# 1ac

**PLAN –**

The United States federal government should normalize trade relations with Cuba.

**THE ADVANTAGE IS MULTILATERALISM**

**Unilateralism is unsustainable and drives allies away – multilateralism promotes band-wagoning and international coalitions, strengthening the US-led system**

**Ikenberry and Kupchan 04 –** (John Ikenberry and Charles Kupchan, “Liberal Realism: The Foundations of a Democratic Foreign Policy,” National Interest (Fall 2004))

It is misguided, however, to assume that America's preponderant power, when combined with an assertive unilateralism, promotes stability as a matter of course. As .. to reclaim its moral authority abroad and to make disaffected allies again feel like stakeholders in the international system.

**That crushes credibility of US military threats, leading to great power lashout**

**Mazaar 12 –** Professor of National Security Strategy at the U.S. National War College (Michael J., “The Risks of Strategic Insolvency”, *The Washington Quarterly* 35:4 pp. 7-22, <http://csis.org/files/publication/twq12FallMazarr.pdf>)//NG

Global strategies and specific military plans lose credibility. As the leading power is overtaken by others, if it refuses to prioritize and attempts instead to uphold all its commitments equally, … costs which will horrify a U.S. public accustomed to ‘‘virtual wars.’’ In sum, remaining locked in the current paradigm invites future embarrassments, setbacks, and even defeats.

**First, repeal would represent a commitment to multilateralism for the international community**

\*plan spreads multilateralism – only the removal of the embargo carries the symbolic weight of revoking previous unilateral efforts to backlash against other countries in votes during conferences in the UN

\*overwhelms alternative causes – removing the embargo signifies an endorsement of international law that overwhelms human rights violations in Guantanamo and Iraq – prefer comparative evidence

**Burgsdorff 09 –** Ph. D in Political Science from Freiburg University, EU Fellow at the University of Miami (Sven Kühn von, “Problems and Opportunities for the Incoming Obama Administration”, <http://aei.pitt.edu.proxy.lib.umich.edu/11047/1/vonBurgsdorfUSvsCubalong09edi.pdf>)//NG

In addition, the US needs to improve its international human rights reputation which was

AND

it would be interpreted by the international community as steps towards effective multilateralism.

**Second, the plan fosters a credible conflict resolution model which prevents conflict – status quo policies risk disengagement**

\*plan fosters a credible conflict resolution model – increases diplomatic negotiations with Cuba which even if they fail garner international support for America in multilateral negotiations – also increase Cuban relations which spreads democratic efforts worldwide giving the US a hedge in multilateral institutions

\*solves Kashmir conflict – plan fosters international momentum and credibility to leverage international dialogue in resolving human rights abuses, military buildup and Indo-Pakistan tensions in the region – solves the root cause of the problem

\*solves Middle East conflict – increased credibility allows Obama to leverage his international reputation with rogue nations like Iran to control fissile material and international leverage allows us to de-escalate Middle East tensions

**Dickerson 10** – Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, paper submitted in fulfillment of a Master of Strategic Studies Degree at the US Army War College (Sergio M, “UNITED STATES SECURITY STRATEGY TOWARDS CUBA,” 1/14/10, <http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a518053.pdf>) // NG

At the international political level, President Obama sees resuming relations with Cuba as a real step towards multilateralism and leadership. U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon made the following statement about then President.. reputation with other rogue nations like Iran and North Korea who might associate their plight with Cuba.35 The U.S. could begin to lead again and reverse its perceived decline in the greater global order bringing true peace for years to come.

**Third, the plan sends a clear signal of Latin American cooperation to reinvigorate the OAS**

\*plan sends a signal of Latin American cooperation to reinvigorate the OAS – even though Cuba’s suspension was revoked in 2009, there exists a disconnect between their reenlistment and the continuation of the embargo – corrupts the OAS agenda by delegitimizing US credibility

\*solves Latin American relations – choice statements from leaders of the Bolivarian Alliance prove Cuba is the nexus point of increased relations which solves multilateralism by enlisting support of developing countries who bandwagon with Latin America

**White 13** – Senior fellow at the Center for International Policy and former U.S. ambassador to Paraguay and El Salvador (Robert, “After Chávez, a Chance to Rethink Relations With Cuba”, New York Times, 3/7/13, <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/08/opinion/after-chavez-hope-for-good-neighbors-in-latin-america.html?pagewanted=all)//TL>

FOR most of our history, the United .. common concern would be reduced to a historical footnote.

**That bolsters influence in international institutions, allowing the US to lead multilateral forums**

\*plan boosts influence in international institutions – re-integrates Latin American as a regional ally to counterbalance emerging economic powers and improves US diplomacy with their support

\*the internal link is perception based – the perception of America lacking regional allies encourages increasing economic powers to diametrically oppose the US in multilateral institutions to crush our agenda

**Sabatini and Berger 12 –** Christopher Sabatini is editor-in-chief of Americas Quarterly and senior director of policy at Americas Society/Council of the Americas. Ryan Berger is a policy associate at the Americas Society/Council of the Americas(Christopher/Ryan, "Why the U.S. can't afford to ignore Latin America" 6/13/12, CNN/Global Public Square, <http://globalpublicsquare.blogs.cnn.com/2012/06/13/why-the-u-s-cant-afford-to-ignore-latin-america/)//AD>

Speaking in Santiago, Chile, in March of last year, President Obama … We need to stop thinking of Latin America as the U.S. “backyard” that is outside broader, global strategic concerns.

**Multilateralism leads to greater power sharing and international cooperation, resolving conflict**

\*multilateralism solves global problems –

a. fosters great power sharing – increased multilateral dialogue devises similar analytics lenses that make policies more readily adopted on a large scale

b. increases international cooperation – lends legitimacy to policies by virtue of debate and increases efficient implementation of joint programs because actors feel invested in solutions – creates a self-reinforcing dynamic which creates new focal points for strategic interaction

**Pouliot 11** — Professor of Political Science at McGill University (Vincent Pouliot, “Multilateralism as an End in Itself,” International Studies Perspectives (2011) 12, 18–26)//NG

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

AND

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

**Decline of the international system causes trading blocks and protectionism – only US leadership solves**

**Zhang & Shi 11** – Yuhan Zhang, researcher at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; Lin Shi, Columbia University, independent consultant for the Eurasia Group and consultant for the World Bank, January 22, 2011, “America’s decline: A harbinger of conflict and rivalry,” East Asia Forum, online: http://www.eastasiaforum.org/2011/01/22/americas-decline-a-harbinger-of-conflict-and-rivalry/

Over the past two decades, no other state has had the ability to seriously challenge the US military. Under these circumstances, motivated by both opportunity and fear, many actors have bandwagoned with US hegemony and accepted a subordinate role. Canada, most of Western Europe, India, Japan, South Korea, Australia, Singapore and the Philippines have all joined the US, creating a status quo that … **power wars re-emerge**, the liberal international system is supplanted by an authoritarian one, and trade protectionism devolves into restrictive, anti-globalisation barriers. This, at least, is one possibility we can forecast in a future that will inevitably be devoid of unrivalled US primacy.

**Absent a transition to multilateralism, failing unilateralism will cause hegemonic wars**

**Goldstein 07 –** Professor of Global Politics and International Relations @ University of Pennsylvania [Avery Goldstein, “Power transitions, institutions, and China's rise in East Asia: Theoretical expectations and evidence,” [Journal of Strategic Studies](http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title%7Edb=all%7Econtent=t713636064), Volume [30](http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title%7Edb=all%7Econtent=t713636064%7Etab=issueslist%7Ebranches=30#v30), Issue [4 & 5](http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title%7Edb=all%7Econtent=g780703608) August 2007, pages 639 – 682]

Two closely related, though distinct, theoretical arguments focus explicitly on the consequences for

AND

the period prior to the possible crossover.19 pg. 647-650

**Best statistical studies prove leadership solves war because it makes democratic peace resilient and globalization sustainable – it’s the deeper cause of proximate checks against war**

**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. Not only do they present a study with a striking conclusion, driven by data, free of theoretical or ideological .. the collapse of communism. Thus in the 1980s the Reagan administration—the most anti-communist government America ever had—began to dump America’s old dictator friends, starting in the Philippines. Today Islamists tend to be anti-American, and so the Obama administration is skittish about democracy in Egypt and other authoritarian Muslim countries. But general U.S. material and moral support for liberal democracy remains strong.

**Every credible study shows violence is down because of everything consistent with the AFF – liberal trade, and international cooperation all solve conflict**

**Pinker 9/24** – (Steven, Professor of Psychology at Harvard University, “Violence Vanquished: We believe our world is riddled with terror and war, but we may be living in the most peaceable era in human existence. Why brutality is declining and empathy is on the rise,” 9-24-2011, http://online.ws j.com/article/SB10001424053111904106704576583203589408180.html?mod=googlenews\_wsj)

On the day this article appears, you will read about a shocking act of

AND

impetus to cherish the forces of civilization and enlightenment that made it possible.

**Shocks to the international system are the only propensity for conflict – globalization and liberal norms have eradicated warfare and structural violence – every field study proves**

**Horgan 09 –** is Director of the Center for Science at Stevens Institute of Technology, former senior writer at Scientific American, B.A. from Columbia and an M.S. from Columbia (John, “The End of the Age of War,” Dec 7 http://www.newsweek.com/id/225616/page/1

The economic crisis was supposed to increase violence around the world. The truth is that we are now living in one of the most peaceful periods since war first arose 10 or 12 millennia ago. The relative calm of our era, say … of countless visionaries and -beauty--pageant -contestants—or something like it may finally come to pass.

**Social science proves – power vacuums support the natural incentive to seek status by fighting**

**Wohlforth 09** – professor of government at Dartmouth (William, “Unipolarity, Status Competition, and Great Power War,” World Affairs, January, project muse)

The upshot is a near scholarly consensus that unpolarity’s consequences for great power … status is thus inherently scarce, and competitions for status tend to be zero sum.9

**Even if US leadership is bad, we’ll cling to it – delaying collapse is critical to prevent transition wars**

**Pape 09** – Robert A., Professor of political science at the University of Chicago (Jan-Feb. 2009, “Empire Falls,” <http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m2751/is_99/ai_n32148803/?tag=content;col1> originally from The National Interest)

All of this has led to one of the most significant declines of any state

AND

America's current, rapid domestic economic decline is merely accelerating our own downfall.

**Our authors rely on a testable empirical method – yes, there are counterexamples, but trade has the strongest overall correlation with a reduction in conflict**

**Weede 04** – professor of sociology at the University of Bonn, Germany, In Winter 1986-87, he was Visiting Professor of International Relations at the Bologna Center of The Johns Hopkins University. (Erich, “BALANCE OF POWER, GLOBALIZATION, AND THE CAPITALIST PEACE,” http://www.fnf.org.ph/downloadables/Balance%20of%20Power,%20Globalization%20and%20Capitalist%20Peace.pdf)

If one does research or summarize the research of others – of course, most of the ideas, theories, and evidence discussed below have been produced by others – one cannot avoid some epistemological …, tested and so far supported propositions than on a hodgepodge of ambiguous hunches, contradictory thinking, and unsystematically evaluated empirical evidence.

**Evaluate the debate through a lens of positivism – a focus on epistemology causes a retreat from policy relevance**

\*positivism is self-reflective, recognizes there’s no absolute truth, and uses observable regularities to inform action

**Houghton ’08** – Associate Professor of International Relations Theory at the University of Central Florida (David Patrick, “Positivism ‘vs’ Postmodernism: Does Epistemology Make a Difference?” International Politics (2008) 45)

As long ago as 1981, Yale Ferguson and Richard Mansbach effectively laid the influence

AND

epistemological ones, ought to be what divides the international relations scene today.

# 2ac

**Our aff doesn’t happen, but debating the resolutional question has educational and decision-making benefits**

Joyner **1999 Christopher C. Joyner is a Professor of International Law in the Government** Department at Georgetown University, Spring, 1999 [5 ILSA J Int'l & Comp L 377]

Use of the debate can be an effective pedagogical tool for education in the social sciences. Debates, like other role-playing simulations, help students understand different … thus becomes an excellent vehicle for pushing students beyond stale arguments over principles into the real world of policy analysis, political critique, and legal defense.

**Assuming an alternate role of the ballot is the politics of delusion- voting neg doesn’t do anything either, except making the judge feeling good about voting neg without actually taking action against social change**

**Gunnell, 86** - Distinguished Professor of Political Science at University of Albany (John G., “Tradition, Interpretation, and Science: Political Theory in the American Academy” pages 351-352)

There may be pointed exceptions; but, on the whole, the radicalism of political theory in the American university is now distinctly academic in both … is to continue to ensure impotence-both because it has no audience and because it obscures the world as much as the conceptual schemes of orthodox social science. It merely substitutes one reified structure for another.

**Political simulations are educationally valuable – deliberation is empowering and activates agency**

**Hanghoj 08** – Thorkild Hanghøj, Copenhagen, 2008 Since this PhD project began in 2004, the present author has been affiliated with DREAM (Danish Research Centre on Education and Advanced Media Materials), which is located at the Institute of Literature, Media and Cultural Studies at the University of Southern Denmark. Research visits have taken place at the Centre for Learning, Knowledge, and Interactive Technologies (L-KIT), the Institute of Education at the University of Bristol and the institute formerly known as Learning Lab Denmark at the School of Education, University of Aarhus, where I currently work as an assistant professor (http://static.sdu.dk/mediafiles/Files/Information\_til/Studerende\_ved\_SDU/Din\_uddannelse/phd\_hum/afhandlinger/2009/ThorkilHanghoej.pdf)

Joas’ re-interpretation of Dewey’s pragmatism as a “theory of situated creativity”

AND

the **contingent outcomes** and **domain-specific processes** of **problem-based scenarios**.

**Primacy fills in for powerless institutions—key to solve genocide and mass violence globally**

**Lieber 2005** – PhD from Harvard, Professor of Government and International Affairs at Georgetown, former consultant to the State Department and for National Intelligence Estimates (Robert, “The American Era”, pages 51-52, WEA)

The United States possesses the military and economic means to act assertively on a global

AND

killing in the Darfur region of Western Sudan provides a more recent example.

**No root cause – impacts are proximately caused**

**Curtler 97** – [Hugh Mercer, Prof. Phil. – Southwest State U. “Rediscovering values: coming to terms with Postmodernism”, Netlibrary, p. 164-165]

At the same time, we must beware the temptation to reject out of hand

AND

the face of hysteria. There are additional problems with postmodernism, however.

**Turn removing the embargo is anti-colonial – the only reason it is in place is to crush a socialist government**

**Báez, 4** – Ph.D. and professor of sociology at the University of Puerto Rico (Antonio, “State Resistance to Globalisation in Cuba”, Pluto Press, pg. 112-114)//eek

In 1995, the Cuban parliament passed the New Law on Foreign Investment, which

AND

their lobby groups only support the embargo with capital and intellectual back up.¶

**Refusing intervention on the basis of imperialism legitimizes atrocities and genocide—accepting imperialism for a greater good is the only ethical choice**

**Watson, 2K** (David, New Internationalist Magazine, May, http://www.thirdworldtraveler.com/Imperialism\_Neocolonialism/Empire\_exterminism.html)

The imperial arrogance and hypocrisy of NATO's war, its incompetence, its cowardly and

AND

of the New World Order and of the New World Disorder it generates.

**Alt fails-- They universalize coloniality. That method’s *worse*; misinforms transitions and disproves the K *in Cuba context*.**

**Powell ‘8**

Kathy Powell. Lecturer. PhD Social Anthroplogy – National University of Ireland, Galway. Critique of Anthropology – Vol 28(2) p. 177–197 – Sage Database

Yet, within these **broad** patterns, it is clear from the behaviour of **different**

AND

-emerge which construct a future resolved¶ by the demise of socialism.

**Turn removing the embargo is anti-colonial – the only reason it is in place is to crush a socialist government**

**Báez, 4** – Ph.D. and professor of sociology at the University of Puerto Rico (Antonio, “State Resistance to Globalisation in Cuba”, Pluto Press, pg. 112-114)//eek

In 1995, the Cuban parliament passed the New Law on Foreign Investment, which

AND

their lobby groups only support the embargo with capital and intellectual back up.¶

**The only coherent rubric is to maximize number of lives saved**

**Greene 2010** – Associate Professor of the Social Sciences Department of Psychology Harvard University (Joshua, Moral Psychology: Historical and Contemporary Readings, “The Secret Joke of Kant’s Soul”, [www.fed.cuhk.edu.hk/~lchang/material/Evolutionary/Developmental/Greene-KantSoul.pdf](http://www.fed.cuhk.edu.hk/~lchang/material/Evolutionary/Developmental/Greene-KantSoul.pdf), WEA)

What turn-of-the-millennium science is telling us is that human moral judgment is not a pristine rational enterprise, that our moral judgments are driven by a hodgepodge of emotional dispositions, which themselves were shaped by a hodgepodge of evolutionary forces, both biological and cultural. Because of this, it is exceedingly unlikely that there is anyrationallycoherentnormativemoral theory that can accommodateour… that are odds with the cold calculus of consequentialism. Although these explanations are inevitably incomplete, there seems to be "something deeply right" about thembecause they give voice to powerful moral emotions. But, as with many religious people's accounts of what's essential to religion, they don't really explain what's distinctive about the philosophy in question.

**And ignoring consequences is complicit with the evils of the status quo**

**Issac 02** – Professor of political science at Indiana-Bloomington, Director of the Center for the Study of Democracy and Public Life, PhD from Yale (Jeffery C., Dissent Magazine, Vol. 49, Iss. 2, “Ends, Means, and Politics,” p. Proquest)

As a result, the most important political questions are simply not asked. It is assumed that U.S. military intervention is an act of "aggression," but no consideration is given to the aggression to which intervention is a response. The status quo ante in Afghanistan is not, as peace activists would have it, peace, but rather terrorist violence abetted by a regime--the Taliban--that rose to power through brutality and repression. This requires us to ask a question that most "peace" activists would prefer not to ask: What should be done to respond to the violence of a Saddam Hussein, or a Milosevic, or a Taliban regime? What means are likely to stop violence and bring criminals to justice? Calls for diplomacy and international law are well intended and important; they implicate a decent and civilized ethic of global order. But they are also vague and empty, because they are not accompanied by any account of how diplomacy or international law can work effectively to address the problem at hand. The campus left offers no such account. To do so would require it to contemplate tragic choices in which moral goodness is of limited utility. Here what matters is not purity of intention but the intelligent exercise of power.

Power is not a dirty word or an unfortunate feature of the world. It

AND

not true believers. It promotes arrogance. And it undermines political effectiveness.

**Empirical, causal theories better than any alternative – 5 reasons**

**Walt 05** professor of international studies at University of Chicago

(Stephen, Annu Rev Polit Sci 8 23-48**,** the relationship between theory and policy in international relations)

* Logic - accurate guide to causal connections
* Completeness – root cause arguments conflate necessary and sufficient conditions
* Odd events – it’s the only way to make sense of counter-intuitive phenomena
* More Compelling – even if its flawed now – it will get more attention and skepticism for revision
* Clarity – the alt will fail because its unclear about real steps to take – no real world change

First and most obviously, a good theory should be logically consistent and empirically valid

AND

obscure and impenetrable theory is also less likely to influence busy policy makers.

**Only western political thought can reverse problems its created – western thinking allows us to overcome authoritarianism and poverty**

**Thompson 03** Founder and Editor of Logos and Teaches Political Theory @ Hunter College

(Michael, CUNY, , Hegemony, and the Question of American Empire” – Logos, Vol. 2, Issue 4)

Simple resistance to American "imperial" tendencies is no longer enough for a responsible

AND

can have about his predicament and which cannot be thought of without enthusiasm."

**Theory must rigorously and empirically tested – that’s the only way to verify if something that sounds like it makes sense is actually right**

**Bennett and Stam 04** Distinguished Professor of political science from UMich and Professor of Government at Dartmouth

(Scott and Allan, The behavioral origins of war)

Clearly, evaluating the relative explanatory power of different empirical assertions and dropping or modifying

AND

direction of the previous findings (Gowa 1999; Mansfield and Snyder 1995).

**Perm do both – exploring empirical validity and causality is compatible with intersubjective identity and understanding**

**Suganami 08** Prof of International Politics at the University of Aberstwyth

(Hidemi, Narrative Explanation and International Relations: Back to Basics, Millennium - Journal of International Studies 2008; 37; 327

Epistemological discussions on the nature of IR as an intellectual pursuit appear to have been

AND

happened is an outcome of a concatenation of a variety of factors.41

**Perm do the plan and reveal history within IR. This creates a historical narrative broadens traditional conceptions of knowledge**

**This opens up dialogues between schools and allows us to re-imagine knowledge production**

**Hobson and Lawson 08** Professor of Politics at the University of Sheffield and Lecturer of IR in the London School of Economics

(John and George, What is History in International Relations?, Millennium - Journal of International Studies 2008; 37; 415)

The question ‘What is history in IR?’ is not of importance just

AND

and to potentially transcend some of the current limits of the international imagination.

# 1ar

**Claiming that this debate space represents something more than a competition for a win results in co-option and turns the K**

**Rufo and Atchison 11** – (Ken Rufo, Ph.D. in Rhetoric from the University of Georgia, Jarrod Atchison, Ph.D. in Rhetoric from the University of Georgia, Review of Communication, Vol. 11, No. 3, July 2011, pp. 193215)

A Fascism of/and the Political If our feeling of foreboding seems absurd,

AND

necessarily a determination of the extent and comportment of the political per se.

**You need to stop using derogatory language it is never emancipatory but retrenches police oppression and aggression which obliterates your argument**

**Martinot and Sexton 03** – \*prof at San Francisco State University\*\*PhD in ethnic studies from UC Berkeley, Director, African American Studies at UC Irvine (Steve and Jared, “The Avant-garde of white supremacy,” <http://www.ocf.berkeley.edu/~marto/avantguard.htm//MGD>)

Spectacle is a form of camouflage. It does not conceal anything; it simply

AND

The derogatory term occupies the very **center of the structure of white supremacy**.