

The reiderstvo report neatly encapsulates a Russian phenomenon that both contributes to, and is accelerating as a result of, Russia's economic decline. According to the authors, Russian corporate raiding practices, facilitated and even directed by the Kremlin, are "contributing to Russia's current unfriendly business climate and to declining investor confidence in the country." Russia's uniquely destructive practice of corporate raiding not only has dire ramifications for the Russian people and any remaining foreign investors, it has long term implications for Russian stability.

Reiderstvo (literally "raiding"), an ominous and violent practice in Russia since the early 1990s, is vastly different from U.S. corporate "raiding"—that is, hostile takeovers by outside shareholders. Reiderstvo represents both private acquisition of business assets and public expropriation through a series of illegal bullying tactics that allow raiders to sell off a company's assets, often to a state controlled entity, and rapidly launder the proceeds, making massive profits and destroying businesses in the process.

This particular report is noteworthy for its documentation of two aspects of reiderstvo. First, reiderstvo and asset grabbing is far more widespread and imbedded in Russian business culture than most people outside of Russia have thought. Astonishingly, Russian President Putin himself said that the number of current arrests for economic crimes suggests that tens of thousands of companies of all sizes in Russia continue to be harassed, intimidated, robbed, and outright stolen.

Second, the study analyzes major cases of corporate raiding, and identifies the most common raiding tactics. These tactics include malicious prosecutions (false charges), malicious tax inspections, regulatory harassment, misuse of shares and shareholder protections, misuse of the banking system, abuse of international law enforcement, "Dark PR" campaigns, and even violence. In any given raid against a business, it is likely that several of these tactics will be used simultaneously. From their case studies the authors extract four stages of the reiderstvo process: preparation, negotiation, execution, and legalization.

In the case of OGAT, Ltd., one of the largest and most successful transportation companies in Russia, raiders used fraudulent documents to sell off company assets. In the case of TogliattiAzot, Russia's largest ammonia company, the company underwent 120 tax inspections in 18 months and was assessed \$150 million in alleged unpaid taxes in order to try to force the company into bankruptcy, making it easier and cheaper to acquire. Yevroset, a highly successful mobile phone operator, was the victim of three raids in which \$1.4 million worth of cell phone handsets were taken, tax charges levied against one of its suppliers, and searches made of the homes of top managers, all to force owners to sell the company to a raider.

It is easy to draw parallels from these cases to the more famous cases of Hermitage Capital and the Yukos Oil Company and demonstrate the state's own growing role in corporate raiding.

Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Human Rights subcommittee and of the Helsinki Commission, I have focused much of my congressional work on fighting for human rights—for all human rights, throughout the world. And countless times I have seen the connection

between human rights violations and governments that engage such grotesque forms of corruption. One connection, of course, is that rampantly corrupt governments commit human rights violations in order to cover up their crimes, or those of the mafias that dominate them. Such was the famous case of the heroic Sergei Magnitsky. The kind of government corruption we see in Russia today, manifesting itself in the ruthlessness of reiderstvo, is that which imperils the human rights of the Russian people.

Mr. Speaker, this report is a much needed and critical assessment of Russian corruption at the highest levels of authority and has important implications for U.S. foreign policy in the dimensions of human rights and rule of law and commercial relations.

The report may be found at www.reiderstvo.org. I strongly urge my colleagues to read it.

PEARLAND ISD CAMPUS TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the following teachers of Pearland Independent School District for being named Campus Teachers of the Year.

Each school year, principals, teachers and staff members are recognized by the school district with various awards as a reflection of their hard work and dedication to their students and the school as a whole. This year 23 Pearland teachers were awarded the title "Campus Teachers of the Year": Jennifer Black from Carlestone Elementary, Anne Romolo from Challenger Elementary, Patricia Guel from Cockrell Elementary, Tiffany Cox from C.J. Harris Elementary, Katie Strong from Lawhon Elementary, Lisa Rocha from Magnolia Elementary, Christina Morton from Massey Ranch Elementary, Maureen Clayvon-Wright from Rustic Oak Elementary, Ruth Mondich from Shadycrest Elementary, Katie Cruz from Silvercrest Elementary, Gay Stricklin from Silverlake Elementary, Kristine Holland from Alexander Middle School, Rebekkah Rudd from Jamison Middle School, Crystal Hildebrand from Rogers Middle School, Connie Medley from Sablatura Middle School, Shatterra Jackson from Berry Miller Junior High, Lori Sandman from Pearland Junior High East, Lana Garcia from Pearland Junior High South, Mara Williams from Pearland Junior High West, Troy Myers from Dawson High School, Jennifer Duggan from Pearland High School, Hunter Morgan from Turner College and Career High School, and Ann Lowrey Merrill from the PACE Center. These teachers go above and beyond to inspire their students and create a supportive educational environment. We are grateful for their commitment to education and providing a safe, inspirational learning environment for our students.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to these dedicated Pearland teachers for being named Campus Teachers of the Year. We thank them for all that they do.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBERT HANSON

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passing of Robert "Bob" Hanson, who served as the Chairman and CEO of Deere & Company from 1982 to 1990.

Both as a citizen and a businessman, Bob was invaluable to the Quad-Cities and our region. During his tenure as CEO, Bob guided John Deere through the farm crisis of the 1980s, and kept up company morale during a decade rife with layoffs and downsizing. He focused on developing Deere as a good corporate citizen that gave back to Moline, and made time to engage and build relationships with employees at every level of the company. Later CEOs have credited Bob with laying the foundation for Deere's future success.

In addition to his business success, Bob also gave back to the community as an individual. In the middle of earning his degree, Bob served our country for three years as a Marine in World War II. His passion for helping others led him and his wife, Patricia, to contribute generously to his alma mater, Augustana College, and establish a scholarship for the Quad-City Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Speaker, as we commemorate Bob's life, and his dedication to our community, my thoughts and prayers are with Bob's wife, Patricia, and the rest of his family during this difficult time.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CAPE COD MUSEUM OF ART

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Cape Cod Museum of Art on their 35th anniversary.

Thirty-five years ago, Harry Holl and Roy Freed brought to life their vision for a museum that honors and celebrates the works of outstanding artists from the Cape Cod region in Massachusetts. Mr. Holl, a renowned potter, sculptor, painter, and a Dennis resident himself, lived out the same values that comprise the museum's mission. As a teacher, he inspired his students and developed local art programs. Mr. Freed, both a lawyer and a sculptor, was dedicated to providing a venue to showcase the talents of our community. He brought together supporters at the founding of the Museum, and he contributed to the remarkable achievements and growth of this museum.

What started with ten local supporters, the Cape Cod Museum of Art now houses seven exhibition galleries, the Weny Education Center, a screening room, an outdoor sculpture garden, and a permanent collection of more than 2,000 works of art. Artists across the nation have drawn inspiration from our local community and our beautiful landscapes. I am proud to say the museum is esteemed nationwide, with the recent exhibit 'Breaking the Mold' which featured outside artists drawing 718 submissions by 227 artists from 29 states.

The Cape Cod Museum of Art continues to serve an important mission. It is dedicated to preserving our heritage and engage our community in local art appreciation has proved to be invaluable. The museum promotes art appreciation through great programs, workshops, and classes. The Resource Library serves as a hub for learning the history of Cape Cod artists, past and present. As a proud member of this community, I am grateful for the work the museum has done in preserving our cultural history.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Cape Cod Museum of Art as they celebrate this joyous milestone. I look forward to seeing what the future brings to this pillar of the Cape Cod art community.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF THOMAS R. MACFARLAN

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Thomas R. Macfarlan.

Congratulations to Thomas R. Macfarlan on the occasion of his retirement as Nockamixon Township's Emergency Management Coordinator. Beginning in June 1994, his tenure has been marked with outstanding contributions to the safety and security of area residents. He wrote the township's first Emergency Operations Plan, which brought Nockamixon into compliance with the Pennsylvania Emergency Management directive, helped write the first school district Emergency Management Operations Plan and many other effective plans to deal with emergency situations and events in Nockamixon. He has distinguished himself with responsible service and countless contributions to his community. Mr. Macfarlan also is known for the key role he played in development of regional EMA groups and under his direction, the Nockamixon EMA is acknowledged in many communities for its leadership in Bucks County, Pennsylvania and also New Jersey. Thomas R. Macfarlan leaves his post with the appreciation of the citizens he so willingly and ably served.

TRIBUTE TO V. RICHARD (DICK) MILLER

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a prominent Hoosier leader and my dear friend, Mr. V. Richard (Dick) Miller who passed away on May 18, 2016 surrounded by his loving family.

Dick was born in Des Moines, Iowa and moved to Warsaw, Indiana with his family as a young child. He received his undergraduate degree from Purdue University and earned a MSBA from Indiana University South Bend in 1972. In 1976, Dick was elected State Senator and served for three terms in the Indiana General Assembly, half of his service on the Senate Republican leadership team.

Dick put a lot of care and dedication into his work. After taking over the family business, he expanded Miller's Merry Manor across the state and employed over 3000 Hoosiers. With the help of his siblings, they made Miller's Health Systems one of the largest 100 percent employee owned companies in the nation. Providing quality care to thousands and rewarding those dedicated employees is a true testament to his character and the reason why Miller's Merry Manor continues to be successful after 52 years.

He continued to serve unofficially as a vital resource of good advice and wisdom to those in office, such as myself, up until his last day. He was gracious enough to be a member of my Healthcare Advisory Team, where his counsel was helpful in my efforts to determine how to best serve the people of Indiana and our country, though his advice was not limited to healthcare as he was well versed in many aspects of public policy and economics. I will always be thankful for his invaluable advice and friendship over the years.

Dick leaves Jane, his beloved wife of almost 55 years, two children, six grandchildren and five great grandchildren to carry on his legacy of service to fellow Hoosiers. I believe this world is a better place because of his compassionate service to our community, state and nation. Rest in peace Dick, you will not be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JUSTIN MENDES

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Mr. Justin Mendes for his service to my office and California's Central Valley.

Mr. Mendes was born on September 17, 1986 in Fresno, California to Tom Mendes and Karen Carreiro. After attending Riverdale High School in Riverdale, California, Mr. Mendes went on to receive his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California. Upon his graduation in 2008, Mr. Mendes worked in the banking industry, specifically in agricultural lending.

In 2010, Mr. Mendes began his career in public service with my office in Hanford, while I was then serving in the California State Assembly. Upon my election to the United States House of Representatives in 2012, he continued his service as my District Director, a position he held until March, 2016. During his time as District Director in my office, Mr. Mendes demonstrated himself to be a person of outstanding character and work ethic. His knowledge of the Twenty-First Congressional District of California was immensely beneficial to my office and my constituents. Throughout his career, Mr. Mendes has been an invaluable asset to Team Valadao and the people of California's Central Valley. Without his advice and friendship, I would not be where I am at today.

In March of 2014, Mr. Mendes and his fiancée Melissa celebrated the birth of their first child, Alexander. Their family currently resides in Hanford, California.

Mr. Mendes again demonstrated his dedication to public service when he was elected

Mayor of Hanford in December of 2015. I have no doubt his work ethic, combined with his knowledge of public policy and his community, will be immensely valuable to the citizens of Hanford.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Justin Mendes for his public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing him well in this next chapter of his life.

PEARLAND ISD PRINCIPALS OF THE YEAR

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the following Principals of Pearland Independent School District for being named Principal of the Year.

Each school year, principals, teachers and staff members are recognized by the school district with various awards as a reflection of their hard work and dedication to their students and the school as a whole. This year, the two principals that were awarded with the title "Principal of the Year," are Verna Tipton from Sablatura Middle School and Jason Frerking from Pearland Junior High South. These principals have gone above and beyond to inspire their students and create a supportive educational environment. We are grateful for their commitment to education and providing a safe, inspirational learning environment for our students.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Principals Tipton and Frerking for being named Principal of the Year. On behalf of our children, we thank them for all that they do.

IN APPRECIATION OF RAMZI NEMO

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation for the contributions of Ramzi Nemo to the work of the Committee on Homeland Security on the occasion of his return to the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO).

Since March 2015, Mr. Nemo has shared his considerable expertise in acquisitions and sourcing management as a detailee on my Committee staff. In his time with the Committee, Ramzi helped staff 10 hearings on topics as diverse as the policy questions surrounding the closing of the prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to climate change to vehicle fleet management. Additionally, Mr. Ramzi provided specialized technical expertise with respect to oversight of the Department of Homeland Security's Management Directorate, particularly with respect to how it handles its information technology, personnel, and real property.

Strengthening the effectiveness of the Department's acquisitions program has been a central focus of the Committee's work and,