

## **U.S. Politics**

1. Is Hillary Clinton the best secretary of state in a generation?
2. Is it wise for the Obama administration to continue to ignore Europe?
3. Will a divisive primary season be a gift to the Democrats in November?
4. Is Donald Trump's endorsement of Romney a blessing or a curse?
5. Will going extremely negative hurt Mitt Romney?
6. Can the House and Senate come to agreement over extending the payroll tax cut?
7. Is Obama's super PAC flip-flop hypocrisy or necessity?
8. Is the Tea Party's influence waning?
9. Do Rick Santorum's very good Feb. 7 results give him real hope for the nomination?
10. Is the Republican race going all the way to the convention?
11. Can Gingrich rebound after big losses on February 7?
12. To what extent will the culture war shape the 2012 elections?

## **U.S. Domestic & Social Issues**

1. Will there be lasting fallout from the Komen Foundation's announcement and subsequent reversal of its decision to end its relationship with Planned Parenthood?
2. Is the U.S. doing enough to combat cybercrime?
3. What does passage of Indiana's "Right to Work" law mean for the pro-union Rust Belt?
4. Has Alabama gone too far with its new immigration law?
5. Will the U.S. maritime fence being built off the coast of San Diego effectively curb smuggling from Mexico?
6. Will the overturn of California Prop. 8 lead to more states legalizing gay marriage?
7. Do "Occupy" evictions around the nation signal the end to the Occupy movement?
8. What effects will new EPA rules regarding Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS) have in the United States?
9. If the proposed Keystone Pipeline is as safe as some claim, why are so many opposed to it?
10. Will Americans embrace electric cars?
11. Should senior citizens who receive Social Security be allowed to opt out of Medicare Part A benefits?
12. Is it a good idea for some states to have exemptions from the NCLB Act?

## **Developed World (Non-U.S.)**

1. Has Putin's influence begun to decline in the Soviet Union?
2. What will be the impact of the 'torture controversy' in Canada?
3. Will Berlusconi's legacy continue to haunt Italian politics?
4. Would Great Britain benefit from an independent Scotland?
5. Would Scotland benefit from independence?
6. Should England remain a member of the EU?
7. Was Canada's withdrawal from the Kyoto climate agreement a wise move?
8. Why is Prime Minister Angela Merkel rising in popularity with German voters?
9. Can Socialist candidate Francois Hollande win the French presidential election?
10. What are French President Nicolas Sarkozy's chances of being re-elected?
11. Do EU countries have reason to fear German dominance?
12. Is Canada's Parliament too large?
13. What impact has the crisis at the Fukushima nuclear plant had on Japanese energy policy?

## **Economic**

1. Will Greece stay with the euro?
2. Is austerity the best way to solve the debt problems of struggling European economies?
3. Should the Federal Reserve undertake more monetary stimulus?
4. How will downgrading of its credit rating impact the French economy?
5. Is it possible to effectively restructure our current tax laws?
6. Is political rhetoric concerning the disappearance of the middle class exaggerated?
7. Can the central bank protect the U.S. from the European economic crisis?
8. Will the current rate of job creation continue for the rest of the year?
9. With the small signs of recovery should the FED keep rates near zero until 2014?
10. Will the U.S. ever be able to trust Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac again?
11. Is President Obama a tax-hiker or tax cutter?
12. Is it time to raise the minimum wage?
13. Is U.S. manufacturing on the rebound?

## **Global Hotspots & Conflicts**

1. What will be the effects of spiraling chaos in Syria for regional stability?
2. How will the crisis in South Sudan play out?
3. Can relations between the U.S. and Egypt be salvaged?
4. Will Ali Abdullah Saleh's departure ease tensions in Yemen?
5. What effect will ICC indictments of high level government officials have on the political situation in Kenya?
6. What impact are sanctions having on Iran?
7. How will the Straits of Hormuz standoff influence the Gulf Arab states?
8. What does 2012 portend for the Mexico's drug war?
9. What will be the impact of the most recent protests in Tibet?
10. How likely is increased governmental stability in Pakistan in 2012?
11. What role will North Korea play in regional politics in the coming months?