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EVENTS

USPAK to partner with Salvation Army to help homeless

During the [USPAK foundation](#) 4th Annual Youth Leadership Conference participating high school and college students will partner with Salvation Army to prepare meals and package personal hygiene items for the homeless in DC as part of Salvation Army [Grate Patrol Van](#) financed by Pakistani Philanthropist [Muslim Lakhani](#). Grate Patrol Van provides daily meals to about 150 homeless citizens of Washington DC.

This year conference “**Shaping Your Future**” will take place from **June 22nd to 25th 2013** at American University, Washington DC. One important feature of this year conference is to prepare our youth on **how to reach out to their Congressman or Senator** on an issue important to them. At the Conference Advocacy day on Tuesday June 25 students in groups will travel to Capitol Hill, Washington DC and meet with their Congressman or Senator in their office, and push for Gun Control. It is planned that student groups will meet with about 12-15 Congressmen and Senators and share their thoughts with the elected representatives. During the first 3 days of the conference we will work to improve students messaging skills, develop talking points, thought articulation, and how to interact with US Congressman or Senator.

In addition to the above, students will participate in

- Tutorials & Workshops on Problem solving, peace building, bullying
- Develop networking, time management, resume writing, public speaking and interviewing skills
- Career guidance workshops, resume review
- College admissions, Essay review
- Interfaith community service project
- Talent Show and dinner at Pakistan Embassy

Advance skill development modules are planned for returning students who have attended previous conferences. Separate panel discussion sessions are planned for parents attending the conference.

To learn more about the upcoming Youth Leadership Conference watch a [video](#) prepared by USPAK Foundation.

[Register for Conference](#)

Registration is absolutely required for all conference participants, students, non-students, and parents, no walk-ins.

Registration Fee:

Registration fee includes all meals during conference, conference material, giveaways, and transportation for organized tours and visits to Government offices in Washington DC.

- A subsidized rate of **\$175** per student for students not requiring any overnight accommodation.

For students requiring dormitory rooms at American University for the duration of the Conference:

- **\$400** per person includes all above items and dormitory room (**2 students per room**) for 3 nights at American University.
- **\$475** per person includes all above items and dormitory room (**1 student per room**) for 3 nights at American University.

Method of payment: PayPal – No refunds, registration is incomplete without full payment of registration fee.

Conference Program is being finalized; please periodically re-visit this link for speaker information and other program updates.

Conference Program

You can find more information about the conference at USPAK Foundation [website](#). For more information call 202 505 4725 or email to ed@uspakfoundation.org

[Read More](#) about previous Youth Conferences organized by USPAK.

The USPAK Foundation invites interested high school, college and graduate students/recent graduates to register for

The 4th Annual Youth Leadership Conference

SHAPING the FUTURE

June 22nd - 25th, 2013
The American University, Washington, D.C.

LEARN . INNOVATE . NETWORK . MOTIVATE . ADVANCE

- Meet Members of Congress, Administration and Agency Officials
- Sessions on Impacting public policy and the Social Media advantage
- Tours of Government Offices, Capital Hill and Foreign Embassies
- Meet successful entrepreneurs, CEOs, and young professionals
- Learn public speaking, networking, building bold bridges.
- Get help with career guidance, and resume review



registration is a must for participation

for more info on programs and schedules

visit: <http://uspakfoundation.org/annualconf/2013>

call : 202.404.4725

email: ed@uspakfoundation.org

NEWS

Six Months After Newtown, States Are Taking the Lead

It's hard to imagine a more grim anniversary marker for the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre in Newtown, the town where I grew up. Yet nearly six months later, here we are again. Just days ago, we witnessed a [shooting spree](#) in the California beachside community of Santa Monica, where the gunman, who killed five people, is [reported](#) to have used an assault rifle similar to the AR-15 used at Sandy Hook Elementary School. He also carried thousands of ammunition rounds. This was only the most recent in an [all-too-long history](#) of mass shootings in America involving high-capacity ammunition magazines. [Read More](#)

Biden to host gun control event at White House

Vice President Joe Biden is planning a gun control event next Tuesday at the White House.

It's Biden's first event focusing specifically on gun control since a major Senate vote on expanding background checks failed in April, although the White House held a mental health conference earlier in June. Strengthening mental health care was among the executive actions President Barack Obama took to reduce gun violence after the December shooting in Newtown, Conn. An invitation obtained by The Associated Press says Biden will deliver remarks. The focus will be President Barack Obama's plan to protect communities and children by reducing gun violence.

Biden and Obama have said they're not done pushing gun control even though momentum has stalled in Congress. Last week, Biden sent an email to Democrats saying he has complete faith Congress will pass meaningful gun laws if everything is done to make it happen. The White House confirmed the event will take place, but wouldn't disclose any details.

The Top 5 Reasons Why Immigration Reform in 2013 Is Different Than in 1986

The specter of the 1986 [Immigration Reform and Control Act](#), or IRCA, has haunted every immigration-reform effort over the past few decades and continues to influence the 2013 reform debates. Senators who oppose reform have used the 1986 law—where the United States granted legalization to 3 million unauthorized immigrants—as a cautionary example of the effects of legalization. They maintain that IRCA was sold to the public as a means to end unauthorized immigration but that it failed and, in fact, encouraged more unauthorized migration.

Although the predicate facts are true—IRCA legalized 3 million undocumented immigrants, and now we have 11 million unauthorized immigrants living in the country—the conclusions these opponents draw are false. The central reason IRCA [never stood a chance](#) at stopping unauthorized migration was that it failed to acknowledge and regulate the integrated North American labor market that already existed. It did not look to the future or create new legal channels for economic migrants. Instead, it counted on future migration to be stymied by an inadequate employment-verification requirement that practically invited fraud and a nonexistent border-security apparatus. The problem with IRCA was not the legalization component; it was the lack of an extant enforcement apparatus and a failure to produce a vision for future migration. [Read More](#)

Workshop Series with Pakistani Peace Facilitators Concludes



USIP recently concluded a series of training workshops for Pakistanis to learn peacebuilding and conflict-management skills so they can take on conflicts and disputes in their communities before they become violent. The network of people trained has already had successes.

Karachi, the largest and most ethnically diverse city in Pakistan, is considered one of the most dangerous cities on Earth. It is also the economic hub of Pakistan and is therefore essential to the long-term stability of a country that is critical to international security. The U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP) has been working to expand the capacity of Pakistanis in Karachi and other areas to avert violent conflict.

In 2009, USIP's Academy for International Conflict Management and Peacebuilding began a Training of Trainers (ToT) project in collaboration with a Pakistani nongovernmental organization, the Sustainable Peace and Development Organization (SPADO). The aim was to train Pakistanis how to mediate and manage conflict nonviolently. Participants hail from Karachi and interior Sindh Province, as well as the rural Afghan-Pakistan border region ([read more about the program](#)). This is a professionally and ethnically diverse set of peacebuilders; they include journalists, teachers, activists, religious scholars and businesspersons. The network is gender-balanced, with almost half of its 95 members women. [Read More](#)

Internships

The Pan American Development Foundation is accepting interns for Spring 2013 to assist in various departments including Programs, Communications, and Finance. PADF Interns have the opportunity to make meaningful contributions to the Foundations and gain valuable experience working in a private, international, non-profit organization.

Specific dates and hours of internships vary depending on the department, but are in general relatively flexible. PADF internship positions are unpaid and applications are accepted on a rolling basis. The ideal candidate must be in their senior year of college or, preferably recently graduated from an undergrad program with a focus on international and/or hemispheric studies. Fluency in Spanish and/or French is desirable but not required. [Apply](#)

Viewpoint

NSA Surveillance Is Legal, and That's the Worst Thing About It

Out of the three main arguments in defense of sweeping NSA surveillance -- it's legal; it keeps us safe; it's not that intrusive -- the lamest and most tone-deaf by far is the first. That's not because it's untrue; it's because it *is* true.

The president and his allies [argue](#) that the NSA's telephone metadata gathering is a legitimate exercise of state power because all three branches of government have signed off on it. [Some pundits](#) are [buying that line](#), some [slavishly](#) so (not to be outdone in its contempt for public accountability, the *Wall Street Journal's* editorial board complains of *too much* government oversight and advises taking the judiciary [out of it](#)). [Read More](#)

United States Should Remove Barriers to Trade With Pakistan, India - Daniel Markey

Nawaz [Sharif has become prime minister of Pakistan](#) for an unprecedented third term, and official Washington is greeting his

return to power with cautious optimism. There is an overriding sense that it is in the United States' interest for Sharif to succeed, even if [his government](#) will be less "pro-American" than its predecessor. The looming question is [whether Sharif has learned from the past](#): Have the experiences of collapsed governments and lengthy exile turned him into a committed democrat and statesman, or will his authoritarian, crony-capitalist tendencies resurface?

The stakes are high. If Sharif's government can stabilize Pakistan's economy, improve domestic security and normalize relations with neighboring India and Afghanistan, there will be reason for hope that his [nuclear-armed country of nearly 200 million people](#) can, in time, remove itself from lists of "failing states" and follow a path to growth, stability and sustainable democracy. [Read More](#)

A Turning Point for Pakistan? - Bruce O. Riedel

Pakistan is at a crossroads, says Bruce Riedel, an expert on South Asia and career U.S. intelligence officer. Although the country's "internal security situation is grim," he says that the inauguration of Nawaz Sharif as prime minister--the first time that two Pakistani civilian governments have succeeded each other peacefully--is an encouraging milestone. Moreover, Riedel is hopeful that Sharif can deal successfully with India, which he says is "the single most important thing" for the future of South Asia. He urges Washington to take this opportunity to rebuild relations with Islamabad. "You can be pessimistic about Pakistan and you'll often be right, but Pakistan is too important to give up on," he says. [Read More](#)

Help Us Help You

USPAK is a volunteer organization working for the betterment of Pakistani Americans. Our efforts are focused on developing future leaders of our country from within our community. We also work to address issues of concern of our community, ranging from immigration, civil liberties, religious freedom, and socio-economic development of Pakistani American community.

It is through help of supporters like you that we are able carry on our vision promoting the ambitions and aspirations of Pakistani Americans. Your support today can ensure that Pakistani Americans have a place at the table, as we shape the policies on immigration, the economy and civil rights. You can help build a more vibrant and inclusive democracy.

Can we count on you to help? Can you donate \$500, \$250 or \$150 today? [Click here](#) and use **Donate** button. USPAK is a 501 c3 non-profit organization; your donation qualifies for tax deduction.