
According to its homepage, Cultural Survival partners “with indigenous peoples to defend their lands, languages, and cultures.” The organization arose in the 1960s when the Amazon basin in South America was opened to economic development. In the 1970s, Cultural Survivor partnered with Harvard University’s Peabody Museum and ten years later founded a nonprofit trading division, spearheading the Fair Trade Movement. The tool bar at the top of the page is self-explanatory and easy to navigate. Three prominent sections are featured on the homepage: “News & Articles,” “Take Action,” and “Latest Issue.” The board and staff members of the organization are identified and contact information is plainly listed at the bottom of the page.

Cultural Survivor sponsors several programs, including the Community Radio Project, which promotes indigenous rights and voices on community radio, and Endangered Languages, which seeks to preserve the 139 native languages spoken today in the United States. On the Endangered Languages page, searches will find a link to “Our Mother Tongues,” a language map of Native American language programs, including the University of Minnesota’s Department of Indian Studies, which provides scholarship information for studying the Dakota language.

Cultural Survival publishes an open access quarterly magazine searchable from the website. Users entering the search term Chiapas will find several articles from the July 2008 issue dealing with the civil unrest in that region. The most recent issue of the magazine (December 2013) includes articles such as “Celebrating Heritage Traditions in Alaska’s Indigenous Communities,” “Maintaining the Ways of our Ancestors: Indigenous Women Address Food Sovereignty,” and “Suffering for the Mistakes of Others: Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples.”

Visitors to the site must keep in mind that Cultural Survivor is a nonprofit advocacy organization that mounts letter-writing campaigns and initiates other efforts to “thwart the environmental destruction of the rights of Native peoples.” The organization seems most concerned with the western hemisphere (Central, South, and North America), although other regions of the world are also represented on the site. With these caveats in mind, the librarian may safely recommend Cultural Survival to lower-division undergraduates doing research in anthropology, sociology, or writing persuasive papers for speech or communication classes.—Wendell G. Johnson, Northern Illinois University, wjohnso1@niu.edu


Global Voices provides an outlet for voices from international nonmainstream media. Bloggers and translators contribute written and video news stories to this truly international and multilingual site.

Founded in 2005 as a project of the Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard Law School, the website is funded by donations, grants, and sponsorships (funders include John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Open Society Institute, and Omidyar Network). The site’s stated mission is advocacy for, and protection of, free speech.

Global Voices recruits volunteer translators through their Project Lingua and 35 languages are represented. The volunteer team approach produced more than 13,000 translations in 2013 alone.

In addition to its news projects, the site features several other current and past projects.
Started in 2012, Global Voices Books has a goal of compiling Global Voices articles into eBooks. As of this review, only two titles are available, both of which have been translated into other languages. The project now uploads its books to other platforms, such as Google Books and Open Library.

Current projects also include the RuNet Echo project, which tracks the Russian-language Internet and focuses on cultural trends, Internet security issues, and online political communities. The Technology for Transparency Network project documents “the use of online and mobile technology to promote transparency and accountability around the world.”

Global Voices is easy to navigate via a Google Custom Search with basic search functionality or geographic, language, and topic menus that are useful for browsing. Searches may be limited to video content with links to the Global Voices YouTube channel. The site’s Creative Commons license allows for use of content with proper attribution and includes examples of citations.

While Global Voices is not an academic site, it is an excellent resource for tracking grassroots media. With its global coverage, students will find it an excellent tool for monitoring current world events. The news stories in other languages may also be useful for language learners.—Ann Flower, Monterey Institute of International Studies, aflower@miis.edu


Thomas Jefferson founded the University of Virginia in 1825; in his first inaugural address as president in 1801, he famously said that Americans were all Federalists and all Republicans (the two dominant political parties at the time). The university continues this tradition at the school’s Miller Center, which, in their words, is “a non-partisan institute that seeks to expand understanding of the presidency, policy and political history, providing critical insights for the nation’s governance challenges.”

The center’s website contains a vast, comprehensive and balanced array of presidential information, events, and policy in an easily navigable site. By simply rolling a mouse over the various links at the top of the web page, researchers will find numerous events listed and links to papers and articles dealing with presidential domestic policy, foreign policy, and institutional presidential scholarship.

Of special interest is the U.S. presidents link on the homepage, which contains in-depth histories and facts about all 44 presidents and their administrations. These profiles include numerous oral histories on current presidents, an image gallery, and transcriptions of formerly secret presidential taped recordings. The “Riding the Tiger” blog contains news items, book reviews, and interviews. Another great feature is the “Presidential Speech Archive,” which provides access to key presidential speeches; the archives offers transcripts and, in some cases, audio and video recordings of the speeches.

“Events” takes the user to an archive of recorded symposia and lectures dating from 2003 to the present on a wide array of foreign and domestic topics. Prominent speakers from both major political parties are featured including U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, former U.S. Senator Evan Bayh, and former Mississippi Governor and Republican National Committee Chairman Haley Barbour. The user can also find a list of upcoming conferences, including ones with live webcasts. Finally, “U.S. Policy” contains a broad list of links from various scholars dealing with many aspects of presidential domestic and foreign policy.

For the presidential scholar, as well as anyone interested in learning more about all facets of the American presidency, the University of Virginia’s Miller Center provides a balanced, thorough, and extensively researched portal. Highly recommended for researchers and those interested in all aspects of the American presidency.—Larry Cooperman, University of Central Florida Libraries-Orlando, Lawrence.Cooperman@ucf.edu