



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

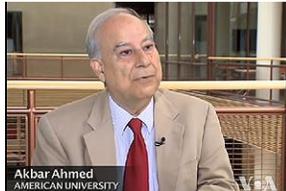
July 12 – July 19, 2013

Prepared by University Communications

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### Top Story

#### John Kerry Nudges Middle East Peace Process: Could He Be Getting Somewhere?



Akbar Ahmed  
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

International service professor **Guy Ziv** and Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies **Akbar Ahmed** discussed Secretary of State John Kerry's efforts to revive the Middle East peace process. With the [Christian Science Monitor](#), **Ziv** talked about Kerry's efforts being guided by the two state solution and the influence the United States has in the talks. Ahmed spoke to [Voice of America Television](#) in [three](#) separate [interviews](#) about Kerry's sixth trip to the Middle East this year. (7/15, 7/16, 7/17)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### Federal Law Provides a Backstop

#### The New York Times

motivated violence, will be punished. (7/16)

For the [New York Times](#), law professor **William Yeomans** wrote about prosecuting hate crimes according to federal laws when state laws make it less likely that hate crimes, such as racially-

### Expertise

#### Cuban, U.S. Diplomats Increasingly Allowed to Travel



*Chronicle* and *Fresno Bee* republished this article. (7/15)

International service professor **Robert Pastor** spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about the bilateral easing of restrictions on travel for U.S. and Cuban diplomats. More than **170** outlets, including the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *San Francisco*

#### Idled Air Force Squadrons Resume Flights

#### THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

International service professor **Gordon Adams** told the [Wall Street Journal](#) that recent sequester cuts would have little impact on U.S. military readiness because military teams are battle-hardened from a decade of war.\* (7/15)

\*Subscription required for access.

#### Cellphones and Texting Have Blown up the Dating Culture



resulted in more than 70 additional Gannett outlets republishing it. (7/18)

Linguistics professor **Naomi Baron** talked to [USA Today](#) about why younger people prefer texting to phone calls. In a separate side-bar [story](#), she discussed why people are increasingly using texts to communicate negative messages, such as breaking up with someone. The Gannett News Service distributed the main article, which

## Partisan Rancor in the Senate and the Future of the Filibuster



**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, talked to [NPR's Diane Rehm Show](#) about Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid's threats to change filibuster rules because of Senate Republicans blocking a number of Obama administration cabinet choices. (7/16)

## Female Image in Politics: How Much Does It Really Matter?



With [WBEZ Radio Chicago](#), **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women and Politics Institute, discussed her recent research that found a female candidate's appearance does not influence voter choice. (7/16)