AU Newsmakers
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Top Story
Distress Over Kidnapped Girls Fuels Protest Against Nigerian Government
International service professor Carl LeVan provided in-depth analysis about the worldwide attention focused on Nigeria and Boko Haram’s abduction of hundreds of school girls. LeVan, who recently returned from Nigeria, discussed the shortcomings of the Nigerian government in handling the crisis, fueling protests, foreign efforts to aid in the search, and Boko Haram’s rising threat. LeVan appeared on PBS NewsHour, WAMU’s Diane Rehm Show as heard on NPR, BBC TV and Radio. He also spoke to other media outlets including NBCNews.com and CNN.com. (5/5)

Additional Features
Tax Breaks for Large Corporations
David Kautter, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, appeared on C-SPAN’s Washington Journal to discuss the U.S. House and Senate proposals aimed at restoring expired business tax breaks including the research and development tax credit, an expensing provision for small businesses, and the look-through provision for foreign operations. (5/5)

Op-Eds/AU Authors
Sacrificing Africa for Climate Change
In an opinion piece for Wall Street Journal, international service professor Caleb Rossiter argued that curbing Africa’s development for the sake of reducing carbon emissions is the wrong approach for dealing with climate change. Instead, Rossiter advocates that reliable electricity will promote better health, business opportunities, and overall development for Africans. (5/4)

Kuwait’s Royals Are Taking Their Feuds Public
Assistant professor of comparative and regional studies Kristin Smith Diwan in her Washington Post Monkey Cage blog explained issues surrounding the current secret videotape scandal allegedly showing politicians, including a member of the Kuwaiti al-Sabah ruling family, plotting against the current government. (5/8)

Who Will Be Benghazi Truth-Seeker?
Journalism professor Richard Benedetto in an op-ed for USA Today questions the Democrats’ courage to ask President Obama what he knew and when about the attack on the U.S. compound in Benghazi. Benedetto explains why the Democrats need to find their version of Republican Howard Baker, who during Watergate demanded to know what Nixon knew and when. (5/8)
Trying to 'Win' Ukraine Could Lead to Its Collapse

Dean of the School of International Service James Goldgeier in his coauthored op-ed for New Republic discussed why a new approach is needed to avoid a catastrophe in Ukraine in contrast to the current strategy.

International Studies: A Dying Discipline?

UNESCO chair in Transnational Challenges and Governance and chair of the ASEAN Studies Center Amitav Acharya in his op-ed for World Policy Journal’s blog explained why universities should broaden international studies to reflect the history, culture, politics, and ideas of the whole world, and not just the West. (5/2)

Expertise

How DNA Forensics Could Identify Lost Nigerian Girls

Speaking to Agence France Presse about the kidnapped Nigerian girls, Gary Weaver, executive director of the Intercultural Management Institute, explained that if the girls’ parents were asked to provide DNA samples the request would not present a religious conflict or other cultural objections. (5/7)

Eliminating Taxes; A Popular Platform

With Maryland NPR affiliate WYPR Radio, Don Williamson executive director of the Kogod Tax Center discussed the challenges that Republican gubernatorial candidate David Craig’s state income tax elimination proposal presents in terms of replacing state revenue. (5/8)

Jon Cardin Missed Nearly 75% of Committee Votes in Annapolis

The Baltimore Sun spoke to government professor David Lublin about Delegate Jon S. Cardin’s bid for Maryland’s attorney general in light of Cardin missing nearly three-quarters of his committee votes during the state’s most recent legislative session. (5/7)

Ukraine Conflict Creeps Into Crucial City of Odessa

For NBCNews.com, dean of the School of International Service James Goldgeier and Anton Fedyashin, executive director of the Initiative for Russian Culture, explained the significance of the instability in Odessa, a major Ukrainian trade center. (5/5)

Costlier Treatments, Not More Sick People, Spur Med Spending Growth

ModernHealthcare.com spoke to economics professor Martha Starr about how the rising costs of disease treatments are the primary source for driving up average health care spending in contrast to rising disease prevalence which has had a modest impact on spending growth. (5/5)

Bonus Clip

Stop Pesticide Use to Save the Bees

University beekeeper and international service professor Eve Bratman appeared on WTOP Radio to talk about the petition to stop major gardening centers from using pesticides that contribute to the collapse of honeybee colonies. (5/8)