# Contention 1 is Inherency

#### US-Cuban Economic Relations Are Characterized by an Economic Embargo. Exceptions are Insignificant.

The Economist 6/20/13

It’s the Economist – “Set the farmers and shopkeepers free” – The Economist: Leaders (from the print edition) − Jul 20th 2013 − [http://www.economist.com/news/leaders/21582005-and-let-cubans-benefit-more-change-set-farmers-and-shopkeepers-free − Accessed 7/18/13](http://www.economist.com/news/leaders/21582005-and-let-cubans-benefit-more-change-set-farmers-and-shopkeepers-free%20−%20Accessed%207/18/13) − IS

The outside world matters, too. The tempo of reform has increased since Hugo

AND

make the island’s transition to capitalism harder and slower than it should be.

### PLAN: The United States federal government should repeal its economic embargo toward Cuba.

**Contention 2 is Advantages**

**Scenario 1 is Soft Power**

**Embargo is seen as immoral and interventionist- tanks US soft power.**

**Edmonds 12**

(Kevin Edmonds, Caribbean blogger for the North American Congress on Latin America, PhD student at the University of Toronto, “Despite Global Opposition, United States Votes to Continue Cuban Embargo”, North American Congress on Latin America, 11/15/12, <https://nacla.org/blog/2012/11/15/despite-global-opposition-united-states-votes-continue-cuban-embargo>, accessed 7/17/13.) ZP

In a near unanimous vote at **the U**nited **N**ations General Assembly on Tuesday, the

AND

not be born for another year. It was indeed a different world.

**Ending the Embargo Uniquely Enhances US Global Soft Power.**

**Hill et al. 09**

(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>, accessed 7/17/13.) ZP

Even worse, **the embargo has inspired** a significant diplomatic **movement against U.S**

**AND**

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

**All Critical issues will require international cooperation- soft power is key**

**Nye 13**

(Joseph S. Nye Jr., professor at Harvard University, “American power in the 21st century will be defined by the ‘rise of the rest’”, The Washington Post, 6/28/13, <http://articles.washingtonpost.com/2013-06-28/opinions/40255646_1_american-power-u-s-economy-united-states>, accessed 7/18/13.) ZP

Decline is a misleading metaphor and, fortunately, President Obama has rejected the suggested

AND

**be able to achieve the outcomes it wants without the help of others.**

**Only soft power prevents modern conflicts-systemic war threatens extinction**

**Chatterjee 13**

(Siddharth Chatterjee, Chief Diplomat at the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, “The Spoils of War”, Huffington Post, 7/12/13, <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/siddharth-chatterjee/the-spoils-of-war_b_3586601.html>, accessed 7/18/13.) ZP

Now more than ever, the time is ripe to explore the paradigm-shifting

AND

**out of war, then we may** well **be defeated as a civilization.**

**Soft power is key to keeping allies and preventing terror – War on Terror proves**

Nye, Dean of Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government, **Foreign Affairs, 04**

(Joseph, “Soft Power: The Means to Success in World Politics,” book pg. 129-130, 6/30/13, ND)

It is not smart to discount soft power as just a question of image,¶

AND

**and**¶ are **self-defeat**ing in terms of the outcomes we want.

**AND Terrorism IS the Most Significant Threat to US National Security**

**Kouri ’11** Jim Kouri is currently fifth vice-president of the National Association of Chiefs of Police and he's a staff writer for the New Media Alliance (thenma.org).

**Jim Kouri, “Lone Wolf Terrorist Threat Increasing, Say Experts,” Accuracy in Media, June 24, 2011.** [**http://www.aim.org/guest-column/lone-wolf-terrorist-threat-increasing-say-security-experts/**](http://www.aim.org/guest-column/lone-wolf-terrorist-threat-increasing-say-security-experts/)

**With the Muslim world in turmoil, terrorist organizations are likely to find more and**

**AND**

the National Association of Chiefs of Police and other law enforcement and security organizations

**BioTerror likely, Impact is beginning of this year, 250 scientists**

**Cole, ’12,** Leonard, “Bioterrorism: Still a threat to the United States,” Combating Terrorism Center at West Point, January 18, 2012, http://www.ctc.usma.edu/posts/bioterrorism-still-a-threat-to-the-united-states

The WMD Commission holds a contrary view. After interviewing **more than 250** government officials

AND

**biotech**nology that could be **used to develop new** and more **deadly biological weapons.**

**AND Bioterror is the most likely extinction scenario**

**Matheny, ’07,** Jason, ***Department of Health Policy and Management, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University*** “Reducing the Risk of Human Extinction,” Risk Analysis, 2007. http://www.upmc-biosecurity.org/website/resources/publications/2007/2007-10-15-reducingrisk.html

We already invest in some extinction countermeasures. NASA spends $4 million per year

AND

**effect on a population** (Warrick, 2006; Williams, 2006).5

**Scenario 2 is Hegemonic Rampage**

**Soft power is key to leadership--- legitimizes hard power and increases influence**

**Nye** 200**2** (Joseph S. Nve, Former Assistant Secretary of Defense and Dean of Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, The Paradox of American Power: Why the World's Only Superpower Can't Go It Alone, p. 9-10, Google Books)

Of course, **hard and soft power** are related and can **reinforce each other.**

**AND**

it prefers, it may not need as many costly carrots and sticks.

**Hard power alone is insufficient**

**Gallarotti 2013** (Giulio Gallarotti, Professor of Government Wesleyan University Department of Government John Andrus Center for Public Affairs, February 12, 2013, “Smart Power: what it is, why it’s important, and the conditions for its effective use,” Wesleyan University, google)

First, the **costs of using or** even **threatening force among nuclear powers** have **skyrocketed**

**AND**

**power** in orderfor nations **to achieve sustainable security** in the long run.

**US hegemony solves escalation - decline causes hotspots to escalate worldwide**

**Brzezinski 2012** Zbigniew K. Brzezinski (CSIS counselor and trustee and cochairs the CSIS Advisory Board. He is also the Robert E. Osgood Professor of American Foreign Policy at the School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, in Washington, D.C. He is cochair of the American Committee for Peace in the Caucasus and a member of the International Advisory Board of the Atlantic Council. He is a former chairman of the American-Ukrainian Advisory Committee. He was a member of the Policy Planning Council of the Department of State from 1966 to 1968; chairman of the Humphrey Foreign Policy Task Force in the 1968 presidential campaign; director of the Trilateral Commission from 1973 to 1976; and principal foreign policy adviser to Jimmy Carter in the 1976 presidential campaign. From 1977 to 1981, Dr. Brzezinski was national security adviser to President Jimmy Carter. In 1981, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his role in the normalization of U.S.-China relations and for his contributions to the human rights and national security policies of the United States. He was also a member of the President’s Chemical Warfare Commission (1985), the National Security Council–Defense Department Commission on Integrated Long-Term Strategy (1987–1988), and the President’s Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (1987–1989). In 1988, he was cochairman of the Bush National Security Advisory Task Force, and in 2004, he was cochairman of a Council on Foreign Relations task force that issued the report Iran: Time for a New Approach. Dr. Brzezinski received a B.A. and M.A. from McGill University (1949, 1950) and Ph.D. from Harvard University (1953). He was a member of the faculties of Columbia University (1960–1989) and Harvard University (1953–1960). Dr. Brzezinski holds honorary degrees from Georgetown University, Williams College, Fordham University, College of the Holy Cross, Alliance College, the Catholic University of Lublin, Warsaw University, and Vilnius University. He is the recipient of numerous honors and awards) February 2012 “After America” http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2012/01/03/after\_america?page=0,0

For **if America falters**, the world is unlikely to be dominated by a single

AND

policy -- or start bracing itself for a dangerous slide into global turmoil.

**U.S. hegemony prevents global war, arms races and genocides**

**Thayer** 200**7** Bradley A. Thayer (Associate Professor in the Dept. of Defense and Strategic Studies at Missouri State University) 2007 American Empire: A Debate, “Reply to Christopher Layne” p 108

The fourth critical fact to consider is that **the security provided by the power of**

**AND**

**world dominated by the United States is an era of peace and stability.**

**Weakness leads to war--multiple scenarios**

Victor **Hanson**, Senior Fellow in Residence, Classics and Military History, Hoover Institution, “Change, Weakness, Disaster Obama: Anwers from Victor Davis Hanson,” Interview with Oregon Patriots, 12—7—**09**, <http://www.victorhanson.com/articles/hanson121609.html>, accessed 9-17-11.

BC: Are we currently sending a message of weakness to our foes and allies

AND

tiger and now no one quite knows whom it will bite or when.

**War is at its lowest level in history because of US heg---best studies prove heg solves war, democratic peace and globalization sustainable**

**Owen ‘11** (John M. Owen Professor of Politics at University of Virginia PhD from Harvard "DON’T DISCOUNT HEGEMONY" Feb 11 www.cato-unbound.org/2011/02/11/john-owen/dont-discount-hegemony/

Andrew Mack and his colleagues at the Human Security Report Project are to be congratulated

AND

U.S. material and moral **support for liberal democracy remains strong**.

**Hegemony will be tested—Pakistan, North Korea among others**

Ralph **Peters**, Lt. Colonel, U.S. Army (ret.), “America the Weak: US Risks Turmoil Under Prez O,” NEW YORK POST, 10—20—**08**, [www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/item\_GS5vnNwCO6UjfBPf3uobyM](http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/item_GS5vnNwCO6UjfBPf3uobyM), accessed 9-17-11.

 IF Sen. Barack Obama is elected president, our re public will survive

AND

the upper hand. Putin will be allowed to do what he wants.

**Unipolarity Equals international stability**

**Wohlforth** Dartmouth College Government Professor **9**

[William C., January 2009, “Unipolarity, Status Competition, And Great Power War”,<http://www.polisci.wisc.edu/Uploads/Documents/IRC/Wohlforth%20(2009).pdf>, World Politics 61, no. 1, p. 40-41, accessed 7/3/13, ALT]

Unipolarity implies the most stratiﬁed hierarchy,presenting the ¶ starkest contrast to the other

AND

**a** relatively **clear status** ordering or **to engage in strategies of social creativity.**

**Perception is key—decreases uncertainty**

Wagner**12**—President of the Mississippi Rice Council and serve on the Board of Directors of the US Rice Producers Association (Mike, “1

Review of U.S. Agricultural Sales to Cuba: Reclaiming what was America’s Fastest Growing Rice Market from Devastation by U.S. Government Actions”, 3/11, Testimony before the Committee on Agriculture U.S. House of Representatives,<http://www.usarice.com/doclib/194/40/4553.pdf>) EL

THE PRESIDENT SHOULD REASSURE U.S. AGRICULTURE AND OUR CUBAN CUSTOMERS THAT THE

AND

not prevent U.S. agriculture from reliably supplying the Cuban market.

**Heg solves trade and war; power vacuum causes instability**

**Zhang** and Shi 20**11**

[ a researcher at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington, D.C. \*\* Columbia University. She also serves as an independent consultant for the Eurasia Group and a consultant for the World Bank in Washington, D.C. “America’s decline: A harbinger of conflict and rivalry” <http://www.eastasiaforum.org/2011/01/22/americas-decline-a-harbinger-of-conflict-and-rivalry/>)

This does not necessarily mean that the US is in systemic decline, but it

AND

forecast in a future that will inevitably be devoid of unrivalled US primacy.

**We outweigh critical arguments heg decline takes out the alt**

**Wohlforth 09**

[William C. Wohlforth, Professor of government @ Dartmouth College, “Unipolarity, Status Competition, and Great Power War,” World Politics, Volume 61, Number 1, January 2009, Pg. 33-35]

The upshot is a near scholarly consensus that unpolarity’s consequences for great power conflict are

AND

to which such demands are addressed even when acquiescence entails limited material cost.

**2nd adv is China**

**Plan Crowds out Chinese expansion, increases US relations with Cuba**

Jonathan **Benjamin-Alvadaro ‘6**, 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, “The Current Status and Future Prospects for Oil Exploration in Cuba: A Special,” <http://cri.fiu.edu/research/commissioned-reports/oil-cuba-alvarado.pdf>, ACC. 6-6-2013, JT//JEDI

Given that there are no formal diplomatic of economic relations between the governments of the United States and Cuba, the level of interest has grown significantly in the 3 years due primarily to three reasons in the following interest areas: energy security interests; broader regional strategic; and purely economic interests. First, the energy security interests in the potential of Cuban oil – although it really would not minimize the immediacy of an American energy crisis – is seen as possible if only partial remedy to energy supply concerns. Second, as Cuba, in part because of the increasing number of oil partnerships furthers its diplomatic and economic ties to with countries like Venezuela, China, Brazil and members of the European Union it may prove to provide Cuba for a sufficient buffer against U.S. opposition as it solidifies it economic and diplomatic role in the region. This is important inasmuch as **there is a** de facto **trend in the Americas** that clearly disavows and attempts **to minimize the influence of the U**nited **S**tates in the region, and with the growing demands on the world economy by China, it stands to reason that **Cuba may** assume an increasing stature that almost potentially **lessen**s **the presence of America**n influence **in** Cuban and hence **regional affairs**. Finally, and as demonstrated by the presence of American oil interests in the February 2006 U.S.- Cuban Energy Summit in Mexico City, there may be interest in cooperating in joint venture projects, and by extension assisting in the long-term development in Cuba’s oil industry. To accomplish this task the report seeks to lay out some national security policy considerations applying strategic thought to what I will term “Post-Oil” Cuba – a Cuba that has a small but vibrant and growing oil and gas production capacity with extensive relations with a number of partners, and an increasingly positive outlook toward addressing energy and economic development questions that have plagued the Castro regime since the Cuban Revolution.3 The primary consideration is to determine the present state of Cuban energy and what possibilities exist that would be available to American foreign policy decision makers and business interests as the relations with Cuba evolve over the coming years.4 This is important because any realistic appraisal of how Cuba is to take advantage of its oil bonanza involves the United States. Previous research in this area has clearly laid out the scope and objectives of Cuban energy development schemes in the period since the demise of Cuba’s favorable trade arrangements with the former Soviet Union. Recently, and as a result of the oil discovery and Cuba’s energy arrangement with the government of Hugo Chavez in Venezuela there is renewed interest in Havana’s energy policies. Most of that analysis has been focused on concrete possibilities where there can be cooperation in the energy field between these two neighbors. Specifically, the work has looked at areas for the convergence of energy interests as they apply to the near- and long-term energy development scenarios facing both countries. Myers Jaffe and Soligo have addressed this possibility by looking at the potential to increase diversification and dispersion of energy resources. This is an important consideration when one takes into consideration that well over one-third of all oil refining capacity resides on or near the Houston shipping channel. The potential negative impact on America’s refining capacity following Hurricane Rita5 made a significant impression on oil industry analysts for the necessity of diversifying the location of these vital national resources. The potential of viewing Cuba as a “staging area” for American oil storage and refining is plausible because of the proximity of the island. The also becomes more attractive because of the growing climatic concerns over the uncertain security of oil resources in the Gulf region as clearly demonstrated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005. While it is true that Venezuela has initiated an investment of $1 billion dollars to bring the Cienfuegos refinery online, there are still many other possibilities open and available to American companies, as well as a growing number of foreign firms.6 Additionally, Venezuela remains the fourth largest importer of oil to the United States and one can surmise that the existing trade arrangements between the U.S. and Venezuela will remain intact, the evolution of the Bolivarian revolution under Chavez and a growing Chinese presence in the region notwithstanding. Additionally, pursuing such a path would allow United States policymakers to take advantage of what Cuba has to offer in the following areas: domestic technical capabilities; continuing human capital development; strategic positioning in the Caribbean, and an improved diplomatic stature. Cuba, by any measure, possesses a largely untapped technical capacity owing to advanced training and education in the core mathematic and scientific areas. This was clearly demonstrated by its attempt to develop a nuclear energy capability in the 1980s and 1990s whereby thousands of Cubans pursued highly technical career paths leaving Cuba with among the highest ratios of scientists and engineers to the general population in all of the Americas. Moreover, the foundation of Cuba’s vaunted public education system remains intact and increased investment under various scenarios suggests that Cuba will continue to produce a welleducated workforce that will be critical to its future economic vitality. This raises an important consideration that being the role that Cuba will play in the region in the 21st century. It suffices to say that **Cuba remains** the strategically **important** state by virtue of its geographical location alone, **in efforts against drug and human trafficking and** related national and regional **security** matters. The extent to which a stable **Cuban government has cooperated with the U.S.** in drug interdiction efforts **in the past** suggests that the results from **improved diplomatic relations** between neighbors would have the effect of **improv**ing national security **concerns related to terrorist activity,** illicit weapons transfers and the like. Ultimately, a successful **normalization of relations** between the U.S. and Cuba in these areas may well **enhance and stabilize regional relations that** could possibly **lessen** (or at a minimum, balancing) fears of a **Chinese incursion** in hemispheric affairs**.** To lessen those fears it may be useful to review the present structure of joint-venture projects in the energy sector in Cuba to ascertain the feasibility and possible success of such an undertaking become available to American firms. Moreover, it is interesting to note that U.S. firms in the agriculture sector have successfully negotiated and consummated sales to Cuba totaling more than $1 billion dollars over the past four years under conditions that are less than optimal circumstances but have well-served the commercial interests of all parties involved.

**Allowing Chinese influence in Latin America to grow causes Taiwan war sponsored by the U.S.**

Robbie **Fergusson ‘12**, 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/>, ACC. 6-7-2013, JT//JEDI

China’s goals in the region amount to more than the capture of natural resources.

AND

**allow the PRC to conclude a settlement on Taiwan,** perhaps **by force.**

**Multiple factors converge to make Taiwan the most likely flashpoint for nuclear war, escalate from misclac**

**Colby** & Denmark et al., March **‘13**, “Nuclear Weapons and U.S.-China Relations: A way forward,” A report of the Poni Working Group on U.S.-China Nuclear Dynamics, Center for Strategic and International Studies; Elbridge Colby- consultant to the Global Security Directorate and the U.S. Strategic Command and the National Intelligence Council, principal analyst for Global Strategic Affairs in Center for Naval Analyses, J.D. from Yale Law School; Abraham M. Denmark- fellow with the Center for a New American Security and directed the Asia-Pacific Security Program, former Country Director for China Affairs in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, History and Political Science at the University of Northern Colorado, <http://csis.org/files/publication/130307_Colby_USChinaNuclear_Web.pdf>, ACC. 6-12-2013, JT//JEDI

Considerations of U.S.-China nuclear relations would be a largely academic exercise

AND

of **U.S.** defense commitments in the Asia-Pacific region.

# Contention 3 is Solvency

#### Lifting the embargo will economically engage Cuba, meeting all of the failed embargo’s objectives.

Johnson, Spector, and Lilac 10

(Andy Johnson, Director of the National Security Program, Kyle Spector, Policy Advisor for the National Security Program, and Kristina Lilac, National Security Program, “End the Embargo on Cuba”, Third Way National Security Program, 9/16/10, <http://content.thirdway.org/publications/326/Third_Way_Memo_-_End_the_Embargo_of_Cuba.pdf>, accessed 7/18/13.) ZP

Peter Hakim, President of the Inter-American Dialogue, has rightly argued that

AND

could finally achieve the change it has been seeking for nearly fifty years.

#### The embargo is a failure. Its counterproductive nature should be the measure against which affirmative solvency should be measured.

Griswold 09

(Daniel Griswold, *director of the*[*Center for Trade Policy Studies*](http://www.freetrade.org/)*at the Cato Institute in Washington, D.C., “The US Embargo Of Cuba Is A Failure”, June 2009,* <http://www.cato.org/publications/commentary/us-embargo-cuba-is-failure>)

The embargo has been a failure by every measure. It has not changed the

AND

to give us an ounce of extra leverage over what happens in Havana.