking among the most important problems. The ostensibly contradictory public attitudes toward civil liberties are analyzed, as is the supposed inconsistency between perceived personal impact and the general significance attributed to the attacks. The data rebut the allegation that the public is readily disposed to restrict civil liberties as the price of security. Findings show the public does not perceive a personal or immediate threat to civil liberties. The implications for further research and good governance are laid out.

5-19/DHR

GAUGING ARAB SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRACY

By Mark Tessler and Eleanor Gao

Journal of Democracy, July 2005, Vol. 16, No. 3, pp. 83-97.

Since the onset of the "third wave" of democratization in the mid-1970s, the world has seen a significant increase in the number of countries governed by democratic regimes, but however, in the Arab-majority countries, the impact of this political revolution has been limited. Here, Tessler and Gao express that despite some moves toward liberalization in the past three decades, all Arab-majority countries remain authoritarian. Nonetheless, opinion surveys show that popular support for democracy in this part of the world is high.

5-20/DHR

GIVING JUSTICE ITS DUE

By George Perkovich

Foreign Affairs, Vol. 84, No. 4, July/August, pp. 79-93.

With its ringing invocation of "the force of freedom," President George W. Bush's second inaugural address exemplified and updated the long-standing American belief that liberty is an intrinsic human good and that its promotion will enhance the nation's security and prosperity. Critics who scoffed at Bush's attempt to put ethics at the heart of U.S. foreign policy were misguided, because such considerations have been a crucial part of policy debates since the country's

founding. What they should have criticized instead was Bush's narrow focus on one particular principle, political freedom, in isolation from other components of the American creed. After all, the Pledge of Allegiance promises not only liberty, but justice as well. Unfortunately, the elision of the notion of justice from the president's speech matches its elision from his foreign policy, with the result that in recent years, U.S. diplomacy - public and private - has been limping along on one leg and stumbling.

5-21/DHR

HOW TO NATION-BUILD: Ten Lessons From Afghanistan

By Zalmay Khalilzad

National Interest, No. 80, Summer 2005, pp. 19-27

The author, special presidential envoy and former U. S. ambassador to Afghanistan, writes that there was widespread doubt that the U.S. could bring about transformation in Afghanistan, a country unfairly characterized as an ungovernable tribal society given to extremism. Khalilzad is convinced that the U.S. is succeeding in Afghanistan because of an enlightened approach that recognized the desire of Afghans to end the chaos and return to a normal life. He expounds on ten factors that have been key to rebuilding Afghanistan: aid in restoring a political order on Afghans' terms; position ourselves as an ally, not a conqueror; engage leaders of all competing groups; maintain a military presence that is not unnecessarily large or intrusive; reconstitute a legitimate political elite; effective communication; promote multilateral aid efforts; engage neighboring countries, even those with whom we have major differences; closely integrate civilian and military structures; and provide adequate resources.

5-22/DHR

ISLAM FINDS ITS VOICE

By Corine Hegland

National Journal, Vol. 37, No. 32, August 6, 2005, pp. 2521-2523.

Leaders representing eight different schools of Islam gathered July 2005 in Jordan to unite against extremism. Although conferences on combating Islamic extremism are not uncommon, the article points out that this three-day conference, convened by Jordan's King Abdullah II, was a landmark. The

credibility of the participants was high, as the Jordan conference avoided the trap of inviting only Western-friendly or politically connected scholars. The 170 attendees issued a united declaration on the inclusiveness of Islam and denounced those acting outside the main of the religion. While the conference showed Islamic leaders worldwide that they are not alone in denouncing extremism, the challenge remains to get the anti-extremism message out.

5-23/DHR

INTERNATIONAL LINKAGE AND DEMOCRATIZATION

By Steven Levitsky and Lucan A. Way

Journal of Democracy, July 2005, Vol. 16, No. 3, pp. 20-34.

Levitsky and Way discuss the post-Cold War competitive authoritarian regimes in which democratic institutions exist and permit meaningful competition for power, but where the political playing field is so heavily tilted in favor of incumbents that the regime cannot be labeled as democratic. Further, the role of international factors varied greatly across the post-Cold War transitions to democracy, but the intensity and results of external democratizing pressure depended on two variable: linkage to the West and Western leverage.

5-24/DHR

THE NEW IRAQ: Democratic Institutions and Performance

By Adeed Dawisha

Journal of Democracy, Vol. 16, No. 3, July 2005, pp. 35-49.

Dawisha, an Iraqi-born political science professor at Miami University, analyzes the key factors in overcoming Iraq's internal divisions in its transition toward democracy. He draws on events from the January 2005 elections to the present to discuss issues including power apportionment, political parties, federalism, the role of Islam, and women's rights. Although Iraq remains a "divided" country, Dawisha suggests that the current process of addressing and overcoming these divisions is crucial to Iraq's future as a democracy. "Whether Iraq goes up the rising path of democracy or down the falling road of division may very well lie in the bargaining,

arguing, and political deal-making" that is going on now, states Dawisha.

5-25/DHR

TAKING ON THE WORLD: The International Activities of State Legislatures

By Timothy Conlan and Others

Publius, Vol. 34, No. 3, Summer 2004, pp. 183-199.

The authors, with George Mason and Michigan State Universities, note that state legislatures around the U. S. are enacting increasing amounts of legislation that have international implications. In a survey of the 2001-2002 legislative season, they counted 886 bills and resolutions with significant international ramifications, of which 306 were adopted. The subject matter of the legislation covered a range of issues, including immigration, international trade, environmental protection, border relations and national defense. The authors note that increased international trade among the states in the last two decades has been mirrored in a commensurate increase in states' international legislative activity, as well as visits by foreign delegations. Many states have enacted laws regarding specific countries or regions, based on the presence of large immigrant groups living in those states.

5-26/DHR

W. BUSH'S JUDICIARY: The First Term Record

By Sheldon Goldman and Others

Judicature, Vol. 88, No. 6, May-June 2005

The authors provide a comparative look at President Bush's judicial selection and those of the last four U.S. presidents, while analyzing the politics of appointments and confirmations using first-hand accounts of the process as their guide. The authors discuss at the length the Bush administration's process of identifying and vetting candidates for federal judgeships, and parse out the roles of the various players within the White House, Department of Justice, think tanks and other organizations in the process. The article also explains the congressional confirmation process with a timely discussion of issues such as recess appointments and the "nuclear issue." The article also contains several interesting side bars, including biographies of Bush nominees as

well as statistics on judicial diversity. This is an excellent primer on the political and practical process of judicial nominations.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

5-27/ES

AMERICA'S TOTAL ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT WITH THE DEVELOPING WORLD: Rethinking the Uses and Nature of Foreign Aid

By Carol C. Adelman and Others

Hudson Institute White Paper, 28 June 2005, 7p.

Claims that America is "stingy" with aid abound, despite the fact that Americans privately give more than three and one-half times as much international aid as the U.S. government, note the authors. They also point out that the U.S. has the most overseas investment, provides the most military support for global disasters and security, produces the bulk of the world's research and development for better food and medicines, and provides preferential trade agreements that support imports from developing countries. The authors provide data on the full spectrum of U.S. assistance, explain why Official Development Assistance doesn't reflect the realities of aid today, and analyze the limitations of direct aid and what is really needed to overcome poverty in the developing world.

5-28/ES

COMPARATIVE DECENTRALIZATION LESSONS FROM PAKISTAN, INDONESIA, AND THE PHILIPPINES

By George M Guess,

Public Administration Review, Mar/Apr 2005. Vol. 65, No. 2, pp. 217-230.

This article provides an analytic framework to guide regimes that are designing or implementing decentralization programs. It is based on a comparison of three Asian cases of fast-track decentralization. The framework suggests that regimes contemplating devolution must face fundamental issues of (1) background support, (2) culture and institutions, and (3) technical design and sequencing.

It can be used by regimes to compare the relative difficulty of fundamental challenges to decentralization with their own capacity and potential for effective response. The three regimes responded similarly to the first two issues and differed in how they performed technical activities to implement the decentralization programs. Within this technical sequence, the regimes varied widely in performance. In that the Philippine program has attained better performance so far, the different responses of that regime are significant. More research is required to explain differences in technical performance in the Philippines and other similar programs and to attribute measures of decentralization success to these differences.

5-29/ES

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

By Troy A. Paredes

Regulation, Vol. 28, No. 1, Spring 2005, pp. 34-39.

Paredes, associate professor of law at Washington University, says U.S.-style corporate governance, which is a market-oriented model, may be a poor fit for the developing world. In the U.S., shareholders are protected by nonlegal mechanisms such as contracts, market forces, and norms of good practice that directors and officers follow, he explains. This market-oriented approach encourages innovation, entrepreneurship, and risk-taking - but its success depends on several preconditions -- such as an effective, sophisticated judicial system, in-depth experience and understanding of private ordering, and a predictable future, states Paredes. Developing countries lack these preconditions, he writes, therefore a system of more stringent mandatory corporate law is the better option, because clear shareholder protections are needed to encourage investment, the development of capital markets, and, ultimately, economic growth.

5-30/ES

HOW TO HELP POOR COUNTRIES

By Nancy Birdsall

Foreign Affairs, July/August, Vol. 84, No. 4, pp. 136-152.

The year 2005 has become the year of development. In September, at the UN Millennium Summit meeting

of heads of state, in New York, leaders of wealthy nations will emphasize their commitment to deeper debt relief and increased aid programs for developing countries. The Millennium Development Goals, the centerpiece of the conference's program, call for halving the levels of world poverty and hunger by 2015. The summit will focus on increasing international aid to 0.7% of donors' gross national product to finance a doubling of aid transfers to especially needy areas, particularly in Africa. With respect to global trade, efforts will center on the Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations and opening markets to important exports (such as cotton) from developing countries. The discussions will thus proceed based on two implicit but critical underlying assumptions: that wealthy nations can materially shape development in the poor world and that their efforts to do so should consist largely of providing resources to and trading opportunities for poor countries.

5-31/ES*

MANAGING RISK IN AN UNSTABLE WORLD

By Ian Bremmer

Harvard Business Review, Vol. 83, No. 6, June 2005, pp. 51-60

Bremmer, president of a political risk consulting firm, says emerging markets and politically unstable countries are figuring more than ever into companies' investment calculations. Consequently, business leaders are turning to more political risk analysis to measure the impact of politics on potential markets, minimize risks, and make the most of global opportunities. Political risk is more subjective than economic risk, he explains, because it is influenced by so many factors, such as the passage of laws, weaknesses of government leaders, and the rise of popular movements. Increasing globalization demands more rigorous assessments of political risk, he writes, and has led to development of tools for measuring and presenting stability data -- one uses 20 composite indicators to rank countries on a scale of 0 (a failed state) to 100 (a fully institutionalized, stable democracy). The rising importance of political risk analysis to company success requires analysts with a strong mix of skills; timely, accurate data on a variety of social and political trends, and a framework for evaluating the impact of individual risks on overall

stability, says Bremmer.

5-32/ES

MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS

By Richard Rosecrance

The National Interest, No. 80, Summer 2005, pp. 65-73.

Rosecrance, a political science professor at UCLA and a senior fellow of the Belfer Center at Harvard University, argues that just as private companies in the business world merge with like-minded firms to cope with a competitor, so too must the United States and the European Union form a coalition to address a growing economic and commercial superpower -- China. Fortunately for the West, notes the author, Beijing will be unable to establish a similar merger with Far Eastern countries due to the authoritarian and unpredictable nature of its regime. He concludes that, "The United States can neither attack nor occupy China. Nor can the U.S. or Europe grow quickly enough to offset Chinese economic gains between now and 2030...the appropriate recourse of the two Western power blocs is successful merger with each other."

5-33/ES

THE STATE OF GLOBALIZATION

By Juergen Stark

The International Economy, Vol. 19, No. 2, Spring 2005, pp. 52-70.

Stark, Deputy Governor of the Deutsche Bundesbank, notes that since the 1990s an increasing proportion of global economic activity is market-determined. Major centrally planned economies have turned into market economies and several strongly regulated emerging market economies have implemented radical reforms. Realistically, he adds, the United States and Asia will remain the centers of gravity of the global economy in the coming years. The impact the growing range of low-cost goods and services produced in the Far East will lead to significant changes in global production patterns, trade, and relative prices, he writes, and with that will come an increasing the risk of countries responding with protectionist measures. Adjustments to these changing economic dynamics will likely include new alliances and relationships, says Stark. To optimize Europe's place in this changing world economy, he

recommends that the European Union deepen its political integration and instill a clear vision of its future.

5-34/ES

VOLATILITY IS THE ENEMY

By Moin Siddiqi

African Business, Vol. 311, July 2005, pp. 28-29.

Siddiqi says that periods of extreme output volatility adversely effect long-term economic growth, welfare, income inequality and poverty reduction, especially in the developing world -- and Africa still has the highest volatility in the developing world. The effects of volatility in low-income countries with undeveloped financial markets and bad macroeconomic policies are considerable, he states. A 1970-2003 study attributes over 73 percent of all output volatility in developing countries to country-specific factors such as macroeconomic policies and institutional capacities, he notes. Good policies designed to improve the investment environment, reform financial systems and the public sector, and increase trade, would alleviate the volatility problem that currently impedes sustainable development in poverty-stricken Africa - but success would demand fuller commitments from both African governments and donor countries, says Siddiqi.

GLOBAL ISSUES AND COMMUNICATION

5-35/GIC

THE BIRTH OF GOOGLE

By John Battelle

Wired, Vol. 13, No. 8, August 2005

www.wired.com

On first meeting, Larry Page and Sergey Brin disliked one another. Yet within a year their partnership spawned Google, arguably the world's most popular search engine. At Stanford University, Page devised a crawler, originally called BackRub, tracing the path of links back from web pages. Collaborating with fellow graduate student Brin, he went on to develop PageRank, an algorithm assigning a higher ranking to more "important" pages. With PageRank, BackRub yielded superior results to existing search engines

based largely on keywords. Google was not born without a struggle, however. Both young men experienced some doubts, while coincidentally discovering how much power a growing search engine drains from a computer network. At one point, BackRub was consuming nearly half of Stanford's entire bandwidth, often bringing the university's Internet connection to a standstill. Thanks to some improvisation, and a "forward-looking" environment at Stanford, Google became a hit. This article is part of a feature, "10 Years That Changed the World," on the history of the World Wide Web.

5-36/GIC

CAN WE BURY GLOBAL WARMING?

By Robert H. Socolow

Scientific American, Vol. 293, No. 1, July 2005, pp. 49-55.

The carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels in the atmosphere are rising and the atmosphere is warming, but scientists do not know the long-term effects of these changes. Several strategies for reducing man-made CO₂ emissions include using energy more efficiently, shifting from fossil fuels to nuclear or noncarbon renewable sources, and capturing CO₂ to store underground. Socolow explains the methods of CO₂ capture-and-storage that could be adopted by coal-burning power plants, which contribute one quarter of the world's CO₂ emissions. Industrial plants producing hydrogen or purifying natural gas generate concentrated streams of CO₂, and such facilities are considering capture-and-storage as well. Researchers are exploring storage in sedimentary rock formations deep underground, in former oil fields, or even in the oceans. A natural gas processing plant in Algeria is storing captured CO₂ in an underground brine field. Socolow expects the next few years to be critical as governments consider policies affecting the development of capture-and-storage as a mechanism to reduce global warming from CO₂ emissions. The author is professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering at Princeton University and investigator with the university's Carbon Mitigation Initiative.

5-37/GIC

THE COMING PARADIGM SHIFT IN FORENSIC IDENTIFICATION SCIENCE

By Michael J. Saks and J. Koehler Jonathan Science, Vol. 309, August 5, 2005, pg. 892-895.

Converging legal and scientific forces are pushing the traditional forensic identification sciences toward fundamental change. At the core of these fields -- which include handwriting, fingerprints, footprints, shoe prints, bullet markings, tool marks, hair, tire marks, bite marks and blood spatter -- is the assumption that each of these marks is discernibly unique. But there is increasing evidence of errors in proficiency testing and in actual cases. Two things are driving the older forensic sciences in a new direction; the first are changes in the law pertaining to the admissibility of expert evidence in court, particularly a Supreme Court case that held that all expert testimony must pass appropriate tests of validity to be admissible in court, rather than just the professional qualifications of experts. The other is the emergency of DNA typing as a model for a scientifically defensible approach to questions of identity. According to the authors, just as DNA scientists tested the genetic assumptions that undergirded DNA typing theory, traditional forensic scientists should design experiments that test the core assumptions of their fields. If this is done, experts will be able to inform the courts about the relative strengths and weaknesses of their theories and methods, and suggest how that knowledge applies to individual cases.

5-38/GIC

THE DAWN PATROL

By Ken Auletta

New Yorker, August 8, 2005, pp. 68-77.

Morning news shows have long been a tradition in American news broadcasting companies. What began as a more relaxed version of traditional evening news programs is now the most profitable program for two of the three major networks. While they do provide some coverage of hard news, the morning shows focus on celebrity and family programming, knowing that almost three quarters of their viewers are women in their 30s to their 50s. This article describes the changes that have taken place on the "Today" show on NBC and "Good Morning America" on ABC over

the years, and chronicles the careers of anchorwomen Katie Couric of "Today" and Diane Sawyer of "Good Morning America".

5-39/GIC

THE DOTCOM KING AND THE ROOFTOP SOLAR REVOLUTION

By Spencer Reiss

Wired, Vol. 13, No. 7, July 2005.

Most of the entrepreneurs of the Internet boom of the 1990s have moved on to other things, but Bill Gross, founder of Idealab, the Pasadena, California-based high-tech incubator, is still going strong. Idealab's latest innovation: a low-cost, downsized, lightweight, rooftop-mountable solar concentrator, consisting of a field of movable mirrors in a two-metre-square frame, that focus sunlight on an elevated silicon wafer, generating electric power at double the efficiency of flat photovoltaic panels. Several prototypes are being subjected to accelerated-aging tests, to see how the sophisticated machinery and electronics hold up to the elements, and the first shipment of 1000 units from a low-cost offshore manufacturer will be delivered in the fall. Solar energy has the greatest potential to revolutionize how mankind obtains energy, notes the author, but it has also been the most challenging to harness. The solar industry's long-term strategy is to maintain government financial incentives for users to obtain solar equipment to keep it competitive with coal, gas and nuclear power; as technological improvements and large-scale manufacturing lower the costs, the author predicts that the market for solar "will explode."

5-40/GIC

THE MAN IN THE PALACE

By Jon Lee Anderson

The New Yorker, Vol. 81, No. 16, June 6, 2005, p. 60.

Despite his American support, Afghanistan Pres Hamid Karzai has trouble convincing Afghans that he can confront the warlords or the thousands of Taliban fighters who are still at large. Karzai recently offered amnesty to the Taliban on the condition that they renounce violence. Karzai's relationship with the warlords is ambiguous: many of them fought against the Taliban as part of the Northern Alliance and, until

recently, Karzai had little choice but to share power with them. Karzai is profiled and the challenges he faces are discussed.

5-41/GIC

THE STATE OF NATURE

By Carl Pope

Foreign Policy, No. 149, July/August, pp. 67-73.

Two environmentalists, Carl Pope and Bjorn Lomborg, discuss the state of nature. Carl Pope says that: The global environmental dilemma teems with both risks and opportunities. The world is at considerable peril, yet solutions to the problems humanity faces are at its fingertips. This global leadership vacuum is dangerous. Anger at the chasm between better energy solutions and the scarcity of leadership is not confined to tree-hugging environmentalists. Bjorn Lomborg said that there are problems, but that many have been solved and that it is important to develop priorities.

5-42/GIC

WIRED TO EAT

By David E. Duncan

Technology Review, Vol. 108, No. 7, July 2005, pp. 52-59.

Jeffrey Friedman is an obesity researcher and leader of a team from Rockefeller University in New York that is studying 7,600 residents on the island of Kosrae, 4,670 kilometers south of Hawaii. Since 1994, the team has been studying the eighty percent of Kosrae adults who are overweight or obese, to test the hypothesis that genes rather than willpower control the impulse to eat. Until the United States took control of Kosrae and the rest of Micronesia after World War II and began shipping in canned and processed foods, the people were predominantly lean. Twelve percent of the islanders have diabetes, compared with 8 percent in the United States. The researchers are using gene chips to scan the islanders' genomes for genetic variations called single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) to see if these can be associated with differences in susceptibility to diseases such as obesity or diabetes. Friedman believes a dominant factor in controlling weight is a circuit in the hypothalamus at the base of the brain, where two types of brain cells -- NPY, which stimulates hunger, and POMC, which inhibits hunger -- seem to be the

chief regulators of appetite. According to Friedman, people have a "set point" of hunger and satiation inherited from their ancestors and are driven to eat until they reach it. "We have some control over eating from our reasoning centers of our brain," Friedman says, "but this seldom overrides our basic instinct to eat when we're hungry."

U.S. SOCIETY AND VALUES

5-43/SV

ALL IN THE FAMILY

By Victoria Looseleaf

Dance Magazine, Vol. 79, No. 7, July 2005, pp. 42-44

The author profiles Joseph and Josette Wiggan, an Afro-American brother/sister tap-dancing duo, have been performing together for ten years. Joseph, 19, and Josette, 22, are enrolled in college during the academic year, they dance together professionally during the summer. Both will continue to perform as a team after they graduate; Josette is also working with a group to end modern-day slavery around the world, and Joseph is preparing to manage a dance company.

5-44/SV

BROOKLYN RISING

By Nathan Ward

American Heritage, Vol. 56, no. 4, August/September 2005, pp. 26-37.

The New York City borough of Brooklyn has a storied history, with many familiar names among its native sons and daughters, and an identity that is rooted in its varied neighborhoods. But rather than celebrating the past, Brooklyn today has become a world-class venue and destination, having undergone remarkable changes with more in its immediate future. It includes a number that cannot be found in its more glamorous neighbor, Manhattan, including a new film and television production facility, a refurbished and revitalized museum, a departure pier for cruise lines and oceangoing vessels, and two new sports arenas. In this marriage of old and new, the tide is turning.

5-45/SV

THE 2004 ELECTION IN PERSPECTIVE: The Myth of the "Cultural Divide" and the Triumph of Neoliberal Ideology

By Adolph Reed

American Quarterly, Vol. 57, No. 1, March 2005, pp. 1-15.

Reed, professor of political science at the University of Pennsylvania, notes that the outcome of the 2004 presidential election is commonly ascribed to a "cultural divide" between the "red" and "blue" states, which obscures the more important class dynamics that contributed to the Republicans' win. He notes that the Republicans exploited the weaknesses in the fragile Democratic coalition, composed of the labor movement, progressives, minorities and corporate and legal interests. Many changes enacted by the Clinton administration, such as expansion of the federal death penalty, mandatory minimum sentencing, welfare reform and ending low-income assistance, were used by the Bush campaign to highlight its "compassionate conservatism" in 2000. He notes that the Gore and Kerry campaigns were ineffectual, not so much because the candidates were uninspiring, as they were a symptom of the Democrats' inability to craft a message that would appeal to broad swaths of the American public.

DOCUMENT ALERT

5-46/DOC

2005 WORLD SUMMIT: Unique Opportunity to Strengthen the Three Pillars of the United Nations--Development, Security and Human Rights

Amnesty International, 2005

[http://web.amnesty.org/library/pdf/IO410502005ENGLISH/\\$File/IO4105005.pdf](http://web.amnesty.org/library/pdf/IO410502005ENGLISH/$File/IO4105005.pdf)

The High-level Plenary Meeting of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly (the 2005 World Summit) will take place in New York in September. The Summit, in which an unprecedented number of Heads of State and Government will participate, represents a unique opportunity for UN member states to take decisive action to address some of the

most important issues before the international community, including reducing poverty, strengthening collective security, and enhancing the protection of human rights. In addition to reviewing implementation of the Millennium Declaration and overcoming the obstacles in reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by the target date of 2015, governments attending the 2005 World Summit will have the opportunity to put in place much needed reform of the UN, in particular measures to protect human rights.

5-47/DOC

AFFORDABLE TEXTBOOKS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY: A Guide to Establishing Textbook Rental Services and Other Alternative Business Models

State Public Interest Research Groups, July 2005.

http://calpirg.org/reports/TextbookRental7_05.pdf

College textbooks have always constituted a meaningful portion of higher education costs. In the past two decades, however, the price of textbooks has soared to unprecedented levels. Textbook prices are increasing at more than four times the inflation rate for all finished goods, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Producer Price Index.

5-48/DOC

AMERICAN TEENAGERS: An Electronic Journal

U.S. Department of State, August 2005.

<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/itsv/0705/ijse/ijse0705.htm>

This electronic journal contains feature articles along numerous photos, provides a wide variety of insights and perspectives into teenage life today in the United States. There could be no one better to introduce our issue to international youth than First Lady Laura Bush. Since coming to the White House in January 2001, she has devoted considerable time and energy to issues of education, health, and human rights, traveling widely, and often speaking to young audiences. In a letter to readers, she writes, "Consider how to prepare yourself for the future. Think about the habits, skills, and knowledge that will help you succeed in school."

5-49/DOC

ISLAMISTS AT THE BALLOT BOX: Findings from Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, and Turkey **United States Institute of Peace, July 2005.**

<http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/sr144.pdf>

On April 12, 2005, the United States Institute of Peace's Grant Program organized a roundtable discussion featuring three Institute grantees who had conducted research in the Middle East on the role and impact of Islamist parties. In an era when much attention has focused on how to promote democracy in Middle Eastern countries with centralized, semiauthoritarian governments, the inclusion of Islamist political parties in electoral politics has been a subject of vigorous debate. How does their inclusion affect the political systems of which they are a part? Does electoral participation by Islamist political parties engender moderation in their politics? If so, is moderation on sensitive political issues a temporary expedient to gain political advantage or is it expressive of changes in core values? Is there evidence that Islamist parties have cooperated or collaborated with secular political parties and other groups to promote political goals of mutual interest, and what happens when they do? Under what circumstances does such cooperation come about, and how extensive is it? When, if at all, does such cooperation induce conservative Islamist political parties to moderate their views and political values? How do Islamist parties relate to centralized political authority in their societies, and what happens when an Islamist party comes into power?

5-50/DOC

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS: Moving Forward (Electronic Journal)

Department of State, August 2005.

<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/ites/0805/ijec/ijec0805.htm>

Leaders of the world's eight major economies (G8), at their annual meeting in July 2005, called on all nations to recommit themselves to supporting economic progress and good governance in the developing world, particularly in Africa—the only continent not on track to meet by 2015 any of the goals agreed on at the international Millennium Summit in 2000 and put forth in the Millennium Declaration. The United States is doing its part. It is the world's largest donor

of official development assistance, the largest donor of emergency humanitarian relief, the largest donor of private charitable funding, and the chief source of private financial flows to the developing world. Through the Millennium Challenge Account, the United States will continue to make resources available to countries that provide incentives for economic growth through policies that promote good governance, trade, and investment. Growth also requires healthy, well-educated citizens who can enjoy economic opportunities and political freedoms. Here, also, the United States is doing its part by advancing the largest health initiative in the history of the world to combat communicable diseases.

5-51/DOC

PAKISTAN: Recommendations for an Effective National Human Rights Commission **Amnesty International, July 2005.**

[http://web.amnesty.org/library/pdf/ASA330192005ENGLISH/\\$File/ASA3301905.pdf](http://web.amnesty.org/library/pdf/ASA330192005ENGLISH/$File/ASA3301905.pdf)

The Government of Pakistan submitted "a bill to provide for the setting up of the National Commission on Human Rights" to the National Assembly during its last session. The National Assembly in May 2005 referred the bill to the Standing Committee for Law, Justice and Human Rights for discussion. The National Assembly will consider the bill upon receipt of any comments and recommendations made by the Standing Committee.

5-52/DOC

TEACHING ABOUT THE RELIGIOUS OTHER

United States Institute of Peace, July 2005.

<http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/sr143.pdf>

This report summarizes the discussion at a two-day workshop which brought together professors experienced in teaching students of one faith about other faiths. The purpose is to promote greater opportunities for adherents of one faith to learn about other faiths, particularly in countries where religion is a source of conflict. Religion is a factor in many of the world's most intractable and violent conflicts. As Martin Marty points out in *Religion, Ethnicity and Self-Identity*, most of the time religion—as a way to find “communion, consolation, and integration into systems of meaning and belonging”—is not “an

instrument for killing.” But it has revealed itself many times as a suitable weapon for disruption and killing. This is true in places such as Kashmir, Sudan, and Israel/Palestine. While religion is a factor in these conflicts, it is rarely the most potent factor. Conflict identified as religious usually does not stem from disagreements over theological issues. Its impact usually results from the association of religious identity with ethnic divisions and economic factors. Nevertheless, prejudice and ignorance about the beliefs and practices of the religious “other” often exacerbate conflicts. Religious stereotypes contribute to misunderstanding and foment animosity.

5-53/DOC

U.S.-PAKISTAN ENGAGEMENT: The War on Terrorism and Beyond

By Touquir Hussain

United Institute of Peace, August 2005

<http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/sr145.pdf>

This report examines the history and present state of U.S.-Pakistan relations, addresses the key challenges the two countries face, and concludes with specific policy recommendations for ensuring the relationship meets the needs of both the United States and Pakistan. Future U.S. interests in the region may be defined, not just by the looming strategic shadow of a resurgent China, but also of India and possibly of Russia. There is also the risk of a possible surge in radical Islam in the region fostered by the inevitable crumbling of some of the conservative or repressive Arab regimes. This would be compounded by a nuclear Iran. China is already positioning itself to fill any future power vacuum caused by any receding U.S. standing in the region and has begun building bridges with Iran and India. As a result, the U.S.-Pakistan relationship will increasingly intersect with issues that go far beyond the war on terrorism.