



**THE TRUMPET WEEKLY**

OCTOBER 24, 2014

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# The British Constitution Is a Mess—and It's About to Get Worse

BY RICHARD PALMER

**W**HEN SCOTLAND voted not to leave the Union on September 18, Britain dodged a bullet. Both the long and short-term consequences of a Scottish exit would have been dreadful.

But now there is a new danger. Britain is about to go through its most radical period of constitutional change in over 300 years.

Britain does not have a *written* constitution. No one has ever sat down and actually thought through what would be the best way to order the country the way the Founding Fathers did in America. Britain does have a set of foundational principles and a method of government—something that can be called “an unwritten constitution”—that has developed over the years. Some of

the basic principles stretch far back into the mists of time, others are founded in the Magna Carta, and many more are rooted in the Bible.

But parts have always been a bit of a muddle. One of the most fundamental principles, for example, is that Parliament cannot bind its successors—no session of Parliament can pass a law that a later session cannot undo. You could say that the first rule of the British constitution is that Britain can have no constitution.

It is a muddle that has worked reasonably well over the years. The gradual adaption of British government to the changing times has, on the whole, created a system that is rooted in the past, yet flexible enough to face new changes.

It is also a muddle that has become **see MESS page 12**



British Prime Minister David Cameron addresses a press conference in Aberdeen, Scotland, on September 15.

## Iran Strengthens Military Cooperation with Iraq

Anthony Chibariwe | October 26

IRAQ'S DESERT sands, which American boots will not tread, may soon be quivering under the heels of Iranian soldiers as the nation's government strengthens its military cooperation with Iran.

In an obvious gesture of close friendship, Iraq Prime Minister Haidar al-Abadi visited Iran on October 21 during his first foreign trip since his appointment in August. The chief agenda of the visit was to discuss his country's war against Islamic State militants. "Choosing Iran as my first destination after taking office indicates the depth of ties," Abadi said. "Terrorism is a threat to all regional countries, and we are sure Iran will stand by us."

Three days prior to the visit, former military commander of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps Kanani Moghadam said in an interview with China Central Television, "It is up to Iran's top leader to decide whether to dispatch Iranian troops at the request of Iraq. But Iran is ready to deploy ground troops at any time once Iraq requests for help in the fight against extremist groups."

"Prime Minister Abadi and his government are likely to seek help from Iran to send ground troops to deal with challenges posed by extremist groups, especially in areas near the Iranian border and areas that are threatening the security of Iran," Moghadam said.

Moghadam understands the stakes involved in lending support to its beleaguered neighbor: "The more aid to Iraq from Iran, the less dependent Iraq will be on allied forces. Iraq is likely to resist the allies' request to build military bases in the country. Iraq's parliament is discussing whether or not to allow the allies to deploy group troops, which has also become a redline. Therefore, the meeting of Abadi with the Iranian leaders is very important and decisive."

Iran is a master of inciting chaos and then implementing Iranian "solutions" to that chaos. It has already been providing weapons and training to Shiite and Kurdish militias in Iraq as well as to the Iraqi military, and it seeks more involvement. As the head of the prophesied "king of the south," it will get exactly that.

## Islamic State Militants Now World's Richest

AFP | October 23

THE ISLAMIC State has become the world's wealthiest terror group, earning tens of millions of dollars a month from illegal oil sales and ransoms, officials said Thursday.

"We have no silver bullet, no secret weapon to empty [the Islamic State's] coffers overnight. This will be a sustained fight, and we are in the early stages," said Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence David Cohen. ...

The group is now "considered the world's wealthiest and most financially sophisticated terrorist organization," said Marwan Muasher, vice president at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

"[The Islamic State] has grabbed the world's attention for its outlandish ambitions and astounding brutality, but also for another reason: its substantial wealth," Cohen told the think tank.

The group's "primary funding tactics enable it today to generate tens of

millions of dollars per month," Cohen said.

"Those tactics include the sale of stolen oil, the ransoming of kidnapping victims, theft and extortion from the people it currently dominates, and, to a lesser extent, donations from supporters outside of Syria and Iraq."

Oil sales alone from captured refineries are allowing the militants to produce some 50,000 barrels a day from fields in Syria and Iraq, representing a daily income of about \$1 million.

Cohen said [the Islamic State] was selling the oil "at substantially discounted prices to a variety of middlemen, including some from Turkey, who then transported the oil to be resold." ...

"In a further indication of the Assad regime's depravity, it seems that the Syrian government has made an arrangement to purchase oil from [the Islamic State]," Cohen said, referring to Syrian President Bashar Assad.

It has also generated about \$20 million through kidnappings, particularly of journalists and European hostages. ...

Related: "The World's Newest Most Radical 'State'"

## Islamic State Nabs More U.S. Weapons

GUARDIAN | October 22

THE PENTAGON admitted on Wednesday that one of the airdrops of weapons intended for Kurds in the besieged Syrian town of Kobani almost certainly ended up in the hands of Islamic State fighters.

The Pentagon blamed the wind for possibly blowing the supplies off course and argued that one cache was not enough to make a significant difference ...

[United States] defense spokesman Army Lt. Col. Steve Warren said: "One bundle worth of equipment is not enough equipment to give the enemy any type of advantage at all. It's a relatively small amount of supplies. This is stuff [Islamic State] already has." ...

"It has become clear that [the airdrops are] wrong," [Turkey's President Recep Tayyip] Erdoğan told reporters in Ankara. "It's impossible to achieve results with such an operation," he added. ...

# Israel Accuses Turkey of Aiding Hamas Coup Plan

**AL-MONITOR** | October 22

ISRAELI DEFENSE Minister Moshe Ya'alon has implied that Turkey was responsible for Hamas's alleged preparations for a coup against Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas.

"Turkey is playing a cynical game," Ya'alon told U.S. Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel on October 21, criticizing Turkey for the support it provides to Hamas. "Hamas moved its terror headquarters from Damascus to Istanbul, in Turkey, a NATO member, where it is represented by Saleh al-Arouri, who orchestrates terrorist attacks against Israel from there and attempted to instigate a coup against Mahmoud Abbas in Judea and Samaria." ...

"We see that Israel is increasingly sliding away from the peace process ...," said Umut Uzer, an associate professor

at Istanbul Technical University's department of humanities and social sciences. "It is no longer even possible to expect a return to a more balanced politics toward Israel. Neither side has any trust left. Turkey has clearly sided with the Palestinians, but the current government here has also taken the side of the Palestinians favoring Hamas."

In the meantime, Ankara has kept quiet on Ya'alon's accusation that Turkey was indirectly aiding Hamas' preparations for a coup against Abbas. If proven, it would strike a significant blow to Erdoğan's strong condemnations of coup attempts, whether in Turkey, Egypt or elsewhere. ...

**Related: "Israel's Alliance With Turkey Is a Trap" and "Turkey Is Going to Betray America"**

## Afghanistan Opium Production at All-Time High

**SLATE** | October 21

THE UNITED States has spent \$7.6 billion on counternarcotics programs during its 13-year occupation of Afghanistan, the office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction announced today in a critical report that cites United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime statistics indicating Afghan opium poppy production reached its highest level ever in 2013. From the report: "According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Afghan farmers grew an unprecedented 209,000 hectares of opium poppy in 2013, surpassing the previous peak of 193,000 hectares in 2007. With deteriorating security in many parts of rural Afghanistan and low levels of eradication of poppy fields, further increases in cultivation are likely in 2014."

To put those numbers in context, \$7.6 billion over 13 years is about \$585 million of counternarcotics spending annually on an area that is roughly as large and as populous as Texas (and has been occupied by as many as 100,000 U.S. troops). The United States federal government spends about \$9 billion a year on domestic law enforcement activities related to drug control. Afghanistan was the world's largest producer of

opium before the American occupation and remains so now. ...

**Related "Spent in Vain"**

## Failing Strategy in Yemen

**WASHINGTON POST** | October 16

PRESIDENT [BARACK] Obama cited Yemen as a model for U.S. operations against the Islamic State last month, not long after he told an interviewer that the intervention in Libya was his greatest foreign policy regret. In fact, the two countries offer similar lessons in the deficiencies of Mr. Obama's strategy. By backing local forces with airpower in Libya, the United States and its allies were able to overthrow a murderous regime—but, as Mr. Obama acknowledged, the failure to assist with building a state afterward has facilitated Libya's collapse into chaos.

Now Yemen appears in danger of disintegrating, as sectarian insurgents backed by Iran capture large parts of the country's north, even while al Qaeda forces surge in the south. Once again, a narrowly focused U.S. engagement has helped make the breakdown possible. ...

U.S. officials believe the Houthis have received materiel and training

from Iran; their slogan, including the phrase "death to America," is taken from the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps and Lebanon's Hezbollah. ...

**Related: "Conquest Through Sabotage"**

## Libya Orders 'Civil Disobedience' in Capital

**AL ARABIYA NEWS** | October 22

LIBYA'S INTERNATIONALLY recognized government ordered on Tuesday its military, led by renegade General Khalifa Haftar, to advance on the capital Tripoli and called for a civil disobedience there against armed Islamist groups.

Prime Minister Abdullah al-Thani's cabinet said in statement posted on Facebook that the armed forces have the green light to "liberate" Tripoli "and state institutions from the grip of armed groups."

The cabinet also urged Tripoli residents to launch "a civil disobedience campaign until the arrival of the army." ...

Thani's government and the parliament elected in June have taken refuge in the country's east to escape Fajr Libya, a coalition of militias that seized Tripoli at the end of August, driving out rival militiamen, and has set up a rival administration.

## EUROPE

### It's Too Late to Rescue Europe

TELEGRAPH | October 22

THE EUROZONE is yet again in a nasty state.

As it suffers from low growth and low inflation, the two combine to make a nasty cocktail. Without much of either, unemployment remains stuck at an eye watering high 11.5 percent, and government debt burdens are likely to feel increasingly heavy.

The European Central Bank (ECB) has announced a variety of acronyms—CBPP3, TLTROs, and an ABS purchase scheme—all stimulus measures designed to combat the euro area's low inflation crisis.

Yet so far, they've been insufficient to raise expectations of future inflation, implying that the firepower just isn't strong enough. Economists are hoping that the ECB will deploy outright quantitative easing and start buying up the sovereign bonds of eurozone governments.

Without it, analysts have warned that both the eurozone as a whole, and even Germany—its former powerhouse economy—could now enter their third technical recession since 2008. Yet hopes of a monetary bazooka have so far been quashed by political concerns.

Some corners are hoping for Germany to launch its own form of stimulus. But a new report from ratings agency Standard & Poor's (S&P) suggests that such a move would be too little, too late, and "alone would have

little effect on the rest of the eurozone."

"On the fiscal side ... the margin for maneuver available to most eurozone members is still very limited," the report states. "This is why the focus has unavoidably turned to Germany, the only large eurozone country with both a current surplus and a balanced budget." ...

### Jean-Claude Issues Threat to Cameron

TELEGRAPH | October 22

JEAN-CLAUDE JUNCKER has issued a direct threat to [British Prime Minister] David Cameron and said he is "not willing to compromise" on the issue of the freedom of movement of migrants within the European Union.

The new president of the European Commission accused the prime minister of attempting to "destroy" the rules that allow EU immigrants to live and work anywhere in the bloc.

It will come as a major blow to Mr. Cameron, who wants to reform Britain's relationship with Brussels ahead of an in-out referendum he has said he will hold in 2017.

Mr. Juncker said: "I am not prepared to change. If we are destroying the freedom of movement, other freedoms will fall. I am not willing to compromise."

He said that any attempts to address the issue of the amount of benefits being claimed by foreigners would have to be in line with current

EU treaties.

"Member states are free to take the initiatives they want as long as these initiatives are [in] line with the treaties," Mr. Juncker said. ...

### EU Plan Is Death Warrant to Israel

JERUSALEM POST | October 23

THE EUROPEAN Union is asking Jerusalem to weave the rope with which they will come to hang Israel, a senior diplomatic official said Wednesday in response to reports that the EU is interested in negotiating with Israel over its redlines in the West Bank.

*Haaretz*, on Wednesday, published an internal document drawn up by EU officials in Brussels that outlined the content of a sharp message regarding Israel's construction beyond the Green Line, and its policies in the West Bank that the EU's Ambassador to Israel Lars Faaborg-Andersen has been instructed to deliver at the "highest possible level" in the Foreign Ministry and National Security Council.

According to the document, the EU "considers the preservation of the two-state solution a priority. The only way to resolve the conflict is through an agreement that ends the occupation which began in 1967, that ends all claims and fulfills the aspirations of both parties. A one-state reality would not be compatible with these aspirations." ...

Related: ["The Counterfeit Peacemaker"](#)

## ASIA

### Sino-Russian Alliance Challenges West

THE PEOPLE'S VOICE | October 21

IN HIS book titled *The Sino-Russian Challenge to World Order*, Gilbert Rozman says both countries have

much closer ties than commonly thought. They're deepening. [United, they challenge U.S. hegemony.](#)

Leonid Bershidsky is founding editor of Russia's leading business daily, *Vedomosti*. He expects ties between both nations to strengthen and endure. Russia needs to pivot East. China

needs access to its enormous resources. According to Bershidsky, both countries "are made for each other. Despite many cultural differences, their people have more values in common than either share with the West." ...

"After 25 years of exploring vastly different models of organizing society,

# PLA Building Fleet of 100 Large Transport Aircraft

WANT CHINA TIMES | October 20

CHINA IS building a fleet of 100 large transport aircraft that will be able to deploy troops all around the world, according to a Russian military expert.

In an article published October 16 on the Russian Council website, Vasily Kashin, a China expert at the Center for Analysis of Strategies and Technologies in Moscow, says that the People's Liberation Army (PLA) hopes to complete the project by 2020.

To reach that goal, China is in the process of acquiring Il-76 multipurpose four-engine strategic airlifters and Il-78 four-engined aerial refueling tankers from Russia, Belarus and Ukraine, and is also developing its own Xian Y-20 large military transport aircraft.

According to Kashin, the quality of [China's military technology has reached a new level](#), such that the PLA is now a modernized force capable of fighting a technically advanced war. The new-generation PLA has a blue-water navy and maritime force capable of operating across the deep waters of open oceans as well as a powerful strategic air force, he wrote.

The project is said to be part of a series of major programs designed to complete China's transformation into a modern military power. One of the programs aims to build an army that can win wars through superior information technology by 2050. To this end, the PLA set a goal back

in 2000 for 60 percent of all new recruits to be university graduates, though by 2009 the number had barely passed 30 percent. To entice more qualified soldiers, the PLA has also introduced comprehensive insurance schemes and higher compensation that has seen monthly salaries more than double between 2006 and 2011 to around \$840 a month.

Beijing is also reportedly readjusting the structure of the Chinese armed forces, with the intention of gradually phasing out army and air force regiments and divisions. The PLA's ground force marks up about 1.6 million of the PLA's total 2.29 million personnel ....

Further, China has developed into a major arms dealer, the report said, engaging in technological cooperation with countries such as Pakistan. Chinese weapons and systems such as the 155 mm PLZ-45 self-propelled howitzer are also advanced enough to enter competitive markets such as Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Algeria and other Middle Eastern countries. Chinese anti-satellite weapons programs have also improved sufficiently to [be] comparable to world leaders, the report added.

China is the second country in the world after the U.S. to develop a warship equipped with a self-built multipurpose weapons system. ...

Additionally, China is building five Type 094 ballistic missile submarines equipped with JL-2 intercontinental-range submarine-launched ballistic missiles. ...

Russians and Chinese are close enough in attitudes to join in partnership against the West."

Michael J. Green is Center for Strategic and International Studies Asia and Japan Chair senior vice president. "Is the new alignment between Russia and China a threat to the United States?" he asked. "Moscow and Beijing have not been this close in half a century." Xi's "New Model of Great Power Relations" stresses "manag(ing) relations with America and "ally(ing)" with Russia. ...

Artyom Lukin is Vladivostok-based Far Eastern Federal University School of Regional and International Studies deputy director. He believes Washington's dual containment policy binds Russia and China closer together. At the same time, it risks possible World War III.

"The current security situation in the Asia-Pacific—with competing sovereignty claims, the rise of nationalism among both major and lesser countries, and great power rivalry—increasingly resembles Europe a

century ago," he said.

China's rising power "put(s) it on a collision course with" America. Much like Anglo-German antagonism launched World War I.

Allied with Moscow, Beijing has greater security and access to Russia's vast resources. United, they "could have Central Asia [and] Mongolia to themselves, effectively shutting out all external powers from the heart of Eurasia. ... What might ultimately emerge is a Eurasian league, which, in controlling the continental heartland, would be reminiscent of the Central Powers alliance formed in the middle of Europe by Imperial Germany and the Habsburg empire."

Washington and other Western nations underestimate the potential for Sino-Russian entente, Lukin believes.

Both countries need each other. They face a common foe. America's hegemonic ambitions threaten them. Washington's Ukraine policy draws them closer together. Lukin calls it "a tipping point, sealing the fate of Eurasian alignments."

Putin and Xi comprise a "formidable force." They'll be around a long time.

In 2018, Putin is likely to win reelection. Xi will maintain power until 2022. Perhaps longer as "paramount leader." U.S. unipolarity is waning. New order "contours" are taking shape. It remains to be seen how they develop. ...

Related: ["Czars and Emperors"](#)

## Russia-China Trade Hits Record

RUSSIA TODAY | October 20

RUSSIA'S RECENT trade figures show strengthening ties eastwards, not westwards. Trade with the 28-nation European Union declined 3.2 percent from the same period last year, whereas trade with China increased by 3.4 percent.

The EU remains Russia's biggest trading partner and made up half of

# Putin Orders Gold Reserve Buying Spree

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS TIMES UK | October 20

RUSSIA HAS increased its gold holdings in recent months as its economy feels the heat from the unresolved crisis in eastern Ukraine.

Amid declining relations with the European Union and the United States that could hurt its substantial dollar and euro reserves, Russia has instead focused on expanding purchases of gold bullion and the Chinese yuan currency.

Since Russia annexed the Black Sea peninsula of Crimea from Ukraine in March, drawing international condemnation and a raft of economic sanctions from Western powers, Russia's gold reserves have soared beyond those of Switzerland and China. Its gold holdings stand at the highest level for more than two decades and are currently the fifth

largest reserves in the world. ...

Given the geopolitical climate between Russia and the West, analysts believe it is likely that Moscow will cut reserves of euros and dollars, while seeking to boost its yuan currency and gold holdings.

Indeed, Russian President Vladimir Putin said in May that it was essential for Russia to secure its gold reserves due to the uncertain economic climate.

"For us [Russia and China], it is important to deposit those [gold and currency reserves] in a rational and secure way," he said, adding that both Russia and China were exploring ways to increase the use of national currencies as an alternative to the dollar.

all trade worth \$263.3 billion in the first half of 2014, but China remains the strongest single trade partner at \$59.1 billion, Russia's statistics bureau announced Monday.

China is Russia's second-biggest trading partner after the EU, and total trade between the two was nearly \$89 billion last year and is on track to hit the \$100 billion target for 2014. ...

Russia-China trade has been rising fast since Moscow decided to pivot towards the expanding world's second-largest economy and largest by some economic indicators. China and Russia expect trade between the two neighbors to reach \$200 billion by 2020. ...

newspaper *Politika*. ...

"The United States and Russia have enormous stockpiles of these weapons. Together they have 94 percent of all the 16,300 nuclear weapons in the world." ...

Russia surpassed the United States for the first time in number of nuclear warheads that are deployed, according to a recent report from the State Department.

Russia now has 1,643 warheads deployed on intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarine-launched ballistic missiles and heavy bombers. The United States has 1,642, said the fact sheet, reported the *Washington Times*. ...

to undermine national sovereignty as well as political, economic and social stability and public order, *Kommer-sant* reported. ... The treaty with China would allow the development of joint projects and conducting joint cybersecurity operations. ...

## TW IN BRIEF

### ■ China-led united Asian bank

China and 20 other Asian countries gathered in Beijing on October 24 to sign a Memorandum of Understanding that will establish the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). The bank, to be headquartered in China, will be a multilateral financial institution focused on infrastructure development in Asia. It will also reduce dependence on the Western-dominated World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. The purpose for the AIIB, first proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping last October, along with Xi's 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, is to deepen economic cooperation among Asian countries. China has said it will provide most if not all of the initial \$50 billion in capital, which will fund loans to borrowers in Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, the Philippines, Qatar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Uzbekistan and Vietnam. The founding members will complete the signing and ratification of the articles of agreement in 2015 and the bank will open by the end of the year.

## World War 3: Vladimir Putin Threatens West

EPOCH TIMES | October 19

RUSSIA'S PRESIDENT Vladimir Putin has threatened the West with his country's 5,000 nuclear warheads.

Putin has raised the specter of nuclear war for the third time in the past two months as he and Western countries such as the United States clash over the Ukraine conflict, which has been bringing to light other deep-seated animosity. ...

"We hope that our partners will realize the recklessness of attempts to blackmail Russia, and will remember the risks that a spat between major nuclear powers means for strategic stability," Putin told Serbian

## Russia, China: Unique Cybersecurity Treaty

RUSSIA TODAY | October 21

AN UNPRECEDENTED treaty on cybersecurity cooperation could be signed during Vladimir Putin's state visit to China in November, a Russian business daily reports.

Popular newspaper *Kommersant* quoted unnamed sources "close to the Kremlin" as saying that the final text of the "two-sided agreement on cooperation in the field of information security" was not ready yet, but officials hope the document will be signed on November 10.

The draft treaty states the two countries oppose the use of information technology to meddle in the internal affairs of independent states,



**GERALD FLURRY**

## Zadok the Priest

When a new king or a queen is crowned in Britain, the choir sings "Zadok the Priest." Why? And what does that have to do with you?



## Perform Gay Marriage or Go to Jail

**WASHINGTON TIMES** | October 20

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho, city officials have laid down the law to Christian pastors within their community, telling them bluntly via an ordinance that if they refuse to marry homosexuals, they will face jail time and fines.

The dictate comes on the heels of a legal battle with Donald and Evelyn Knapp, ordained ministers who own the Hitching Post wedding chapel in the city, but who oppose gay marriage, the Daily Caller reported.

A federal judge recently ruled that the state's ban on gay marriage was unconstitutional, while the city of Coeur d'Alene has an ordinance that prevents discrimination based on sexual preference.

The Supreme Court's recent refusal to take on gay rights' appeals from five states has opened the doors for same-sex marriages to go forth.

The Knapps were just asked by a gay couple to perform their wedding ceremony, the Daily Caller reported.

"On Friday, a same-sex couple asked to be married by the Knapps, and the Knapps politely declined," the Daily Signal reported. "The Knapps now face a 180-day jail term and a \$1,000 fine for each day they decline to celebrate the same-sex wedding..."

## Muslim Attack on Canadian Parliament

**DAILY MAIL** | October 22

A MUSLIM convert shot dead a Canadian soldier at the National War Memorial in Ottawa on Wednesday before exchanging dozens of shots with guards inside Parliament in a terrifying attack that left the nation's capital on lockdown.

Michael Zehaf-Bibeau fatally shot Cpl. Nathan Cirillo, a 24-year-old father, as he stood guard at the War Memorial on Wednesday morning.

Zehaf-Bibeau then ran inside the Parliament, where he opened fire before he was shot dead by the House of Commons sergeant at arms.

Zehaf-Bibeau, who had a criminal

history for drug trafficking in Montreal and robbery in Vancouver, was born in Quebec as Michael Joseph Hall but recently converted to Islam, CBS reported.

Sources told the *Globe and Mail* that he had been designated "high-risk traveler" and the government had seized his passport. His attack comes just two days after another Canadian soldier was killed in Quebec by a man with jihadist sympathies.

Authorities initially said they believed "two or three" gunmen were responsible for the attack in Ottawa on Wednesday, but at an afternoon press conference, Chief of Police Charles Bordeleau would not confirm whether or not they are still searching for other shooters. ...

As gunfire erupted in the hallways, journalists and politicians scrambled for safety, while members in the Conservative Party caucus room blocked the door with a stack of chairs.

A parliamentary guard was shot in the leg during the gunfight but is recovering in hospital, according to *Globe and Mail* reporter Josh Wingrove, who inside the building. ...

## Immigrants Transform Society

**Kiall Lorenz** | October 23

THE PERCENTAGE of people living in the United States who speak English as a first language is declining, according to a report released by the Center for Immigration Studies on October 6. Sixty-four million U.S. residents, (20 percent of the population) speak English as a second language in their homes. Thirty years ago that figure was only 10 percent.

"Allowing in over 1 million new legal immigrants a year and to a lesser extent tolerating illegal immigration has important implications for preserving a common language," the coauthor of the report, Steven Camarota, said. "For too long, we have given little consideration to whether



## Revelation Series—Part 10: Laodicea—Perishing Without Vision

THE TRUMPET DAILY | October 23

**STEPHEN FLURRY** The seventh era of God's Church—happening right now.



continuing this level of immigration, mostly legal, hinders the assimilation of immigrants and their children.”

Spanish is the most widely used foreign language. Thirty-eight million residents in the U.S. use Spanish as their preferred first language. This is 12 percent of the population.

This summer, America experienced one of the largest surges in illegal immigrants, especially minors, across the southern border. Schools across the country feel the pressure. English faces increasing opposition as the preferred spoken language in California, Texas, Nevada and New Mexico. Between 31.3 and 44.6 percent of these states’ student populations speak Spanish as their first language.

As noted in our article “[The Trouble With Immigration: Cultural Impact](#),” language is a key component of culture. The language spoken by immigrants to America is a key factor in their being assimilated into the nation’s culture.

America is not the only country facing this problem. A primary school in Worcestershire, England, blocked English-speaking students from

attending a school excursion to the zoo. The excursion was for foreign language-speaking students only. The English-speaking students were required to stay at school and complete their regular classes. This is Britain, the mother of all English-speaking nations.

America, and even Britain, is becoming increasingly divided, partly because of massive immigration. Watch Stephen Flurry’s *Trumpet Daily* “[Illegal Immigration and the Transformation of America](#)” to understand how immigration is transforming the American society.

## The New Gender-Inclusive Schools

**Kial Lorenz** | October 15

**P**ERSONAL PRONOUNS are headed for the trash pile. A Lincoln, Nebraska, middle school advised its teachers at the beginning of the fall semester to use gender-inclusive expressions. Teachers are to veer away from gendered expressions, such as “boys and girls,” “guys,” or even “ladies and

gentlemen.” They are instead encouraged to embrace less sexually-oriented terms, such as campers, athletes, readers or even “purple penguins.”

The middle school teachers were each given a 12-step handout to help them become more gender-inclusive. Here are some of the guidelines:

Point number 1: Avoid asking kids to line up according to gender. To combat this tendency, the handout suggests lining up students according to birth date. If that gets boring, it suggests lining up students according to likes and dislikes. Whatever the chosen method, the lines should not develop into a gendered space.

Point number 2: Teachers should develop classroom names. Teachers are not allowed to use the common expressions such as boys, girls or “you guys” to gain their students’ attention. The handout provides examples of what a teacher should say: “calling all readers” or “could all of the athletes come here.” Another example is, “purple penguins to meet on the rug.”

Other points in the handout call for the teacher to *question* students if they reference gender in a binary manner. “What makes you say that? I think of it differently,” is one way they are to challenge the students in order to train them to be more gender unidentifying.

A Vancouver, British Columbia, school recently adopted a similar gender neutral policy: Just make up your own words. At that school, “he/she,” “him/her” and “his/hers” will be used in addition to the neutral pronouns “xe,” “xem,” “xyr.”

Lincoln Superintendent Steve Joel said he was pleased with this new gender-inclusive curriculum. The district does not want any student to feel like an outcast. “We’re all there to learn,” Joel said. Accepting gender difference is a part of learning for students.”

“We’re standing up for kids and making our schools safer and more inclusive,” board member Mike Lombardi said.

How does God view this gender-inclusive curriculum indoctrinating our society? Read “[Let Boys Be Girls. Or Goys or Birls](#)” for the answer.

# Ebola vs. Civil Liberties

Charles Krauthammer | October 16

UNNERVINGLY, THE U.S. public health services remain steps behind the Ebola virus. Contact tracing is what we do, Centers for Disease Control Director Tom Frieden assured the nation. It will stop the epidemic “in its tracks.” And yet nurses Nina Pham and Amber Vinson, who developed Ebola, were not even among the 48 contacts the CDC was initially following.

Nor were any of the doctors and nurses who treated the “index patient,” Thomas Duncan. No one even had a full list of caregivers.

The other reassurance was: *Not to worry. We know what we’re doing. We have protocols.* When, however, we got the first Ebola transmission in the United States, it was blamed on a “breach in protocol.”

Translation: “Don’t blame us. The nurse screwed up.” The nurses union was not amused. Frieden had to walk that back the next day, saying he didn’t mean to blame anyone.

Frieden had said that “the care of Ebola can be done safely, but it is hard to do it safely.” Meaning: In theory, it’s easy; in practice, very dangerous. Unfortunately, that’s not what he said on Day One. When you hear it two weeks later, you begin to wonder.

These missteps raise questions of competence, candor

and false confidence. But the problem is deeper. And it rests not in our doctors but in ourselves.

In the face of a uniquely dangerous threat, we Americans have trouble recalibrating our traditional (and laudable) devotion to individual rights and civil liberties. That is the fundamental reason we’ve been so slow in getting serious about Ebola. ...

British Airways has already canceled all flights to the affected countries in West Africa. We haven’t. A couple more cases of imported Ebola and we will.

Why are we waiting? The CDC argues that a travel ban would stop the flow of medical assistance to West Africa. This is silly. Simply make an exception for health-care workers. They apply to federal authorities, who charter their flights (or use military aircraft already headed there) and monitor their movements until 21 days after their return home. Done.

President Obama, in his messianic period, declared that choosing between security and liberty was a false choice. On the contrary. It is the eternal dilemma of every free society. Politics is the very process of finding some equilibrium between these two competing values.

Regarding terrorism, we’ve developed a fairly reasonable balance. But it took time. With Ebola, we don’t have time. Viruses don’t wait. The sooner we reset the balance—the sooner we get serious—the safer we will be.

## Lesson From Atlantic City

SAM LIVINGSTON | October 22

IN THE last few decades, we’ve witnessed the decline of America’s industrial cities—especially in the Northeast. Detroit, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Buffalo embody this downward trend. The scene of boarded up windows, dilapidated factories and lifeless industrial districts is common throughout America’s Northeastern cities. They are painful symbols of America’s failing economy.

However, when you hear about Atlantic City’s decline, be careful not to throw it in the same category as the aforementioned.

A city of roughly 40,000 people on a small island just off New Jersey’s southeastern coast, Atlantic City can hardly be defined as “industrial.” It was originally established as a resort town at the start of the 20th century. The city experienced its cycle of ups and downs, but by the late ’70s the economy was rough. City officials needed something to bring back the

city’s spark. Thus, gambling was legalized.

Atlantic City experienced a boom. Hotels and casinos opened up along the now-famous Boardwalk. The city became the Las Vegas of the East. ...

Today, the actual image on the Boardwalk hardly lines up with the property portrayed on the famous Monopoly board. Four casinos have closed their doors this year already, with another one possible this November.

Atlantic City is primarily built around taxes from casinos. In 2014, Atlantic City’s dozen casinos “accounted for 56 percent of the assessed value of its tax base,” according to a local news source. When the casinos’ gross revenue dropped from \$5.2 billion in 2006 down to \$2.8 billion in 2013, the city lost massive amounts of revenue.

Fewer gamblers equals fewer public services.

Atlantic City is in a rut, not because people are giving up gambling, but because gambling is being outsourced. ...



The Trump Plaza Casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey

On the East Coast, gambling once centered on Atlantic City. Today, the city struggles to keep up with the competition. Pennsylvania’s legalized slot machines and more conveniently located Indian casinos have pulled gamblers away.

So what does Atlantic City’s decline reveal about America’s direction? Atlantic City’s decline, unlike decaying industrial cities, does not reveal America’s failing economy—it reveals America’s addiction to a habit that is just as destructive.

For further reading about the dangers of gambling, read “[America’s Gambling Addiction](#)” by Gareth Fraser.

# The Virtuoso Manager

Caroline Glick, JERUSALEM POST | October 21

SINCE HE assumed office nearly six years ago, U.S. President Barack Obama has been dogged by allegations of managerial incompetence. Obama, his critics allege, had no managerial experience before he was elected. His lack of such experience, they claim, is reflected in what they see as his incompetent handling of the challenges of the presidency.

In everything from dealing with the Congress, to reinventing radical ideologues at the IRS, to handling the chaos at the Mexican border, to putting together coordinated strategies for dealing with everything from Ebola to the Islamic State, Obama's critics claim that he is out of his league.

That he is incompetent.

But if Israel's experience with him is any guide, then his critics are the ones who are out to sea. Because at least in his handling of U.S. relations with the Jewish state, Obama has exhibited a mastery of the tools of the executive branch unmatched by most of his predecessors.

Consider two stories reported in last Friday's papers.

First, in an article published in the *Jerusalem Post*, terrorism analyst and investigative reporter Steven Emerson revealed how the highest echelons of the administration blocked the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's Office from assisting Israel in finding the remains of IDF soldier Oron Shaul.

Shaul was one of seven soldiers from the Golani Infantry Brigade killed July 20 when Hamas terrorists fired a rocket at their armored personnel carrier in Gaza's Shejeia neighborhood. ...

Acting in accordance with standing practice, recognizing that time was of the essence, the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's Office began working on Israel's request immediately. But just before the U.S. Attorney secured a court order to Facebook requiring it to hand over the records, the FBI was told to end its efforts.

In an order that senior law enforcement officials told Emerson came from Attorney General Eric Holder's office, the FBI was told that it needed to first sign an "MLAT," a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty with Israel, a procedure that would take weeks to complete, and is generally used in cases involving criminal prosecutions and other non-life threatening issues.

In other words, facing a bureaucracy acting independently, Holder—reportedly Obama's most trusted cabinet

secretary—acted quickly, decisively and effectively. And thanks to his intervention at the key moment, although Israel was able—after an exhaustive forensic investigation—to determine Oron's death, today it is poised to begin negotiations with Hamas for the return of his body parts.

Then there was the unofficial arms embargo.

In August, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that the White House and State Department had stopped the Pentagon at the last minute from responding favorably to an Israeli request for resupply of Hellfire precision air-to-surface missiles. The precision guided missiles were a key component of Israel's air operations against missile launchers in Gaza. The missiles' guidance systems allowed the air force to destroy the launchers while minimizing collateral damage. ...

But then the White House and State Department heard about the approved shipment and spun into action. As in the case of Oron's Facebook page, they didn't reject Israel's request. They just added a level of bureaucracy to the handling of the request that made it impossible for Israel to receive assistance from the U.S. government in real time. ...

The Hellfire missiles, along with other ammunition Israel requested during the war, arrived in September—a month after the ceasefire went into effect. ...

Obama and his senior advisers are simply sticklers for procedure. And since during the war Obama insisted that he supported Israel, policymakers and the public had a hard time opposing his actions.

How can you oppose a hostile policy toward Israel that the administration insists doesn't exist? Indeed, anyone who suggests otherwise runs the risk of being attacked as a conspiracy theorist or a firebrand. ...

Consistent polling data show that Obama's policies of harming Israel and facilitating Iran's acquisition of a nuclear arsenal are deeply unpopular. His successful advancement of both policies despite this deep-seated public opposition is a testament to his extraordinary skill. ...

At least as far as Israel is concerned, Obama's mastery of the federal bureaucracy is complete. It is not incompetence that guides his policy. It is malicious intent toward the U.S.'s closest ally in the Middle East. And to defeat this policy, it is not necessary to prove incompetence that doesn't exist. It is necessary to show that there are far better ways to achieve his declared aims of supporting Israel and blocking Iran's nuclear weapons program.

## Black Witnesses Back Up Officer Darren Wilson's Account

TELEGRAPH | October 22

FRESH OFF of the full Michael Brown autopsy which proves the 18-year old did not have his hands up in surrender comes another bombshell:

several black witnesses have corroborated Darren Wilson's account that Brown attacked him in his police cruiser and then rushed the officer before he was fatally shot.

The *Washington Post* has the truth that will be ignored by Ferguson protestors: "Seven or eight African American eyewitnesses have provided testimony consistent with Wilson's

account, but none of them have spoken publicly out of fear for their safety, the *Washington Post's* sources said."

The standard version of events on the streets of Ferguson is that Brown, a little angel with college aspirations, was walking down the street with his friend when an evil racist white officer tried to grab him from the car. Brown took off running when the

# U.S. Gov't Seeks Supplies for Immigration Documents

ASSOCIATED PRESS | October 22

THE HOMELAND Security Department appears to be preparing for an increase in the number of immigrants living illegally in the country to apply for work permits after [United States] President Barack Obama announces his long-promised plans for executive actions on immigration reform later this year.

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) confirmed to the Associated Press that it has published a draft contract proposal to buy the card stock needed to make work permits and Permanent Resident Cards, more commonly known as green cards. The proposal calls for providing material for at least 5 million cards a year, with as many as 9 million "during the initial period ... to support possible future immigration reform initiative requirements." The contract calls for as many 34 million cards over five years.

USCIS, the Homeland Security agency that oversees immigration benefits, produces about 3 million work permits and green cards annually, so the new contract would at least provide the Obama administration with the flexibility to issue far more work permits or green cards even if it chose not to exercise that option. ...

The contract proposal was first reported by the online news site Breitbart.com.

Obama said earlier this year that he would act on his

own if Congress failed to pass immigration legislation. He has twice delayed making any changes, saying as recently as last month that he would hold off on executive actions until after November's midterm elections.

The administration has repeatedly declined to say what options Obama was considering, but it is widely believed that he will expand protections from deportation already extended to more than 500,000 young immigrants who came to the United States as children. Under that program, known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, many young immigrants who are in school or who have graduated and don't have a criminal record can win protection from deportation for up to two years. They are also eligible for work permits.

The president does not have the legal authority to unilaterally offer immigrants in the country illegally green cards or any other permanent immigration status. But administration officials have said the president can authorize protection from deportation for immigrants on a case-by-case basis, such as with the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, and issue work permits.

USCIS Director Leon Rodriguez told an audience at a Georgetown University Law Center conference Tuesday that his agency was ready for whatever immigration changes Obama may announce. He declined to provide details.

officer began shooting. Brown stopped, turned around with his hands up and tried to surrender. That's when the black-hating officer shot the unarmed Brown to death.

Officer Wilson's version of the story goes like this: after receiving a call about a strong-armed robbery, Wilson noticed a suspect that matched the description walking in the middle of the street. Wilson attempted to get out of his car when Michael Brown, a 6' 4" monster, kicked his door closed. Brown reached in the car and punched the officer, then tried to take his gun. In the struggle, the gun was fired twice and Brown was shot in the hand.

With his gun drawn, Officer Wilson got out of his car and ordered Brown to surrender. Brown taunted the officer with profanity then came at him aggressively. Fearing for his life, Wilson had no choice but to shoot, killing Brown as he closed in on the officer.

Backing up the "street" version of events is Brown's friend Dorian Johnson who has been proven to be a liar. In Wilson's corner there is a

mountain of evidence to bolster his side of things.

The first, most compelling piece of evidence is that Brown actually was the suspect that committed the strong-armed robbery of a convenience store. Next, there were two shell casings in Wilson's police car as well as Brown's blood which points to the fact that Brown was shot while struggling inside the car for the officer's gun. There is also Brown's blood on the gun adding more corroborating evidence.

Then there's the full autopsy report: "The autopsy says that Brown was shot in the forehead, twice in the chest and once in the upper right arm. The fatal wound on top of Brown's head indicates that he was leaning or falling forward and the path of a sixth shot, which hit Brown's forearm and traveled from the back of his arm to his inner arm, means Brown's palms were not facing Wilson in an act of surrender ...."

The toxicology report shows Brown had a high level of THC in his system, indicating he used marijuana just

prior to his death.

And blood splatter analysis: "In interviews with the *Washington Post*, sources said blood spatter evidence shows that Brown was heading toward the officer during their face-off ...."

Finally, we have black witnesses testifying before the grand jury that back up what Officer Wilson has said all along: that Brown was shot while attacking him.

This was a justified shooting. There is no racism, no hatred, just a police officer defending his life against a thug, high on drugs, in the course of his duty. This is why the Department of Justice is refusing to file civil rights charges against Officer Wilson.

Of course none of this concrete evidence, that completely exonerates Officer Wilson, will be considered by the protesters of Ferguson, Missouri. They say they want justice for a young black man, but what they really want is to kill a white police officer that did nothing wrong. And that is literally the only thing racist about this incident.

## MESS from page 1

worse in recent years, after the tinkering of the Labor government and the fact that the European Union now has supremacy over British laws. But now the whole thing will be overhauled in a matter of months.

In the run-up to the Scottish referendum, as the polls looked bad, Britain's leaders panicked. In an effort to persuade the Scots to vote "No," the heads of Britain's three main political parties promised to overturn the way Britain is governed by granting more powers to the Scots.

That's not a simple change—it's more like tugging on an errant thread that leads to the unraveling of the whole garment. The *Telegraph's* chief political commentator, Peter Osborne, called the proposed changes the "greatest revolution in the way that Britain is governed since the Glorious Revolution of 1688."

Can Britain's constitution be improved? Absolutely. There's no question about that. The recent changes made by Labor present problems that have been ignored, not resolved. But taking mere months to overhaul a constitution that has taken 1,000 years or more to create is the real danger.

Part of the problem has been given the snooze-inducing name of "the West Lothian question." It's also a bit of snooze-inducing problem too, but the phrase will now be all over British political news for months, and it is the catalyst for the constitutional upheaval, so it's worth understanding fully.

The problem began when Scotland (and to a lesser extent Wales and Northern Ireland) received additional powers to run its own affairs. For example, the Scottish Parliament now controls Scotland's education system. Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs) vote on Scottish education policy. However, Scotland also sends Members of Parliament (M.P.s) to London who can vote on English education policies, even though the outcome of these votes has nothing to do with them. A few years ago, Scotland's Labor politicians voted that Scottish university students should not pay tuition fees. Then they turned around and cast the deciding vote in favor of English students paying those same fees. They decided that British taxpayers would pay for Scottish students to go to university, but not English ones. Whatever one thinks of tuition fees, it's not a fair arrangement.

So far the English have lived with this. As long as it affects only a few areas, like education, it's a problem that can be swept under the carpet. But now that Britain has promised to give Scotland some powers over its taxation and spending, this contradiction can no longer be ignored.

Taxation and spending are at the heart of governance. The idea that Scottish M.P.s could vote on the tax rate in England, while the English have no say on the tax rate in Scotland, is unacceptable to many English. Because of this, after the "No" verdict in the referendum, British Prime Minister David Cameron said he would change the constitution so that only English M.P.s could vote on English laws. But this creates problems of its own.

Here's a very likely scenario for the next general election: The left-wing Labor Party wins a majority across the UK, thanks to its support in Scotland and Wales; however,

the Conservative Party has a majority in England. What happens? You're left with a mess.

The Conservatives could block any Labor bill that did not affect Scotland, which would be most of them. Or, under an alternative arrangement, you could have the Conservatives form an English government, while Labor runs a UK government, responsible for only foreign and defense policy, and little else.

That's a recipe for gridlock and confusion. That's why the West Lothian question has been ignored for so many years—there's no easy solution. What Mr. Cameron is proposing will require a complete upheaval of the British Constitution—which is why people like Peter Osborne are calling it the biggest shake-up in England's government in over 300 years.

And Mr. Cameron promised to get all this sorted out and ready for legislation by January. This means Britain will make some of its biggest-ever constitutional changes based on a set of proposals drawn up on the back of an envelope during the Scottish Referendum and fleshed out in a mad dash with little time to think things through.

There are real dangers here. Britain's wisest living elder statesman, Lord Tebbit, explains that in giving these extra powers to Scotland, "The Balkanization of this kingdom has begun."

"Unless we wish to go the way of the Balkans, we had best work out how to reverse, rather than to accelerate it," he concludes.

UK Independence Party leader Nigel Farage grasps the magnitude of what is being discussed. He has called for a constitutional convention to try to find answers to the West Lothian question—answers that, he freely admits, he does not have.

Creating a new constitution is no small thing. It took America's Founding Fathers years to get right; their first attempt was a complete failure.

Right now, the Islamic State stalks the Middle East; Russia openly threatens to overturn the post-World War II order; an economic and political crisis threatens to change Europe forever; and Britain wants to do what America did back in the 1780s—sit down and figure out how to govern itself.

It's like trying to rebuild a slightly problematic car engine. Get it right, and it'll run better. But rush it or mess up, and you're left with a car that might burst into flames on the road. Meanwhile the rest of the world speeds by while Britain is busy tinkering.

Marry in haste, repent at leisure, as the adage goes, also applies to constitutions.

*Trumpet* columnist Brad Macdonald wrote ahead of the referendum that Britain has no idea why it exists or why it should remain together. The Scottish referendum was a symptom of that identity crisis. Now the nation has decided it is not sure it likes the way it is governed either—Britain is gripped by a full-blown existential crisis.

Britain is not in a good position, but there is good news. For the hope, vision and purpose Britain needs, read our free book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.

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