

FOCUS ON AMERICAN ELECTIONS

Why I'm Backing Obama

By Susan Eisenhower

I am not alone in worrying that my generation will fail to do what my grandfather's did so well: Leave America a better, stronger place than the one it found...

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/>

EUROPE

Warning Light on Kosovo

By J.R. Bolton, L. Eagleburger, P. W. Rodman

Recognition of Kosovo's independence without Serbia's consent would set a precedent with far-reaching and unpredictable consequences for many other regions of the world...

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

RUSSIA

Russia Captures Serbia's Energy Sector

By Vladimir Socor

On January 25 in Moscow, President Vladimir Putin and Serbian leaders witnessed the signing of agreements to hand over Serbia's entire gas and oil sectors to Russia's Gazprom at one stroke...

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

Resurgent Russia? A Still-Faltering Military

By Zoltan Barany

In the past few years Moscow's increasingly assertive foreign policy posture has been underscored by signs of improvement in the military realm. Several pundits have argued that the Russian army is 'back', that it is once again an effective force, having endured humiliating conditions through much of the post-Soviet period...

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

NATO

The NATO Emerging in Afghanistan

By Victoria Nuland

With the democratic world now supporting them, Afghans see the prospect of living in freedom and security, liberated from the fear and grinding poverty of the past decades. But to reach their goals, they will have to keep fighting—with arms against the Taliban and with political courage against injustice, poppy cultivation, corruption and economic challenges. They need to know we will stay with them...

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/>

It's Time for Ukraine to Get Started

By Steven Pifer

At NATO headquarters last Friday, the Ukrainian foreign minister presented a request from his government for a membership action plan for Ukraine, which Kiev hopes will be approved when the alliance's 26 leaders meet in Bucharest in April...

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