

ppi newsletter foreign policy

november

26. 11. – 2. 12. 2007

EUROPE

Bosnia's Future Is Crucial to Greater Europe

By Tomas Valasek

Bad news never travels alone. Following the stalling of talks on the future of Kosovo, a political crisis has now gripped Bosnia. The country's central government has not met for more than five weeks and one of its main constituent parties threatens to leave it altogether. This would incapacitate the government and could touch off Bosnia's disintegration...

<http://www.cer.org.uk/>

US

Washington Expands Sanctions On Belarus

By David Marples

On November 14, the United States Treasury announced financial sanctions on the Belnaf-takhim gas and chemical conglomerate and its subsidiaries outside the country. With this maneuver, Washington expressed its dissatisfaction with the Belarusian government's failure to improve the human rights' situation within the country. It follows other moves directed against the Lukashenka government by the EU and the United Nations.

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

A World Without Nukes

By Karl F. Inderfurth and Bruce Riedel

A new era in US-India cooperation was unveiled at the White House in July 2005 when President Bush told Prime Minister Manmo-

han Singh that he would work to achieve full civil nuclear energy cooperation and trade with India, despite over a quarter-century of disagreements between the two countries over nuclear issues...

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

How Annapolis Helps

By David Ignatius

The process that began Tuesday may not lead to peace, but that doesn't mean that Annapolis was simply a gaudy, empty show.

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

RUSSIA

Russia's New Old Dissidents

By Anne Applebaum

Putin and his entourage have already got most of what they wanted from the West—including the chance to host a Group of Eight summit in St. Petersburg.

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

Russian Opposition Leaders Detained: Is a Crackdown Underway?

By Jonas Bernstein

The past week has not been a good one for opponents of President Vladimir Putin's rule. Police in St. Petersburg, Moscow, and other cities forcibly broke up opposition demonstrations and detained a number of opposition leaders.

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

Advancing Freedom in Russia

By Steven Groves

The current Moscow power establishment is leading Russia back in time. Instead of moving forward toward a nation that cherishes and protects freedom and democracy, the establishment is creating a state and body politic dominated by a new breed of oligarchic groups composed of security officers and their business allies.

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

Finansgroup: How Russia’s Siloviki Do Business

By Jonas Bernstein

Kommersant published an interview on November 30 that gave an unprecedentedly open and detailed picture of a financial structure that is close to the Kremlin siloviki and their putative leader, deputy Kremlin administration chief Igor Sechin.

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

Trends and Issues in Development Aid

In a new Wolfensohn Center for Development working paper, Homi Kharas examines development assistance in-depth and documents the troubling trends in aid that have led to a decreasing share of aid flows to program or project support in developing countries. He also shows that increases in aid are coming from new and more diffuse channels, including NGOs and new corporate.

<http://www.brookings.edu/>

Individuals can still change history

By Victor Davis Hanson

In the last few years, it has become popular to say that history is determined largely by sweeping inanimate forces of technology, the environment, gender, class, or race...

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

Venezuela’s Path to Self-destruction

By William Ratliff

On Dec. 2, Venezuelans will be asked to vote on a whopping 69 constitutional amendments that would greatly reduce the country’s democratic governance, strip citizens of still more individual liberties and thus expand President Hugo Chavez’s power even beyond what it is today...

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

