=1=

====Interpretation – the plan and only the plan is the focal point of topicality. On face, the plan must exclusively increase economic engagement. Only this interpretation preserves topic education.====

\*\*Resnick 1\*\* – Dr. Evan Resnick, Ph.D. in Political Science from Columbia University, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Yeshiva University, "Defining Engagement", Journal of International Affairs, Spring, 54(2), Ebsco

Some scholars have excessively narrowed the definition of engagement by defining it according to the

AND

effectiveness of engagement relative to other policies in achieving an array of ends.

====B. Violation – the plan does not on face increase economic engagement TO SOLVE THEIR ADVANTAGES. ====

====C. Standards====

====1. Vacuum Test - we make a clear distinction between topical and non-topical plans. If you can look at just the plan and tell on face that there is an increase, then it is topical. As soon as you have to look at solvency evidence to determine topicality, then affirmative is automatically non-topical.====

====2. Limits – they open the floodgates to an infinite number of cases that could eventually increase economic engagement. Even conquering Mexico with military force could be considering topical.====

====3. Ground – they spike out of core neg arguments like Politics and CPs that are based on direct economic engagement with the target country.====

====D. Vote negative====

====1. F-X topicality is a voting issue – it~’s impossible for the neg to predict the different chains of internal links that could lead to the aff, which skews the debate in the aff~’s favor====

====2. Extra Topicality is an independent reason to reject the affirmative. The plan directly influences something outside of the topic. Extra topical allow the affirmative to access unpredictable advantages and skews negative ground.====

=2=

====Text: The United States federal government will engage in prior binding consultation with the Federative Republic of Brazil over the plan which states: The United States federal government should offer investment for collaboration on cross-border transmission, electricity regulation, standardization, and grid integration to the United Mexican States. The United States will advocate investment for collaboration on cross-border transmission, electricity regulation, standardization and grid integration imnot the US-MEXICAN states during the consultative process and will adopt the result of the consultative process. We reserve the right to clarify.====

====Binding consultation with Brazil key to US-Brazil relations====

Luigi R. \*\*Einuadi\*\*, March \*\*2011\*\*, ambassador, distinguished fellow at the Center for Strategic Research, Institute for National Strategic Studies, and the National Defense University. Member for the Advisory Council of the Brazil Institute at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, "Brazil and the United States: The Need for Strategic Engagement", [[http://www.ndu.edu/inss/docupload/SF%20266%20Einaudi.pdf-http://www.ndu.edu/inss/docupload/SF 266 Einaudi.pdf]]

A prerequisite for improved mutual engagement will ¶ be changes in perspective on both sides

AND

?36 Just posing the ¶ question reveals the complexity of the task.

====US-Brazil Relations are necessary to fight terrorism ====

\*\*Meyer 2013 (\*\*Brazil-U.S. Relations Peter J. Meyer Analyst in Latin American Affairs February 27, 2013 http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL33456.pdf)

The U.S. government has worked with Brazil to address concerns about the

AND

as a result of hosting the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Olympics.

====Terrorism causes global nuclear escalation – national retaliation goes global====

\*\*Morgan 2009 \*\*(Dennis Ray, Professor of Foreign Studies at Hankuk University, December, "World on fire: two scenarios of the destruction of human civilization and possible extinction of the human race" Futures, Vol 41 Issue 10, p 683-693, ScienceDirect) MG

In a remarkable website on nuclear war, Carol Moore asks the question "Is

AND

, taking a savage toll upon the environment and fragile ecosphere as well.

=3=

====Debt ceiling will be raised now but it~’s not certain —- Obama~’s ironclad political capital is forcing the GOP to give in====

\*\*Beutler 10/3\*\* ("Republicans finally confronting reality: They~’re trapped%21," Salon [[http://www.salon.com/2013/10/03/republicans\_finally\_confronting\_reality\_theyre\_trapped/-http://www.salon.com/2013/10/03/republicans\_finally\_confronting\_reality\_theyre\_trapped/]])

After struggling for weeks and weeks in stages one through four, Republicans are finally

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final act, and revealed who~’s being fitted with the red dye packet.

====Engagement with Latin America~’s a fight in congress – saps PC====

Meyer and Sullivan ~’12 ~~[Peter J. Meyer - Analyst in Latin American Affairs and Mark P. Sullivan - Specialist in Latin American Affairs, "U.S. Foreign Assistance to Latin America and the Caribbean: Recent Trends and FY2013 Appropriations", June 26th, 2012, [[http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/R42582.pdf-http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/R42582.pdf]]~~]

At this juncture it is uncertain if Congress will approve a stand-alone FY2013

AND

States has extensive ties and diverse economic, political, and security interests.

====Obama~’s PC is key – bully pulpit====

\*\*The Citizen 10/3\*\* (Guy Cosentino, Former Mayor of Auburn, "Cosentino: Obama Needs to Show Leadership" http://auburnpub.com/columnists/guy\_cosentino/cosentino-obama-needs-to-show-leadership/article\_1719a103-9a90-5062-bfdd-057ef128d2f8.html)

So while most of the concentration this week will be about getting the federal government

AND

jeopardizing our fiscal credibility worldwide and tenuous, at best, economic recovery.

====Default destroys the global economy====

\*\*Krugman 9/29 \*\*(Paul, Nobel Prize winning economist, "Rebels without a Clue," NEW YORK TIMES, [[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/30/opinion/krugman-rebels-without-a-clue.html-http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/30/opinion/krugman-rebels-without-a-clue.html]])

Still, a government shutdown looks benign compared with the possibility that Congress might refuse

AND

the crisis set off by the failure of Lehman Brothers five years ago.

====Global nuclear war====

\*\*Harris %26 Burrows 9\*\* (Mathew, PhD European History @ Cambridge, counselor of the U.S. National Intelligence Council (NIC) and Jennifer, member of the NIC~’s Long Range Analysis Unit "Revisiting the Future: Geopolitical Effects of the Financial Crisis" http://www.ciaonet.org/journals/twq/v32i2/f\_0016178\_13952.pdf)

Of course, the report encompasses more than economics and indeed believes the future is

AND

within and between states in a more dog-eat-dog world.

=Manufacturing=

====Plan not key - Mexican manufacturing in the status quo is high now ; beating major competitors like China====

Coy ~’13 (Peter, is the economics editor for Bloomberg Business week and covers a wide range of economic issues, "Four Reasons Mexico Is Becoming a Global Manufacturing Power", Bloomberg Business Week, June 27^^th^^, 2013, [[http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2013-06-27/four-reasons-mexico-is-becoming-a-global-manufacturing-power-http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2013-06-27/four-reasons-mexico-is-becoming-a-global-manufacturing-power]], SD)

Mexico is beginning to beat China as a manufacturing base for many companies despite its

AND

who will have more money for imported products if their living standards rise.

====Alt cause – shutdown has been reducing military contracting ====

====No impact to aerospace collapse — empirics prove. ====

\*\*Hill et al 10\*\*

Edward, Independent Defense %26 Space Professional, 10 ("Economic Shocks and Regional Economic Resilience" May 10, 2010)

Employment downturns in the Seattle regional economy have occurred around the time of national recession

AND

fragmentation and the proliferation of small, often competing private economic development organizations.

====Civil aircraft sales are an alt cause and aerospace is resilient ====

\*\*RNCOS 12\*\*

specializes in Industry intelligence and creative solutions for contemporary business segments. Our professionals analyze the industry and its various components, with a comprehensive study of the changing market behavior. Our accuracy and data precision proves beneficial in terms of pricing and time management that assist the intending consultants in meeting their objectives in a cost-effective and timely manner (1/31/12, RNCOS, "US Leads Global Aerospace and Aviation Industry" [[http://www.avionics-intelligence.com/news/2012/01/1594542084/us-leads-global-aerospace-and-aviation-industry.html-http://www.avionics-intelligence.com/news/2012/01/1594542084/us-leads-global-aerospace-and-aviation-industry.html]]) // CB

According to our research report, "Aerospace Industry Forecast to 2013", global aerospace

AND

trends of the aerospace industry trends to provide cutting-edge market intelligence.

====War with North Korea is better for stability—regime change====

\*\*Ayson and Taylor 10\*\*

~~[Robert Ayson= Professor of Strategic Studies and directs the Centre for Strategic Studies: New Zealand, Brendan Taylor=professor at the Australian national university with research in Korean Peninsula security issues, US-China relations, economic sanctions, Asia-Pacific security architecture., "Attacking North Korea: Why War might Be Preferred", June 24 2010, Routledge, http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/01495930490479051~~]

Conclusions The logic of the status quo—the continuing oscillation between alarm over North

AND

for the possibility of a deliberate and very major attack on North Korea.

====North Korean war prevents EMP attack killing US primacy—readiness ====

\*\*Maloof, 13\*\*

~~[Michael F. Maloof a former senior security policy analyst in the office of the secretary of defense, "Expert: Attack Hermit Kingdom to prevent EMP disaster", 7/04/2013,http://www.wnd.com/2013/07/expert-attack-hermit-kingdom-to-prevent-emp-disaster/~~]

WASHINGTON – A prominent foreign policy expert now thinks it~’s time to pre-emptively

AND

using one of its intercontinental ballistic missiles disguised as a space launch vehicle.

====War in the Arctic is impossible – international cooperation checks escalation.====

\*\*Kraska 11\*\*

US Navy Commander Chair of Operational Law and member of the International Law Department (Commander James, "Arctic Security in an Age of Climate Change" 2011; <http://books.google.com/books?id=b-

U1To97zqsC%26printsec=frontcover~~%23v=onepage%26q%26f=false>)//AB

Still, armed conflict in the Arctic is improbable. The National Intelligence Council,

AND

in the Arctic have "nothing to do with reality," Putin stressed.

====SQ military infrastructure solves, ports aren~’t key ====

\*\*DOD 11\*\*

("report to congress on arctic operations and the northwest passage", May 11, [[http://www.dot.state.ak.us/stwddes/desports/assets/pdf/dodreport\_arcticops.pdf-http://www.dot.state.ak.us/stwddes/desports/assets/pdf/dodreport\_arcticops.pdf]])//MSO

Since 2007, the U.S. Coast Guard has deployed cutters, aircraft

AND

the CCDRs review and update their regional plans as the security environment evolves.

====Resource competition leads to cooperation, not conflict====

\*\*Hong 11\*\*

Postdoctoral fellow with the China Institute, University of Alberta, and also the Deputy Director, Research Centre for Oceans Law and Policy, National Institute for the South China Sea Studies. (Nong, "Arctic Energy: Pathway to Conflict or Cooperation in the High North?" Journal of Energy Security, May 31, 2011, [[http://www.ensec.org/index.php?option=com\_content%26view=article%26id=310:arctic-energy-pathway-to-conflict-or-cooperation-in-the-high-north%26catid=116:content0411%26Itemid=375-http://www.ensec.org/index.php?option=com\_content%26view=article%26id=310:arctic-energy-pathway-to-conflict-or-cooperation-in-the-high-north%26catid=116:content0411%26Itemid=375]], Callahan)

The high cost of doing business in the Arctic suggests that only the world~’s largest

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000 tonne ships and there are rumors that another five are on order.

====American hegemony does not solve conflict====

\*\*Bandow, Senior Fellow at the Cato institute, 13\*\*

(Doug Bandow, special assistant to President Reagan, editor of political magazine Inquiry, 7-5-13, "Egypt and American Hubris," http://nationalinterest.org/commentary/egypt-american-hubris-8692, 7-7-13, JZ)

American foreign policy is a wreck. The presumption that Washington controls events around the globe has been exposed to all as an embarrassing illusion.

Egypt teeters on the brink, again. Syria worsens by the day. Israeli

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in Syria and elsewhere. Venezuela without Chavez looks like Venezuela with Chavez.

It wasn~’t supposed to be this way. America was the unipower, the hyperpower, the sole superpower, the essential nation. Washington was the benevolent hegemon. Only members of the axis of evil had something to fear from the United States. All the U.S. government had to do was exercise "leadership" and all would be well.

That U.S. pride swelled with the end of the Cold War is hardly a surprise. But what unfortunately emerged was a rabid arrogance, the view that "what we say goes." It was the very hubris about which the ancient Greeks warned.

Alas, this all proved to be a world of illusion, filled with smoke

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ready to thwart U.S. military objectives when it saw fit.

American pleading, threats, promises and sanctions had no effect on the course of events in North Korea. Civil and military conflicts ebbed and flowed and political contests waxed and waned in Congo, Sudan, Kenya, Nigeria and Zimbabwe with Washington but an ineffective bystander. Russia~’s Vladimir Putin ignored U.S. priorities both before and after the fabled "reset" in relations. China protected North Korea and bullied its other neighbors, despite diplomatic pleadings and military pivots.

As for succeeding events, where is the evidence that Morsi, Egypt~’s generals and the Egyptian people sat around awaiting the opinion of U.S. policymakers? Washington~’s support for the odious Mubarak left it with little credibility. Maybe the generals can be bought with the promise of more military aid, but even they know that the U.S. cannot protect them if their soldiers refuse their orders. Morsi~’s fate was decided in Cairo, not Washington.

Americans understandably pine for a simpler world in which Washington is the center of the world and the U.S. orchestrates international events. Alas, that world never really existed. It certainly does not exist today.

Instead of embracing the illusion of Washington~’s omniscience, Washington officials should acknowledge the limitations on their power and influence. They should reflect on events spinning out of control in Egypt. It~’s time for the more "humble" foreign policy that candidate George W. Bush promised in what seems to be a lifetime ago.

====No China-Taiwan war====

\*\*Steketee 8\*\*

8/19, \*MIKE STEKETEE: NATIONAL AFFAIRS EDITOR, "China unlikely to go to war over Taiwan, says defence expert," http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/china-wont-fight-over-taiwan-expert/story-e6frg6t6-1111117233275, AJ

CHINA is unlikely to be a military threat and the chances of a conflict over

AND

that is more than the foreign service officers in the entire State Department."

=Grid=

====Electricity trading~’s impossible without monopoly reform====

\*\*Bonner and Rozental 9\*\* (Robert C., Former Commissioner – U.S. Customs and Border Protection; Former Administrator – Drug Enforcement Administration, and Andrѐs, Former Deputy Foreign Minister of Mexico; Former President and Founder – Mexican Council on Foreign Relations, "Managing the United States-Mexico Border: Cooperative Solutions to Common Problems," Pacific Council on International Policy, http://www.pacificcouncil.org/admin/document.doc?id=31)

The sector with perhaps the greatest potential remains energy, especially power generation. Renewable

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regime for both countries and direct negotiations between subnational governments across the border.

====Energy coop fails – structurally different energy markets====

\*\*Peach 12\*\* (Dr. Jim, Professor of Economics – New Mexico State University, "Energy Issues of the US-Mexico Border Region," Border X Roads, October, [[http://blog.bnsl.org/?p=329-http://blog.bnsl.org/?p=329]])

The international border creates additional complexity for energy issues in the border region. San Diego and Tijuana (or El Paso and Juárez) are cities in two different nations but anyone living in the border region can explain that they have more in common than geographic proximity. Interactions across the border include workers who commute, trade flows, cross-border investments, families in which some members live on one side of the border while others live in el otro lado. Traffic flows and long lines at border crossings are almost daily reminders of cross-border interaction. Energy is also a trans-border phenomenon. City pairs in the interior of a nation such as Dallas-Fort Worth may have daunting energy issues, but they do not have an international border to contend with. Border region city pairs (they are not twins as they are sometimes called) are located where two very different national energy systems collide and where trans-border cooperation on energy issues is not exactly easy. Energy prices in Mexico and the US are rarely the same. Total energy consumption per capita in the US is about 4.5 times the comparable figure in Mexico. Electricity consumption per capita in the US is about 6.5 times as large as in Mexico –but Mexico~’s per capita electricity consumption is growing at a faster rate than in the US. For each %241,000 of GDP, the US uses more energy than Mexico but the gap is narrowing because US industries have greatly increased their energy efficiency. (The data in this paragraph are from World Bank, Development Indicators as of 2009, the latest year available http://data.worldbank.org/topic/energy-and-mining). The US and Mexican national energy systems also differ in terms of market structure. US petroleum is produced almost exclusively by private firms while in Mexico the oil industry is dominated by a single state owned firm, PEMEX. For more than fifty years the US has been a large importer of petroleum and for most of that time Mexico has been a large exporter of petroleum –mainly to the US. In the borderlands, consumers and suppliers face the same petroleum related problems as in the two nations. Prices of petroleum (and natural gas) are mainly determined in national and international markets even though there may be small regional price differentials. Figure 1 displays percent changes in inflation adjusted (real) West Texas Intermediate prices per barrel. The WTI price is a commonly used benchmark price for oil. While many people assume that oil prices (and other energy prices) always increase, what is striking in Figure 1 is that oil prices are highly volatile. Other energy (natural gas, uranium, coal) prices are also highly volatile and confronting this price volatility is a major energy issue that affects consumers, producers, and the business community in the border region. In the US, most but not all electricity is produced and distributed by private (regulated) firms while that is not the case in Mexico. The Comisión Federal de Electricidad (CFE) is the state owned electric company in Mexico. CFE is responsible for nearly all electricity generation, transmission, and distribution in Mexico including the six border-states. While states and municipalities on both sides of the border face challenges to ensure adequate supplies of electricity and a stable electricity grid for a growing population and expanding commerce and industry, they do so in very different regulatory and investment environments. Cross-border transmission of electricity (mainly from Mexico to the US) is already occurring and this phenomenon will probably increase in the future. Historically, the US first exported electricity to Mexico in 1905. NAFTA expanded the possibility of cross-border electricity sales and regulatory agencies in the US such as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and state agencies responded with appropriate regulatory changes. The potential for cross border trade in electricity generated by renewables is also enhanced by individual state environmental standards, particularly Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS). RPS standards are state regulations that require a specified percentage of electricity sales in the state to be generated by renewables. Imports of electricity generated by renewables can generally be counted against RPS standards. Increasingly, electricity generation projects on the borderlands (both sides) involve solar or wind generation (Photo 1). While cross-border energy projects can increase efficiency, such projects can also create additional difficulties. For example, in the early 2000s various environmental and citizen groups alleged that power plants being built in Mexicali to provide electricity to southern California and Arizona did not meet US environmental standards. The debate over whether or not the plants were being built in Mexico to circumvent US law was bitter and intense (see, for example the report by the US Government Accountability Office on the estimated emissions from the two plants: http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-05-823 ).

====New developments sure up grid stability====

\*\*Kemp 12\*\* — Reuters market analyst (John, 4/5/12, "COLUMN-Phasors and blackouts on the U.S. power grid: John Kemp," http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/04/05/column-smart-grid-idUSL6E8F59W120120405)

The hoped-for solution to grid instability is something called the North American SynchroPhasor

AND

so that grid managers can act quickly to restore balance or isolate failures ()

====No internal link to collapse manu – us manu resilient ====

====Alt cause – shutdown====

====Blackouts won~’t hurt the economy====

\*\*Gaylord 3\*\* (Becky, "Blackout Blues Hit Local Industries", The Plain Dealer, 8-16,

http://www.cleveland.com/blackout/index.ssf?/blackout/more/1061038185297290.html)

The biggest blackout in U.S. history will pinch the nation~’s economy onlymodestly

AND

colossal," said Ken Mayland, president of ClearView Economics in Pepper Pike.

====Connectivity leads to grid instability – turns the case====

\*\*Terry 12\*\* - Master~’s candidate at the University of Denver~’s Josef Korbel School of International Studies

(Alison, "POLICY AND PRACTICE IN NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY SECURITY," International Affairs Review, 20.3)

As the North American energy networks continue to integrate, they will ¶ become more

AND

by merging their networks with increased risks of physical and ¶ virtual attacks.

====No internal link to economic collapse – blackout in 2003 didn~’t trigger collapse nor manufacturing====

====No historical connection between economic collapse and conflict====

Ferguson 6 – M.A., Laurence A. Tisch Professor of History at Harvard University, Resident faculty member of the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Senior Research Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford University, and a Senior Fellow of the Hoover Institution, Stanford University (Niall, "The Next War of the World", Foreign Affairs, September-October 2006, May 21^^st^^ 2010)

Nor can economic crises explain the bloodshed. What may be the most familiar causal

AND

economic catastrophe, and some severe economic crises were not followed by wars.

=Solvency=

====Mexico would say no- laundry list of other focuses that don~’t include energy. ====

Seelke, Specialist in Latina American Affairs, 1-16-13~’, (Clare R., Congressional Research Service, "Mexico~’s New Administration: Priorities and ¶ Key Issues in U.S.-Mexican Relations", [[http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/R42917.pdf,p.6-http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/R42917.pdf,p.6]], accessed 7/12/13, LLM)

Upon his inauguration, President Peña Nieto announced a reform agenda with specific proposals ¶

AND

on ¶ many of the structural reforms that need to be enacted.14