

NEW VOICES IN PUBLIC POLICY

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Welcome reader,

The Editorial Board is pleased to present the spring 2013 issue of *New Voices in Public Policy*: a showcase for George Mason University's School of Public Policy. *New Voices in Public Policy* is a peer-reviewed journal that promotes SPP students and their work on contemporary public policy issues. We encourage all current students and other interested parties to expand their knowledge and perspectives by reading these articles. With this issue we explore cyber security, the race for natural resources, and the impact of US politics and African tribal traditions on population controls.

Cyber security has become a top national security issue for nations around the world. Modern societies' reliance on the Internet has left many countries vulnerable to a variety of threats from criminals to nation-states. One of the first cyber attacks in history was launched against Estonia in 2007. Camille Jackson gives her take on the 2007 Estonian cyber attack, exploring the circumstances that led to it and the effectiveness of Estonia's new cyber security policies.

Modernization has led to increased competition for natural resources, especially oil and precious metals. There is currently a race by a host of countries to secure natural resources in the Arctic Circle. The US, Canada, Russia, Greenland, and other nations are all in competition for these resources. As a result, the relevance of several long-standing treaties and agreements has been questioned. Ernest Wong uses Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology to display the relevance and usefulness of traditional territorial claims to the Arctic and its valuable resources.

Overpopulation, especially in impoverished and underdeveloped areas of the world such as Sub-Saharan Africa, has become a significant concern. Rising populations increase the number of people living in poverty, accelerate the spread of diseases, and put a serious strain on the region's resources. Brittney Chidsey explores how both domestic US policy debates on contraception and cultural traditions in Africa impact these population challenges.

We congratulate all of our authors on their timely and persuasive pieces. We hope that you find these diverse articles thought-provoking as well. We welcome your opinions and feedback on all matters pertaining to *New Voices in Public Policy*. Please direct them to the Editor-in-Chief at nvpp@gmu.edu.

Fenwick Gilroy
Editor-in-Chief
New Voices in Public Policy

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