



College of Liberal Arts and
Human Sciences

School of Public and
International Affairs

Institute for Policy & Governance
201 West Roanoke Street (0489)
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061
P: (540) 231-6775 F: (540) 231-6722
E: ipg@vt.edu
www.ipg.vt.edu

5 pieces worth reading

May 25, 2023

By: Billy Parvatam

Virginia Tech Institute for Policy and Governance

<https://ipg.vt.edu/>

Make America Florida: Ron DeSantis's pitch to beat Trump in 2024

In this story, Nicole Narea describes Florida Governor Ron DeSantis's campaign for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination and his plan to overcome and defeat the current frontrunner for that nod, former President Donald Trump. Narea suggests that DeSantis has moved Florida sharply to the right during his tenure and contends that he will suggest that his state should be regarded as a model for how the nation should be governed.

Narea, N. (2023, May 24). "Make America Florida: Ron DeSantis's pitch to beat Trump in 2024." *Vox*. <https://www.vox.com/politics/23733398/ron-desantis-president-2024-election-trump-republican-primary>

Is the surge to the left among young voters a Trump blip or the real deal?

In this essay, *New York Times* columnist Thomas Edsall highlights a recent trend that has found the young and religiously unobservant emerge as key voting groups for the Democratic party. Edsall notes that political scientists believe this turn represents an enduring shift, not a temporary one, due to these citizens' abiding opposition to former President Donald Trump.

Edsall, T. (2023, May 24). Is the surge to the left among young voters a Trump blip or the real deal? *The New York Times*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/05/24/opinion/voting-trends-democrats.html>

Why Ukraine needs those F-16s

David French argues in this *New York Times* commentary that President Biden's recent decision to allow America's European allies to supply U.S.-made F-16 fighter jets to Ukraine, should enhance that country's defensive military capabilities in its ongoing conflict with Russia. French argues that this aircraft's range will help Ukraine deflect escalations in Russian attacks.

French, D. (2023, May 21). "Why Ukraine needs those F-16s." *The New York Times*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/05/21/opinion/21french-ukraine-f16-fighters.html>

Ut Prosim (That I may Serve)

How to resolve the debt ceiling standoff without risking a default

Lanhee Chen outlines the latest in the debt ceiling negotiations between President Biden and House Speaker McCarthy in this piece. He argues that the best path forward may be to suspend the debt ceiling temporarily prior to the advent of a June 1 national default. Chen suggests that a temporary suspension that expired in early October (after the new fiscal year begins) could offer incentives to both sides to make a deal.

Chen, L. (2023, May 20). "How to resolve the debt ceiling standoff without risking a default." CNN. <https://www.cnn.com/2023/05/20/opinions/how-to-resolve-debt-ceiling-standoff-chen/index.html>

America's poverty is built by design

Sheryll Cashin discusses the extreme economic divide in America by describing the central findings of Princeton University sociologist Matthew Desmond's recent book, *Poverty, By America*. Among other things, Desmond argues in that volume that multinational corporations and wealthy families are today receiving most of the tax breaks the federal government now confers. He proposes collecting unpaid federal income taxes from the top one percent of households to help pay for expansion of such effective poverty alleviation programs as the Earned Income Tax Credit. Cashin reports that Desmond contends that if the nation does not soon undertake substantial efforts to address its abiding poverty and profound social inequality, its citizenry will remain bitterly divided.

Cashin, S. (2023, May 21). "America's poverty is built by design." *POLITICO*. <https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2023/05/21/theres-a-path-out-of-poverty-00097399>