### Ukraine

#### Obama focusing on the Ukraine crisis now – ramping up pressure on Russia – capital’s key to hold together the international community

Parsons and Hennessey 3/6 [Christi and Kathleen, Staff Writers for the Los Angeles Times, 2014, “Obama: Referendum on Independence in Crimea is Unconstitutional,” http://www.latimes.com/world/worldnow/la-fg-wn-obama-crimea-referendum-unconstitutional-20140306,0,2689031.story#axzz2vHz5kSRz]

President Obama on Thursday declared that a referendum asking Crimean voters

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free and fair elections in Ukraine later this spring.

#### Even with reforms – Cuba and the US are diplomatically deadlocked – plan causes massive dip cap loss

**ASCOA 13** [Americas Society Council of the Americas, 2/20/13, “Seven Steps the U.S. President Can Take to Promote Change in Cuba by Adapting the Embargo” [http://www.as-coa.org/articles/seven-steps-us-president-can-take-promote-change-cuba-adapting-embargo\\ML](http://www.as-coa.org/articles/seven-steps-us-president-can-take-promote-change-cuba-adapting-embargo%5C%5CML)]

Change, however gradual, is taking place in Cuba. A series of economic

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opportunity for private groups to provide channels to share information and build contacts.

#### Hard diplomacy key – Putin perceives any “lead from behind” strategy as weakness – causes Sino-Japanese escalation, NATO collapse, and NATO-Russia war

Kuchins 3/2 [Andrew, Senior Fellow and Director of the CSIS Russia and Eurasia Program, 2014, “U.S. Credibility at Stake in Ukraine,” http://globalpublicsquare.blogs.cnn.com/2014/03/02/u-s-credibility-at-stake-in-ukraine/]

What has taken place over the past two days merely underscores in the most urgent

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United States and its allies will step up.

#### Senkaku conflict is on the brink – perception of hardline U.S. deterrence is key to prevent global nuclear escalation

Klare 13 [Michael, Five College Professor of Peace and World Security Studies at Hampshire College, January 23, “The Next War,” http://www.realclearworld.com/articles/2013/01/23/the\_next\_war\_100500.html]

Don't look now, but conditions are deteriorating in the western Pacific. Things are

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planet will look with sadness and horror on the failure of everyone involved.

### Oil

#### Oil prices will stay high now—most recent data

Reuters 2/28 [Business and Financial News, Economic Analysis—Oil Prices, 2014, “Oil Prices Higher Than Forecasts,” http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/02/28/graphic-oil-idUSL6N0LX2QH20140228]

Oil prices have been higher so far this year than predicted, as bearish forecasters

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and may have been too gloomy on the outlook for global oil consumption.

#### Plan collapses oil prices

Blackwill and O’Sullivan 14 [Robert, Henry A. Kissinger Senior Fellow for U.S. Foreign Policy at the Council on Foreign Relations, and Meghan, Jeane Kirkpatrick Professor of the Practice of International Affairs and Director of the Geopolitics of Energy Project at Harvard University’s Kennedy School, March/April, “America's Energy Edge,” http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/140750/robert-d-blackwill-and-meghan-l-osullivan/americas-energy-edge]

The most dramatic possible geopolitical consequence of the North American energy boom is that the

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prices would create shortfalls in the revenues they need to fund their expenditures.

#### Causes Russian economic collapse and adventurism

Blackwill and O’Sullivan 14 [Robert, Henry A. Kissinger Senior Fellow for U.S. Foreign Policy at the Council on Foreign Relations, and Meghan, Jeane Kirkpatrick Professor of the Practice of International Affairs and Director of the Geopolitics of Energy Project at Harvard University’s Kennedy School, March/April, “America's Energy Edge,” http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/140750/robert-d-blackwill-and-meghan-l-osullivan/americas-energy-edge]

Of all the governments likely to be hit hard, Moscow has the most to

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influence in more direct ways -- even through the projection of military power.

#### Nuclear war

Filger 9 – Sheldon, author and blogger for the Huffington Post, “Russian Economy Faces Disastrous Free Fall Contraction” http://www.globaleconomiccrisis.com/blog/archives/356

In Russia historically, economic health and political stability are intertwined to a degree that

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the financial impact of the Global Economic Crisis is its least dangerous consequence.

### Neoliberalism

#### Economic engagement with Latin America is a vehicle for neoliberalism, designed to draw countries into the United States’ sphere of economic influence in the name of military interventionism.

Jacobs 4 (Jamie Elizabeth, Assistant Prof of Polisci at West Virginia U, "Neoliberalism and Neopanamericanism: The View from Latin America," Latin American Politics & Society 46.4 (2004) 149-152, MUSE)

The advance of neoliberalism suffers no shortage of critics, both from its supporters who

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further weakening of state sovereignty in the South. [End Page 150]

#### Neoliberal resource accumulation destroys the environment - guarantees warming, collapse of ecological balance and extinction

Darder 10 (Professor Antonia Darder, Distinguished Professor of Education, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign, “Preface” in *Critical Pedagogy, Ecoliteracy, & Planetary Crisis: The Ecopedagogy Movement* by Richard V. Kahn, 2010, pp. x-xiii) **GENDER MODIFIED**

It is fitting to begin my words about Richard Kahn’s Critical Pedagogy, Ecoliteracy,

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the well-being of all species with whom we walk the earth.

#### The alternative is to reject neoliberalism in order to create a bottom-up perspective on realigning the social landscape

**Roberts**, Cornell government professor, **2009**

(Kenneth, Beyond Neoliberalism in Latin America?, pg 1-7)

In recent years voters in Latin America have elected a series of left-of

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identify various responses, and analyze the potential impact of emerging popular subjects.