# 1nc

**1NC PTX**

**Obama will veto iran sanctions but pc is key**

**Lobe, 12/27**/13 - reporter for Inter Press Service(Jim, “Iran sanctions bill: Big test of Israel lobby power”

<http://www.arabamericannews.com/news/index.php?mod=article&cat=World&article=8046>)

WASHINGTON - This week’s introduction by a bipartisan group of 26 senators of a new sanctions bill against Iran could result in … task, according to Congressional sources.

That battle has already been joined. Against the 13 Democratic senators who signed onto the Kirk-Menendez bill, 10 Democratic Senate committee chairs urged Majority Leader Harry Reid, who controls the upper chamber’s calendar, to forestall any new sanctions legislation.

**Plan drains pc**

Goodman 12 Alana goodman, Editor @ Commentary Magazine, 12/18/12. <http://www.commentarymagazine.com/2012/12/18/menendez-expected-to-take-over-as-foreign-relations-chair/#more-814117>

Finally, some good news to come out of John Kerry’s likely secretary of state

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party attacking his Iran policy from such a prominent perch in the Senate.

**PC loss commits the US to supporting Israel strikes**

**Merry, 1/1/14** - Robert W. Merry, political editor of the National Interest, is the author of books on American history and foreign policy (Robert, “Obama may buck the Israel lobby on Iran” Washington Times, factiva)

Presidential press secretary Jay Carney uttered 10 words the other day that represent a major presidential challenge to the American Israel lobby and its friends on Capitol Hill. Referring to … vaunted influence of the Israel lobby may be seen as being not quite what it has been cracked up to be.

**An Israel strike triggers world war 3**

**Reuveny, 10** – professor in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University (Rafael, “Unilateral strike could trigger World War III, global depression” Gazette Xtra, 8/7, - See more at: <http://gazettextra.com/news/2010/aug/07/con-unilateral-strike-could-trigger-world-war-iii-/#sthash.ec4zqu8o.dpuf>)

A unilateral Israeli strike on Iran’s nuclear facilities would likely have dire consequences, including a regional war, .. could ultimately spark World War III.

**1NC CP**

**United States federal government should normalize trade relations with Cuba if and only if the governments of a majority of Latin American nations commit to:**

**--actively seeking a normalization process between the United States and Cuba, and**

**--compelling the Cuban government to work towards establishing representative democracy and better respect for human rights.**

**Counterplan solves the case and unilateral lifting crushes democracy promotion efforts in Latin America**

**Castañeda 9** - Jorge G. Castañeda, professor at New York University and fellow at the New America Foundation, was Mexico’s foreign minister from 2000 to 2003, April 21, 2009, Wall Street Journal, "The Right Deal on Cuba," proquest)

The question of what to do about the embargo has once again cornered an American president. If President Barack Obama lifts the embargo unilaterally, he will send a message to the Castros and the rest of Latin America that human rights and … a normalization that would not follow the Vietnamese course (economic reform with no political change) would be a major foreign policy victory for Mr. Obama.

**Latin American democracy’s a key model for democracy globally**

Fauriol and Weintraub 95 – \*director of the CSIS Americas program and \*\*Prof of Public Affairs at the University of Texas Georges and Sidney, The Washington Quarterly, "U.S. Policy, Brazil, and the Southern Cone", Lexis

The democracy theme also carries much force in the hemisphere today. The State Department

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on all three in Latin America will compromise progress elsewhere in the world.

**Extinction**

**Diamond 1995** - Hoover Institute Senior Fellow (Larry, “Promoting Democracy in the 1990s,” http://wwics.si.edu/subsites/ccpdc/pubs/di/fr.htm)

This hardly exhausts the lists of threats to our security and well-being in

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which a new world order of international security and prosperity can be built.

**1NC CP**

**Text: The United States federal government should allow normal trade with Cuba over agricultural commodities pertaining to sugar or sugar ethanol.**

**1NC DA**

**Status quo selective engagement spurs gradual reforms – speeding up engagement risks Cuban collapse and US intervention**

**Feinberg, 11/22** – Richard E. Feinberg is a professor at the UC San Diego and served as the Latin American expert on President Bill Clinton’s National Security Council. His most recent publication is “Soft Landing in Cuba? Emerging Entrepreneurs and Middle Classes”, (“Deciphering diplo-speak on Cuba” Miami Herald, <http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/11/21/3770099_p2/deciphering-diplo-speak-on-cuba.html>)

With good reason, the administration believes it can take some credit for some of the positive changes underway in Cuba — especially the significant growth of the private sector and the allied middle classes. As a result of earlier administration decisions to selectively loosen U.S. economic sanctions against Cuba, U.S. visitor dollars and remittances by Cuban-Americans are … realistic path toward political evolution tomorrow.

**Cuba has no preparation for change and wouldn’t be able to take it all at once – lifting the embargo would cause a rapid democratic uprising**

**Erikson 08** – Senior Advisor for Western Hemisphere Affairs at the U.S. Department of State and has an M.A. in Public Policy from Harvard University and a B.A. from Brown University (Daniel P., “The Cuba Wars: Fidel Castro, the United States, and the Next Revolution”, Bloomsbury Press, 10/28/08, p. 250-251)//EX

Like most of his colleagues, Monreal readily agreed that the United States was the

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the ability of the Cuban government to control this fight is very limited.”

**Rapid, unstable transition causes US intervention and incapacitates crisis management – causes global conflict escalation**

**Gorrell, 5** – Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, paper submitted for the USAWC STRATEGY RESEARCH PROJECT (Tim, “CUBA: THE NEXT UNANTICIPATED ANTICIPATED STRATEGIC CRISIS?” <http://www.dtic.mil/cgi-bin/GetTRDoc?AD=ADA433074>)

Regardless of the succession, under the current U.S. policy, Cuba’s

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in an effort to facilitate a manageable transition to post-Castro Cuba?

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**Economic engagement must be conditional**

Shinn 96 [James Shinn, C.V. Starr Senior Fellow for Asia at the CFR in New York City and director of the council’s multi-year Asia Project, worked on economic affairs in the East Asia Bureau of the US Dept of State, “Weaving the Net: Conditional Engagement with China,” pp. 9 and 11, google books]

In sum, conditional engagement consists of a set of objectives, a strategy for attaining those objectives, and tactics (… F-16s to Vietnam (John Lewis Gaddis, Strategies of Containment: A critical Appraisal of Postwar American National Security Policy. New York: Oxford University Press, (1982). This is also cited in Fareed Zakaria, “The Reagan Strategy of Containment,” Political Science Quarterly 105, no. 3 (1990), pp. 383-88).

**1NC DA**

**Chinese influence in Latin America is expanding at the expense of the US – it’s zero-sum**

**Martinez, 13** – Columnist for the Sun Sentinel (Guillermo I., “America Losing Influence Throughout Latin America”, SunSentinel, 5/23, <http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2013-05-23/news/fl-gmcol-oped0523-20130523_1_drug-cartels-latin-america-pri)//VP>

Once upon a time, as many fairy tales start, the United States was

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lose status as a premier world power. This is no fairy tale.

**They solve for latin america relations, but that trades off with Chinese influence which is key to their economy**

**Arnson et al 09** – (Cynthia Anderson, Mark Mohr, Riordan Roett, writers for Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, “Enter the Dragon? China’s Presence in Latin America”, http://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/EnterDragonFinal.pdf) (JN)

China’s role in Latin America is, above all, based on trade, despite

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region. Thus, Latin America represents a substantial market for Chinese goods.

**China economic decline causes extinction**

**Plate, 03 –** Mr. Plate is a member of the Pacific Council on International Policy, the Century Association of New York and the Phi Beta Kappa Society(Tom Plate, “Why Not Invade China” Asia Pacific Media Networks, 6/30, <http://asiamedia.ucla.edu/TomPlate2003/06302003.htm)//JS>

But imagine a China disintegrating -- on its own, without neo-con or

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-con insanity is more of a danger to the Bush presidency than China

**1NC MULTILAT**

**Multilateralism empirically doesn’t solve anything – four reasons**

**Harvey 04** – University Research Professor of International Relations, professor in the Department of Political Science, and the director of the Centre for Foreign Policy Studies at Dalhousie University (Frank, Smoke And Mirrors: Globalized Terrorism And The Illusion Of Multilateral Security, p. 43-45) // MS

The typical argument favouring multilateralism is a simple one, sum- marized by Ramesh

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threats virtually guarantees that similar conflicts will plague multilateral institutions in the future.

**The world is moving to pluralism, not multi-polarity – the US can still maintain unipolar leadership because most challengers are regional**

**Etzioni, 13** – served as a senior advisor to the Carter White House; taught at Columbia University, Harvard University and The University of California at Berkeley; and is currently a university professor and professor of international relations at The George Washington University (Amitai, “The Devolution of American Power” 37 Fletcher F. World Aff. 13, lexis)

The theory that the world is moving from a unipolar order, dominated by the United States, to a multipolar distribution of power has led to a robust debate concerning the consequences of this change on the international order. However, the global power distribution is currently following a different pattern. Instead of what is conventionally … the global/global accommodations between declining and rising global powers, and thus are less likely to lead to outright conflicts. With devolution, the central power yields, therefore risking much less when pluralism increases than when a transition from uni- to multipolarity takes place. This is one of the principle strengths of pluralism.

**Unilateralism is what sustains primacy – other states bandwagon with the US for fear of other rising powers – moving towards multilateralism makes it unsustainable**

**Seldena, 13** – assistant professor of political science at the University of Florida (Zachary, “Balancing Against or Balancing With? The Spectrum of Alignment and the Endurance of American Hegemony” Security Studies Volume 22, Issue 2, 2013, Taylor and Francis)

Understanding which of these choices—soft balancing against the hegemon or alignment with the hegemon—is more prevalent among second-tier states has significant ramifications for the endurance of … reluctance to use its power in support of its national interests.

**The plan is surrender – it emboldens Latin American socialism and collapses US influence – turns case**

**Brooks 09 –** Senior fellow for National Security Affairs in the Davis Institute at The Heritage Foundation. (Peter – Heritage foundation “Keep the Embargo, O“ April 16, 2009 http://www.heritage.org/research/commentary/2009/04/keep-the-embargo-o)//EB

In another outreach to roguish regimes, the Obama administration on Monday announced the easing

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communist regime, we should hold firm onto the leverage the embargo provides.

**Latin American socialism causes nuclear war and turns case**

**Manwaring 05 –** General Douglas MacArthur Chair and Prof of Military Strategy @ U.S. Army War College, Ret U.S. Army Colonel, Adjunct Professor of International Politics @ Dickinson College (Max G, October, Venezuela’s Hugo Chavez, Bolivarian Socialism, and Asymmetric Warfare”, Strategic Studies Institute, http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdffiles/PUB628.pdf)

At the same time, President Chávez’s approach to Latin American security and stability requires

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they and their associated problems endanger global security, peace, and prosperity.

**Lack of Obama credibility prevents effective multilateralism and turns the AFF**

**Coes 11** – Ben Coes 11, Visiting Fellow at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. A graduate of Columbia College, where he won the prestigious Bennett Cerf Memorial Prize “The disease of a weak president”, The Daily Caller, <http://dailycaller.com/2011/09/30/the-disease-of-a-weak-president/>

The disease of a weak president usually begins with the Achilles’ heel all politicians are

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one or the other. The status quo is simply not an option.

**US-China war won’t escalate**

**Dobbins ’12 –** James Dobbins, directs the International Security and Defense Policy Center at the RAND Corporation, previously served as American Ambassador to the European Community and Assistant Secretary of State, August/September 2012, “War with China,” Survival, Vol. 54, No. 4, p. 7-24

It is important to begin any such analysis by recognising that China is seeking neither

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to deter behaviour that could lead to such a clash throughout this period.

**No impact to any alliance—Sino-Russian cooperation is superficial and shallow**

**Pirchner 8** (Herman, founding President of the American Foreign Policy Council, author of Reviving Greater Russia, The Journal of Post-Soviet Democratization, Fall 2008, Vol.16 Iss.4, pg. 309, proquest)

A few years later, Russia's move toward the United States after the September 11

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of Russia's cooperation with China in opposition to U.S. interests.

**Give Russia war zero probability – politics, military superiority, economic concerns, and nuclear security**

**Graham 2007** (Thomas, Russia in Global Affairs, "The dialectics of strength and weakness", http://eng.globalaffairs.ru/numbers/20/1129.html, WEA)

An astute historian of Russia, Martin Malia, wrote several years ago that “

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while laying the basis for more constructive long-term relations with Russia.

**No accidental launch or miscalc**

**Quinlan 09 –** (Michael, Former Permanent Under-Sec. State – UK Ministry of Defense, “Thinking about Nuclear Weapons: Principles, Problems, Prospects”, p. 63-69)

Even if initial nuclear use did not quickly end the fighting, the supposition of

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cosmic holocaust might be mistakenly precipitated in this way belongs to science fiction.

**1NC SUGAR ETHANOL**

**Zero solvency –**

**a. can’t re-build sugar sector – unworkable land and long-time frame**

**Soligo 10** – et al; Ronald Soligo is a professor emeritus of economics at Rice University and a Rice scholar at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy. The author 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 –obtained as an ebook through MSU Electronic Resources – page 102

Three and a half billion gallons seems unrealistic for the foreseeable future. There is

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water and fertilizer, and other inputs would all need to be considered.

**b. Castro won’t allow sugar-ethanol**

**Specht 12** – (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)

To speak of a Cuban sugarcane-based ethanol industry is, at this point

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up to 2 billion gallons of sugar-based ethanol per year.” 4

**Food price impacts exaggerated – experts agree**

**BBC 12 –** (October 15th, Food price crisis: What crisis?, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-19715504>)

And yet most experts agree the situation is nothing like as dire as it was

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2008," says Marc Sadler, senior agriculture economist at the World Bank.

**Alt cause to agriculture price spike – Laundry list**

**Banse et al 08 –** (Dutch Ministry of Agriculture; Why Are Current World Food Prices So High? <http://www.agripressworld.com/_STUDIOEMMA_UPLOADS/downloads/opr24Y32.pdf>) HS

What explains the recent increase in agricultural prices? A combination of record low global

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last decades did not provide an incentive to invest in productivity enhancing technologies.

**High grain prices key to Russian growth—2013 is the crucial year**

**AP Newswire 08** (AP, 9/10/08, www.newsday.com/business/investing/wire/sns-ap-russian-breadbasket,0,5647019.story)

An American-made combine harvests barley doing the job of five Soviet tractors on

AND

least five tons of wheat out of the same plot, he said.

**Russian economic collapse triggers and accesses every scenario for conflict**

Oliker and Charlick-Paley 02 – (Olga and Tanya, RAND Corporation Project Air Force, “Assessing Russia’s Decline,” 2002, www.rand.org/pubs/monograph\_reports/MR1442/)

The preceding chapters have illustrated the ways in which Russia’s decline affects that country and

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rogue states and nonstate terrorist actors, increasing the risk of nuclear war.

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**Contextual evidence proves**

Wright 06 – [Rebecca Wright, J.D. student at the Boalt Hall School of Law at UC Berkeley, “Finding an Impetus for Institutional Change at the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights,” 24 Berkeley J. Int'l L. 463, lexis]

The potential effectiveness of tying economic incentives to demands for institutional change is evident from

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and to lay a solid foundation for future [\*490] cooperation." n138

**Limits turns education and fairness**

**Rowland 84 –** (Robert C., Baylor U., “Topic Selection in Debate”, American Forensics in Perspective Ed Parson, p. 53-4)

The first major problem identified by the work group as relating to topic selection is

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of broad topics that has led some small schools to **cancel their programs**.

**MULTILAT**

**2NC IMPACT OVERVIEW**

**Turns Latin American relations**

**Miller ’11** – Edward – Author and Frequent Contributor to Global Research Reports. He frequently reports on issues of global trade, energy, and agriculture. He holds degrees in philosophy and law from the University of Auckland. “Cuba's Offshore Oil & the US Blockade” – Nov 06, 11 – Geopolitical Monitor – http://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/cubas-offshore-oil-the-us-blockade-4524/

With the announcement of 2.9% economic growth from the Cuban Minister for

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sense, providing them with **renewed vigour** to continue the Cuban social revolution.

**c. decline of unilateralism causes international destabilization and corrupts our ability to lead multilateral forums – turns the case**

Kakutani 12 – Pullitzer-Prize winning critic for NYT; citing Zbigniew Brzezinski, Polish American political scientist, geostrategist, and US National Security Adviser to Jimmy Carter (Michiko, “Surveying a Global Power Shift”, 1/29/12; <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/01/30/books/strategic-vision-by-zbigniew-brzezinski.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0)//Beddow>

What Mr. Brzezinski does do here — lucidly, and for the most part

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importanceto social well-being and ultimatelytohuman survivalwould stall.”

**AT: ASIAN WAR**

**Only deterrence solves China war – multilat encourages war**

**Friedberg 11**—professor at Princeton, former fellow at the Smithsonian Institution’s Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, the Norwegian Nobel Institute, and Harvard University’s Center for International Affairs, serves as Chairman of the Board of Counselors for the National Bureau of Asian Research's Pyle Center for Northeast Asian Studies (Aaron, “China's Challenge at Sea”, www.nytimes.com/2011/09/05/opinion/chinas-challenge-at-sea.html?\_r=0)//NG

Unfortunately, those constraints are being imposed just as America faces a growing strategic challenge

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entire burden of preserving the Asian power balance, but it must lead.

**2NC LINK**

**New link scenario – the plan saves Cuban oil which generates revenue to successfully fund of the “pink tide” – turns relations**

**Miller ’11** – Edward – Author and Frequent Contributor to Global Research Reports. He frequently reports on issues of global trade, energy, and agriculture. He holds degrees in philosophy and law from the University of Auckland. “Cuba's Offshore Oil & the US Blockade” – Nov 06, 11 – Geopolitical Monitor – http://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/cubas-offshore-oil-the-us-blockade-4524/

With the announcement of 2.9% economic growth from the Cuban Minister for

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**sense, providing them with renewed vigour to continue the Cuban social revolution**.

**Neg link outweighs the AFF turn – no guarantee plan solves relations, but it definitely sends the wrong signal**

**National Review ‘9** – (Editorial Staff, Editorial section – NATIONAL REVIEW ONLINE – April 21 – http://www.nationalreview.com/node/227336/print)

As for Cuba, Obama himself continues to support the U.S. embargo

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among Latin governments that have neglected their democratic brethren in Castro’s island gulag.

**AT: SOCIALISM DEAD**

**Latin American socialism is dying due to lack of profits**

**Panizza ’13 –** Dr Francisco Panizza is the Head of the Latin America International Affairs Programme at LSE IDEAS. He is a Reader in the Department of Government at the London School of Economics. “Latin America: Life after Chavez (and Lula)” – April 4th – http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/ideas/2013/04/latin-america-life-after-chavez-and-lula/

The death of **Chávez** and the succession of Lula by Dilma Rousseff in Brazil **leaves**

**AND**

regional change than encapsulated by the narrative of the rise of the left.

**UQ**

**Obama is pursuing hard-line policies now – reject their evidence – its partisan nonsense**

**Mataconis 12** – B.A. in Political Science from Rutgers University and J.D. from George Mason University School of Law (Doug, and#34;The GOP’s Ridiculous Appeasement Argumentand#34;, January 3 of 2012, <http://www.outsidethebeltway.com/the-gops-ridiculous-appeasement-argument/>) // CB

This isn’t really entirely new, of course. For three years now, Republicans have been accusing the President of “apologizing for America,” even though it’s a manifestly untrue assertion. More recently, many on the right have engaged in the … military campaign to overthrow Muammar Gaddafi. That’s not

**AT: PLAN NOT APPEASEMENT**

**Ending the Cuban embargo without capitulation highlights American hypocrisy and creates the international perception of weakness**

**Sabatini et al 10 –** (August 2010, Christopher Sabatini is the senior director of policy at the Americas Society and Council of the Americas (AS/COA). William Reinsch currently serves as president of the National Foreign Trade Council. José Azel is a senior research associate at the Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies, University of Miami. Joel Brito is the executive director of the International Group for Corporate Social Responsibility in Cuba. José Raúl Perales is senior program associate of the Latin American Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Jorge Piñón is a visiting research fellow with Florida International University’s Latin American and Caribbean Center Cuban Research Institute. Steve Richer is public affairs advocate and former board member for the National Tour Association. Ignacio Sánchez is an attorney at DLA Piper who represents national and international clients on a broad range of issues before the executive branch, Congress and the federal courts. The Wilson Center. “The United States and Cuba: Implications of an Economic Relationship”, <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/LAP_Cuba_Implications.pdf>) NS

The U.S. embargo may need to be changed; however Sánchez vehemently

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labor rights. What sort of message would that send to the world?

**The plan sends a signal of weak foreign policy**

**Bustillo 5/9 –** (Mitchell, “Time to Strengthen the Cuban Embargo”, International Policy Digest, 2013, http://www.internationalpolicydigest.org/archives/75391)

When thinking of U.S.-Cuba relations, the trade embargo, or

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sends **mixed signals** to Havana and **displays our weak foreign policy** regarding Cuba.

**AT: CLING TO POWER**

**Cling theories are flawed – domestic focus, political maneuvers, context**

Parent and McDonald 11 – (Joseph, Assistant Professor of Political Science at University of Miami, Paul, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Wellesley College, "Graceful Decline? The Surprising Success of Great Power Retrenchment," [International Security](http://www.belfercenter.org/is/), volume 35, issue 4, pages 7-44, Spring 2011, <http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/files/ISEC_a_00034-MacDonald_proof2.pdf> SL)

For Gilpin and Copeland, retrenchment is a policy that states should avoid. Other

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relative decline that one should expect partisan rancor and sectoral rivalry to recede.

**AT: COUNTERBALANCING**

**No counterbalancing, states will bandwagon with the US, several reasons –**

**a. security interests**

**Seldena 13** – assistant professor of political science at the University of Florida (Zachary, “Balancing Against or Balancing With? The Spectrum of Alignment and the Endurance of American Hegemony” Security Studies Volume 22, Issue 2, 2013, Taylor and Francis)

The concept of soft balancing, however, has been … are likely to generate regional counterbalances among neighboring states that in many cases involve the United States. 20

**b. economic interests**

**Seldena, 13** – assistant professor of political science at the University of Florida (Zachary, “Balancing Against or Balancing With? The Spectrum of Alignment and the Endurance of American Hegemony” Security Studies Volume 22, Issue 2, 2013, Taylor and Francis)

The purpose of this article, however, is to build on this insight and

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a viable strategy precisely because the United States remains the globally predominant power.

**2NC RUSSIA**

**War would be Russian economic suicide**

**Wagstyl 08 –** Stefan, Current Bureau Chief of Berlin’s Financial Times and has been covering emerging eastern markets for 20 years, March 1 2008, “Return of the Cold Warriors”, FT.com, <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/fd9d7e48-e372-11dc-8799-0000779fd2ac.html#axzz2adCtei90>

Lucas admits there is little chance of another armed confrontation with the west. The

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that destroyed the Soviet Union – the empire-builder himself was responsible.

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**2NC IMPACT**

**b. timeframe – perception of the plan slashes Chinese soft power**

**Ellis 11** – Associate professor with the William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies (R. Evan, “Chinese Soft Power in Latin America: A Case Study”, NDU Press, Issue 60, 1st Quarter, <http://www.ndu.edu/press/lib/images/jfq-60/JFQ60_85-91_Ellis.pdf)//VP>

It is also important to clarify that soft power is based on **perceptions** and emotion

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, the business community, students and youth, and the general population.

**Turns china war– The AFF forces China out – that devastates relations**

**Zweig, 10 –** Director of the Center on China’s Transnational Relations and a Chair Professor in the Division of Social Science **(**David, “China’s “Energy Rise”, The U.S., And The New Geopolitics Of Energy”, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, April)//VP

America’s bilateral policy may be better coordinated. The Strategic Dialogues will give America a

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can the potentially negative implications of Sino-American triangularization be better managed.

**LINK**

**Cuba accesses a spillover link – the plan reverses the overall trend of Latin American relations**

**Perez 10** ­– JD, Yale Law (David, “America's Cuba Policy: The Way Forward: A Policy Recommendation for the U.S. State Department” 13 Harrv. Latino L. Rev. 187, Spring, lexis)

Cuba, despite its size and isolation, is a **keystone nation** in Latin America

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**throughout Latin America**, and would go a long way toward creating goodwill.

**Plan shifts Cuban policy and reveres Chinese influence**

**Sweig and Bustamante 13** - Nelson and David Rockefeller Senior Fellow for Latin America Studies and Director for Latin America Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations; Ph.D. candidate in Latin American history at Yale University (Julia E. and Michael J, Cuba After Communism, Foreign Affairs, Jul/Aug2013, Vol. 92, Issue 4

The geopolitical context in Latin America provides another reason the U.S. government

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people and U.S. national interests would benefit as a result.

**US and China are competing for influence within Cuba**

**Boston Globe 13** – (“Cuba’s reforms pave way for new US policy, too,” Boston Globe, 2/9/13, <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 and Cuba have been stuck since the United States imposed

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signals that the timing is ripe for a new diplomatic agenda with Cuba.

**US engagement helps push against Chinese influence**

**Villarreal 09,** Policy analyst and writer for Global Security and the Voice of America(Alex, "Clinton Says US to Counter Chinese, Iranian and Russian Influence in Latin America"5/2/09, http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/library/news/2009/05/mil-090502-voa08.htm)//AD

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton says the Obama administration is working

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have different views, but that pursuing **better relationships is worth a try.**