

FOCUS ON AMERICAN ELECTIONS

In a "Change" Election, Republican Candidates Face Challenges

By Norman J. Ornstein

Any new president will almost certainly face a Democratic Congress along with a Republican minority that will be sharply more conservative than the current one, and very unhappy at its continuing minority status...

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

Why McCain Endures

The Candidate Knows That Hopefulness Sells

By Michael Gerson

His opponents will refuse to vote in the general election, or even will campaign for Hillary Clinton. With McCain now almost the last man standing, it will be interesting to see how, or if, these pledges are fulfilled...

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

US

Of Men and Materiel

The Crisis in Defense Spending

By Gary J. Schmitt

The defense budget has grown appreciably since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. But too little of the increase has gone to purchase new equipment or to increase the size of the Army and the Marine Corps. The result has been a "hollow buildup" that makes it increasingly difficult for the U.S. military to carry out its part of America's national security strategy...

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

Facts on Policy: Notable Economic Milestones of 2007

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

EUROPE

Love Gained, Love Lost

By Anne Applebaum

In Europe, where diplomacy normally moves at the sedate pace of a Viennese waltz, Sarkozy's penchant for whirling off in all directions at once is, shall we say, unsettling...

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

Tymoshenko Reaches Out to Foreign Investors

By Taras Kuzio

On February 5 Ukraine was admitted to the World Trade Organization. That achievement will facilitate Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's efforts to attract foreign investment...

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

RUSSIA

New Europe, Old Russia

By Robert Kagan

Russia and the European Union are neighbors geographically. But geopolitically they live in different centuries. A 21st-century European Union, with its noble ambition to transcend power politics and build an order based on laws and institutions, confronts

a Russia that behaves like a traditional 19th-century power...

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

Did GLONASS Failure Sink Ivanov's Chance at the Presidency?

By Pavel Felgenhauer

The Russian Global Navigation Satellite System (GLONASS) has long been a priority in the development of Russian space technologies. Last March, in a major speech on the future of space development, Russian President Vladimir Putin singled out global positioning as a field in which Russia has great potential, but Russians were still using the U.S. Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) instead of GLONASS. Putin then announced that First Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Ivanov had been given special orders to make sure that GLONASS would be in proper working order...

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

Russia Decides to Abandon Ukrainian Strategic Radars

By Vladimir Socor

In the wake of its request to NATO for a Membership Action Plan (see EDM, January 18), Ukraine is offering its two anti-missile early warning and space monitoring radars for possible use by a European missile-defense system under Western auspices (Interfax-Ukraine, February 1, 2)...

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

In Search of Moderate Muslims

By Joshua Muravchik, Charlie Szrom

Although secular liberals are very much in the minority, and we cannot invest our regional interests in them alone, they are the embodiment of the values that we wish to nurture. Even as we seek other allies, it would be moral and political folly to abandon them...

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