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DLNSEO HIGHLIGHT

[Rhode Island Crafts Road Map to Learning Languages](#)

(Education Week)...Erik Robelen

Rhode Island leaders in education, business, and politics this month unveiled a blueprint to ensure that students learn a foreign language and build their understanding of other cultures. "It's not just nice to know another language; it's increasingly essential," said U.S. Sen. Jack Reed, a Rhode Island Democrat, in a [press release](#). The announcement comes as, just yesterday, the Council on Foreign Relations [published](#) an article about the growing economic imperative for Americans to learn languages beyond English, which calls for the federal government to launch a "Languages for Jobs" program. DLNSEO is working with Rhode Island on this initiative.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

[Military Children Education Coalition](#)

(Defense.gov)...SecDef Leon Panetta Speech
In equipping our military children with the best education, the best knowledge, the best skills that they need for the future, the Department is investing in its own future. Many of these young men and women will eventually follow in the tracks of their parents and will join the military themselves. Education is also a national security priority, and for that reason we support efforts by the National Math and Science Initiative to build technical proficiency, and support expanding the instruction of critical foreign languages.

[Air Force seeks defense attaché officers](#)

(Air Force Times)...Jeff Schogol

The Air Force is looking for officers to serve as defense attachés in 10 locations ranging from Burundi to Russia. "Attachés officially represent the secretary of defense, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, secretary of the Air Force and Air Force chief of staff to the host country defense ministry," Maj. Amy Rammel, of the Air Force Personnel Center, said in a news release. "They provide critical advice to the U.S. ambassador and country team, and directly support our efforts to

fight global terrorism." Applications are due by July 7.

[Foreign Area Officers receive inaugural career development training](#)

(dvids)...Brian Lamar

An inaugural week-long Foreign Area Officer Course was held at the Presidio of Monterey June 11-15, to serve as the foundation of a new FAO's career, according to Col. Heino Klinck, the general staff division chief for the strategic leadership division of the Department of the Army. For many of you, this course is a first step that will be followed by intensive language training, graduate level education, in-region training and repetitive assignments focused on a specific part of the world," Klinck explained.

[Language Enabled Airman Program application period begins July 2](#)

(AF.mil)

Air Force Culture and Language Center officials recently announced the application window dates for the Fall 2012 Language Enabled Airman Program selection board. Applications for the Language Enabled Airman Program will be accepted July 2 through August 31, and a selection board will be held this fall. The AFCLC, which is part of Air University's Spaatz Center, aims to choose 200 new LEAP participants from cadet and active-duty officer and enlisted Airmen applicants.

[Afghan youth learn cultural diversity](#)

(dvids)...Sgt. Andrea Merritt

Female Engagement Team members with Company A, 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry



Regiment, helped 40 Afghan youth expand their knowledge of the world through a cultural diversity youth shurah conducted June 23, 2012, at Combat Outpost Pinach.

STUDIES

Foreign Languages and U.S. Economic Competitiveness

(Council on Foreign Relations)...Edward Alden U.S. economic and military might (and that of the British Empire before) spread the English language across the world, so that English became the global second language and the de facto language of international business. But in the latest Renewing America Policy Innovation Memorandum, [A Languages For Jobs Initiative](#), scholars from the Center for Applied Linguistics argue that Americans in the future are unlikely to get by so well on English alone. Nearly 30 percent of the U.S. economy is now wrapped up in international trade, and half of U.S. growth since the official end of the recession in 2009 has come from exports. The fastest-growing economies in the world are not English speaking. And as Brad Jensen of Georgetown University has shown, [the most promising export sector for the United States is business services](#)

INTERNATIONAL

Ukraine: clashes with police, parliament speaker resigns over status of Russian language

(Washington Post)

Opposition activists clashed with riot police in the



center of the Ukrainian capital Wednesday and the parliament speaker resigned after the legislature passed a bill that would upgrade the status of the Russian language. The bill, which must be signed by the president to become law, would leave Ukrainian as the only state language but allow the use of Russian in Russian-speaking regions in courts, education and other government institutions.

Forget The Politicians, The Children Of Europe Will Be Its Savior

(Forbes)...David Schrieberg

Jane Goodall wrote hopefully of young people “breaking down the barriers we have built

between cultures, religions, nations and the natural world.” Throughout Europe, look no further than the cities, towns and fields near home for remnants of those barriers rooted in the continent’s millennia of bloody history. My sons’



Europe looks far different than mine did when I started traveling here 40 years ago, when there were border

stations staffed by imposing, uniformed guards, and currencies that bulged pockets with coins and wallets with bills from multiple countries. Not to mention the decades of countries tearing at each others’ throats for the right to own the continent’s soul. The new normal for these young European Internationals is instant language switching, from their native Dutch, French, German, Spanish, Italian, you-name-it language to fluent English or any of two, three or four other languages which so many of them master as part of their formal education, and informal exposure to other nationalities.