



May 2009 Newsletter

Information Resource Center (IRC)

Public Affairs Section - U.S. Embassy
87, Ata Al-Ayoubi Street, Abou Rumaneh, Damascus
Tel.: 011-3391-4118/3391-4195
E-mail: ircdamas@state.gov/ircdamas@gmail.com
<http://damascus.usembassy.gov/irc.html>



Obama Marks His First 100 Days

Washington — Marking an odyssey that began 100 days ago when he became the first African-American president in U.S. history, President Obama reflected for long moments before the nation on what his presidency has achieved and what still needs to be done. [Read more](#)

More related links: [News Conference by President Obama on First 100 Days in Office](#)

[مقتطفات من مؤتمر الرئيس أوباما الصحفي بمناسبة ختام أول 100 يوم من رئاسته](#)
[Day 100! Day 100! Day 100!](#)
[Day 100: Recapping the 100 days](#)
[Day 101 and beyond](#)

Celebrating World Press Freedom Day – May 3

[Statement by President Obama to Mark World Press Freedom Day](#)

[الرئيس أوباما يدافع عن حرية الصحفيين ويندد بالبلدان التي تحاول إسكاتهم](#)

[Statement by Secretary Clinton on World Press Freedom Day](#)

[U.S. remembers journalists who were killed in quest to make truth known](#)

[الولايات المتحدة تحيي ذكرى صحفيين قُضوا نحبهم في سعيهم إلى نشر الحقيقة](#)

[ما هي وظيفة الصحفي؟](#)

[الإعلام يصنع التغيير - مجلة الكترونية](#)

[ألبوم صور - حرية الصحافة](#)

["محلل إعلامي يطالب بإحياء الصحافة" المستقلة](#)

DID YOU KNOW?



Only 18 percent of the world's percent of the world's citizens live in countries that have a completely free press.

ON THE RECORD

The ugly and unacceptable reality is that those who murder journalists — those who silence voices vital to democracy and freedom — far, far too often are getting away with it.

Learn more: [2008 Freedom of the Press Report](#)

Business *and* Economy

United States Economic Crisis:

Bank Nationalization: A Survival Manual - ...This paper presents a "survival manual," with suggestions for minimizing the damage from nationalization. Examining the practical issues should also make clear why nationalization is a choice to be avoided, if possible.

Risk, Reward and the Road to Economic Recovery - Moving the economy toward sustainable long-term economic growth will require a more complete understanding of not only the root causes of the economic crisis, but both how it spread first to the financial sector and then to the real economy.



Primer: The Financial Stability Plan - The U.S. Treasury and other government agencies have joined forces with the Federal Reserve in a sweeping attempt to stabilize beleaguered U.S. banks and facilitate credit flows to companies and individuals.

Lessons from the Financial Crisis



Debt Man Walking - The past few months have been a crash course in the abstract and obscure instruments and arrangements that have derailed the world's economy. From mortgage-backed securities to credit default swaps, the international monetary system is in big trouble.

International Monetary Fund Sees Global Economic Decline in 2009 - The global economy will contract by 1.3 percent in 2009 in the most severe recession since World War II, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported April 22 in its *World Economic Outlook*.

Websites *of* Interest

Swine Influenza and You

What is swine flu? Are there human infections with swine flu in the U.S.? ...
http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/swineflu_you.htm

Key Facts about Swine Influenza (Swine Flu)

How does swine flu spread? Can people catch swine flu from eating pork?
http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/key_facts.htm

Text: Obama's Letter to Congress on Global H1N1 Flu Outbreak

<http://www.america.gov/st/texttrans-english/2009/May/20090501132602eaifas0.7400891.html?CP.rss=true>

Web Chats and Web Casts



Web chats are online, text-based discussions that allow audiences outside the United States to interact with American citizens on a wide range of topics. U.S. government and private sector subject experts, academics, journalists, and everyday citizens are brought on as guests to do web chats on USINFO. To participate, you only need a computer with Internet access and a browser. There is no special software to be downloaded.

Date & Time:

May 05, 2009 at 4 p.m. Syria Time

Webchat - Is Independent Journalism Possible?

Responsible and independent media are pivotal to democracy all over the world. To commemorate World Press Freedom Day, veteran reporter Deborah Potter will discuss how journalists across the world can practice independent journalism in light of new technology and new global challenges. She will focus on journalists' responsibilities and what makes a good reporter.

Guest: Deborah Potter is a veteran journalism trainer, reporter and writer, as well as the executive director of NewsLab, an online resource center for television and radio newsrooms that focuses on improving journalism. She is also the author of the State Department's [Handbook of Independent Journalism](#)

Enter webchat: <http://statedept.connectsolutions.com/journalism>

Date & Time:

May 06, 2009 at 7 p.m. Syria Time

Webchat - Giving Local Media a Voice

How can local media across the world ensure that the public is receiving the information it needs? Please join David Hoffman as he discusses the need for independent journalism in order to raise public awareness on pressing global issues.

Guest: David Hoffman is the president of Internews Network, a global nonprofit organization that fosters independent media and access to information worldwide. Co-founded by Hoffman in 1982, Internews Network has worked in 70 countries and currently has offices in 23 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and North America. Hoffman has written about media and democracy, as well as the Internet, and his articles have appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal* and more.

Enter webchat: <http://statedept.connectsolutions.com/journalism/>

Date & Time:

May 07, 2009 at 4 p.m. Syria Time

Webchat - World Press Freedom: Is the Economic Downturn a Threat to Journalism?

Media companies worldwide are facing declining advertising revenue, decreasing circulation and job cuts. In order to withstand this economic downturn, the media must take steps to adapt to new obstacles and changing technology. Sherry Ricchiardi and Frank Folwell will discuss the challenges facing media companies and what direction these companies should take.

Guests: Dr. Sherry Ricchiardi is a senior writer specializing in international affairs for the *American Journalism Review* and an associate professor at Indiana University.

Enter webchat: <http://statedept.connectsolutions.com/journalism>

No registration is needed. Simply choose "Enter as a Guest," type in your preferred screen name and join the discussion.

Blogs *at* America.gov

Blogs at America.gov offers readers a place to join in conversation on variety of topics with experts from the United States and around the world. We encourage you to share your thoughts with our bloggers and fellow readers in the comments section of each post. Click on the title in red to go to the website.

Wash your hands!

By Michelle Austein Brooks



The Obama administration is focused on the H1N1 outbreak, both domestically and internationally. Speaking during his prime-time press conference April 29, President Obama said "every American should know that their entire government is taking the utmost precautions and preparations."

[Add you own comment](#)

President's first Supreme Court appointment coming soon

Washington was abuzz May 1 as word spread that Supreme Court Justice David Souter intends to step down at the end of the court's term in June. His retirement will provide President Obama with the opportunity to nominate an official to a life term on the highest court in the land.

The Supreme Court's nine justices make up the court of final appeal from the lower federal and state courts. The court is also the venue for settling legal disputes between states or those that involve another nation. [Add you own comment](#)

Join Our X-Life Community



X-Life

Be a student. Be a musician. Explore a new culture. Learn English. Use your mobile phone to start your X-Life today.

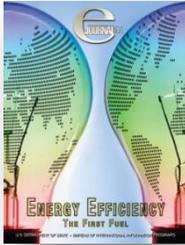


E-Journal USA:

A monthly electronic journal available in multiple languages about U.S. foreign affairs and U.S. society and culture.

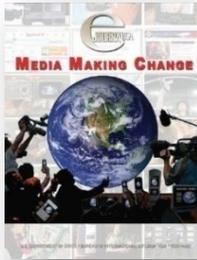
إي جورنال يو إس إيه:

مجلة إلكترونية شهرية تصدر بعدة لغات تتناول شؤون الولايات المتحدة الخارجية والمجتمع الأميركي وثقافته.



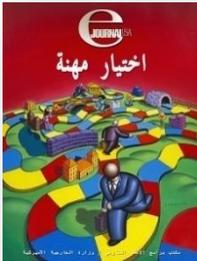
Energy Efficiency: The First Fuel

Increasing the efficient use of existing energy supplies is widely acknowledged as the fastest, cheapest, and cleanest way to meet future energy needs. *Energy Efficiency: The First Fuel* examines the strong U.S. record of tapping efficiency as a resource, and the accelerated efforts by individuals, organizations, and governments to squeeze greater productivity from all energy sources. [Inside this publication](#)



Media Making Change

New media technologies give average citizens access to vast amounts of information and broad networks of people. People can use these tools to pursue social and political agendas of their own making. This edition of eJournal USA shows how this new empowerment is influencing nations in various parts of the world. [Inside this publication](#)



اختيار مهنة

هذا العدد من إي جورنال يو إس إيه يتناول المسارات المتنوعة جدا التي يتبعها الأميركيون للوصول إلى الأعمال التي سيختارونها في حياتهم مهنيون من مجالات عمل مختلفة يشرحون كيف وصلوا إلى الوظائف التي يعملون بها، كما يتحدث بعضهم عن بعض الأخطاء التي ارتكبوها على الطريق. كما يشرح خبراء في هذا الموضوع كيف يمكن للشباب موازنة واستكشاف الخيارات المهنية أمامهم. [في هذه المطبوعة](#)

Photo Gallery and Videos

Offering an audio-visual tour of the stories and issues shaping our world, the photo gallery and videos are two of many invaluable services "America.gov" site offers for its audience. Both, the gallery and videos can be browsed by the following subjects: American Life, Economy, Global Challenges and International Relations.

Photo Gallery: Please visit the below galleries or go to the photo gallery direct link to see more photo collections.

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/photogallery.html#7a78bf28-e356-4d21-a311-0c218ec8f6f8>

<p>International Relations:</p>  <p><u>Police: First Line of Defense for Human Rights</u></p>	<p>American Life:</p>  <p><u>Americans Give Back to Their Communities</u></p>	<p>American Life:</p>  <p><u>شبان أميركيون مسلمون</u></p>
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Videos: Please point the mouse on any picture then use "Ctrl" key and click on the link to take you to the video you want to watch or go to the link below to see all the video collection.

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/video.html?playerId=1475282956>

 <p><u>Jury Duty: A Cinematic Experience</u> 1:32</p>	 <p><u>Transportation Public Service Announcement</u> 1:02</p>	 <p><u>أنا أميركا</u> 4:25</p>
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Environment

Fruit farmer Pat Ricchiuti kneels on the solar roof of his P-R Farms packing shed in Clovis, California.



[California Turns to Sun for Energy Town in Pennsylvania Catches](#)

- The fuel is free, but most people are reluctant to pay the cost of the equipment needed to use it. That is the problem facing a growing number of local governments across America that are trying to persuade homeowners and businesses to install solar panels on their roofs to turn sunlight into electricity.

Arabic: [كاليفورنيا تتجه إلى الشمس لتستمد منها الطاقة](#)

The Swarthmore College campus



[Town in Pennsylvania Catches Wind of Clean Energy Future](#)

A liberal branch of the Society of Friends opened Swarthmore College during the U.S. Civil War on a tract of woods outside Philadelphia, where it promised "healthful country living as well as intellectual and moral training" for Quaker students. Today, the tree-lined borough in which the college sits is not quite country living — downtown Philadelphia is 11 miles (17.7

kilometers) away — but Swarthmore remains a place that attracts people with strong commitments to worthy causes.

Arabic: [مدينة بولاية بنسلفانيا الأميركية تسخر الرياح لاستخدامها كطاقة نظيفة مستقبلا](#)

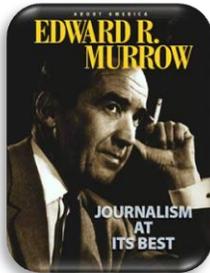
Timeline

1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000

[A Timeline of Environmental Treaties](#)

This list of key environmental treaties shows how nations are working together, politically and scientifically, to safeguard our planet and respond to a global threat. The United States, whose pollution control laws serve as models for other nations, remains a leader in identifying, mitigating and remediating environmental hazards.

Publications



Edward R. Murrow, Journalism at Its Best

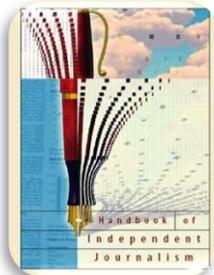
The career of Edward R. Murrow, the eminent broadcast journalist, is discussed in this publication as an example of the essential role the free press plays in a democratic society. With his reports from London during World War II and his exposé of Senator McCarthy's anti-Communist campaign in the 1950s, Murrow showed how a fearless reporter can use journalistic skills in the public's service in times of crisis. [Inside this publication](#)



A Responsible Press Office: An Insider's Guide

A how-to publication for government leaders and public information officials who want to create an effective mechanism of communication between the media and the government. This handbook offers practical advice based on the significant professional experience of author Marguerite Hoxie Sullivan and other top-level U.S. government spokespersons.

[Inside this publication](#) [داخل هذه المطبوعة](#)



Handbook of Independent Journalism

This handbook covers the ins and outs of what every professional journalist should know — from how to research, write, and edit a story to how to write headlines, choose graphics, and select quotes and sound bites. Print, radio, TV, and Web-based or online journalism forms are discussed in detail, as well as the skills required in beat reporting. [Inside this publication](#)

[داخل هذه المطبوعة](#)