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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

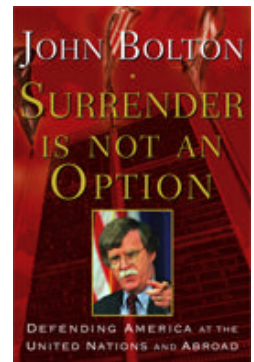


AUSSENPOLITIK

Surrender Is Not an Option **Defending America at the United Nations and Abroad**

John R. Bolton, American Enterprise Institute
Threshold Editions/Simon and Schuster, November 2007

With no-holds-barred candor, the straight-talking former ambassador to the United Nations takes readers behind the scenes at the U.N. and the U.S. State Department and reveals why his efforts to defend American interests and reform the U.N. resulted in controversy. A veteran of three Republican administrations and a nominee for the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize, Bolton shows how the U.S. can lead the way to a more realistic global security arrangement for the twenty-first century and identifies the next generation of threats to America.



The Iranian Time Bomb **The Mullah Zealots' Quest for Destruction**

Michael A. Ledeen, American Enterprise Institute
St. Martin's Press (New York), September 2007

Iran declared war on the United States in early 1979, when the shah was overthrown and the revolutionary regime of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini came to power. That war has been waged ever since, with devastating effect, writes Michael A. Ledeen in his latest book, *The Iranian Time Bomb* (St. Martin's Press, September 2007). New evidence emerges almost daily about Iranian support for terrorists in Iraq, Gaza, Lebanon, Afghanistan, and Europe, and regime officials have been indicted for murder in Argentina, Austria, and Germany. The author chronicles Iranian responsibility for the mass murder of Americans, which extends from the suicide bombings of the U.S. embassy and marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, in 1983, to the Khobar Towers bombing in Saudi Arabia in 1996, and from the intimate working relationship between Iran and several of the 9/11 terrorists, to the training, funding, and arming of terrorists (including al Qaeda) who are killing Americans and their allies in Iraq and Afghanistan.



Things Fall Apart

Daniel L. Byman and **Kenneth M. Pollack**, Brookings Institution
Brookings Institution Press 2007

The authors scrutinize several recent civil wars, including Lebanon, Chechnya, Afghanistan, Kosovo, and Bosnia. After synthesizing those experiences into lessons on how civil wars affect other nations, Byman and Pollack draw from them to produce recommendations for U.S. policy. Even while the Bush Administration attempts to prevent further deterioration of the situation in Iraq, it needs to be planning how to deal with a full-scale civil war if one develops.



AUSSENPOLITIK

Making War to Keep Peace



Jeane J. Kirkpatrick (1926-2006), American Enterprise Institute
Harper Collins, April 2007

When Jeane J. Kirkpatrick died in December 2006, she left behind more than her legacy as a "heroine of conservatives." She had just completed work on this extraordinary survey of American foreign policy in the post-Cold War age: a bold and revisionist assessment of two decades of American interventions abroad--a troubled period of small successes, tragic failures, and important lessons for our future. Since the end of the Cold War, Kirkpatrick argues, America's relationship with the world has been especially compromised by its mutual distrust with the United Nations, and by continuing uncertainty over U.S. involvement in conflicts among rogue nations overseas. In *Making War to Keep Peace*, Kirkpatrick offers a tightly observed chronicle of the result: a period in which the United States has increasingly used force around the world--to mixed and often challenging results.

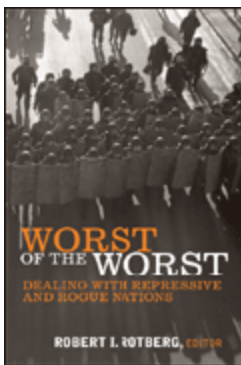
Collapse of an Empire



Yegor Gaidar and **Antonina W. Bouis** (Translator)
Brookings Institution Press 2007

In today's Russia, nostalgia for the Soviet era is growing. Many Russians reflect wistfully on the passing of an era when the Soviet Union was a superpower, commanding international respect, and they blame its demise on external enemies and foolish changes in policy. In an address to the Russian Federal Assembly, President Vladimir Putin called the breakup of the Soviet Union the greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the 20th century. In *Collapse of an Empire: Lessons for Modern Russia*, however, economic reformer and former prime minister Yegor Gaidar clearly illustrates why such notions are misguided, ill informed, and dangerous. As he explains in the introduction: "My goal is to show the reader that the Soviet political and economic system was unstable by its very nature. It was just a question of when and how it would collapse."

Worst of the Worst



Robert I. Rotberg, eds., Brookings Institution
Brookings Institution Press and World Peace Foundation, 2007

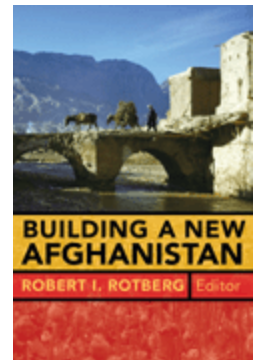
Repressive regimes tyrannize their own citizens and threaten global stability and order. These repositories of evil systematically oppress their own people, deny human rights and civil liberties, limit personal freedom, and suppress economic opportunity. *Worst of the Worst* identifies and characterizes the world's most odious states, singling out those few that are aggressive beyond their own borders and can hence be characterized as rogue states. The states profiled include former Soviet republics Belarus, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan; African nations Equatorial Guinea, Togo, Tunisia, and Zimbabwe; Syria in the Middle East; and Asia's Burma and North Korea. Among them, the rogues are North Korea, Belarus, and Syria. Explicitly labeling and ranking highly repressive states is a major step toward improving the well-being of the poorest and most abused peoples on Earth. Robert Rotberg and his colleagues have provided invaluable guidance in that difficult but necessary task.

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Building a New Afghanistan

Robert I. Rotberg, eds., Brookings Institution
Brookings Institution Press and World Peace Foundation 2007

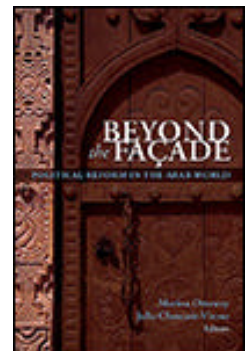
Robert Rotberg and his colleagues argue that the future success of state building in Afghanistan depends on reducing its dependence on the opium trade and enhancing its economic status. Many of Afghanistan's security problems are related to poppy growing, opium and heroin production, and drug trafficking. Building a New Afghanistan suggests controversial new alternatives to immediate eradication, which is foolish and counter-productive. These options include monetary incentives for growing wheat, a viable local crop. Greater wheat production would feed hungry Afghans while reducing narco-trafficking and the terror that comes with it.



Beyond the Façade Political Reform in the Arab World

Marina S. Ottaway and **Julia Choucair**, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
Carnegie Endowment, January 2008

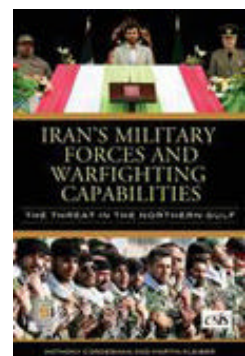
Reform is a politically charged issue in the Middle East. Governments admit change is necessary, but do not want to surrender power. Opposition groups want democracy, but cannot generate sufficient momentum. The Bush administration's "freedom agenda" has brought the issue into focus but blurred the distinction between democracy promotion and forceful regime change. Some governments have taken steps toward political reform. Are these meaningful changes, or empty attempts to pacify domestic and international public opinion? How do we distinguish reforms that alter the character of the political system from those that are only window dressing? *Beyond the Façade: Political Reform in the Arab World* evaluates the changes that are taking place in the region and explores the potential for further reform.



Iran's Military Forces and Warfighting Capabilities

Anthony H. Cordesman and **Martin Kleiber**, CSIS
Center for Strategic and International Studies, September 2007

Nations around the world are uncertain and anxious about Iran's intentions in the Middle East and the wider global arena. Its current president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, has made no secret of his opposition to the West, particularly Israel, and his desire to acquire nuclear weapons. However, as Anthony Cordesman and Martin Kleiber point out, Ahmadinejad does not necessarily speak for the Iranian clerical regime, which operates in a cloud of secrecy and also directly controls Iran's military. Given the ambiguous nature of Iran's global objectives, this new study focuses on the tangible aspects of Iran's military forces and takes an objective look at the threats Iran poses to the region and the world. The authors systematically assess each aspect of Iranian military forces from their conventional armies to their asymmetric threat via proxy wars in the region.



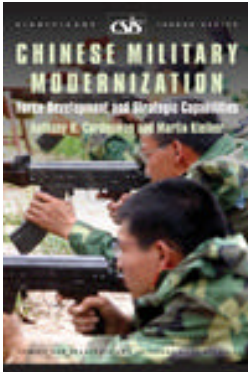
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Chinese Military Modernization

Anthony H. Cordesman and Martin Kleiber, CSIS

Center for Strategic and International Studies, September 2007

Changing political relationships and a substantial increase in resources have prompted the Chinese leadership to accelerate the modernization of its armed forces. Observers, not least the United States, have wondered what objectives China's military buildup is meant to serve. The Chinese government's extreme secrecy about military budgets, force training, and weapon system procurement leaves considerable room for speculation. Perhaps naturally, China is believed to be preparing capacities for a possible conflict with Taiwan, which might or might not involve the United States. But other developments, like the modernization of strategic nuclear weapons and the acquisition of naval surface combatants, have raised the attention of analysts as to what role the Chinese armed forces will play in China's evolving security policy.

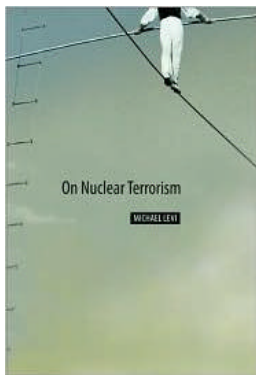


On Nuclear Terrorism

Michael Levi, Council on Foreign Relations

Harvard University Press, November 2007

Nuclear terrorism is such a disturbing prospect that we shy away from its details. Yet as a consequence, we fail to understand how best to defeat it. Michael Levi takes us inside nuclear terrorism and behind the decisions a terrorist leader would be faced with in pursuing a nuclear plot. Along the way, Levi identifies the many obstacles, large and small, that such a terrorist scheme might encounter, allowing him to discover a host of ways that any plan might be foiled. Surveying the broad universe of plots and defenses, this accessible account shows how a wide-ranging defense that integrates the tools of weapon and materials security, law enforcement, intelligence, border controls, diplomacy, and the military can multiply, intensify, and compound the possibility that nuclear terrorists will fail. Levi draws from our long experience with terrorism and cautions us not to focus solely on the most harrowing yet most improbable threats. Nuclear terrorism shares much in common with other terrorist threats--and as a result, he argues, defeating it is impossible unless we put our entire counterterrorism and homeland security house in order.



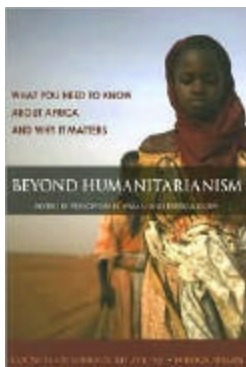
Beyond Humanitarianism:

What You Need to Know about Africa and why It Matters

Princeton N. Lyman, Council on Foreign Relations

Council on Foreign Relations, June 2007

Currently, 15 percent of U.S. oil imports come from Africa—as much as from the Middle East—and the continent is poised to double its output over the coming decade. It has become the focus of attention from countries like China, which now imports more oil from Angola than from Saudi Arabia. In addition, Africa is rising in importance in trade, international security, democracy promotion, and efforts to tackle worldwide concerns about global health and poverty. The Council on Foreign Relations and Foreign Affairs present *Beyond Humanitarianism*, a compilation of recent work on Africa. This citizen's guide to the complex issues and conflicts on the continent clarifies what's at stake in Africa's future.

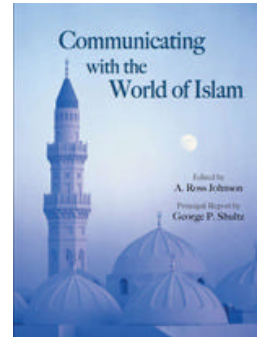


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Communicating with the World of Islam

A. Ross Johnson, Hoover Institution
Hoover Institution, December 2007

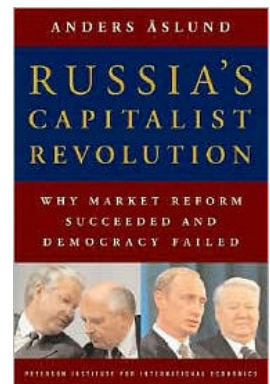
Western broadcasts had a remarkable impact in the USSR and Eastern Europe during the cold war reaching both mass audiences and key elites. The effectiveness of these broadcasts was clearly attested to by the massive resources the communist regimes spent in trying to counter them. *Communicating with the World of Islam* draws from the lessons learned in the cold war broadcasting experience to suggest the best ways of organizing U.S. efforts to communicate with Islamic people around the globe. Drawn from discussions at the seminar "Communicating with the Islamic World," sponsored by the Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands, this report examines the impact of the Voice of America, Radio Liberty, the BBC, Radio Free Europe, and other broadcasting tools had and suggests how the United States can use these instruments today to counter extremism effectively, promote democracy, and improve understanding of the United States in the Islamic world.



Russia's Capitalist Revolution Why Market Reform Succeeded and Democracy Failed

Anders Aslund, Peterson Institute for International Economics
Peterson Institute for International Economics, October 2007

Russia's Capitalist Revolution: Why Market Reform Succeeded and Democracy Failed focuses on the transformation from Soviet Russia to Russia as a market economy and explores why the country has failed to transform into a democracy. It examines the period from 1985, when Mikhail Gorbachev became the Soviet Union's Secretary General of the Communist Party, to the present Russia of Vladimir Putin. Åslund provides a broad overview of Russia's economic change, highlighting the most important issues and their subsequent resolutions, including Russia's inability to sort out the ruble zone during its revolution, several failed coups, the financial crash of August 1998, and the last round of Russian elections in 2003/2004.



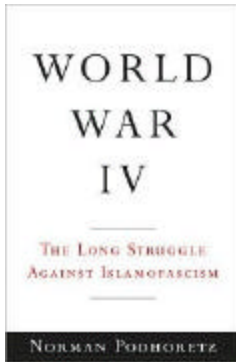
Building a Successful Palestinian State

The RAND Palestinian State Study Team, RAND
RAND, 2007

The United States, the European Union, Russia, and the United Nations — along with Israel and the Palestinian Authority — all officially support the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. This study focuses on a single analytical question: How can an independent Palestinian state, if created, be made successful? This book, a collaboration between two units of the RAND Corporation — RAND Health and the RAND Center for Middle East Public Policy — examines what it will take to put the new state on the road to stability and economic, political, and social prosperity over the first decade of its independence.



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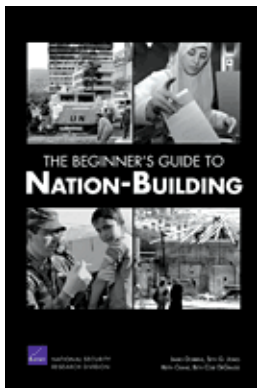
World War IV

The Long Struggle Against Islamofascism

Norman Podhoretz

Doubleday Publishing, September 2007

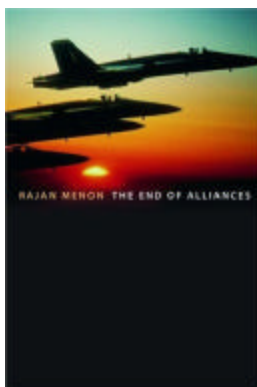
In *World War IV*, Podhoretz makes the first serious effort to set 9/11 itself, the battles that have followed it in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the war of ideas that it has provoked at home into a broad historical context. Through a brilliant telling of this epic story, Podhoretz shows that the global war against Islamofascism is as vital and necessary as the two world wars and the cold war (“World War III”) by which it was preceded. He also lays out a compelling case in defense of the Bush Doctrine, contending that its new military strategy of preemption and its new political strategy of democratization represent the only viable way to fight and win the special kind of war into which we were suddenly plunged.



The Beginner's Guide to Nation-Building

James Dobbins, Seth G. Jones, Keith Crane, Beth Cole DeGrasse, RAND
RAND, 2007

Since the end of the Cold War, the United States, NATO, the United Nations, and a range of other states and nongovernmental organizations have become increasingly involved in nation-building operations. Nation-building involves the use of armed force as part of a broader effort to promote political and economic reforms, with the objective of transforming a society emerging from conflict into one at peace with itself and its neighbors. This guidebook is a practical “how-to” manual on the conduct of effective nation-building. It is organized around the constituent elements that make up any nation-building mission: military, police, rule of law, humanitarian relief, governance, economic stabilization, democratization, and development.



The End of Alliances

Rajan Menon, New America Foundation
Oxford University Press, March 2007

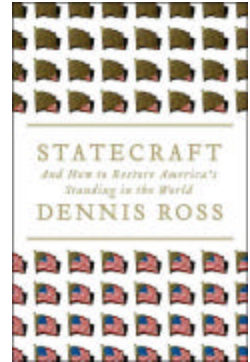
Why should the United States cling to military alliances established during the Cold War when the circumstances are now fundamentally different? In *The End of Alliances*, Rajan Menon makes the bold claim that our alliances in Europe and Asia have become irrelevant to the challenges the United States faces today and are slowly dissolving as a result. The dissolution of our alliances will not, Menon emphasizes, culminate in isolationism. The United States will, and must, be actively involved beyond its borders, but by relying on contingent alignments and on coalitions whose membership will vary depending on the issue at hand. America, he reminds us, engaged the world in a variety of ways for more than 150 years before entering into formal military alliances after World War II. While a strategy that ceases to rely on alliances will mark a dramatic shift in American foreign policy, states routinely reassess and reorient their strategies. The U.S., which studiously avoided alliances for much of its history only to embrace them during the Cold War, is no exception.

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Statecraft, And How to Restore America's Standing in the World

Dennis Ross, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy
Farrar, Straus and Giroux, June 2007

How did it come to pass that, not so long after 9/11 brought the free world to our side, U.S. foreign policy is in a shambles? In this thought-provoking book, the renowned peace negotiator Dennis Ross argues that the Bush administration's problems stem from its inability to use the tools of statecraft—diplomatic, economic, and military—to advance our interests. In illuminating chapters, he outlines how statecraft helped shape a new world order after 1989. He shows how the failure of statecraft in Iraq and the Middle East has undercut the United States internationally, and makes clear that only statecraft can check the rise of China and the danger of a nuclear Iran. He draws on his expertise to reveal the art of successful negotiation. And he shows how the next president could resolve today's problems and define a realistic, ambitious foreign policy.



The Confidante: Condoleezza Rice and the Creation of the Bush Legacy

Glenn Kessler
Random House Publishing Group, September 2007

In his riveting glimpse into the life of one of the most powerful Secretaries of State in recent years, Washington Post diplomatic correspondent Glenn Kessler provides not only a revealing look at Condoleezza Rice but a rich portrait of the Bush administration's controversial foreign policy regime. From her grievous errors in judgment as national security advisor to her notable influence over the president as Secretary of State, Rice has not gone unnoticed during her rise to power. But, as an intensely private person, she has—despite endless media attention—remained a mystery. As the first critical examination of Rice's skills as policy-maker, politician and manager, this definitive biography explains not only her rise to power, but the pivotal role she has played in our nation's history.



Memo to the President Elect: How to Restore America's Reputation and Leadership

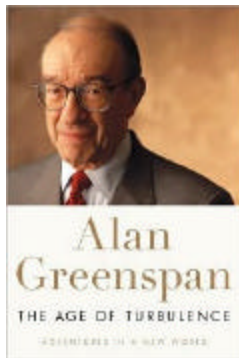
Madeleine Korbel Albright
HarperCollins Publishers, January 2008

After eight years of mismanagement and miscalculation under George W. Bush, the office of the American president will be at an all-time low. The new commander-in-chief will have to recover quickly and rebuild completely. In Memo to the President Elect, former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright offers a persuasive, wide-ranging set of recommendations to the prospective winner of the 2008 Presidential election. Secretary Albright explains how to select a first-rate foreign policy team, how to avoid the pitfalls that plagued earlier presidents, how to ensure that decisions, once carefully made, are successfully implemented, and how to employ the full range of tools available to a president to persuade other countries to support U.S. objectives.



WIRTSCHAFTSPOLITIK

The Age of Turbulence: Adventures in a New World

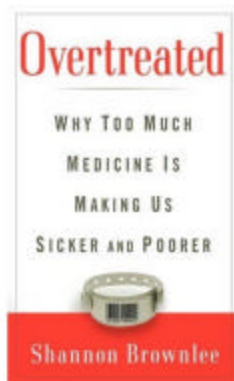


Alan Greenspan

Penguin Group, September 2007

Greenspan's political memoir, which occupies the first half of the book, is readable, lucid and sometimes a bit thin on the dilemmas of monetary policy. In the book's second half, Greenspan the charmer makes way for Greenspan the technician, and the result is a 250-page essay on globalization. His overviews of Russia, India and China say little that is not familiar to attentive readers of the news. But the last chapter makes a powerful and remarkably self-deprecating point. Readers who persevere will feel rewarded.

Overtreated: Why Too Much Medicine is Making Us Sicker and Poorer



Shannon Brownlee, New America Foundation

Bloomsbury, September 2007

Is a CT scan always necessary after your child suffers a bump on the head? Should you think twice before undergoing surgery for lower back pain? Are your elderly parents going to be allowed to die at home, or will they spend their last few weeks in a hospital, hooked up to machines and tubes, subjected to painful, unnecessary procedures? These are the kinds of questions you may find yourself asking once you've read *Overtreated*. Each year, our medical system delivers an enormous amount of care that does nothing to improve our health or lengthen our lives. Between 20 and 30 cents on every health care dollar we spend goes towards useless treatments and hospitalizations, towards CT scans we don't need, towards ineffective surgeries—towards care that not only does nothing to improve our health, but that we wouldn't want if we understood how dangerous it can be. This is the surprising and deeply counterintuitive message of *Overtreated*.

Europe's Coming Demographic Challenge Unlocking the Value of Health



Nicholas Eberstadt and **Hans Groth**, American Enterprise Institute

AEI Press, November 2007

For nearly a generation, economic growth in Western Europe has lagged conspicuously behind the United States. Europe's population is aging dramatically; the region's working-age population will peak in just a few years and decline indefinitely thereafter. If Western Europeans wish to remain economically competitive and enjoy continuing improvements in living standards, they must act now to address this looming demographic challenge.

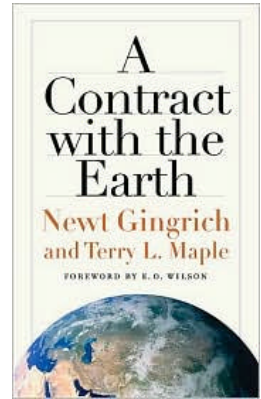
WIRTSCHAFTSPOLITIK

Contract with the Earth

Newt Gingrich and Terry L. Maple

Johns Hopkins University Press, October 2007

Focusing the environmental debate on the principle of common commitment, former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich and eminent conservationist Terry L. Maple present *A Contract with the Earth*. They declare a need for bipartisan environmentalism -- a new era of environmental stewardship with principles that they believe most Americans will share. While acknowledging that liberals and conservatives do not see eye to eye on many issues, Gingrich and Maple argue successfully that environmental stewardship is a mainstream value that transcends partisan politics. Their thoughtful approaches to our environmental challenges are based on three main premises: environmental leadership is integral to America's role in the world, technologically savvy environmental entrepreneurs can and should be the cornerstone of environmental solutions, and cooperation and incentives must be dramatically increased to achieve workable and broadly supported environmental solutions.

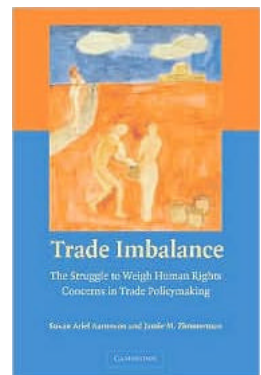


Trade Imbalance: The Struggle to Weigh Human Rights Concerns in Trade

Susan Ariel Aaronson, Susan Ariel Aaronson, Jamie M. Zimmerman

Cambridge University Press, October 2007

Trade is controversial; around the world many people believe that trade agreements, even trade per se, undermines particular human rights such as labor rights or access to affordable medicine (the right to health). But trade and trade agreements can also advance human rights, directly or indirectly. In fact, some countries use trade policies to advance specific human rights such as labor rights or property rights. But in almost every country policymakers struggle to achieve both goals. Trade and human rights are out of balance.

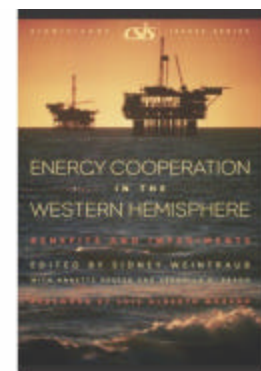


Energy Cooperation in the Western Hemisphere

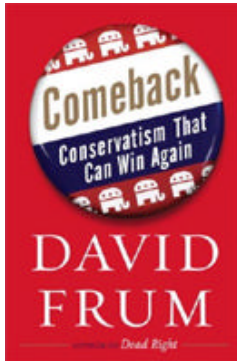
Sidney Weintraub, Annette Hester, Veronica R. Prado (eds), CSIS

CSIS Press, March 2007

Energy Cooperation in the Western Hemisphere examines the state of energy cooperation among Western Hemisphere oil and natural gas producers and the opportunities for greater cooperation. The result of more than two years of extensive in-country research and interviews with key stakeholders including governments and major oil and gas interests, the study is distinguished by its comprehensive approach and detailed country-by-country analysis of current conditions and future projects. Sidney Weintraub and his coauthors examine the critical historical factors, technical challenges, dangerous conditions, and political tensions, divisions, and disagreements that have hampered hemispheric cooperation. The authors offer predictions and suggestions in hopes of stimulating dispassionate discussion in the countries themselves and contributing toward a more stable, energy-cooperative hemisphere.



WAHLKAMPF



Comeback : Conservatism That Can Win Again

David Frum, American Enterprise Institute
Doubleday, December 2007

Not in a generation has conservatism been in as much trouble as it is at the end of the Bush years. A majority of Americans say the country is "on the wrong track." Voters prefer Democrats over Republicans on almost every issue, including taxes. The married, the middle-class, the native-born are dwindling as a share of the population, while Democratic blocs are rising. A generation of young people has turned its back on the Republican party. Too many conservatives and Republicans have shut their eyes to negative trends. David Frum offers answers.

Red and Blue Nation? Volume II

David W. Brady and Pietro S. Nivola (eds)
Brookings Institution Press, 2007

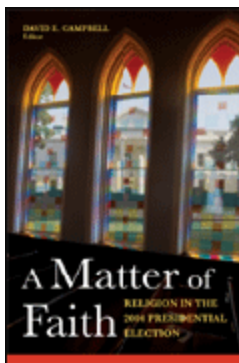


America's polarized politics are largely disconnected from mainstream public preferences. This disconnect poses fundamental dangers for the representativeness and accountability of government, as well as the already withering public trust in it. As the 2008 presidential race kicks into gear, the political climate certainly will not become less polarized. With important issues to address—including immigration policy, health care, and the funding of the Iraq war—it is critical that essential policies not be hostage to partisan political battles. Building upon the findings of the first volume of *Red and Blue Nation?* (Brookings, 2006), which explored the extent of political polarization and its potential causes, this new volume delves into the consequences of the gulf between "red states" and "blue states."

A Matter of Faith

David E. Campbell (eds)
Brookings Institution Press, 2007

"Moral values" dominated the postelection headlines in 2004. Analysts pointed to exit polls, strong turnout among evangelicals, and controversy over gay marriage as evidence that the election had been decided along religious lines. But other experts were quick to dispute this claim, arguing that views on more traditional issues such as the economy and the war in Iraq had carried the day. *A Matter of Faith* goes beyond the headlines to assess the role religion played in the 2004 election and explore its significance for future contests.

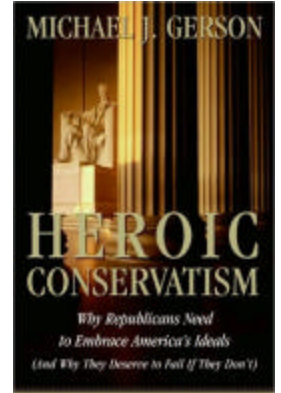


WAHLKAMPF

Heroic Conservatism: Why Republicans Need to Embrace America's Ideals

Michael J. Gerson, Council on Foreign Relations
HarperCollins Publishers, October 2007

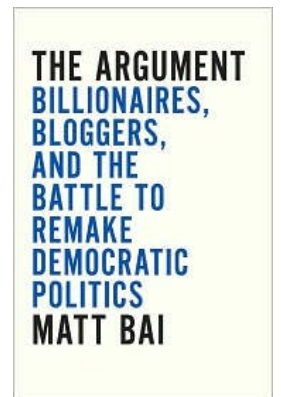
Political consultant and commentator Patrick Hynes dispels common stereotypes and misapprehensions about the most powerful political constituency in the country while undertaking the most exhaustive effort yet to define what the Religious Right is, what its members believe, and why they are right. He takes on the Religious Left, with its "absurd declarations of piety and...flagrant distortions of Scripture." As he chronicles the history of faith in U.S. politics and examines the issues that motivate the Religious Right (traditional marriage, intelligent design, the Ten Commandments, etc.), he dissects the writings and comments of "the fakers, the secularites, and the leftwing theocrats".



The Argument: Billionaires, Bloggers, and the Battle to Remake Democratic Politics

Matt Bai
Penguin Group, August 2007

Drawing on remarkable access to myriad factions of the Democratic Party, The New York Times Magazine writer Matt Bai distills the party's future prospects and current dilemmas in this raucous and devastating account of the party's search for The Argument that fits the twenty-first century. Great political movements need more than a bunch of shared principles; they need an argument. The New Dealers had one. So did the Goldwater conservatives. So what's the progressive argument? What new path are Democrats urging us to choose in the era of Wal-Mart, Al Qaeda, and YouTube? Matt Bai seeks answers in The Argument, a book that brings you deep inside the turbulent, confusing new world of Democratic politics, where billionaires and bloggers are battling politicians and consultants over the future of a once-great party.

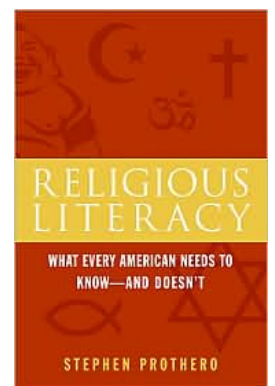


RELIGION UND POLITIK

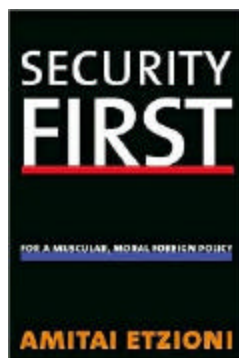
Religious Literacy What Every American Needs to Know --and Doesn't

Stephen Prothero
HarperOne, March 2007

The United States is one of the most religious places on earth, but it is also a nation of shocking religious illiteracy. Only 10 percent of American teenagers can name all five major world religions and 15 percent cannot name any. Nearly two-thirds of Americans believe that the Bible holds the answers to all or most of life's basic questions, yet only half of American adults can name even one of the four gospels and most Americans cannot name the first book of the Bible. Many Protestants can't name the four Gospels, many Catholics can't name the seven sacraments, and many Jews who can't name the first five books of the Bible.



RELIGION UND POLITIK



Security First: For a Muscular, Moral Foreign Policy

Amitai Etzioni

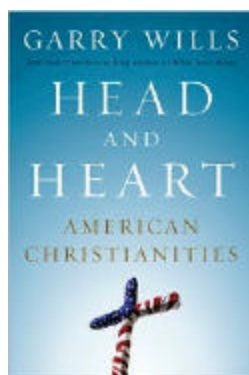
Yale University Press, June 2007

"Rarely have more profound changes in American foreign policy been called for than today," begins Amitai Etzioni in the preface to this book. Yet Etzioni's concern is not to lay blame for past mistakes but to address the future: What can now be done to improve U.S. relations with the rest of the world? What should American policies be toward recently liberated countries such as Iraq and Afghanistan, or rogue states like North Korea and Iran? When should the United States undertake humanitarian intervention abroad? What must be done to protect America from nuclear terrorism? The author asserts that providing basic security must be the first priority in all foreign policy considerations, even ahead of efforts to democratize. He sets out essential guidelines for a foreign policy that makes sense in the real world, builds on moral principles, and creates the possibility of establishing positive relationships with Muslim nations and all others.

Head and Heart: American Christianities

Garry Wills

Penguin Group, October 2007



In this learned, impassioned jeremiad, Pulitzer Prize-winning Wills (What Jesus Meant, 2006, etc.) traces two styles of Protestantism throughout American history and sounds the alarm about evangelicalism. During the Revolutionary era, the Enlightenment religious culture, which made possible the disestablishment of churches and gave birth to Transcendentalism, valued reason and tolerance. Evangelical emotionalism, on the other hand, which came to prominence in the religious revivals of the early 19th century, emphasizes feeling and teaches people to know God with their hearts rather than to scrutinize religion with their brains. The history of American Christianity, suggests Wills, can be viewed as a tug of war between those two impulses. Some of the freshest material here is the author's discussion of the mid-20th-century "great truce between the religious communities," in which different religious groups adopted an ecumenical friendliness and the nation seemed to settle into a comfortable state of being politely "Judeo-Christian." By contrast, Wills' treatment of post-1960s evangelicalism is thin, and ignores the political diversity within theologically conservative churches. The great truce was short-lived, however, and the present moment illustrates the dangers of unchecked evangelicalism. President Bush has allowed religion to shape his administration's approach to social services, health, science and, of course, war—he has, says Wills, betrayed and endangered Enlightenment Christianity.

