# 1st Affirmative Constructive

## Plan Text

### 1AC – Plan Text

#### Plan – the United States federal government should phase out a substantial portion of its economic restrictions toward Cuba.

## Advantage One

### 1AC – Global Credibility Advantage

#### Advantage one is global credibility:

#### The rise of global competitors is inevitable-bolstering relations with non-democratic powers is key to maintaining peaceful relations with rising powers and preventing great-power conflict

Fujimoto, 2012 (Kevin, Lt. Colonel, U.S. Army, January 11, 2012, “Preserving U.S. National Security Interests Through a Liberal World Construct,” <http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/index.cfm/articles/Preserving-US-National-Security-Interests-Liberal-World-Construct/2012/1/11>)

The emergence of peer competitors, not terrorism, presents the greatest long-term

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protect its interests later when we are no longer the world's only superpower.

#### Maintaining the Cuban embargo currently wrecks U.S. global legitimacy

Hill et al., 2009, Brigadier General John Adams (Ret.), General James T. Hill (Ret.), Commanding General for US SOUTHCOM 2002-2004, Lieutenant General John G. Castellaw (Ret.), Rear Admiral John D. Hutson (Ret.), Lieutenant General Daniel W. Christman (Ret.), Superintendent of the United States Military Academy 1996-2001, Lieutenant General Claudia J. Kennedy (Ret.), Major General Paul D. Eaton (Ret.), General Barry R. McCaffrey (Ret.), Commanding General for US SOUTHCOM 1994-1996, Lieutenant General Robert G. Gard (Ret.), Col. Lawrence B. Wilkerson (Ret.), assistant to Colin Powell during tenure as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of State, Rear Admiral Donald J. Guter (Ret.), General Johnnie E. Wilson (Ret.), Letter from US military officials to President Obama regarding Cuba policy, prepared by the New America Foundation / US – Cuba Policy Initiative, 4/13/09, <http://democracyinamericas.org/pdfs/National_Security.pdf>

The current policy of isolating Cuba has failed, patently, to achieve our ends

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register deeply in the minds of our partners and competitors around the world.

#### The embargo egregiously violates international law - that’s destroys our ability to effectively cooperate and lead

Manchak, 2010 (Benjamin Manchak, Staff Writer, Boston College Third World Law Journal, “COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS, THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT, AND CONSTITUTIONALLY IMPERMISSIBLE VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW,” Spring 2012, 30 B.C. Third World L.J. 417, <http://lawdigitalcommons.bc.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1021&context=twlj>)

Yet, the international community’s efforts to impel the United States to lift its embargo

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of fundamental rights and liberties, Congress must end the embargo on Cuba.

#### And – The United States must demonstrate that it is willing to engage non-democratic states; only the plan sends the key signal

Hinderdael, 2011 (Klaas, M.A. candidate at SAIS Bologna Center, concentrating in American Foreign Policy and Energy, Resources, and Environment, “Breaking the Logjam: Obama's Cuba Policy and a Guideline for Improved Leadership”, 6/11/2011, <http://bcjournal.org/volume-14/breaking-the-logjam.html?printerFriendly=true>)

The two countries’ histories have long been intertwined, particularly after the Monroe Doctrine of

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truly willing to extend his hand once America’s traditional adversaries unclench their fists.

#### And --- ending democracy promotion is key, the plan’s embrace of political diversity promotes U.S. interests more effectively in the multilateral international order than promoting a narrow democratic model

Kupchan and Mount, 2009 (Charles, professor of International Affairs at Georgetown University and senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, and Adam, doctoral candidate in the Department of Government at Georgetown University, “The Autonomy Rule,” Democracy: A Journal of Ideas, Spring 2009, <http://www.democracyjournal.org/pdf/12/Kupchan.pdf>)

Many American strategists recognize the inevitability of a more level global playing field, but

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the principles around which the next order is most likely to take shape.

#### And – The plan is key – demonstrating a willingness to cooperate with non-democratic regimes and lead is the only way to avert multiple scenarios for global war

Kupchan, 2012 (Charles, professor of International Affairs at Georgetown University and senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, “No One's World: The West, the Rising Rest, and the Coming Global Turn”, Kindle edition (no page numbers)

Although Western hegemony is in its waning days, it still provides a significant level

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can be effectively addressed only in partnership with a wide array of countries.

#### Cooperative great-power relations across regime type creates a global backstop on escalation of conflict---enables the U.S to effectively isolate threats

Kupchan and Mount, 2009 (Charles, professor of International Affairs at Georgetown University and senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, and Adam, doctoral candidate in the Department of Government at Georgetown University, “The Autonomy Rule,” Democracy: A Journal of Ideas, Spring 2009, <http://www.democracyjournal.org/pdf/12/Kupchan.pdf>)

Employing these minimal and consistent standards for inclusion would not only increase the number of

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discretion and a reflection of the diversity that is intrinsic to political life.

#### Multilateral cooperation facilitates power sharing that creates shared framework of interaction that act as a check on conflict-their solvency takeouts are irrelevant

Pouliot, 2011 (Vincent, Professor of Political Science at McGill University, “Multilateralism as an End in Itself,” International Studies Perspectives (2011) pgs. 18-26)

Because it rests on open, nondiscriminatory debate, and the routine exchange of viewpoints

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that further strengthen the impetus for multilateral dialog. Pg. 21-23

## Advantage Two

### 1AC – Ethanol Advantage:

#### First we solve ---

#### 1. Cuban ethanol is critical to displace ethanol produced domestically and ethanol imported from Brazil – Cuban ethanol would satisfy U.S. demand

Specht, 4/24/2013 (Jonathan – Legal Advisor, Pearlmaker Holsteins, Inc. B.A., Louisiana State University, 2009; J.D., Washington University in St. Louis 2012. “Raising Cane: Cuban Sugarcane Ethanol’s Economic and Environmental Effects on the United States” – ExpressO – <http://environs.law.ucdavis.edu/issues/36/2/specht.pdf>)

The full debate over the environmental consequences of the Brazilian biofuel production 111 is largely

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to promote the importation of Cuban sugarcane-based ethanol should be encouraged.

#### 2. We solve your alt causes – the reason that agribusiness is booming in the Cerrado right now is because of US corn ethanol production

Butler 07, Rhett,  co-founder of [Tropical Conservation Science](http://www.tropicalconservationscience.org/), an open-access academic journal that aims to provide opportunities for scientists in developing countries to publish their research, and the [Tropical Forest Network](http://www.tropicalforestnetwork.org/), a social network in the San Francisco Bay Area broadly interested in tropical forest conservation and ecology. Outside of these pursuits, Rhett Butler has advised a wide range of organizations, including governments, multilateral development agencies, media outlets, academic institutions, foundations, and private sector entities. He has been an information source for the BBC, CNN, CBS, NBC, Fox News, National Geographic, the Wall Street Journal, Fortune Magazine, Business Week, Bloomberg, the Discovery Channel, Animal Planet, Reuters, Voice of America, the Associated Press, the San Francisco Chronicle, the L.A. Times, the New York Times, the Washington Post, and Forbes, among others. Rhett Butler also speaks regularly on topics surrounding forests and the environment (especially trends in deforestation) and new media. He has spoken at Stanford University, the University of California at Berkeley, the University of California at Santa Cruz, the National University of Singapore, ETH Zurich, the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation 2010 meeting in Bali, UNFCCC COP 16 in Cancun, the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, and Stony Brook University, among other places and events. In 2011 and 2012 he participated in the U.S. State Department Speakers Program in Indonesia. <http://news.mongabay.com/2007/0821-cerrado.html>

The cerrado, wooded grassland in Brazil that once covered an area half the size

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of Cerrado is not good if the current trends persist," added Machado.

#### 3. Loosening the embargo is critical to spur the development of the Cuban ethanol industry

Ronald Solgio 2010, professor emeritus of economics at Rice University and a Rice scholar at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy. writes a chapter within the book “Cuba’s Energy Future: Strategic Approaches to Cooperation,” a Brookings Publication, edited by Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, PhD of Political Science, University of Nebraska, http://books.google.com/books?id=7jNs2P2Z9NYC&pg=PA94&lpg=PA94&dq=Castro+has+rightly+pointed+out+that+there+can+be+a+direct+trade-off+between+using+land+for+food+production+and+for+ethanol.+And+in+many+areas+of+the+world&source=bl&ots=HyrXldD6BH&sig=2oxwPH5xUkKGjXcJbHvWxJPGdAQ&hl=en&sa=X&ei=2Q8VUom8FOWw2wXXuYCIDw&ved=0CDQQ6AEwAg#v=onepage&q&f=false Pg.99-100

The shift in acreage devoted to food crops has not been successful in terms of

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point whether soybeans represent a more efficient use of Cuban land than sugarcane.

#### 4. Raul will say yes.

Elledge, 2009 Nicholas Elledge – Research Fellow at Council on Hemispheric Affairs – degrees from The London School of Economics and Political Science and Southern Methodist University – “Cuba’s Sugarcane Ethanol Potential: Cuba, Raul Castro, and the Return of King Sugar to the Island” – October 29, 2009 – http://www.coha.org/cubas-sugarcane-ethanol-potential/

Raul Castro, who has been hailed as more of a pragmatist than his famed

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shots, Cuba could become a key player in the global ethanol game.”

#### Second are our scenarios ----

#### Scenario One is the Environment:

#### Continued reliance on Brazilian ethanol decimates the environment – shifting to Cuban ethanol is critical to prevent the destruction of Brazil’s biological diversity

Ronald Solgio 2010, professor emeritus of economics at Rice University and a Rice scholar at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy. writes a chapter within the book “Cuba’s Energy Future: Strategic Approaches to Cooperation,” a Brookings Publication, edited by Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, PhD of Political Science, University of Nebraska, http://books.google.com/books?id=7jNs2P2Z9NYC&pg=PA94&lpg=PA94&dq=Castro+has+rightly+pointed+out+that+there+can+be+a+direct+trade-off+between+using+land+for+food+production+and+for+ethanol.+And+in+many+areas+of+the+world&source=bl&ots=HyrXldD6BH&sig=2oxwPH5xUkKGjXcJbHvWxJPGdAQ&hl=en&sa=X&ei=2Q8VUom8FOWw2wXXuYCIDw&ved=0CDQQ6AEwAg#v=onepage&q&f=false Pg.94

Castro has rightly pointed out that there can be a direct trade-off between

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does not necessarily have to involve environmental and food production trade-offs.

#### And – The Brazilian Cerrado is uniquely important – degradation wrecks global biodiversity and accelerates warming beyond the point of no return due to the massive release of CO2 into the atmosphere.

Isabella Vitali 2011, Soya and the Cerrado: Brazil’s forgotten jewel , <http://assets.wwf.org.uk/downloads/soya_and_the_cerrado.pdf> , Senior Policy Officer

Loss of the Cerrado is of global concern not only because of its significant contribution

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Change (2000), at some 265 tonnes of carbon per hectare.33

#### Independently US-Corn Based ethanol production also drives exacerbating climate change and bio-destruction.

Specht, 4/24/2013 (Jonathan, Legal Advisor, Pearlmaker Holsteins, Inc. B.A., Louisiana State University, 2009; J.D., Washington University in St. Louis 2012, “Raising Cane: Cuban Sugarcane Ethanol’s Economic and Environmental Effects on the United States” <http://environs.law.ucdavis.edu/issues/36/2/specht.pdf>)

The process by which incentives for ethanol production change land use¶patterns and thereby

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corn production and, thus, to ¶ the domestic ethanol industry.68

#### It’s not just the Cerrado – ethanol production in the Amazon will reverse previous trends towards protection, accelerating global warming. The plan is necessary to solve all alt causes by reorienting farming practices.

McGowan, 2007, Chris, writer for Huffington Post, focusing specifically on environmental issues, <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/chris-mcgowan/biofuel-could-eat-brazils_b_64466.html>

The Amazon has lost 17-20% of its forest . Scientists are worried

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corn, which in turn will cause more agricultural expansion into the Amazon.

#### And – Accelerated warming guarantees extinction

Deibel 2007 (Terry, Professor of National Strategy at the National War College, “Foreign Affairs Strategy: Logic for American Statecraft”, pgs. 387-389)

Finally, there is one major existential threat to American security (as well as

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States, but potentially to the continued existence of life on this planet.

#### And – Biodiversity is key to the survival of all living things

Bruce E. Tonn, Urban Planning Prof @ Tennessee, November 2007, Futures v. 39, no. 9, “Futures Sustainability”, ln

The first principle is the most important because earth-life is needed to support

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earth-life into the distant future the earth's biodiversity must be protected.

#### Scenario Two is food:

#### Reliance on domestically-produced ethanol means corn is used for fuel instead of food – this is already triggering global food price spikes and causing mass instability

Timothy A. Wise October 10th 2012, US corn ethanol fuels food crisis in developing countries, [http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2012/10/201210993632838545.html%20(RSC)](http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2012/10/201210993632838545.html%20%28RSC%29) , Timothy A Wise is the Policy Research Director, Global Development and Environment Institute, Tufts University, Medford.

This is the third food price spike in the last five years, and this

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happened in 2007-2008. They are at 14 per cent now.

#### And – Price spikes escalate into global wars, it’s the most likely scenario for international conflict

Cribb, 2010 (Julian Cribb; Professor in Science Communication at the University of Technology Sydney; principal of JCA, fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering,;“The Coming Famine: The Global Food Crisis and What We Can Do to Avoid It”)

The character of human conflict has also changed: since the early 1990s, more

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believe future food shortages are a far bigger world threat than global warming."

#### And – Food price spikes ensure devastating famine that kill billions of people

POWER, 1996 Staff Writer – Tampa Tribune

[Paul Jr., “Grain shortage growing problem,” The Tampa Tribune, 1/20/96]

There are more people in this world than ever, but less grain to feed

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in the developing world who live on a dollar a day or less."