Fortnightly links: Colombia, Turkey, economists on Africa, border walls, and more

Author: Camilla Burkot and Terence Wood

Date: October 21, 2016

ABC's Rear Vision podcast looks at why the referendum to end Columbia's civil war failed and what might come next.

Writing in the New Yorker Dexter Filkins looks at Fethullah Gülen, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, and the intricacies of religious politics in Turkey.

Unfortunately it will be paywalled for many of you, but the latest issue of the Development Policy Review has a good summary of Morten Jerven’s critique of the approaches many economists have taken to understanding Africa, as well as critique and discussion from four academic economists. If the paywall stymies your attempts at reading, you can hear Jerven’s interview with Owen Barder here.

In The Guardian, Ben Ramalingam argues that in order to achieve global health equality, we need to fight the innovation and the political battles at the same time.

The world now has more border barriers than at any time in modern history. This excellent three-part, interactive feature from The Washington Post examines why.

Also on the topic of migration, a post by Dilip Ratha on the World Bank's People Move blog shows that the flow of remittances from low and middle income countries (LMICs) appears to have entered a 'new normal' of slow growth. Some $442 billion are expected to flow to LMICs by the end of 2016, an increase of 0.8% over 2015.

Lastly, it's not for the squeamish, but this National Geographic article takes a fascinating look at mummification practices in a remote part of Papua New Guinea, which have endured despite Christian and colonial-era interventions.