

Academy's UBASE Project Featured in IMF Quarterly

An article by Fellows Joel E. Cohen (Rockefeller and Columbia Universities) and David E. Bloom (Harvard University) is the lead feature in the upcoming issue of the International Monetary Fund's magazine, *Finance and Development*. Cohen and Bloom are co-directors of the Academy's Project on Universal Basic and Secondary Education (UBASE). The issue, which has a special focus on education, appears in June 2005.

The article, entitled "Cultivating Minds," draws heavily on research completed as part of the UBASE project and sets the framework for the issue. Cohen and Bloom present a summary of progress on achieving universal education to date. They examine rationales for continuing to work toward the goal of universal access to primary and sec-

ondary education and emphasize the need to focus on the quality of education that is provided. They also provide an estimate of the cost and the ability of the world to finance this work, as well as a summary of obstacles – political, cultural, informational, and organizational – that stand in the way of achieving universal coverage.

The UBASE project has shown that providing education to all children is not overwhelmingly costly, though the necessary tools may not yet be in hand. Crude estimates of the cost of achieving universal primary and secondary education fall between \$34 and \$69 billion additional per year. As Cohen and Bloom write, "This is a huge amount of money, but certainly not beyond the ability of the world to fund." ■

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tries of the West. *Statehood and Security* demonstrates that Georgia's problems need to be taken seriously by the great powers.

Eurasia has not exploded since the beginning of the project on International Security in the Post-Soviet Space, but the signs of discontent are visible. Georgia's Rose Revolution and Ukraine's Orange Revolution may be examples of more democratic processes emerging in the area. Other events, such as the Beslan school siege of September 2004, which occurred in the Russian internal republic of North Ossetia, and the ongoing election struggles in Kyrgyzstan, are less encouraging.

Speaking of the post-Soviet region in December 2004, Legvold said, "The area itself – given its location, given its resources, given developments within that part of the world – is going to have enormous significance for what happens in international politics now and into the future." Robert Legvold's work at the Academy brings attention to this region at a critical point in time.

The project on International Security in the Post-Soviet Space was funded by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation. Each of the volumes produced by the project is available in both English and Russian editions. ■

U.S. Space Program Assessed

On March 4, 2005, the American Academy sponsored a workshop on the interaction of military, civil, and scientific interests in space. Experts from the United States, Canada, Britain, France, Germany, and China considered the ways in which military plans for space impinge on, or are advanced by, commercial and scientific activity. Participants identified the civilian space operations that might be undermined by increased military usage of space and discussed the development of appropriate legal principles to protect both civilian uses of space and international security.

Neal Lane and George Abbey (both of Rice University) presented their forthcoming paper, "United States Space Policy: Challenges and Opportunities." The paper describes the ways in which national security provisions governing the production of satellites and satellite technology have curtailed the growth of the U.S. commercial space industry and limited possibilities for international cooperation.

Lane and Abbey describe four barriers to a healthy U.S. space program. These barriers include: the strict regulation of satellite exports as munitions under the

State Department rules; a projected shortfall in the American science and engineering workforce; unrealistic plans for NASA's future space missions that neglect the important role of science; and faltering international cooperation on existing and planned space missions. As Lane and Abbey write, "U.S. space policy presents a paradoxical picture of high ambition and diminishing commitment." Their study offers recommendations for redirecting policy to ensure the future success of the U.S. space program.

Lane and Abbey's work will appear as part of a series of papers emerging from the Academy's Reconsidering the Rules of Space project. The Academy recently published "The Physics of Space Security," a reference manual that presents technical facts for a general audience about space operations. Also forthcoming are papers that offer international perspectives on U.S. space plans.

The project is directed by John Steinbruner (University of Maryland) of the Academy's Committee on International Security Studies and supported by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York. ■



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