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The End of the American Era: U.S. Foreign Policy and the Geopolitics of the Twenty-first Century

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Andrea Edoardo Varisco

E-International Relations Students

June 3 2013

http://www.e-ir.info/2013/06/03/towards-a-multi-polar-international-system-which-prospects-for-global-peace/

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Julian Borger

The Guardian

November 20 2008

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February 7 2008

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"Retiring the American Empire: The best thing the American Empire can do is prepare the world for its eventual collapse"

By John Feffer,

Foreign Policy in Focus.org,

August 1, 2013

<http://fpif.org/retiring-the-american-empire/>

"But to extend the retirement metaphor, responsible executives prepare for their own eventual – and inevitable – retirement by preparing others to fill the shoes. Empires, of course, never do this. They simply collapse and thereby cause tremendous chaos. But the United States is not a typical empire. Perhaps it can distinguish itself in this one additional category: legacy. Imagine if the United States helped to refashion current institutions like the United Nations and the World Bank to reflect the current geopolitical balance of power instead of the realities of the immediate post-World War II era. Imagine if the United States helped to create a new global mechanism..."

"If the United States were to change its global behavior, it might discover that the calls for early retirement fade. Then, as a more cooperative international player, America could truly enjoy its imperial twilight in the sure knowledge that the deluge is not imminent."

What Country is No. 1? Not the U.S

By Devon Haynie

US News

January 20 2016

<http://news.yahoo.com/country-no-1-not-u-130000824.html>

"In 2013, for the first time in surveys dating back nearly 40 years, a majority, or 53 percent, of Americans believed the U.S. played a less important and powerful role as a world leader than it did a decade earlier, according to research conducted by Pew Research Center and the Council on Foreign Relations."

"The United States is still the world's superpower, at least for now, experts say. And that's reflected in the 2016 Best Countries rankings. The U.S. ranks No. 1 in power and No. 1 in terms of leadership -- two powerful indicators of its global standing. But there is evidence that other nations are nipping at its heels. The country ranks No. 2 in terms of political influence, following Russia, and No. 2 in terms of economic influence, after China."

"In fact, according to Pew surveys, most people in the world believe China is on track to replace the U.S. as the world's superpower."

"There was much talk during the 20th century that that was the American century," says Philip Seib, a professor of journalism and public diplomacy at the University of Southern California. "I would call the 21st century everybody's century. There has been a considerable leveling of the playing field. The U.S. is still by far the most powerful nation -- certainly militarily there is no comparison. But I think if there was a unipolar moment that has passed."

"From a foreign perspective, there was a real nadir of perceptions of the U.S. in 2006, 2007 and 2008," says Dimock, pointing to America's unilateralism and failure to achieve positive results in Iraq and Afghanistan, the negative fallout from Abu Ghraib, Guantanamo and other missteps. "It's hard to find a moment when America's image in the world was lower than at that point. So if that's your reference point, then America is doing much better."

"Do these GOP candidates realize that the rest of the world is listening?" asks Ben O'Loughlin, a professor of international relations at Royal Holloway, University of London, through email."

"He believes some of what the candidates have said, particularly in relation to Syria, reinforces stereotypes of the U.S. as a violent nation that lacks respect for international law."

"If polls are any indication, however, the tough talk is resonating with many Americans. Why, if the U.S. image abroad is still strong, are so many U.S. citizens worried about the country's decline?"

**Scholars also now publicly suggest that the American empire will fall within 15 – 20 years.**

Could China defeat America in World War III?

Robert Beckhusen

The Week

Julu 15 2015

http://theweek.com/articles/565740/could-china-defeatamerica-world-war-iii

Fiction book depicting end of American empire is set 15-20 years into the future.

"This is the world of Ghost Fleet, too, but extended another 15 or 20 years or so."

The decline of US power?

Nick Bryant

BBC

July 10 2015

http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-33440287

"Indeed, there are foreign policy thinkers here who predict that America will preserve its pre-eminence for at least another 20 years."

The Logical (and Coming) End to the US Empire

by Robert Abele

Counter Punch

July 29 2013

http://www.counterpunch.org/2013/07/29/the-logical-and-coming-end-to-the-us-empire/

"Regarding the scarcity of resources issue, none other than the World Bank produced a detailed study of demand and supply projections for the immediate future. The study projects that, on the basis of current consumption and immediately precedent rises in it, the demand for food will rise by 50% by 2030, for meat by 85%, for oil by 20 million barrels a day, and for water by 32%, all by the same year."

Retiring the American Empire

John Feffer

The World Post

October 04 2013

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/john-feffer/retiring-the-american-emp\_b\_3704913.html

"Historian Alfred McCoy believes the U.S. empire won't make it until 2025."

The End of Pax Americana: How Western Decline Became Inevitable: The Euro-Atlantic world had a long run of global dominance, but it is coming to an end.

by Christopher Layne

Atlantic

April 26 2012

http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2012/04/the-end-of-pax-americana-how-western-decline-became-inevitable/256388/

"For now, and for some time to come, the United States will remain primus inter pares--the strongest of the major world powers--though it is uncertain whether it can maintain that position over the next twenty years."

Sleepwalking into the Imperial Dark: What it feels like when the American superpower runs off the tracks.

By Tom Engelhardt

Mother Jones

April 19 2011

http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2011/04/decline-american-empire?page=2

"For example, the last time around they daringly predicted a gradual, 15-year soft landing for a modestly declining America."

Collapse of an Empire: Why America Fell So Far … So Fast: All Empires Crash Soon After They Reach Their Peak

By Washington's Blog

Global Research,

May 07 2013

http://www.globalresearch.ca/collapse-of-an-empire-why-america-fell-so-far-so-fast/5334219

"Political insider and veteran reporter Kevin Phillips has documented that every major empire over the past several hundred years has undergone a predictable cycle of collapse, usually within 10 to 20 years of its peak power."

The Decline and Fall of the American Empire

CBS News

December 5 2010

http://www.cbsnews.com/news/the-decline-and-fall-of-the-american-empire/

"a more realistic assessment of domestic and global trends suggests that in 2025, just 15 years from now, it could all be over except for the shouting."

What the World Will Look Like by 2050

By Alyssa Fetini

TIME

April 13 2009

http://content.time.com/time/arts/article/0,8599,1890927,00.html

"...the still dominant empire- the United States- will finally be defeated around 2035 by the same globalization of the markets..."

The Twilight of American Culture

By Morris Berman

New York Times

2000

https://www.nytimes.com/books/first/b/berman-culture.html

"In Gray Dawn, Peter Peterson claims that the benefit outlays for Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and federal civilian and military pensions will exceed total federal revenues by 2030."

**America’s enemies see that when America threatens action, such as a “red line” for using chemical weapons in Syria and then does nothing when chemical weapons are used, that America’s threats are idle**

“The President Blinked”: Why Obama Changed Course on the “Red Line” in Syria

by Patrice Taddonio

PBS

May 25, 2015

http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/article/the-president-blinked-why-obama-changed-course-on-the-red-line-in-syria/

Marc Thiessen: Obama’s weakness emboldens Putin

By Marc A. Thiessen

Washington Post

March 3 2014

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**America’s enemies see that Russia and China are able to openly challenge America militarily in Europe, in the Middle East, in the Pacific Ocean.**

The Eurasian Big Bang: How China & Russia Are Running Rings Around Washington

by Pepe Escobar

Zero Hedge

July 24 201

http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2015-07-24/eurasian-big-bang-how-china-russia-are-running-rings-around-washington

China sends warships into Bering Sea as Obama concludes Alaska visit

By William Branigin

Washington Post

September 3 2015

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia\_pacific/china-sends-warships-into-bering-sea-as-obama-concludes-alaska-visit/2015/09/03/c4dc94f0-5240-11e5-8c19-0b6825aa4a3a\_story.html

China’s Warships On Route To Join Russia In Syria

By Polina Tikhonova

Value Walk

October 9 2015

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Russia & China are ‘challenging the world order’ – US Defense Sec

November 8 2015

RT

https://www.rt.com/usa/321194-carter-russia-threat-world-order/

By 2030, South China Sea will be ‘virtually a Chinese lake,’ study warns

By Simon Denyer

Washingtpon Post

January 20 2016

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2016/01/20/by-2030-south-china-sea-will-be-virtually-a-chinese-lake-u-s-study-warns/?tid=pm_world_pop_b>

"a new U.S. study has warns, arguing that the balance of power in Asia Pacific region was shifting away from the United States."

Will an inverted U.S.-China-Russia triangle reshape the world order?

Mathew Burrows, Robert A. Manning

National Interest

August 24, 2015

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/americas-worst-nightmare-russia-china-are-getting-closer-13661>

The Great Authoritarian Kinship

by James Palmer

Foreign Policy

January 20 2016

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**America’s enemies see that Russia in full defiance of America is not stopped by the full economic power of the American economy to change its behavior.**

US Blinks in Face-Off with Russia

By Finian Cunningham

My cat bird seat

May 19 2015

http://mycatbirdseat.com/2015/05/91478-us-blinks-in-face-off-with-russia/

Vladimir Putin sees Barack Obama's coolness as weakness – and it is hurting America

By Matt K Lewis

Telegraph

October 4 2015

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Obama has made America look weak

John McCain

New York Times

March 14 2014

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/03/15/opinion/mccain-a-return-to-us-realism.html?\_r=0

GOP to John Kerry, Obama: You make U.S. look ‘weak’ to world

By Cheryl K. Chumley

The Washington Times

March 3 2014

http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/mar/3/gop-john-kerry-obama-you-make-us-look-weak-world/

**The enemies of America are also aware that the world is going to be multi-polar and that soon many nations will have the money and power of America.**

India, China and the Rest of the BRICS Will No Longer Wait for a Seat at the Table

by Shashi Tharoor

Huffington Post

June 22 2015

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/shashi-tharoor/india-china-brics-world-power\_b\_7633684.html

"The continual deepening of the BRICS enterprise has caught many international observers by surprise.

In addition to their annual summits -- which have produced joint declarations covering every major global issue, from questions of peace and security to United Nations reform"

"The BRICS are emerging at a time when the future of the international system that arose in the immediate aftermath of World War II is increasingly being called into question."

"Not surprisingly, many think that the current system is ready for a makeover."

**Allies in Europe don’t trust or like America.**

Abrams: Our Allies Don't Trust Us, Our Enemies Aren't Scared

By Sandy Fitzgerald

NewsMax

June 26 2014

http://www.newsmax.com/Newsmax-Tv/abrams-allies-enemies-national/2014/06/26/id/579506/

Why Don’t Allies Trust the US?: The US is currently suffering a crisis of credibility with its allies across the globe. What explains their distrust?

By Zachary Keck

The Diplomat

October 29 2013

http://thediplomat.com/2013/10/why-dont-allies-trust-the-us/

Why our allies just don’t trust us

By Linda Chavez

New York Post

October 10 2014

http://nypost.com/2014/10/10/why-our-allies-just-dont-trust-us/

Continental Drift: The Divisions that Damage the U.S.–EU Relationship

By Konrad H. Jarausch

Foreign Affairs

September 8 2015

https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/united-states/2015-09-08/continental-drift?cid=nlc-twofa-20150910&sp\_mid=49519877&sp\_rid=bWFyY3VzLnJ1aXouZXZhbnNAZ21haWwuY29tS0

1. America’s Global Image

By Richard Wike, Bruce Stokes, Jacob Poushter

Pew

June 23 2015

<http://www.pewglobal.org/2015/06/23/1-americas-global-image/>

Germany, Poland, England, Russia, Turkey, Jordan, Japan, Argentina, Peru, still have lower opinions of America at the start of 2016, than they did in 2001.

It should shock Americans that the the majority of the key allies of America are included in this list.

France, Spain and Germany have half of their populations think America does not respect the legal liberties of its own citizens. Or the majority of the land mass of modern Europe.

America's image has not rebound from 2002.

Lot of talk in American media that the image of America is improving. That is true, but only because the image of America from 2002 to 2008 was so horrible. What is a fact, that is not talked  about in media by Americans is that America has not returned to the public relations level with the world in 2001 - aka it has not rebounded and is still in the slump it placed itself in 2002 - when it started on a war path against the world.

Chapter 1: The American Brand

Pew research center

July 14 2014

<http://www.pewglobal.org/2014/07/14/chapter-1-the-american-brand/>

US world opinion has still not rebound from pre-Iraq war levels post 9/11 - even under President Obama.

US Allies Germany, Poland, England, and Turkey trust America less today than they did in 2001.

Currently:

30% of US Allies England and France think USA doesn't stand for freedom

40% of US Allies Germany, Brazil, Turkey, Mexico think so

**Military allies in the Middle East don’t trust America even though it fought with them against an external threat recently.**

"Here's the latest sign of how bad things have gotten between the US and its Arab allies”

By Armin Rosen

Business Insider

January 15 2016

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/heres-latest-sign-bad-things-213417319.html>

Richard Engel: Military officials say allies ‘simply don’t trust’ U.S. under Obama

By Douglas Ernst

The Washington Times

March 27, 2015

http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/mar/27/richard-engel-military-officials-say-allies-simply/

America’s Toxic Middle East Allies

John Glaser

National Interest

December 28, 2014

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/america%E2%80%99s-toxic-middle-east-allies-11929>

Here’s What America’s Longest-Serving General Most Fears

by Molly O'Toole

Defense One

January 11 2016

http://www.defenseone.com/management/2016/01/heres-what-americas-longest-serving-general-most-fears/125024/?oref=d-dontmiss

"As it is, “We don’t get very many assets.” A number of countries in the region are seeking intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance resources elsewhere, turning to Israel, Russia and China for drones."

**Traditional allies are looking to new arrangements to build their own strength, such as Germany moving closer to Russia and Japan wanting to get its own army.**

Japan Gives Up on Obama, Unchains its Army

The US can no longer be counted on.

July 4, 2014

Daniel Greenfield

Front Page

http://www.frontpagemag.com/point/235615/japan-gives-obama-unchains-its-army-daniel-greenfield

Japan poised to send soldiers to fight abroad for the first time in 70 years

The Prime Minister, Shinzo Abe, wants his nation's armed forces to join in military activities overseas and defend allies under attack – principally the US

David McNeill

Independent

Wednesday 15 July 2015

http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/asia/japans-politicians-at-war-after-parliamentary-panel-passes-controversial-security-legislation-for-10391474.html

Why Japan Wants to Break Free of Its Pacifist Past

Japan's allies offer encouragement, while regional neighbors grow nervous

By Kirk Spitzer / Aibano

Time

Oct. 22, 2013

http://world.time.com/2013/10/22/why-tokyo-wants-to-break-free-of-its-pacifist-past/

Germany and Russia Move Closer

By George Friedman

June 22, 2010

Stratfor

https://www.stratfor.com/weekly/20100621\_germany\_and\_russia\_move\_closer

Germany moves away from the US anti-Putin alliance and joins forces with Russia in coalition to defeat ISIS

Sott

Mon, 14 Sep 2015

http://www.sott.net/article/301791-Germany-moves-away-from-the-US-anti-Putin-alliance-and-joins-forces-with-Russia-in-coalition-to-defeat-ISIS

Get Ready for a Russo-German Europe

The Two Powers That Will Decide Ukraine's Fate -- and the Region's

By Mitchell A. Orenstein

Foreign Affairs

March 9, 2014

https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/russian-federation/2014-03-09/get-ready-russo-german-europe

Russia and Germany and the Chance for Menage a Trois

Relationship between Washington and Berlin Could Well Be Transformed

Dmitry Shlapentokh

Council on Foreign and defense policy

23 september 2014

<http://eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/Russia-and-Germany-and-the-Chance-for-Menage-a-Trois-16993>

**Many nations have continually called in just the last few years for the world’s discussion center, the UN to be moved out of America because they don’t trust America.**

The world did not want the UN in NYC to begin with:

“Capital of the World: The Race to Host the United Nations”

by Charlene Mires

 2013

http://www.amazon.com/dp/0814707947/?tag=slatmaga-20

“At times it seemed the world’s diplomats could agree on only one thing: under no circumstances did they want the United Nations to be based in New York.”

Other nations have proposed to move the UN out of New York

2001 – Russia proposed that the UN move to St. Petersburg

Merits of Moving the UN HQ to Baghdad

Laetus in Praesens

12 April 2003

<http://www.laetusinpraesens.org/musings/untobag.php>

2007 – Canada proposed that the UN move to Montreal

Will the UN move to Montreal — and how will it affect the waterfront?

October 25, 2007

By Christopher DeWolf

Spacing Montreal

<http://spacing.ca/montreal/2007/10/25/will-the-un-move-to-montreal-and-how-will-it-affect-the-waterfront/>

2010 – UAE proposed that the UN move to Dubai

Dubai Invites UN to move from New York

Bloomberg

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=aYFasHsbChpQ>

2013 – Bolivia says the UN must move out of US

Morales says UN headquarters must move from “bully” US

September 26, 2013

ICR news

<http://insidecostarica.com/2013/09/26/morales-says-un-headquarters-must-move-bully-us/>

**The world economy within the next 20 years will move to Asia, where the majority of world growth will happen in the next century-- just as Europe and America were where the majority of growth happened in the last century.**

World banker makes stunning confession

May 31 2011

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mOwZwkhFemQ

A generation from now, most of the world’s GDP will come from Asia

by Richard Macauley

Quartz

June 23 2015

http://qz.com/434691/a-generation-from-now-most-of-the-worlds-gdp-will-come-from-asia/

 “Former World Bank President Makes Stunning Confession”

at Stanford University

January 11 2010

<http://www.gsb.stanford.edu/news/headlines/vftt_wolfensohn.html?cmpid=yt>

**In response America is desperately trying to sign trade deals to link its economy to Europe with the Atlantic trade deal and Asia with the Pacific trade deal – but in doing so, America is willing to give up many rights of its people to hold onto a continually diminishing world power.** Unions, liberal groups revolt against Obama’s Pacific trade deal

By Dave Boyer

The Washington Times

November 5 2015

http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/nov/5/obama-releases-trans-pacific-partnership-deal-deta/?page=all

Mark Levin: ‘Destroy-the-Constitution’ TPP Deal Would Allow Obama to ‘Take Us to Fast Track to Hell’

by Tony Lee

Breitbart

November 9 2015

http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2015/11/09/mark-levin-destroy-the-constitution-tpp-deal-will-allow-obama-to-take-us-to-fast-track-to-hell/

Omnibus Bill Shows Trade Deals Can, In Fact, Rewrite U.S. Laws: Losing a trade dispute over meat labeling has had consequences.

by Michael McAuliff

Huffington Post

December 16 2015

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/trade-deal-meat-labeling\_567195c6e4b0688701dbc59c

10 Reasons Why You Should Oppose TPP and TTIP

by William F. Jasper

The New American

June 5 2015

http://www.thenewamerican.com/usnews/constitution/item/21010-10-reasons-why-you-should-oppose-obamatrade

'Free Trade' Agreements Promoted for Corporate Benefit Gut the Middle Class, Expand Wealth Inequity & Accelerate Immigration

by Michele Swenson

Huffington Post

February 6 2015

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/michele-swenson/free-trade-agreements-pro\_b\_6610050.html

This transatlantic trade deal is a full-frontal assault on democracy

by George Monbiot

Guardian

November 4 2013

http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/nov/04/us-trade-deal-full-frontal-assault-on-democracy

"The purpose of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership is to remove the regulatory differences between the US and European nations. I mentioned it a couple of weeks ago. But I left out the most important issue: the remarkable ability it would grant big business to sue the living daylights out of governments which try to defend their citizens. It would allow a secretive panel of corporate lawyers to overrule the will of parliament and destroy our legal protections. Yet the defenders of our sovereignty say nothing."

America signing trade deals that destroy American life: with EU

Details of controversial Trans Pacific Partnership deal are released

By Paul Wiseman and Elaine Kurtenbach

Washington Times

NOvember 5 2015

http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/nov/5/details-of-controversial-pacific-trade-deal-are-re/?page=all

"That’s no guarantee the pact won’t raise hackles with U.S. lawmakers who have questioned whether it will help U.S. exports and create jobs or just expose more American workers to low-wage competition, giving multinational corporations excessive power."

America signing trade deals that destroy American life: with Asia

**It is vastly easier to rise from poverty or as an immigrant to “make it” in Europe than America.**

Harder for Americans to rise from lower rungs

by Jason DeParle

New York Times

January 4 2012

http://www.nytimes.com/2012/01/05/us/harder-for-americans-to-rise-from-lower-rungs.html?\_r=0

Is it easier to obtain the American Dream in Europe?

By Katie Sanders

Politifact

December 19 2013

http://www.politifact.com/punditfact/statements/2013/dec/19/steven-rattner/it-easier-obtain-american-dream-europe/

The American middle class is no longer the world's richest

by David Leonhardt, Kevin Quely

New York Times

April 22 2014

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/23/upshot/the-american-middle-class-is-no-longer-the-worlds-richest.html

It's easier to fall out of middle class than climb into it, Americans say

by Tami Luhby

CNN

June 9 2015

http://money.cnn.com/2015/06/09/news/economy/american-middle-class/

Overworked America: 12 Charts That Will Make Your Blood Boil: Why "efficiency" and "productivity" really mean more profits for corporations and less sanity for you.

by Dave Gilson

Mother Jones

July August 2011

http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2011/06/speedup-americans-working-harder-charts

Americans work harder but wages have not grown since the 1970s - for 40 years.

**American youth have the lowest amount of home ownership ever and are more in debt**

**Homeownership for Millennials Declines to New Lows**

By Katherin Peralta

US News and world report

April 30 2014

http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2014/04/30/homeownership-for-millennials-declines-to-historic-lows

Homeownership in America Has Collapsed—Don't Blame Millennials

by Derek Thompson

Atlantic

October 28 2014

http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2014/10/homeownership-is-historically-weakdont-blame-millennials/382010/

Americans Are Taking on Debt at Scary High Rates

by Sam Frizell

TIME

February 19 2014

http://time.com/8740/federal-reserve-debt-bankrate-consumers-credit-card/

Rising student debt sinks American youth

By Justin Tombolesi

Daily Cal

October 4 2013

http://www.dailycal.org/2013/10/04/rising-student-debt-sinks-american-youth/

Today’s Young Adults Will Never Pay Off Their Credit Card Debts

By Martha C. White

TIME

January 17 2013

http://business.time.com/2013/01/17/todays-young-adults-will-never-pay-off-their-credit-card-debts/

**Economist now say that the middle class in America is now dead and not coming back.**

The American Middle Class Is Losing Ground: No longer the majority and falling behind financially

Pew

December 9 2015

http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2015/12/09/the-american-middle-class-is-losing-ground/

The American middle class isn’t coming back — it’s going to die with the Baby Boomers:The generation that's retiring now weathered the recession just fine — but it's all downhill from there

by Scott Timberg

Salon

June 15 2015

http://www.salon.com/2015/06/15/the\_american\_middle\_class\_isnt\_coming\_back\_%E2%80%94%C2%A0its\_going\_to\_die\_with\_the\_baby\_boomers/

How screwed is America's middle class, anyway?

by Chris Matthews

Fortune

October 15 2015

http://fortune.com/2015/10/15/middle-class-income/

The Tipping Point: Most Americans No Longer Are Middle Class

NPR

December 10 2015

http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2015/12/09/459087477/the-tipping-point-most-americans-no-longer-are-middle-class

Why America’s middle class is lost The middle class took America to the moon. Then something went horribly wrong.

by Jim Tankersley

Washington Post

December 12 2014

http://www.washingtonpost.com/sf/business/2014/12/12/why-americas-middle-class-is-lost/

America’s Best Days May Be Behind It

Eduardo Porter

New York Times

January 19 2016

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/01/20/business/economy/a-somber-view-of-americas-pace-of-progress.html?\_r=1

"It also adds up to a dispiriting forecast for American prosperity in the decades to come. “This book,” he writes in the introduction, “ends by doubting that the standard of living of today’s youths will double that of their parents, unlike the standard of living of each previous generation of Americans back to the late 19th century.”

"Altogether, Professor Gordon argues, the disposable income of the bottom 99 percent of the population, which has expanded about 2 percent per year since the late 19th century, will expand over the next few decades at a rate little above zero."

"His argument, rather, is that the explosion of innovation and prosperity from 1920 through 1970 was a one-time phenomenon. From now on, progress will continue at the more gradual pace of both the last 40 years and the period before 1920."

"Other strands of data point in this direction. Business dynamism, measured by the role of new companies in the economy, appears to be waning. The share of employment in companies less than five years old dropped from about 19 percent in 1982 to 11 percent in 2011."

**America is no long one of the top 10 most prosperous nations in the world**

U.S. Is No Longer Among the 10 Most Prosperous Countries

By Karla Bowsher

Money Talks news

November 6 2015

http://finance.yahoo.com/news/u-no-longer-among-10-203045054.html

US Economic growth has been consistently dropping over the last 40 years (before the Recession of 2008 ever happened).

The Worst Four Years Of GDP Growth In History: Yes, We Should Be Worried

By J.T. Young

Forbes

April 12 2013

http://www.forbes.com/sites/realspin/2013/04/12/the-worst-four-years-of-gdp-growth-in-history-yes-we-should-be-worried/

**America has also lost its triple A credit rating for the first time ever**

S&P downgrades U.S. credit rating for first time

By Zachary A. Goldfarb

Washington Post

August 6 2011

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/sandp-considering-first-downgrade-of-us-credit-rating/2011/08/05/gIQAqKeIxI_story.html>

**America is also now more in debt than at any time since WWII**

The Long Story of U.S. Debt, From 1790 to 2011, in 1 Little Chart

By Matt Phillips

Atlantic

November 13 2012

<http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2012/11/the-long-story-of-us-debt-from-1790-to-2011-in-1-little-chart/265185/>

Why Our Current National Debt is not the Largest in History

John T. Harvey

Forbes

February 26 2012

http://www.forbes.com/sites/johntharvey/2012/02/26/national-debt-not-largest/2/

 American debt is the highest it’s been in 60 years

The Worst Four Years Of GDP Growth In History: Yes, We Should Be Worried

By J.T. Young

Forbes

April 12 2013

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/realspin/2013/04/12/the-worst-four-years-of-gdp-growth-in-history-yes-we-should-be-worried/>

The USA did have a higher amount of debt in WWII, but it has a Congress that worked together supported by a majority of Americans who believed in it – that is not the case today.

And that makes now very different than at any time in history of the US.

**The world is moving away from using the dollar as a reserve currency**

Central banks start to abandon the U.S. dollar

by Heidi N. Moore

Fortune

July 9 2010

http://fortune.com/2010/07/09/central-banks-start-to-abandon-the-u-s-dollar/

Scrap dollar as sole reserve currency: U.N. report

By Louis Charbonneau

Reuters

June 29 2010

http://www.reuters.com/article/2010/06/29/us-dollar-reserves-un-idUSTRE65S40620100629

Peter Spina – Will US Dollar Will No Longer Be The World’s Reserve Currency?

Investment Watch blog

June 15 2015

http://investmentwatchblog.com/peter-spina-will-us-dollar-will-no-longer-be-the-worlds-reserve-currency-video/

Russia and China Join Forces to Kill the U.S. Dollar

by Geoffrey Pike

Wealth Daily

March 28 2014

http://www.wealthdaily.com/articles/russia-and-china-join-forces-to-kill-the-us-dollar/5093

Deathblow to the Dollar – Even Our “Allies” Abandoning U.S.

Before its news

May 24 2015

http://beforeitsnews.com/politics/2015/05/deathblow-to-the-dollar-even-our-allies-abandoning-u-s-2713888.html

What Russia-China relations mean for the dollar

by Matt Clinch

CNBC

May 27 2014

http://www.cnbc.com/2014/05/27/what-russia-china-relations-mean-for-the-dollar.html

The Yuan As A Reserve Currency? Not So Fast

Dr. Jerry A. Webman

Forbes

September 14 2015

http://www.forbes.com/sites/oppenheimerfunds/2015/09/14/the-yuan-as-a-reserve-currency-not-so-fast/

**This will be a great recession the likes of which America has never felt before, and one that it does not get out of. Americans will be forced to learn to accept something more resembling a 3rd world living standard, forever**

Dollar Decline or Dollar Collapse?: A Dollar Decline Is Inevitable, While a Collapse Is Unimaginable

By Kimberly Amadeo

About News<http://useconomy.about.com/od/inflation/i/dollar_decline.htm>

Rumor Mill: New Reserve Currency May Rock U.S. Dollar in October (Op-Ed)

by Evander Smart

Coin Telegraph

October 9 2015

<http://cointelegraph.com/news/115258/rumor-mill-new-reserve-currency-may-rock-us-dollar-in-october>

“This will likely not be a full collapse, but a devaluation of unprecedented proportions. If you remember American economic times in the late 1970’s, you’re getting warm.

Now the U.S., which has been practicing Keynesian economics for the past 20-30 years, and printing money like it's going out of style, will actually live to see the money go out of style! The “quantitative easing” chickens will come home to roost, and the U.S. will see a flood of dollars from around the world, a tsunami of depreciating currency.

This, by definition, is called “hyperinflation” or when the base currency supply of a nation increases dramatically.

What would it look like if the U.S. went the way of [Greece](http://cointelegraph.com/tags/greece), [cyprus](http://cointelegraph.com/tags/cyprus), [Argentina](http://cointelegraph.com/tags/argentina) and [Zimbabwe](http://cointelegraph.com/tags/zimbabwe), and had their first true economic collapse?”

What happens once the U.S. dollar loses its status as the world's reserve currency?

Quoria

October 27 2011

<https://www.quora.com/What-happens-once-the-U-S-dollar-loses-its-status-as-the-worlds-reserve-currency>

Future Of The Dollar As World Reserve Currency

by Bill Conerly

Frobers

October 25 2013

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/billconerly/2013/10/25/future-of-the-dollar-as-world-reserve-currency/2/>

“Without that demand for our treasury bonds, the interest rate that the U.S. Treasury pays would be significantly higher. That would likely mean that even private sector borrowing costs would be higher, as consumer and corporate debt compete with public debt for investors’ holdings.”

How Much Longer Will the Dollar be the Reserve Currency?

by Patrick Barron

Mises Daily

October 12 2013

<https://mises.org/library/how-much-longer-will-dollar-be-reserve-currency>

“likelihood of much higher prices in America as demand by trading nations to hold other currencies as reserves for trade settlement increase.”

American living standards before 1920

The Myth of the Middle Class: Have Most Americans Always Been Poor?

by Alan Nasser

Counter Punch

August 28 2015

<http://www.counterpunch.org/2015/08/28/the-myth-of-the-middle-class-have-most-americans-always-been-poor/>

Before the1920s just about all working-class people were poor.

How did living standards chance in the 1920s

<http://livingstandards1920s.weebly.com/city-life.html>

The roaring 20s

BBC

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/history/mwh/usa/1920srev1.shtml>

America’s Best Days May Be Behind It

Eduardo Porter

New York Times

January 19 2016

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/01/20/business/economy/a-somber-view-of-americas-pace-of-progress.html?\_r=1

"But flash back 50 years earlier. Then, less than half the population lived in cities. Though Ford Model T’s were starting to roll off the assembly line, Americans typically moved around on horse-drawn buggies on dirt or cobblestone roads. Refrigerators or TVs? Most homes weren’t even wired for electricity. And average life expectancy was only 53."

**A Princeton University study that went unnoticed has officially said that America is in fact not a democracy**

Study: US is an oligarchy, not a democracy What in the world?

BBC

April 17 2014

http://www.bbc.com/news/blogs-echochambers-27074746

US leaders have increasingly become ever more anti-transparent, George W Bush was the least transparent President since Nixon, and President Obama is less transparent than him - that is a 15 year period of increasingly less transparency

Barack Obama: The Least Transparent President in History

By Amy Goodman & Denis Moynihan

Democracy Now

March 27 2014

<http://www.democracynow.org/blog/2014/3/27/barack_obama_the_least_transparent_president>

Historians Still Despise George W. Bush

by David Austin Walsh

History News Network

April 26 2013

http://historynewsnetwork.org/article/151692

Big majorities say government more corrupt, less transparent under Obama

By Mark Tapscott

Washington Examiner

December 26 2013

<http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/big-majorities-say-government-more-corrupt-less-transparent-under-obama/article/2541195>

Has Obama delivered the ‘most transparent’ administration in history?

By Jason Ross Arnold

Washington Post

March 16 2015

https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2015/03/16/has-obama-delivered-the-most-transparent-administration-in-history/

**American scholars, also unnoticed, have already concluded that America is living in a “post-constitutional era”**

US Policy scholars and reporters are outright calling this period in US history “the post constitutional era” meaning that the Constitution effectively doesn’t matter anymore – this is a first

Are we living in a Post constitutional America

By Peter Van Buren

Mother Jones

February 18 2014

<http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2014/02/obama-drone-pakistan-us-citizen-leak-killing>

Welcome to Post constitutional America

By Peter Van Buren

The Nation

August 5 2013

<http://www.thenation.com/article/175589/welcome-post-constitution-america>

Mark Levin: We’re living in a post constitutional America

Real Clear Politics

January 19 2012

<http://www.realclearpolitics.com/video/2012/01/19/mark_levin_were_living_in_a_post-constitutional_america.html>

How to survive in a post constitutional America

By Peter Van Buren

Salon

July 27 2014

<http://www.salon.com/2014/07/27/how_to_survive_in_post_constitutional_america_partner/>

we now live in a post constitutional country

By Terence P Jeffery

CNS news

January 16 2012

<http://cnsnews.com/news/article/exclusive-mark-levin-ameritopia-we-now-live-post-constitutional-country>

Kennedy: welcome to post constitutional America

By Grae Stafford

The Daily Caller

April 13 2014

<http://dailycaller.com/2014/04/13/kennedy-welcome-to-post-constitutional-america-video/>

Marriage in a post constitutional America

By Peter Van Buren

American Conservative

March 9 2015

<http://www.theamericanconservative.com/articles/marriage-in-post-constitutional-america/>

Can post constitutional America recover its freedom and prosperity

By Bill Frezza

Forbes

July 9 2013

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/billfrezza/2013/07/09/can-post-constitutional-america-recover-its-freedom-and-prosperity/>

The U.S. Supreme court decision…means the nation has entered a post constitutional era

By Washingtons blog

May 5 2014

<http://www.washingtonsblog.com/2014/05/u-s-supreme-court-decision-means-nation-entered-post-constitutional-era.html>

Are we in a post constitutional America

Debate.org

<http://www.debate.org/opinions/are-we-in-a-post-constitutional-america>

Post constitutional America: the trap is closing

By Peter Farmer

Canada Free Press

March 4 2013

<http://canadafreepress.com/index.php/article/53534>

America’s post constitutional government and how to fix it

By Fred DeRuvo

Western Journalism

August 22 2013

<http://www.westernjournalism.com/americas-post-constitutional-government-and-how-to-fix-it/>

Post constitutional America: looming on the near horizon?

By Greg Holt

Olive branch report

April 14 2014

<http://theolivebranchreport.com/post-constitutional-america-looming-on-the-near-horizon/>

Mark Levin explains why we now live in a post constitutional

By Wilson

Glenn Beck

September 19 2013

<http://www.glennbeck.com/2013/09/19/mark-levin-explains-why-we-now-live-in-post-constitutional-society/>

**America was rating as being 47th in press freedom – a rank that made it equal to Argentina and Romania, two nations that have shocked the modern world with their stifling actions against reporters**

Press Freedom Index 2011 2012

Reporters without borders

http://en.rsf.org/press-freedom-index-2011-2012,1043.html

“The United States (47th) also owed its fall of 27 places to the many arrests of journalist covering Occupy Wall Street protests.”

47th place – Romania/Argentina/US

Year of this ranking Argentina and Romania scared world with stifling press and US is equal to them

Global editors group raises alarm over Argentina press freedom threat

by Roy Greenslade

Guardian

October 10 2012

http://www.theguardian.com/media/greenslade/2012/oct/10/press-freedom-argentina

Press freedom in Romania

Economist

September 1 2012

http://www.economist.com/blogs/easternapproaches/2012/09/press-freedom-romania

**America government and its network of universities have very recently massively cut funding to study foreign cultures and develop experts to help American policy deciders make informed decisions**

"The Decline of International Studies: Why Flying Blind Is Dangerous"

By Charles King

Foreign Affairs

July/August 2015

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/united-states/decline-international-studies?cid=nlc-twofa-20151230&sp_mid=50372351&sp_rid=bWFyY3VzLnJ1aXouZXZhbnNAZ21haWwuY29tS0&spMailingID=50372351&spUserID=NTQzODkyNjcyNTYS1&spJobID=840078528&spReportId=ODQwMDc4NTI4S0>

**Republican party has fielded more candidates for the position of President in 2015**

Why This Is the Most Unpredictable GOP Race in 50 Years: In past Republican contests, the winner was kind of easy to foresee. Not anymore.

By David Corn

Mother Jones

January 6 2016

http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2016/01/gop-nominating-contest-most-unpredictable-50-years-trump-carson

**Democrat party also fielded more candidates for President than it ever had before for the 2008 election**

Is Six Democratic Debates Too Few?

By Harry Enten

Five Thirty Eight

May 6 2015

http://fivethirtyeight.com/datalab/is-six-democratic-debates-too-few/

**Americans have the lowest faith they have had in political parties since the Civil War, the lowest faith in Congress, the Supreme Court, and the Presidency – all of the branches of the government, and the highest polarization of political dialogue again since the civil war**

AMERICANS DONT TRUST AMERICAN GOVERNMENT ACROSS THE BOARD IN RECORD HEIGHTS:

Public Trust in Government: 1958-2015
Pew

November 23 2015

http://www.people-press.org/2015/11/23/public-trust-in-government-1958-2015/

“Public trust in the government remains near historic lows. Only 19% of Americans today say they can trust the government in Washington to do what is right “just about always” (3%) or “most of the time” (16%).”

“Public trust reached a three-decade high shortly after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, but declined quickly thereafter.”

Beyond Distrust: How Americans View Their Government

Pew

November 23 2015

http://www.people-press.org/2015/11/23/beyond-distrust-how-americans-view-their-government/

“Currently, just 19% say they can trust the government always or most of the time, among the lowest levels in the past half-century.”

“Just 34% say they have a very great deal or good deal of confidence in the wisdom of the American people when it comes to making political decisions, while 63% have little or no confidence.”

“Just 22% of the public say that most elected officials put the interests of the country ahead of their own interests; 74% say they put their own interests ahead of the nation’s.”

“Most Americans (56%) acknowledge that the problems facing the country do not have clear solutions. “

“Young people less confident in the nation’s direction. About four-in-ten adults younger than 30 (38%) say they have “quite a lot” of confidence in the nation’s future.”

“And nearly two-thirds (65%) say the national news media has a negative effect on the country”

Americans Losing Confidence in All Branches of U.S. Gov't

by Justin McCarthy

Gallup

June 30, 2014

http://www.gallup.com/poll/171992/americans-losing-confidence-branches-gov.aspx

Americans' confidence in all three branches of the U.S. government has fallen, reaching record lows for the Supreme Court (30%) and Congress (7%),

Fed gov least productive in 60 years, Never this antagonist since before the Civil War.\

Worst Congress Ever

By Alexander Bolton

The Hill

March 10 2014

http://thehill.com/homenews/senate/200295-worst-congress-ever

MOST POLARIZED POLITICAL CLIMATE IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SINCE 1879

14 reasons why this is the worst Congress evrer

By Ezra Klein

Washington Post

July 13 2012

http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2012/07/13/13-reasons-why-this-is-the-worst-congress-ever/

MOST UNPRODUCTIVE CONGRESS SINCE WWII

Bid farewell to America’s worst Congress

Financial Times

December 20 2014

http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/61613e36-844f-11e4-bae9-00144feabdc0.html#axzz3YXMyMXr8

2/3RES OF AMERICANS BELIVE THIS IS THE WORST CONGRESS IN THEIR LIFETIMES

Poll: this is the worst Congress ever

By Noah Rayman

TIME

December 26 2013

http://swampland.time.com/2013/12/26/poll-this-is-the-worst-congress-ever/

AMERICANS HAVE LOWEST FAITH IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN 40 YEARS

Congressional approval sinks to record low

By Frank Newport

Gallup

November 12 2013

http://www.gallup.com/poll/165809/congressional-approval-sinks-record-low.aspx

AMERICANS DONT TRUST THEIR POLITICAL PARTIES AT RECORD LEVELS

In U.S., New Record 43% Are Political Independents

by Jeffrey M. Jones

Gallup

January 7 2015

http://www.gallup.com/poll/180440/new-record-political-independents.aspx

AMERICANS DON'T TRUST EACH OTHER AT RECORD LEVELS

It's Been 150 Years Since the U.S. Was This Politically Polarized

By Mark Strauss

6/12/14

<http://io9.com/its-been-150-years-since-the-u-s-was-this-politically-1590076355>

Political Polarization in the American Public: How Increasing Ideological Uniformity and Partisan Antipathy Affect Politics, Compromise and Everyday Life

Pew

June 12 2014

<http://www.people-press.org/2014/06/12/political-polarization-in-the-american-public/>

Look how far we’ve come apart

By Jonathan Haidt, Marc Hetherington

New York Times

September 17 2012

<http://campaignstops.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/09/17/look-how-far-weve-come-apart/>

**American corporations have said that the educated Americans coming from universities in America don’t have a basic ability to think critically in general any more**

Most young people entering the U.S. workforce lack critical skills essential for success

P21

October 2 2006

Source: Are They Really Ready to Work?

Employers’ Perspectives on the Basic Knowledge And Applied Skills of New Entrants to the 21st Century Workforce, The Conference Board, Corporate Voices for Working Families, Partnership for 21st Century Skills, Society for Human Resource Management

<http://www.p21.org/news-events/press-releases/250-most-young-people-entering-the-us-workforce-lack-critical-skills-essential-for-success>

The real reason new college grads can't get hired

by Martha C White

TIME

November 10 2013

<http://business.time.com/2013/11/10/the-real-reason-new-college-grads-cant-get-hired/>

**American leaders don’t show any capability to be willing to even recognize that things are changing – which is a key step before you can figure out solutions on how to adapt to change. As one scholar of American sociology put it: “Too many American leaders … both in government and corporate are gripped by denial, a type of Pollyanna group-think that insists that America will retain its greatness no matter what.”**

“Too many American leaders … both in government and corporate are gripped by denial, a type of Pollyanna group-think that insists that America will retain its greatness no matter what” Dr. James Canton, from “The Extreme future: the top trends that will reshape the World in the next 20 years.”

<https://books.google.com/books?id=iYnwniwYg3kC&pg=PT416&lpg=PT416&dq=Too+many+American+leaders+%E2%80%A6+both+in+government+and+corporate+are+gripped+by+denial,+a+type+of+Pollyanna+group-think+that+insists+that+America+will+retain+its+greatness+no+matter+what&source=bl&ots=hcKdZA-bw-&sig=W_Jx12ECqYO9O1OYTdW1yMHfk7s&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjIrrnF5KzKAhUGwWMKHTQ_DkUQ6AEIHTAA#v=onepage&q&f=false>

Is America in denial about its decline?

by Jack Cafferty

CNN

October 18 2011

http://caffertyfile.blogs.cnn.com/2011/10/18/is-america-in-denial-about-its-decline/

By 2030, South China Sea will be ‘virtually a Chinese lake,’ study warns

By Simon Denyer

Washingtpon Post

January 20 2016

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2016/01/20/by-2030-south-china-sea-will-be-virtually-a-chinese-lake-u-s-study-warns/?tid=pm_world_pop_b>

"It also complained that there was confusion throughout Washington and across the Asia-Pacific about the rebalance, as well as concern about its implementation, partly because there has been no central statement explaining the strategy."

IN CONTRAST CALIFORNIA ECONOMY PERFECTLY FIT FOR MULTI POLAR WORLD

**California organized the world response to Climate Change**

California Was Basically Treated Like Its Own Country At The Big Climate Talks In Paris

With a big delegation and lots of glowing press, the Golden State was a darling of the international gathering.

Dec. 11, 2015

Jim Dalrymple II

BuzzFeed News Reporter

http://www.buzzfeed.com/jimdalrympleii/california-was-basically-treated-like-its-own-country-at-the#.bbrb3Znk8

China and the world turn to California for climate change expertise

Chris Megerian

Los Angeles Times

December 7 2015

http://www.latimes.com/politics/la-me-pol-sac-climate-california-china-20151207-story.html

For California and Germany, Leading Roles in Paris

December 10, 2015

New York Times

http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/projects/cp/climate/2015-paris-climate-talks/for-california-and-germany-leading-roles-in-paris

Gov. Jerry Brown’s schedule in Paris during the climate talks reads more like the itinerary for a head of state

**Many foreign nations who have sought to have individual dialogue with California about this issue, without involving the American government.**

Blair cuts out Bush in deal with Schwarzenegger to set up carbon trading scheme

By George Jones

Telegraph

August 1 2006

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/1525287/Blair-cuts-out-Bush-in-deal-with-Schwarzenegger-to-set-up-carbon-trading-scheme.html

California breaks with Bush in deal to slash emissions

By Catherine Elsworth

Telegraph

September 1 2006

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/1527792/California-breaks-with-Bush-in-deal-to-slash-emissions.html>

California’s Brown Signs International Climate Change Pact

Alison Vekshin

May 19, 2015

http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-05-19/california-s-brown-signs-international-climate-change-pact

"international states, including Catalonia in Spain and Mexico’s Jalisco,"

"Brown said the first-of-its kind agreement should serve as a template for international leaders who will meet in Paris for a United Nations climate change conference in December."

California offers to lead on climate change fight

Schwarzenegger signs a pact with heads of other states and provinces to cut greenhouse emissions.

November 20, 2008|Margot Roosevelt

http://articles.latimes.com/2008/nov/20/nation/na-climate20

California's unusual state-level diplomacy

provincial representatives from Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Indonesia and India.

Historic California-Mexico agreement boosts international climate collaboration

July 28, 2014

Environmental Defense Fund

Jennifer Andreassen

https://www.edf.org/media/historic-california-mexico-agreement-boosts-international-climate-collaboration

California, Quebec Carbon Deal Could Pave Way For Other Linkages

Gloria Gonzalez

October 4 2013

Ecosystem marketplace

http://www.ecosystemmarketplace.com/articles/california-quebec-carbon-deal-could-pave-way-for-other-linkages/

**UN said that California should continue the global climate change discussion**

 “Governor Schwarzenegger and United Nations Open Governors’ Global Climate Summit 2”

By [Cindy Holden](http://californianewswire.com/author/cindy-h/)

California Newswire

September 30 2009

[http://californianewswire.com/2009/09/30/CNW5609\_213013.php/governor-schwarzenegger-and-united-nations-open-governors%e2%80%99-global-climate-summit-2/](http://californianewswire.com/2009/09/30/CNW5609_213013.php/governor-schwarzenegger-and-united-nations-open-governors%E2%80%99-global-climate-summit-2/)

“After last year’s successful Governors’ Global Climate Summit, the United Nations asked California to host another summit focused on the great work of cities, states and regions, which already are ahead of federal governments in developing solutions to the climate challenge.”

"Schwarzenegger Opens Global Warming Summit"

by Samantha Young

November 18 2008

Huffington Post

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2008/11/18/schwarzenegger-opens-glob_n_144665.html>

“Schwarzenegger addressed attendees from 19 other countries and 17 states. He announced the conference in September and sent out some 1,400 invitations to regional government representatives, scientists, policy experts and industry representatives.”

“The two-day summit at the Beverly Hilton Hotel has drawn more than 800 attendees to discuss strategies to cut greenhouse gas emissions.”

**California already has independent international “brand name” separate from US**

California Was Basically Treated Like Its Own Country At The Big Climate Talks In Paris

By Jim Dalrymple II

Buzz Feed

December 11 2015

<http://www.buzzfeed.com/jimdalrympleii/california-was-basically-treated-like-its-own-country-at-the#.kqZEgvO0Y>

“If they were countries”

The Economist

January 13 2011

<http://www.economist.com/node/17910000?zid=311&ah=308cac674cccf554ce65cf926868bbc2>

“It has long been true that California on its own would rank as one of the biggest economies in the world. At present it would rank 8th, falling between Italy and Brazil on a nominal exchange-rate basis. “

“Leaving Baggage On the Dock, a Flagship Departs From California”

By Jose Garthwaite

The New York Times

June 23 2012

<http://wheels.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/06/23/tesla-motors-launches-model-s-in-california/?_php=true&_type=blogs&_r=0&gwh=178EE5589E89350048CC1DCD8100582F&gwt=regi>

**California has also held many other international conferences on issues of concern to the entire world**

“The bay Area innovation system: how the SF Bay area became the world’s leading innovation hub and what will be necessary to secure its future”

Bay Area Economy

June 2012

<http://www.bayareaeconomy.org/media/files/pdf/BayAreaInnovationSystemWeb.pdf>

“For more than 50 years, the Bay Area has been a leading center for science and innovation and a global marketplace for the exchange of ideas, delivering extraordinary value for California, the nation and the world. Its success has been based on a unique confluence of research institutions, corporations, finance and people, in a culture that is open to the sharing of new ideas and willing to take significant risk to achieve extraordinary reward.” Message from the BASIC Chairman

“No less important—but more difficult to quantify—is the region’s role as a marketplace of ideas. A culture of taking and rewarding risks and of accepting failure (which encourages innovators to try new things) as well as the permeability of business and institutional barriers that allows people and information to flow with relative freedom are nowhere as deeply engrained as here. A cosmopolitan climate of cultural tolerance and extensive global connections helps draw creative individuals and the companies they lead and staff to participate in the region’s innovation economy and gain a competitive edge.” 93

“The Bay Area’s ability to take advanced research, add sophisticated problem framing and design solutions, and assemble multidisciplinary teams to incubate and scale the resulting solutions is still unique. It benefits from a culture of mobility and fluidity and the compounding effect of having executed on this model (see illustration on page 15) for the past five decades across cycles of boom and bust. The Bay Area also has the distinction that—more than any other economic region—it functions not just as a research center, but as a global marketplace of ideas, talent and capital. In this sense, the Bay Area is uniquely positioned as a “Super Hub” that links other innovation hubs through the exchange of best practices, joint research and venture investment.” 78

“This flow of top global talent to the region is also under threat. Federal immigration policy has become increasingly complex and politicized, as H-1B and green card bottlenecks have deterred foreign students and educated immigrants from coming to the United States and have discouraged those already

here from staying.”42

“Commentator Vivek Wadhwa cites the figure of over one million immigrants waiting each year for one of 120,000 permanent-resident visas (in the employment categories EB-1, EB-2, EB-3) specially issued annually for skilled workers. This is occurring at a time when other economies (particularly other English-speaking countries such as the U.K., Canada, Australia and New Zealand), recognizing their value as competitive assets, are actively courting foreign students and educated immigrants. At the same

time, economic growth in China and India is attracting more Bay Area residents from those countries who came as students to return home.” 89

“One measure of the economic contribution of immigrants is patents. A 2012 study by the Partnership for a New American Economy found that more than three out of every four patents at the top 10

patent-producing U.S. universities (76%) have at least one foreign-born inventor.”

23rd Annual Fulbright Symposium: International Law in a Multipolar World

Golden Gate University School of Law

April 12 2013

http://www.eventbrite.com/e/23rd-annual-fulbright-symposium-international-law-in-a-multipolar-world-tickets-5671878742

 “Taking on the World: The International Activities of American State Legislatures”

by Conlan, Timothy J., Robert L. Dudley, and Joel F. Clark,

Publius: The Journal of Federalism 34:183–199

2004

<http://publius.oxfordjournals.org/content/34/3/183.full.pdf>

“California reported hosting 637 foreign dignitaries from 67 countries in 2001…”

The Bay Area has already produced an International convention on human rights for the United Nations.

“A United Nations-San Francisco reunion for the new millennium.**”**

By Mishana Hosseinioun

UN Chronicle, Volume: 42, Issue: 3, Page: 24,

September 1 2005

<http://www.questia.com/library/1G1-141814456/a-united-nations-san-francisco-reunion-for-the-new>

They will also join San Francisco in the official celebration of Human Rights Day 2005 and the inauguration of the first-ever human rights educational curriculum.

(10th annual conference in SF),

"Genesis & Evolution of The Global Summit Initiative"

the Global Summit website, background,

Nov. 16-18 2008

http://www.theglobalsummit.org/background/

“200 environmental, humanitarian and business leaders gathered in San Francisco to lay the bedrock of a new system for collaboration with the potential to change history– one that harnesses the unique strength of each citizen, business, and organization to build a sustainable future.”

“World Ocean Summit 2014”

The Economist

2014

http://www.economistinsights.com/sustainability-resources/event/world-ocean-summit-2014

“World Ocean Summit Puts Marine Issues “On Global Agenda”

by Brian Clark Howard

National Geographic

February 25 2014

http://newswatch.nationalgeographic.com/2014/02/25/world-ocean-summit-puts-marine-issues-on-global-agenda/

The National Intelligence Council for America in 2008 asked a California-based consulting company, SRI Consulting Business Intelligence, to research and prepare an estimate on international security to America, resulting in the report titled “Disruptive civil technologies: six technologies with potential impacts on US interests out to 2025” conference report.” This company is based out of Menlo Park in the Bay Area.

http://www.fas.org/irp/nic/disruptive.pdf

http://oai.dtic.mil/oai/oai?verb=getRecord&metadataPrefix=html&identifier=ADA519715

http://sric-bi.com/

The Bay Area has also recently been the site of a global conference on; Climate Change and Sustainability; Women’s rights; Global finances; and the World’s Oceans.

“The New Sisterhood-Women's Networks in the 21st Century" Focus of International Women's Day Celebration.”

By Business Wire

March 6 2000

[http://www.thefreelibrary.com/%22The+New+Sisterhood-Women%27s+Networks+in+the+21st+Century%22+Focus+of...-a060002579](http://www.thefreelibrary.com/%22The%2BNew%2BSisterhood-Women%27s%2BNetworks%2Bin%2Bthe%2B21st%2BCentury%22%2BFocus%2Bof...-a060002579)

“To honor the achievements of Women internationally, more than 25 local organizations, spearheaded by the Resource Center for the United Nations, are holding their first International Women's Day Symposium on March 8, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., at the Golden Gate Club, Presidio Park Building No. 135, Fisher Loop, [San Francisco](http://encyclopedia2.thefreedictionary.com/San%2BFrancisco)San Francisco (săn frănsĭs`kō), city (1990 pop. 723,959), coextensive with San Francisco co., W Calif., on the tip of a peninsula between the Pacific Ocean and San Francisco Bay, which are connected by the strait known as the Golden
**.....** Click the link for more information..”

**“**SIIA World Financial Information Conference to be held in San Francisco”

Thomas Net News

July 7 2010

<http://news.thomasnet.com/companystory/SIIA-World-Financial-Information-Conference-to-be-held-in-San-Francisco-579486>

**CALIFORNIA ALREADY HAS A LONG HISTORY OF ORGANIZING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FROM THE 1960S TO 2010 .. OVER THE LAST HALF CENTURY:**
UN already asked Ca to lead world discussion on climate change

Governor Schwarzenegger and United Nations Open Governors’ Global Climate Summit 2

By [Cindy Holden](http://californianewswire.com/author/cindy-h/)

California Newswire

September 30 2009

[http://californianewswire.com/2009/09/30/CNW5609\_213013.php/governor-schwarzenegger-and-united-nations-open-governors%e2%80%99-global-climate-summit-2/](http://californianewswire.com/2009/09/30/CNW5609_213013.php/governor-schwarzenegger-and-united-nations-open-governors%E2%80%99-global-climate-summit-2/)

“After last year’s successful Governors’ Global Climate Summit, the United Nations asked California to host another summit focused on the great work of cities, states and regions, which already are ahead of federal governments in developing solutions to the climate challenge.”

CA proposed the idea that the USA join world trade organizations; NAFTA, and GATT

California pleaded with the Federal government to pass the first world trade agreement almost 20 years earlier, with GATT, in 1994, and “was the only state to provide U.S. negotiators to the GATT with detailed country and industry sector reports on trade barriers and potential GATT impact to business”, basic material that America would need to make the trade deal worthwhile, was only provided by California.

California World Trade Commission urges passage of GATT

Business wire

1994

[http://www.thefreelibrary.com/California+World+Trade+Commission+urges+passage+of+GATT.-a015924506](http://www.thefreelibrary.com/California%2BWorld%2BTrade%2BCommission%2Burges%2Bpassage%2Bof%2BGATT.-a015924506)

California's trade program: a model state-federal partnership - includes information on export finance services; trade contacts; Cresset Powers, an export trading company

by Niels Erich

Business America

1989

Ronald Reagan working with Jerry Brown, promoted the idea of NAFTA, 20 years before it became a reality or any East Coast policy thinker was envisioning the idea.

“Global California”

by Abe Lowenthal

2008, Pg 39

[*http://www.amazon.com/Global-California-Rising-Cosmopolitan-Challenge/dp/0804762279*](http://www.amazon.com/Global-California-Rising-Cosmopolitan-Challenge/dp/0804762279)

The first USSR-USA exchange program that helped end the cold war was started in California

Esalen Institute

Soviet American Exchange Program

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Esalen#Soviet-American_Exchange_Program>

**California is one of the top destinations for tourism**

Bay Area has the highest percentage of bilingual people in all of the US.

Human Capital in the Bay Area: Why an Educated, Flexible Workforce Is Vital to Our Economic Future

Bay Area Economy

February 2008, pg 16

<http://www.bayareaeconomy.org/media/files/pdf/HumanCapitalintheBayAreaWeb.pdf>

More foreign students in Bay Area than anywhere else

International Students Studying in San Francisco in Record Numbers

ESL-SF

<http://esl-sanfrancisco.com/international-students-studying-in-san-francisco-in-record-numbers/>

“However, the San Francisco Bay Area attracts more foreign students than just about any other area of the country overall.”

More Foreign residents in SF Bay Area

# California report: Bay Area population gains are strongest in state

# by Julia Prodis Sulek

# San Jose Mercury News

# December 13 2013

<http://www.mercurynews.com/census/ci_24713035/california-report-bay-area-population-gains-are-strongest>

“The Bay Area is the only region in California where more people are moving in from elsewhere in the United States than moving out…”

# All roads lead to the Bay Area / Number of foreign-born residents climbs to 27.5%

# by Tyche Hendricks, San Francisco Chronicle Tyche Hendricks

# SF Chronicle

# August 27 2002

<http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/All-roads-lead-to-the-Bay-Area-Number-of-3262513.php>

 “According to the new U.S. Census Bureau figures released today, the Bay Area's foreign-born population … more than twice the national average of 11 percent and is even higher than California's total of 26 percent foreign-born residents.”

"The Bay Area is different from the rest of California," said Hans Johnson, a demographer with the Public Policy Institute of California, based in San Francisco. "Other places in California receive very little immigration at all, or predominantly Latino immigration. The high share of Asian immigrants is something that's different here than the rest of California and the nation."

“Census: 30 Percent of Bay Area Residents Weren't Born In America”

KGO News

 2013

<http://www.kgoradio.com/common/page.php?id=48283>

“There are more foreign-born residents per capita in the Bay Area than anywhere else in America -- 30 percent to be exact.”

“Bay Area home to 65,000 Deferred Deportation Eligible Immigrants”

 International Immigration News

 April 7 2014

<http://news.visato.com/united-states/bay-area-home-to-65000-deferred-deportation-eligible-immigrants/20120806/>

"A recent study conducted by the Immigration Policy Center, an advocacy and research group based in Washington D.C, said that the Bay Area may contain one of the largest numbers of illegal immigrants…”

**Bay Area has the most diverse city in US**

America's Most and Least Diverse Cities

by Nicki Arnold

California City News

July 16 2013

<http://www.californiacitynews.org/2013/07/americas-most-and-least-diverse-cities.html>

“With its population nearly equally divide among the four groups, Vallejo, California tops the list as America’s most diverse city for an overall score of 96.9.”

**California has more of the top universities in the world than any other nation**

Half of the World’s top 11 universities are in CA alone

"U.S. Universities Dominate Reputation Rankings"

by James M. Lindsay

Council on Foreign Relations

March 5 2013

<http://blogs.cfr.org/lindsay/2013/03/05/u-s-universities-dominate-reputation-rankings/>

**California is the number one place in the entire world for investment**

 “International Trade and Investment”

California Governor’s offices of business and economic development

 2012

<http://www.business.ca.gov/Programs/InternationalTradeInvestment.aspx>

America is the most known place for foreign investment, and California is the most known place within America.

“According to the US Department of Commerce, the United States is the world’s largest recipient of foreign direct investment (FDI).”

“The foreign-controlled companies in California, the no.1 state for FDI and venture capital…”

CA the most attractive place in the entire world for investment - US #1 place for foreign investment - CA #1 place in US for foreign investment

 "Impacts of Foreign Direct Investment in the U.S. Economy"

By California Chamber of Commerce

2015

http://www.calchamber.com/international/trade/pages/foreigndirectinvestment.aspx

"Relocate / Expand"

by the California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development

2015

http://www.business.ca.gov/RelocateExpand/ForeignInvestment.aspx

“The innovation edge: Meeting the Global Competitive Challenge”

Bay Area Economy

September 2006

<http://www.bayareaeconomy.org/media/files/pdf/InnovationEdgeSept2006.pdf>

“It is the venture capital “capital” of the world…”39

**Scholars suggests California could do much more international trade not having to work through American system**

Global California: Rising to the Cosmopolitan Challenge

by Abraham F. Lowenthal

Foreign Affairs

September/October 2009

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/reviews/capsule-review/2009-09-01/global-california-rising-cosmopolitan-challenge>

California's Foreign Policy

By James O. Goldsborough

Spring 1993

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/united-states/1993-03-01/californias-foreign-policy>

**Multiple reporters, scholars, and economists who cover international news have said that California has what it takes to go it alone in the international economy**

2009 - International Reporter Paul Starobin writes book about how America is going to fall, and dedicates entire chapter to how CA could seceed from America and survive by alone

"Chapter 12: "After America California"" from "Five Roads to the Future: Power in the Next Global" Age by Paul Starobin

May 28 2009

https://books.google.com/books?id=ZhZqEQ2dBuYC&dq=California+multipolar+World&source=gbs\_navlinks\_s

Why California should quit the 'dollar zone'

By Steven Hill

Guardian

March 20 2011

http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/cifamerica/2011/mar/20/california-us-taxation

Paul Krugman essentially invites the question: should California secede?

By Richard Green

Richards real estate and urban economics blog

February 17 2012

http://real-estate-and-urban.blogspot.com/2012/02/paul-krugman-begs-question-should.html

Should California Secede from the United States?

By Hank Pellissier

Transhumanity.net

October 18 2012

http://ieet.org/index.php/IEET/more/pellissier20121018

Optimal Currency AreasThe Economics of European Integration ‐ Ch. 15

Prof. Dr. Friedrich L. Sell

UTEP + Universität der Bundeswehr - München

May 21 – 25 2013

https://dokumente.unibw.de/pub/bscw.cgi/7842939

California-State-Flag-2The national government arguably no longer represents the best interests of California.

By Andy Cohen

October 15 2013

http://sandiegofreepress.org/2013/10/california-nation/

If Greece should have its own currency, why not U.S. states?

Philip Greenspun's Weblog

June 23 2011

http://blogs.harvard.edu/philg/2011/06/23/if-greece-should-have-its-own-currency-why-not-u-s-states/

California Split

by Gar Alperovitz

New York Times

Feburary 10 2007

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/10/opinion/10alperovitz.html>

**Multiple studies have said that California has what it takes to be an independent nation**

“Like a Nation state”

 by Douglas A. Kysar and Bernadette A. Meyler,

UCLA Law review

2008

http://www.uclalawreview.org/pdf/55-6-4.pdf

“A Vital Partnership: California and China Collaborating on Clean Energy and Combating Climate Change” by Asia Society’s Center on U.S.-China Relations and the Asia Society Northern California Center

2014

http://asiasociety.org/files/VitalPartnership\_ENG\_lo.pdf

**Economists have said that California is perfectly designed to integrate into the Asian economy**

Economic Growth in a Shrinking World:The IMF and Globalization

by Anne Krueger, Acting Managing Director International Monetary Fund

To the Pacific Council on International Policy in San Diego

June 2 2004

https://www.imf.org/external/np/speeches/2004/060204.htm

“California's remarkable success as a vibrant economic force tells us a great deal about the benefits that globalization can bring.”

“California probably exemplifies these characteristics more than any other state in the Union.

In many ways, the growth of the California and the rising living standards we have witnessed here over the past few decades has mirrored what has happened to the global economy.”

California is leading the nation to join the emerging global clean energy economy

By Kristin Eberhard

December 16 2010

http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/kgrenfell/california\_is\_leading\_the\_nati.html

Smile Southern California, You're the Center of the Universe: The Economy and People of a Global Region

by James Flanigan

Stanford General Books

February 9 2009

http://www.amazon.com/Smile-Southern-California-Center-Universe/dp/0804756252

“In this book, Flanigan provocatively distills his experiences with and knowledge of the region,arguing that Southern California is an economic model for the United States and the world. With clarity and precision, Flanigan examines numerous pillars of the region's growth, including dynamic entrepreneurship; the rapid growth of international trade”

Special Report: The Economics of a Multipolar World

Northeastern University Economics Society

October 18 2015

http://www.northeastern.edu/econsociety/the-economics-of-a-multipolar-world/

“The example of Uber best illustrates this. Changes in government legislation did not lead to Uber. Rather, Uber led to changes in government legislation and how we buy, use and sell transport. In October 2010 Uber received a cease and desist order from the San Francisco Metro Authority for operating like a cab company without proper licensing. As regulatory resistance eased, Uber struck a deal with the California Public Utilities Commission and in September of that year California becomes the first state to regulate ride-sharing services.”

“Innovation and Investment: Building Tomorrow’s Economy in the Bay Area” ,

Bay Area Economic Profile

March 2012

<http://www.bayareaeconomy.org/media/files/pdf/BayAreaEconomicProfile2012Web.pdf>

Bay area has highest number of patents generated in any place in USA pg 12

highest concentration of fastest growing fortune 500 companies in all of USA pg 8

“Given the Bay Area’s role as the largest business center on the West Coast, the region is well-positioned to strengthen its status as a global commercial center. Pg 10”

Asia is the biggest consumer of technology products from California today.

“California trade facts”

California Chamber of Commerce

2013

<http://www.calchamber.com/international/trade/pages/tradestatistics.aspx>

“California's top export destinations are Mexico, Canada, China, Japan and South Korea.”

“Computers and electronic products are California's top export, accounting for 25.2 percent of all the state's exports.”

Asia beat North America and Europe as the top destination for exports from California by 2 to 3 times the amount of exports.

A Blueprint for Creating Pathways to Ownership for Low and Moderate Income Workers in the SF Bay Area: The Inner East Bay as a Case Study

Bay Area Economy

<http://www.bayareaeconomy.org/media/files/pdf/IntlTradeBAEconomy2012-13Web.pdf>

Appendix II

Recession and Recovery: An Economic Reset

Bay Area Economic Profile

April 2010

<http://www.bayareaeconomy.org/media/files/pdf/BayAreaEconomicProfile2010_2.pdf>

“The Bay Area is the ninth largest trade portal in the U.S., and a vast majority of its exports go to Asia: 70 percent of all exports from the Bay Area vs. 29 percent for the U.S. overall.” Pg 44

“Global reach: emerging ties between the SF Bay Area and India”

November 2009

<http://www.bayareaeconomy.org/media/files/pdf/GlobalReachFullReportWeb.pdf>

“America’s turn to India and other countries for engineering talent is largely the result of the U.S.

failure to generate an adequate number of home-grown scientists, engineers, and technicians.”

“The Bay Area and Silicon Valley have been emulated throughout the world but never quite duplicated.

With a deep capacity for fundamental (blue-sky) research, a diverse and highly educated workforce drawn from throughout the world, and a culture that rewards entrepreneurship and risk-taking, the region has been a consistent source of cutting-edge technology, product innovation, and wealth creation.” Pg 245

**International scholars have said that California suffers from too much democracy and too much empowering the will of the people.**

In contrast

California initiative process – too much democracy.

International policy analysts have said that California has more power to the people than possibly any other democracy in the world, too much say the scholars.

When too much democracy threatens freedom

Economist

December 17 2009

<http://www.economist.com/blogs/democracyinamerica/2009/12/when_too_much_democracy_threat>

The perils of extreme democracy

Economist

April 20 2011

<http://www.economist.com/node/18586520>

Two American universities also said the same thing

Too much democracy

A game of roles

December 8 2011

<https://gameofroles.wordpress.com/2011/12/08/too-much-democracy/>

The dangers of direct democracy

By Peter Bozzo, Andrew Irvine

Harvard Political review

June 1 2010

<http://harvardpolitics.com/united-states/the-dangers-of-direct-democracy/>

California initiatives: too much power to the people

By John Woestendiek,

Philly.com

September 23 1990

<http://articles.philly.com/1990-09-23/news/25876526_1_initiative-process-eugene-c-lee-kelly-kimball>

Some of the best scholars on democracy around the world, has also said that California has too much democracy compared to the US

“The Future of Freedom: Illiberal Democracy at Home and Abroad”

By Fareed Zakaria, Pg 193-194,

http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B000WJOW6M/ref=dp-kindle-redirect?ie=UTF8&btkr=1

“Dangerous Democracy?: The Battle Over Ballot Initiatives in America”

By Larry Sabato, Bruce A. Larson, Howard R. Ernst, Pg 145-149

http://www.amazon.com/Dangerous-Democracy-Initiatives-America-Politics/dp/0742510425

“The Challenge of Democracy: Government in America”

By Kenneth Janda, Jeffrey Berry, Jerry Goldman, pg 38.

http://www.amazon.com/The-Challenge-Democracy-Government-America/dp/0618874488

The people’s will

The Economist

 April 20 2011

<http://www.economist.com/node/18563638>

“California’s democracy is not at all like America’s, as conceived by founders such as James Madison...

California thus stands as a rare, and perhaps unique, counterpoint to the many countries whose main problem is a lack of democracy. **”**

Origin of the species

The Economist

April 20 2011

http://www.economist.com/node/18548119?zid=311&ah=308cac674cccf554ce65

cf926868bbc2

“They turn voters into legislators, since a successful initiative becomes statute. In states like California,

initiatives can even turn voters into founding fathers who amend the state constitution. There are worlds of nuance in the detail. The package that California chose was especially powerful. **”**

Governing States and Localities

by Kevin Smith, Alan Greenblatt, John Buntin,

CQ press: A division of Congressional Quarterly Inc.

2005

“In California, a state with a long, policy-specific constitution that provides for a high degree of direct democracy, they often attempt to amend the constitution instead. While the majority of political scientists wring their hands about this tendency, it undeniably gives Californians a role in shaping their

constitution that voters in other regions of the county like New England lack.” Page 83

“In California, voters have used initiatives to impose some of the Nation’s strictest term limits on elected officials…” Page 88

“Unlike other judges in pure appointive systems, however, judges appointed in California serve short initial terms and are then subject to retention elections…” Page 272

“California may be the best example of a state that had such a progressive reaction against machines. The state was hostile toward parties, lacked any type of patronage system, and held nonpartisan elections. Precinct and war organizations were weak, while individual candidates were assertive…California was the exception to the rule. Throughout the 1800s, most states essentially treated parties as private associations and choose not to regulate them.” Page 140

**Californians have vastly more faith in their own government than in the Federal government.**

 “Governing States and Localities”

by Kevin Smith,Alan Greenblatt, John Buntin,

CQ Press: A division of Congressional Quarterly Inc.

2005

“Public opinion polls often show that citizens place more trust in state and local governments than in

the federal government.” Pg 16

**Californians have said they trust their state elected officials far more than their federally elected**

**officials:**

Job Approval Ratings for California State Legislature

PPIC Statewide Survey

December 2011

http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/other/APR\_CalLegislature1211.pdf

2011 - 25% approve of State Legislature, 55% disapprove of Legislature (when California's government was most disliked)

Job Approval Ratings for U.S. Congress

PPIC Statewide Survey

December 2011

http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/other/APR\_Congress1211.pdf

2011 - 20% approve of Federal Congress, 75% Disapprove

Job Approval Ratings for President Obama

PPIC Statewide Survey

December 2011

http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/other/APR\_Obama1211.pdf

2011 - 43% disapprove of President Obama

Job Approval Ratings for Governor Brown

PPIC Statewide Survey

December 2011

http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/other/APR\_Brown1211.pdf

2011 - 30% disapprove of Governor Brown

There is a lot about how Californians don’t trust their state government, however, Californians trust their Federal government even less.

Few Californians trust their state or federal government

by Stephen Frank

California Political news and views

December 14 2011

<http://capoliticalnews.com/2011/12/14/few-californians-trusttheir-> state-or-federal-government/

“As to the national government, Congress should hope for approval ratings like those of the California

Legislature.”

**CALIFORNIA’S GOVERNMENT CAN WORK TOGETHER BETTER THAN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

“Pew Research Center: America Is More Polarized Than Ever”

By Justine Hofherr

Boston.com

June 12 2014

http://www.boston.com/news/nation/2014/06/12/pew-research-centeramerica-

more-polarized-than-ever/K46PCkzrWPu9rKeIKR2MLK/story.html

“The share of Americans who express consistently conservative or consistently liberal opinions has

doubled over the past two decades, from 10 percent to 21 percent.”

“Republicans with unfavorable opinions of Democrats has jumped from 17 to 43 percent, while Democrats with highly negative opinions of Republicans has more than doubled from 16 to 38

percent.”

In contrast:

“New Study Shows California Legislature Less Polarized Following Reforms”

by USC Schwarzenegger Institute

February 25 2014

http://216.243.142.19/institute-in-action/article/new-studyshows-

california-legislature-less-polarized-following-reforms

“Meanwhile, research shows that ideological polarization between the parties has increased in the U.S. Congress during the time period in which we show it has declined in the California state legislature.”

From: “The Adoption of Electoral Reforms and Ideological Change in the California State

Legislature”

By Christian Grose

USC Schwarzenegger Institute,

2013 pg 2

**CALIFORNIA’S GOVERNMENT IS MORE TRANSPARENT THAN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

California recently passed massive transparency bills:

“California Voters Tell Cities That Transparency’s Non-Negotiable”

by Nancy Scola

Next City

June 30 2014

http://www.publicceo.com/2014/06/california-voters-tell-citiesthat-

transparencys-non-negotiable/

“Big transparency win by California Legislature”

By Matthew Grant Anson

CA FWD

June 14 2013

http://www.cafwd.org/reporting/entry/california-legislaturemakes-

big-win-for-transparency

In contrast:

In the last 10 years President George W. Bush introduced redacted reports which removed

information from the public that was previously available to the public.

“Inside the Saudi/9-11 cover-up”

By Paul Sperry,

New York Post

December 15 2013

<http://nypost.com/2013/12/15/inside-the-saudi-911-coverup/>

President Obama has been rated the least transparent in history

“Barack Obama: Least Transparent President in History”

by Joe Otto

Before its news

March 18 2014

http://beforeitsnews.com/politics/2014/03/barack-obamaleast-transparent-president-in-history-2606158.html

**CALIFORNIA’S GOVERNMENT IS BETTER AT BALANCING A BUDGET THAN THE FEDERAL**

**GOVERNMENT**

California passed a balanced budget law in 2004

“California Proposition 58, Balanced Budget Act (March 2004)”

Ballotpedia

[http://ballotpedia.org/California\_Proposition\_58,\_Balanced\_Budget\_Act\_(March\_2004)](http://ballotpedia.org/California_Proposition_58%2C_Balanced_Budget_Act_%28March_2004%29)

In contrast:

It’s a decade later and the Federal government still has not passed this law.

“Balanced budget amendment” Wikipedia

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balanced\_Budget\_Amendment

**CALIFORNIA’S GOVERNMENT IS AS CAPABLE AS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

 “Governing States and Localities”

by Kevin Smith, Alan Greenblatt, John Buntin,

CQ Press: A division of Congressional Quarterly Inc.

 2005

“…today, the most professional legislatures have resources that rival Congress.” Pg 204

“California’s legislature is one of the best equipped and most professional in the country.” Pg 205

**California alone fought against the American government’s attempt to deny rights to American citizens and spy on its citizens.**

California Governor Signs Ban on NDAA Detentions: State Will Not Cooperate With Any Federal Attempts to Detain Californians

by Jason Ditz

Anti War

October 01 2013

<http://news.antiwar.com/2013/10/01/california-governor-signs-ban-on-ndaa-detentions/>

US senators propose bill to shut off NSA’s water supply in California

RT News

January 07 2014

<http://rt.com/usa/nsa-water-supply-bill-265/>

Bill would prohibit California colleges from aiding NSA data collection

by Alex Torpey

Daily Bruin

January 9 2014

<http://dailybruin.com/2014/01/09/bill-aims-to-prohibit-calif-colleges-from-helping-with-nsa-data-collection/>

**CA is one of the world’s top 10 economies, meaning that it has the money and connections of world Super Powers and the world’s richest most influential nations, and only California has held this position since the 1970s or close to the last half century. No other part of America even comes close.**

2014 GDP: California Ranks 7th or 8th in the World

July 1, 2015

By Jason Sisney Justin Garosi

Legislative Analyst Office

<http://www.lao.ca.gov/LAOEconTax/Article/Detail/90>

**Only CA has the money to make it – world’s 7th largest economy since 1970**California economy ranking in the world

Econpost

February 03 2011

<http://econpost.com/californiaeconomy/california-economy-ranking-among-world-economies>

**It was also the rest of America’s decision not to embrace behaviors that are found abundantly in California and are key to its success to date – a tolerance for different people and different thinking.**

California: Blue State, Boom State

by Bob Burnett

Huffington Post

June 18 2015

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/bob-burnett/california-blue-state-boom-state_b_7611694.html>

**America even when all of these horrible signs are showing themselves very publicly still refers to itself on the world stage as an “exceptional” nation.**

"Let’s make sure we never forget what makes us exceptional. Let’s not forget that freedom is more powerful than fear" —@POTUS

@WhiteHouse

The White HouseVerified account

December 6 2015

https://twitter.com/whitehouse/status/673671784764346368

Address to the Nation by the President

Office of the Press Secretary, The White House

December 06 2015

https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/12/06/address-nation-president

Putin: America is not exceptional

By Aaron Blake

Washington Post

September 12 2013

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-politics/wp/2013/09/12/putin-america-is-not-exceptional/