

## Nation Sets Its Sights on Building Sane Economy

True Cost Tax, Salary Caps, Trust-Busting Top List

By J. H. HARRIS

The President has called for  
a new economic package  
that includes a federal minimum wage  
increase, "True Cost Accounting," a phased withdrawal from  
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On this point, the market is not

leader and not religion. No one  
has been the standard of living  
has been the same for as long.

Kingdom said that the new  
economy will be based on the  
prosperity of all citizens, rather  
than simply supporting large cor-  
porations and the wealthy. "The  
market is supposed to serve us,  
not the other way around," he said.

Work on the economy, said the  
President, is not a one-time thing.  
It is a continuous process. "We  
are not going to stop here," he  
said. "We are going to keep  
working on it."

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## Maximum Wage Law Succeeds

Salary Caps Will Help  
Stabilize Economy

By J. H. HARRIS

WASHINGTON — The long and  
often bitter debate in Congress  
over legislation to cap executive  
pay has ended in a victory for the  
law. The House of Representatives  
passed the bill today, 238 to 192.  
The bill would cap the salary of  
executive officers of publicly traded  
companies at \$10 million a year.

The bill also would require  
companies to disclose the salaries  
of their top executives. The bill  
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disclose the salaries of their top  
executives. The bill also would  
require companies to disclose the  
salaries of their top executives.

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## TREASURY ANNOUNCES "TRUE COST" TAX PLAN

By J. H. HARRIS

The "True Cost" plan, which  
would require companies to  
disclose the salaries of their top  
executives, was announced today.

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# IRAQ WAR ENDS



U.S. Army helicopters begin moving troops and equipment from Baghdad to the border with Iraq.

Rescuees Told for New Life  
in a New Country, U.S. Army  
troops, and equipment from Baghdad to the border with Iraq.

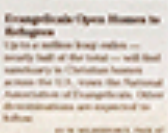


U.S. Army troops, and equipment from Baghdad to the border with Iraq.

U.S. Army troops, and equipment from Baghdad to the border with Iraq.

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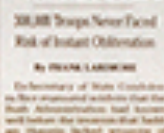


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U.S. Army troops, and equipment from Baghdad to the border with Iraq.

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## Troops to Return Immediately

By J. H. HARRIS

WASHINGTON — Operation  
Iraqi Freedom was brought to  
an end today with a formal announcement by the  
Department of Defense that troops  
would be home within weeks.

"This is the first time we can put  
on the most optimistic scenario  
in modern American history,"  
Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld  
said at a special press conference.

"Today, we can finally  
bring peace to the people of the  
Middle East, and to the people of  
this country," he said.

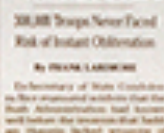
The Department of the Treasury  
announced that all U.S. troops  
would be home by the end of the  
month, and that troops would  
be home by the end of the month.

The President said that the  
Iraqi War had ended in a victory  
for the people of the Middle East.  
"We have won," he said.

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## Popular Pressure Ushers Recent Progressive Tilt

Study Cites Movements for Massive Shift in DC

By J. H. HARRIS

The spirit of reformist  
understanding by the Administration  
and both houses of Congress can  
be attributed directly to grass-  
roots pressure, according to a  
comprehensive study that was  
released today.

"The study shows that the  
Administration and both houses  
of Congress have been pushed  
towards a more progressive  
stance by the pressure of the  
people," the study said.

The study also found that the  
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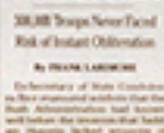
Protesters gathered by the White House to demand the release of the Guantanamo Bay detainees.

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## Nationalized Oil To Fund Climate Change Efforts

By J. H. HARRIS

Congress has agreed to  
nationalize the oil industry and  
use the proceeds to fund climate  
change efforts.

The bill would require the  
oil industry to pay a fee on the  
oil it produces. The fee would be  
used to fund climate change  
efforts.

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### INTERNATIONAL

#### Greece, Other Countries Closed

The Greek government has  
closed its borders to all foreign  
travelers, including those from  
the United States.

Continued on Page A1

#### Israel Begins Withdrawal

The Israeli government has  
announced that it will begin  
withdrawing its troops from  
the West Bank.

Continued on Page A1

#### Qualification of Interest Law Will Stop

The "Qualification of Interest  
Law" will be repealed, ending  
the requirement that interest  
be paid on loans.

Continued on Page A1

### U.S. NEWS

#### Health Insurance Act Closes House

The House of Representatives  
passed the Health Insurance  
Act today.

Continued on Page A1

#### Corporate Powerhouse Gets Road

The House of Representatives  
passed the Corporate Powerhouse  
Act today.

Continued on Page A1

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## 📍 Cagliari: The Other Sardinia



Chris Warde-Jones for The New York Times

In Cagliari, Caffè degli Spiriti attracts about 6,000 people on summer weekends, says its owner, Alessio Raggio, a local developer who is something of a Sardinian Andre Balazs.



By GISELA WILLIAMS  
Published: August 12, 2007

MANY of us imagine Sardinia as a Versace ad come to life: European playboys lounging on megayachts and Champagne flowing endlessly at clubs named, without irony, Billionaire. And it's so — at least during the fashionable months of July and August, if you limit your visit on the island to the tiny, northeast jet-set enclave known as Costa Smeralda, or the Emerald Coast.

[Skip to next paragraph](#)

### Multimedia



[Map](#)

[Cagliari, Italy](#)

## Related

### [Back to Nature, the Italian Way](#) (August 12, 2007)

[Enlarge This Image](#)



Chris Warde-Jones for The New York Times

Dr. Ampex, a restaurant without a menu.

The rest of Sardinia, however, about the size of [New Hampshire](#), happily stays out of the limelight. Down-to-earth and affordable, it offers excellent cuisine, raw landscapes and unpretentious locals whose preferred anti-aging method is to drink copious amounts of cannonau wine rather than get Botox injections.

And nowhere are the Naomi Campbell and Flavio Briatore types farther away than the ancient port city of Cagliari, on the island's southernmost tip. Straddling a long bay between psychedelic blue waters and rolling ocher fields, Cagliari is a true emerald in the rough. Despite a few outlying traces of modernization — modern high-rises here, a cluster of harbor cranes there — Cagliari's center hasn't changed much since D. H. Lawrence visited in 1921. His description still holds true: "The city piles up lofty and almost miniature, and makes me think of [Jerusalem](#): without trees, without cover, rising rather bare and proud, remote as if back in history, like a town in a monkish, illuminated missal."

On a recent spring evening, after a delicious Sardinian feast of spaghetti with wild asparagus and grated bottarga (salted fish eggs) at a rustic restaurant named Dr. Ampex, my husband and I decided to follow Lawrence's footsteps and explore Cagliari's medieval district of Castello. Perched on a rounded hilltop still safeguarded by a limestone wall and 14th-century towers, Castello is reached via a steep cobblestone path or an elevator. We opted for the latter.

The elevator opened to a narrow metal landing that overlooked an ancient stone plaza buzzing with a cosmopolitan scene right out of New York or Rome. At the near end was a tent-shaped glass structure where well-dressed people in their 20s and 30s were sipping colorful cocktails and swaying to a Gnarl's Barkley song.

We followed the [music](#) down a long flight of steps, past the shiny glass tent and into a cavelike bar that seemed to have been built into the limestone walls. Inside, the low-arched ceilings and exposed brick walls were illuminated by a red chandelier and a runway-shaped bar made of translucent stone. The Caffè degli Spiriti, as the place was called, felt like a secret nightclub tucked in the ruins of the Acropolis.

As we rubbed elbows with the international crowd and watched the D.J. spin hip-hop tracks, Lawrence's Cagliari no longer felt like an unspoiled gem, but seemed to be well on its way to becoming a more laid-back, and perhaps cooler, alternative to the Emerald Coast.

After a drink, we continued our midnight stroll through the narrow streets of Castello, lined with 14th- and 15th-century palazzi and churches. Some were abandoned, their windows boarded shut. On one silent cobblestone street, we passed a tiny bar filled with black-and-white photographs and artsy types chatting over wine. A few moments later, we spotted the empty shell of an old mansion that glowed mysteriously like a green lantern. We peered inside a window and saw an oversize green Murano chandelier and newly whitewashed walls.

The mystery of the mansion was solved the next day when I returned to the Caffè degli Spiriti and met the owner, Alessio Raggio, a well-traveled developer from Cagliari. Since opening the bar three years ago — and attracting, he said, about 6,000 people on summer weekends — Mr. Raggio has fashioned himself as a kind of André Balazs of southern Sardinia.

His mini-empire includes the palazzo with the green chandelier, which he plans to turn into a gallery and cafe; the photo-filled De Candia Wine and Spirits bar around the corner; and a 200-year-old lighthouse near a stunning beach on the rugged Capo Spartivento, which he plans to turn into a luxury boutique hotel with six suites by next year.

Mr. Raggio is not the only entrepreneur with eyes on Cagliari. Renato Soru, a billionaire businessman sometimes called the [Bill Gates](#) of [Italy](#), and the current governor of Sardinia, has been commissioning world-class architects to add polish to this craggy gem. Attention-grabbing projects under way include a futuristic art center near the city's main port designed by Zaha Hadid. Scheduled to be completed in five years, the building will evoke a crashing wave and cost an estimated 40 million euros. Herzog & de Meuron and [Rem Koolhaas](#) have also been in talks with Mr. Soru to build cultural landmarks in the same industrial area of Sant'Elia.

Mr. Soru hopes that the Zaha Hadid project will be the sort of icon for Cagliari that its opera house is for [Sydney](#).

Development is nothing new to Cagliari. Originally settled by Phoenician mariners around 1000 B.C., the port city occupies a favorable position at the mouth of a sweeping bay that flows into an inner harbor. The city's waterfront is surrounded by salt flats where thousands of pink flamingos still feed and flourish.

In Roman times, Cagliari was a lively and prosperous trading port. Its strategic location in the Mediterranean was the subject of numerous invasions over the centuries, with the Italians finally taking control in the mid-19th century and coming to build many of the city's Art Nouveau structures. During World War II, Cagliari was heavily bombed by the Allies, also because of its strategic location. The rebuilt harbor is now Sardinia's principal port.

## Cagliari: The Other Sardinia



Published: August 12, 2007

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While parts of Cagliari are still worn-down, in an elegant grande dame kind of way, signs of the city's rebirth are everywhere. After wandering Castello's alleyways and having them mostly to ourselves, we finally managed to tear ourselves away and explore the rest of the city. Easily explored over a weekend, Cagliari is a mix of grand avenues, narrower alleys that radiate out from Art Nouveau piazzas and, toward the harbor, modern boulevards lined with boutiques and cafes.

[Skip to next paragraph](#)



Chris Warde-Jones for The New York Times

Trattoria Lillicu, where spaghetti with tiny clams is on the menu.



Chris Warde-Jones for The New York Times

A shopping arcade in Via Roma, one of Cagliari's main streets.

[Enlarge This Image](#)



Chris Warde-Jones for The New York Times

The beach at Capo Spartivento, where a nearby lighthouse is to become a six-suite hotel.

[Enlarge This Image](#)



Chris Warde-Jones for The New York Times

At the Caffè degli Spiriti.

We spent a day window-shopping and drinking strong cappuccinos at old-fashioned cafes like Svizzero and the Antico Caffè. Many of the best shops were found along Cagliari's two main avenues: the palm-lined Via Roma, which runs along the port, and Largo Carlo Felice, which runs inland toward Castello. My husband bought some Prada pants at Volonté, a sleek and airy boutique, and I went through the fashionable racks at Seventyfive, an intimate shop filled with slinky dresses and resort wear.

Later that evening, we dropped by a new enoteca called Fra Diavolo. Our plan for the next day was to drive out to Argiolas, one of the island's most renowned vineyards, or Cantine di Dolianova, a top wine cooperative. As the small and friendly world of Cagliari would have it, Fra Diavolo's owner was related to both winemakers. With a quick cellphone call on behalf of brand-new acquaintances, he managed to arrange a private tour of Cantine di Dolianova the next afternoon.

It had been warm and sunny, and the day of the wine tour was no exception. Surrounded by lush green fields, the [winery](#) was housed in a sprawling pink complex. After a tour of the two-story steel vats and endless rows of oak barrels, we sat down for a tasting and understood why the wines enjoy a sparkling reputation. Their cannonau was dark and smoky, while their vermentino was fresh and intense with a hint of apple.

Afterward, we grabbed lunch at Il Nostro Mondo, a restaurant in town recommended by our wine guide. It looked like a rough Italian pub, with plastic chairs and peach-colored walls. But it was here that we were finally able to binge on the island's famous lobster, prepared in a garlicky sauce with



chopped tomato and celery. Along with a bottle of the cantina's white, a vermentino blend, it was one of the most surprising and satisfying meals of the trip.

With our bellies full, we drove 45 minutes south toward Chia, a lovely bay reputed to have some of the island's most beautiful [beaches](#). The drive took us past rolling sand dunes, waist-high beach grass and glimpses of the bright turquoise water. The road eventually came to an end near a little beach shack at Capo Spartivento, the island's southernmost tip. We parked the car and continued on foot for about 20 minutes, sweating our way up a dusty dirt road. There were several hidden coves, a small beach filled with young and attractive Italians and, finally, a rocky hill and future site of Mr. Raggio's hotel.

There, in front of us, was the two-story lighthouse, perched on a steep dramatic cliff that looked out over the deep blue waters. The view was breathtaking and we had it all to ourselves. Not a super yacht or billionaire in sight. At least for now.

## VISITOR INFORMATION

Flights from New York to Cagliari, with stopovers and sometimes changes of airlines in [Europe](#), started at about \$1,300 for early September in a Web search early this month.

## CAGLIARI HOTELS

T Hotel (Via dei Giudicati; 39-070-47400; [www.thotel.it](http://www.thotel.it)) is Cagliari's top hotel, opened two years ago with 207 sleek rooms, a [spa](#) and an open-air lounge filled with Philippe Starck furniture. Doubles start at 158 euros, about \$220 at \$1.39 to the euro.

Karel Bed & Breakfast (Residenza Kastrum, Via Canelles, 78; 39-328-823-6847 [www.karel-bedandbreakfast.it](http://www.karel-bedandbreakfast.it)) has six top-floor rooms in an old building in the Castello. Rates are 80 euros.

## CAGLIARI RESTAURANTS AND BARS

Dr. Ampex (Via S. Giacomo, 35; 39-070-658199) has no menu and serves whatever is fresh. That might mean appetizers like chicory and anchovy salad, and octopus with green beans, a choice of three pastas, a meat or fish dish, and a wonderful dessert like lemon-cream crepe covered with fresh strawberries. Dinner for two with wine, about 50 euros.

Luigi Pomata (Viale Regina Margherita 18; 39-070-672-058) is a trendy newcomer with a sushi bar and a modern Italian menu that includes tagliatelle with tuna, eggplant, tomatoes, mint and pecorino. A two-course lunch is 15 euros.

Lisboa Ristorante Caffè (Via Tuveri 2; 39-070-43707) serves great coffee and pastries, as well as a seasonal menu that might include asparagus with grilled Tomino cheese. Menus of 25 and 33 euros, not including wine.

Trattoria Lillicu (Via Sardegna 78; 39-070-652970) is a popular spot that serves traditional seafood, like spaghetti with arselle (tiny clams). Dinner for two with wine is about 60 euros.

Ristorante Lo Zenit (Viale Pula, 2; 39-070-250009) is an excellent fish restaurant that is packed to the gills for Sunday lunch. Meals are 30 to 35 euros per person, not including wine.

Caffè degli Spiriti (Bastione San Remy) is the city's coolest lounge, with a spectacular view of the city.

Fra Diavolo (Via Sonnino 68; 39-393-3049651) is a new wine bar with Sardinian [wines](#) by the glass.

## AGRITURISMO

Prices are per person, for summer, and include breakfast and dinner.

Sa Perda Arrumbulada (Localita Monte Porceddus, off the road from San Priamo to Castiadas, Cagliari province; 39-070-99-49-157) 43.50 euros.

Su Barraccu (Near Loceri, Nuoro province.; 39-328-13-32-493, : [www.subarraccu.it](http://www.subarraccu.it).) 60 euros in August; 57 in June, July and September.

Su Mugrone (Gantine Selis, Oliena, Nuoro province; 39-340-84-11-885) 55 euros.

Costiolu (State highway 389 , 10 kilometers north of Nuoro city, Nuoro province; 39- 078-42-60-088; [www.agriturismocostiolu.com](http://www.agriturismocostiolu.com)) 75 euros.

Sa Lorighitta (Via Santa Lucia, 6, Morgongiori, Oristano province; 39- 078-39-32-117) 55 euros.

Gisela Williams is based in Munich, and is a frequent contributor to the Travel section.