#### Contention 1 is Relations

#### Chavez’s death means now is key to solve Cuban and hemispheric relations

Tisdall 13 Simon Tisdall, writer for the Guardian, March 5th, 2013, "Death of Hugo Chávez brings chance of fresh start for US and Latin America" [www.guardian.co.uk/world/2013/mar/05/hugo-chavez-dead-us-latin-america/print](http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2013/mar/05/hugo-chavez-dead-us-latin-america/print)

Hugo **Chávez's departure furnishes Barack…** own reform agenda," Sweig said.

#### Plan solves - coop over drilling spurs broader relations

Miroff ‘9 [Nick Miroff, correspondent for the Washington Post covering Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, May 16, 2009, “Cuba's Undersea Oil Could Help Thaw Trade With U.S.”, The Washington Post, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/15/AR2009051503416.html>]

Deep in the Gulf of Mexico… who studies Cuba's energy sector.

#### It causes energy coop—spurs broader relations

Benjamin 10 – Jonathan Benjamin-Alvadaro, Report for the Cuban Research Institute, Florida International University, PhD, Professor of Political Science at University of Nebraska at Omaha, Director of the Intelligence Community Centers of Academic Excellence Program at UNO, Treasurer of the American Political Science Association, 2010, Brookings Institution book, “Cuba’s Energy Future: Strategic Approaches to Cooperation”

Conclusion and Recommendations

Oil exploration is an inherently risky … **Cuba, it neighbors, and beyond.**

#### This shows we're committed - boosts relations

CDA, 11 – [Center for the Democracy of Americas, nonprofit organization devoted to changing U.S. policy towards the countries of the Americas, 9/9/11, http://democracyinamericas.org/pdfs/Cuba\_Drilling\_and\_US\_Policy.pdf]

Cuba is unlikely to disassociate itself… have a stake in their success.

#### US-Cuban oil coop key to check US-Latin American tensions.

Benjamin 10 Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, PhD of Political Science, University of Nebraska, 2010, “Cuba’s Energy Future: Strategic Approaches to Cooperation,” a Brookings Publication – obtained as an ebook through MSU Electronic Resources – page 3-4

The development of Cuba as … and provide improved quality of life.”

#### Now is key - permanent collapse of relations coming

Shifter 12

(Michael is an Adjunct Professor of Latin American Studies at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and writes for the Council's journal Foreign Affairs. He serves as the President of Inter-American Dialogue. “Remaking the Relationship: The United States and Latin America,” April, IAD Policy Report, http://www.thedialogue.org/PublicationFiles/IAD2012PolicyReportFINAL.pdf)

If the United States and … moment and overhaul hemispheric relations.

#### Cuba key to Latin-American relations - spills over to global coop on nuclear material transfers.

Shifter ‘12

(Michael is an Adjunct Professor of Latin American Studies at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and writes for the Council's journal Foreign Affairs. He serves as the President of Inter-American Dialogue. “Remaking the Relationship: The United States and Latin America,” April, IAD Policy Report, http://www.thedialogue.org/PublicationFiles/IAD2012PolicyReportFINAL.pdf)

Cuba, too, poses a significant challenge … more effective approach to the problem.

#### Nuclear terror escalates to nuclear war - global coop on material transfer key.

Ayson’10 Robert – Professor of Strategic Studies and Director of the Centre for Strategic Studies: New Zealand at the Victoria University of Wellington – “After a Terrorist Nuclear Attack: Envisaging Catalytic Effects,” Studies in Conflict & Terrorism, Volume 33, Issue 7, July, obtained via InformaWorld

A terrorist nuclear attack, and even … of existing fissile material holdings.

#### Plan Text: The United States federal government should lift its economic restrictions on joint oil cooperation toward Cuba.

#### Contention 2 is China

#### Now is key---China is shoring up influence

Boston Globe 13 “Cuba’s reforms pave way for new US policy, too”, 2013, http://www.bostonglobe.com/opinion/editorials/2013/02/09/cuba-reform-create-opportunity-drag-policy-into-century/xER2NTTXGsxdLej0miHwFM/story.html

Relations between the United States … new diplomatic agenda with Cuba.

#### Cuban drilling is key - China is using it to expand and isolate Taiwan

Luko 11 James – Served in Washington DC with the National Council For Soviet East European Research, the Smithsonian Institute and two years as an analyst with the Canadian Department of National Defence, “China's Moves on Cuba Need to Be Stopped”, 6/29, http://www.nolanchart.com/article8774-chinas-moves-on-cuba-need-to-be-stopped.html

The Red Dragon takes another wide … Cubans living in Florida alone! [4]

#### Chinese influence in Latin America causes Taiwan war

Fergusson 12 Robbie, Researcher at Royal Society for the Arts, Featured Contributor at International Business Times, Former Conference & Research Assistant at Security Watch, Former Researcher at University College London, Master of Science, China in the International Arena, The University of Glasgow, “The Chinese Challenge to the Monroe Doctrine,” http://www.e-ir.info/2012/07/23/does-chinese-growth-in-latin-america-threaten-american-interests/

Taiwan – domestic, or foreign policy?¶ China’s … on Taiwan, perhaps by force.

#### Taiwan crisis is this year---draws in the U.S.

Mazza 13 Michael, research fellow in foreign and defense policy at the American Enterprise Institute, 1/3/13, “Four Surprises That Could Rock Asia in 2013,” http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2013/01/03/four\_surprises\_that\_could\_rock\_asia\_in\_2012?page=full

Since President Ma Ying-jeou … U.S.-China relations into a tailspin.

#### Taiwan escalates goes nuclear---no defense

Lowther 13 William, Taipei Times, citing a report by the Center for Strategic and International Studies, 3/16/13, “Taiwan could spark nuclear war: report,” <http://www.taipeitimes.com/News/taiwan/archives/2013/03/16/2003557211>

Taiwan is the most likely … dangerous and quite possibly devastating.”

#### Contention 3 is Spills

#### Cuban offshore drilling is inevitable – only a rapid response with US expertise can prevent spills

Bert and Clayton 12 (Captain Melissa –2011-2012 Military Fellow, U.S. Coast Guard, and Blake – Fellow for Energy and National Security, “Addressing the Risk of a Cuban Oil Spill”, March, http://www.cfr.org/cuba/addressing-risk-cuban-oil-spill/p27515)

Defending U.S. Interests An oil … Horizon, this time from Cuba.

#### Alternative methods fail in Cuban waters – only expertise solves

Bert and Clayton 12 (Captain Melissa –2011-2012 Military Fellow, U.S. Coast Guard, and Blake – Fellow for Energy and National Security, “Addressing the Risk of a Cuban Oil Spill”, March, http://www.cfr.org/cuba/addressing-risk-cuban-oil-spill/p27515)

Washington cannot count on the …technologies like containment booms ineffective.

#### Cuban oil spills collapse Florida and Gulf ecosystems – the plan prevents and mitigates spills

Stephens and Colvin 11 (Sarah – Executive Director of the Center for Democracy in the Americas, and Jake – Vice President for Global Trade Issues at the National Foreign Trade Council, “US-Cuba policy, and the race for oil drilling”, 9/29, http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/foreign-policy/184661-us-cuba-policy-and-the-race-for-oil-drilling)

To protect the national interest … response” in the event of a crisis.

#### Florida is a unique biodiversity hotspot

Alles 7 (David L. Professor of Biology – Western Washington University, “Biodiversity Hot Spots: The Florida Everglades”, 3-7-2007, <http://www.biol.wwu.edu/trent/alles/Everglades.pdf>)

"Biodiversity hot spots are areas where … water is contaminated by pollutants.

#### Resiliency does not apply to the Gulf —another spill will destroy biodiversity

Craig 11 (Robin Kundis Craig, Attorneys’ Title Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Environmental Programs, Florida State University College of Law, Tallahassee, Florida, 12/20/11 “Legal Remedies for Deep Marine Oil Spills and Long-Term Ecological Resilience: A Match Made in Hell” [http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=1906839](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1906839" \t "_blank))

Importantly, however, the second aspect … they depend for future generations.”168

#### The Gulf is a key to ocean biodiversity

Brenner 8 – Jorge Brenner, March 14th, 2008, "Guarding the Gulf of Mexico's valuable resources" www.scidev.net/en/opinions/guarding-the-gulf-of-mexico-s-valuable-resources.html

Rich in biodiversity and habitats¶ … the climate of western Europe.

#### **Extinction**

Clark and Downes 6

Dana Clark, Center for International Environmental Law, and David Downes, US Interior Dept. Policy Analysis Senior Trade Advisor, 2006, What price biodiversity?, http://www.ciel.org/Publications/summary.html

Biodiversity is the diversity of life …l rejuvenation through contact with nature.

#### Contention 4 is Solvency

#### Cuba says yes- the plan is in Cuba’s economic interest

CDA 09 (The Center for Democracy In the Americas, an independent non-profit committed to the development of better US policy towards and relations with the Americas, “21st Century Cuba: As Cuba plans to drill in the Gulf of Mexico, U.S. policy poses needless risks to our national interest”, democracyinamericas.org, February 2011, <http://democracyinamericas.org/pdfs/Cuba_Drilling_and_US_Policy.pdf>)

6. Cuba would welcome U.S. investment… Cuba looked for partners elsewhere.

#### Cuba says yes. This spills-into broader coop.

Benjamin-Alvarado ‘10

Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, PhD of Political Science, University of Nebraska, 2010, “Cuba’s Energy Future: Strategic Approaches to Cooperation,” a Brookings Publication – obtained as an ebook through MSU Electronic Resources – page 120

Undoubtedly, after fifty years of enmity… and confidence across these communities.

#### The financial incentive for trade and the risk of worse sanctions as a punishment will motivate Cuba to engage with the US.

Perez, JD from Yale Law School, 2010

(David, “America’s Cuba Policy: The Way Forward: A Policy Recommendation for the US State Department,” *Harvard Latino Law Review*, Lexis Nexis)

These first few steps would … reversion back to diplomatic isolation.

#### Plan is *effective*, *topical*, and *US firms would say “yes”*.

Benjamin-Alvarado ‘10

Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, PhD of Political Science, University of Nebraska, 2010, “Cuba’s Energy Future: Strategic Approaches to Cooperation,” a Brookings Publication – obtained as an ebook through MSU Electronic Resources – page 125-26

There are numerous areas in … type of engagement can occur.

#### US oil companies say yes- already advocating an end to oil prohibitions

Orro 9 (Roberto, Senior Economist at Caribbean Analysis Unit, previously a member of the Cuban Armed Forces, in a speech during the Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE), “Petrolism in Cuba and Implications of U.S. Investment in the Cuban Oil Sector”, ASCE, July/August 2009, <http://www.ascecuba.org/publications/proceedings/volume19/pdfs/orro.pdf>)

Although the island’s oil production … and the region¶ so badly need.”

#### US expertise and proximity are key to halting Cuban oil spills

**Pinon and Muse, 10** – Jorge, Visiting Research Fellow with the Cuban Research institute at Florida international University and former president of amoco oil Latin America, and Muse, Washington, D.C.-based attorney with long and substantial experience in U.S.-Cuba legal matters. Both are advisors to the Brookings institution task Force on U.S.-Cuba Relations(“Coping with the Next Oil Spill: Why U.S.-Cuba Environmental Cooperation is Critical,” Brookings Institute, 5/10, <http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/research/files/papers/2010/5/18%20oil%20spill%20cuba%20pinon/0518_oil_spill_cuba_pinon.pdf>)

To respond effectively to an … bit hits ¶ the Cuban seabed.

#### U.S. deepwater technology is superior to other international companies

Rogers, 12 – Bacevich Fellow at the Center for a New American Security, focusing on science, technology, and national security (Will, “Western Hemisphere Happenings: Cuba’s Continued Quest for Offshore Oil” December 17, 2012, http://www.cnas.org/blogs/naturalsecurity/2012/12/western-hemisphere-happenings-cuba-s-continued-quest-offshore-oil.html)

With fresh memories of the … as drilling continues off Cuba’s coast.