## Solvency

### AT—Opposition already armed.

### Syrians rejected

FARS 2-29

Fars News Agency, “Syrian Opposition Warns Qatar to Stop Meddling in Damascus Affairs.” <http://english.farsnews.com/newstext.php?nn=9010176620> [LVC NAT]

TEHRAN (FNA)- A senior member of the … for an official recognition of the Syrian dissidents and opponents of Bashar Assad's government in the upcoming Arab League summit in Baghdad.

### Assad will fall— it’s just a question of when

Melham 2-7

Martin, Washington bureau chief of Al-Arabiya, the Dubai-based satellite channel and correspondent for Annahar, the leading Lebanese daily. “Syrian President Going Down Amid Uproar?” National Public Radio, (NPR) February 7, 2012. <http://www.npr.org/2012/02/07/146522477/syrian-president-going-down-amid-uproar> [LVC UTA]

MARTIN: We're talking about developments across the Middle East with Al-Arabiya Washington bureau chief Hisham Melhem. He's here in our Washington, D.C. studios. …, and now you have a qualitative shift in the government's attacks after the Russian/Chinese veto over the weekend which was seen by many people in the Arab world and in the world, really, as a new license to kill given by the Chinese and the Russians to the Syrian regime of Bashar al-Assad.

## AT Lashout

Ext. White— Assad’s already going all in against the opposition. Motive is irrelevant if he doesn’t have the capability

1. Assad believes the U.S. is working to destroy Syria.

NYT 12-7-11

Neil MacFarquhar: “Syria, Under Siege Inside and Out, Does Not Budge,” http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/08/world/middleeast/syria-bashar-assad-officials-dismiss-protests.html [ACG CST]

Senior government officials — including Mr. … Buthaina Shaaban, a presidential political and media adviser, warning that the West would rue the day that it enabled Islamist regimes. She rejected the idea that any true Syrian could rise against the government, saying, “Colonialism has always found agents inside the country.”

1. Suri proves: Assad’s unleashing all his assets.

Al Arabiya 2-5-12

“Syria retaliates against the West by freeing London bombings ‘mastermind’,” <http://english.alarabiya.net/articles/2012/02/05/192672.html> [LVC UTA TRN EXT]

The man accused of planning the London 7/7 bombings … and observers believe the release may indicate the regime is stopping security co-operation with the Americans and thus releasing all those Washington considers a threat to its interests.”

1. Turn: Ratcheting up pressure on Assad will prevent him from exporting terror.

Smith 11-23-11

Lee, FDD = Foundation for Defense of Democracies; Also: Senior Editor, Weekly Standard; Visiting Fellow, Hudson Institute, “Split Ends,” Tablet Magazine, http://www…. outcome is a victory that we’ve sought for more than 30 years.

### Syrian BW threat’s a hoax.

**Nerguizian**, Visiting Fellow, CSIS, **12-13**-11

Aram, Visiting Fellow with the Arleigh A. Burke Chair in Strategy, CSIS: “Instability in Syria: Assessing the Risks of Military Intervention,” http://csis.org/files/publication/111213\_SyriaMilitaryIntervention.pdf, pp. 12-13[ACG D8T]

All of the countries in the Levant, except Lebanon, … grossly exaggerates probable real world capability. In practice, such warhead might fail to have any effect.

## 2AC AT T Dem Assistance

1. Democratic Initiatives. The plan transfers funds, expertise, and material resources to support them.
2. Evaluation Itself. Burnell proves it’s democratic. It’s an initiative requiring resources such as funding

**NRC Committee ’8** “DG” = “Democracy and Governance”

National Research Council Committee on Evaluation of USAID Democracy Assistance Programs: *Improving Democracy Assistance: Building Knowledge through Evaluations and Research*, <http://www.nap.edu/catalog/12164.html>, p. 224 [ACG]

The . . . DG evaluation initiative . . . … resources outside the usual project structure. Supporting the initiative with special funds would be another signal of the strong commitment to change. The committee is not able to provide an estimate of the likely cost of the initiative, in part because the difficulties in obtaining estimates of what USAID currently spends on M&E provide no

budgets that are already stretched thin.

1. Country Missions, through the MEP Initiative

**NRC Committee ’8** “DG” = “Democracy and Governance”

National Research Council Committee on Evaluation of USAID Democracy Assistance Programs: *Improving Democracy Assistance: Building Knowledge through Evaluations and Research*, <http://www.nap.edu/catalog/12164.html>, p. 224 [ACG]

resources . . . support . . . DG . . . … make its resources and expertise available to mission directors who want its support in conducting impact evaluations or otherwise changing their mix of M&E activities, in order to make the initiative an asset to the DG officers in the field rather than an additional unfunded burden.

**Carothers**, Carnegie Endowment, **’9**

Thomas, Vice President for Studies, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace: Revitalizing U.S. Democracy Assistance: The Challenge of USAID, http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/revitalizing\_democracy\_assistance.pdf, pp. 14-15 [ACG NAT]

As with most USAID assistance, the great majority of the agency’s democracy and governance work is conceived and managed in its field missions around the world, rather … democracy aid groups).

1. Core Question.

**Wodziki**, Center for the Study of Democracy, Queen’s, **’7**

Michael, Coordinator for Democratic Development @ Queens University, *Public Sector Reform and Democracy Assistance: A Literature Review*, Dec. 1, http://www.gordonfn.org/resfiles/wodzicki\_PSR%20and%20Democracy%20Assistance.pdf, p. 2 [NAT]

This paper seeks to respond …. Canadian experiences are cited where appropriate.

1. Contextual.

Saghi, Prof, Institute of Political Studies, ’8

Omar, Prof, Institute of Political Studies, Paris: “Introduction: Osama Bin Laden, the Iconic Orator,” Al Qaeda in Its Own Words (Kepel & Milelli, Eds.), pp. 18-19

The U.S. strategy for Afghanistan, as defined by Zbigniew Brzezinski and other advisers as early as the Carter presidency, was to exhaust the Soviet Union by … structure, which probably centralized information about the Arab volunteers with the intention of bringing them together under a more unified command.

1. Plan Meets. NRC says the plan’s crucial to democracy assistance effectiveness.

**NRC Committee ’8** “DG” = “Democracy and Governance”

National Research Council Committee on Evaluation of USAID Democracy Assistance Programs: *Improving Democracy Assistance: Building Knowledge through Evaluations and Research*, <http://www.nap.edu/catalog/12164.html>, p. 27 [ACG]

It is therefore crucial, if USAID’s democracy assistance is to ... Moreover, they would like to know which DG projects work best to accomplish specific goals in particular countries.

1. Bi-Directionality. Quantitative focus makes anti-democracy assistance topical.

* The question is whether assistance actually promotes democracy, not what it’s been labeled as.

**Burnell**, Politics and International Studies Prof, Warwick, **2K**

Peter J., Democracy Assistance: International Co-operation for Democratization, pp. 13-14

At the end of the day our estimates of .. human agency. They might be intentional or they may follow as accidental by-products of competing policy goals.

## QDR CP

### QDDR itself can’t be modified—would need to be reflected in the next one

Text of the QDDR, December 2010 – http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/153108.pdf

Building and … These efforts have helped guide our analysis and response.

### Next QDDR isn’t until 2014

Robert M. Beecroft, Head of the Organization for Security and Cooperation Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 37-year veteran of the Foreign Service (Department of State), 11

Presentation, Wilton Park Conference 1090: “The art of the possible: Conflict diplomacy in an era of new global challenges,” 2-12, http://www.academyofdiplomacy.org/media/Press\_Clippings/Beecroft\_Feb%202011%20Wilton%20Park%20Conf%20Comments.pdf

It is worth recalling that the idea …, scheduled for 2014 after the next presidential elections, appears as scheduled.

## Turkey CP

**Doesn’t solve— Turkey aid now.**

**Only US solves – only actor with credibility to get Syrians to defect**

**Brodsky**, Jewish Policy Center, **11-4**-11

Matthew, Director of Policy @ JPC, Also: Former Senior Geopolitical Analyst, IntelliWhiz, LLC; Former Legacy Heritage Fellow, American Foreign Policy Council, “The US must ratchet up pressure on Syria,” The Guardian, http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2011/nov/04/us-must-ratchet-up-pressure-syria [DLP WFU]

With Nato calling off military … break from the regime and test the limits of its wrath.

It is not enough to call for Assad to "step aside", and then wait to see what happens.

**International fiat destroys debate:**

**Ground—over 200 potential actors, impossible to predict and prepare against**

* Tiina Vahtras, European Master’s Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation, K.U. Leuven, ’8
* Promoting Democracy in Africa: Case Study of the Democratic Republic of Congo
* (Master’s Thesis), [www.humanrights.ee/files/MT\_VAHTRAS\_TIINA.pdf](http://www.humanrights.ee/files/MT_VAHTRAS_TIINA.pdf" \t "_blank)
* I will discuss the national and … DRC has received development assistance from many donors and numerous projects and programs have been launched. Consequently, I will focus in my analysis on some most influential and meaningful initiatives.

## Kritik

### Complicity in institutions of power requires engagement to reverse and resist domination. Voting AFF produces agonism – from your social location – as an alternative to violence and domination.

* It’s not a view from nowhere – it’s an approach from where we are.

Newman, Postdoctoral Fellow, Macquarie, 2K

Saul: “Anarchism and the … of power -- the image that has haunted the radical political imaginary -- must be abandoned. We must recognize the fact that power can never be overcome entirely, and we must affirm this by working within this world, renegotiating our position to enhance our possibilities of freedom

### Blind rejection is insufficient. Combining knowledge criticism and production is the best way to remedy the harms of the kritik. The impact is the case

Lewis R. Gordon, Director, Institute for the Study of Race and Social Thought, Temple, '11  
"Afterword: Living Fanon," *Journal of French and Francophone Philosophy*, 19 (1): 88-89, doi: 10.5195/jffp.2011.480

So we come to a close with Sonia Dayan-Hezbrun, who lived through so many of the historical circumstances of Fanon’s efforts in the French context, of the Algerian war and other struggles of liberation, ,.. en cours.” Self-critique is meaningless without the ability to act upon it, which radicalizes the problem of political responsibility.

## AT Politics

### Executive action doesn’t influence the Congressional docket. Their generic link evidence is completely different from the State Department action of conducting studies about democracy assistance

### Other things come first---

### Oil Tax breaks

Weinberg 3-29

Amy, NBC, “Obama pushes Congress to kill tax breaks for oil companies.” <http://firstread.msnbc.msn.com/_news/2012/03/29/10922306-obama-pushes-congress-to-kill-tax-breaks-for-oil-companies> [LVC NDT]

President Obama on Thursday urged passage of a … Democrats for pushing the bill, which he said won’t do anything to lower gas prices.

### Education

Alyson Klein, Education Week, 3-28

“Duncan Defends Waivers, Competitive Grants to Congress” http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2012/03/kline\_still\_isnt\_a\_fan.html

The clash between the Obama administration, which loves …. Marcia Fudge, D-Ohio, whose state actually got a coveted slice of the Race to Top funding, said that, with state cuts coming down the pike, it might have been more useful to see those dollars put into formula programs that go out to nearly every district.

### Energy & Solyndra

The Hill 3-21 “Obama: 'We will not walk away' from clean-energy agenda,” http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/217393-obama-we-will-not-walk-away-from-clean-energy

President Obama vowed Wednesday to continue making large-… for the White House, including that officials raised questions about the wisdom of granting the loan guarantee.

### Clinton shields

Reuters 10/12-11

“Budget battle hobbles Clinton as clock ticks down,”

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/10/12/usa-clinton-idUSN1E79B0LF20111012> [WFU 11]

The crunch comes as Clinton's State Department grapples … even at a time of rising domestic economic fears.

### Logical policy maker would do both.

### Turn: Politicians support evaluation.

Arsenault, Communication Prof, GSU, et al., ’11

Amelia, also Media and Democracy Research fellow, Center for Global Communication Studies, U-Penn; Sheldon Himelfarb, Director, USIP Center of Innovation for Media, Conflict, and Peacebuilding; Susan Abbot, deputy derector of program development, Internews Network: “Evaluating Media Interventions in Conflict Countries: Toward Developing Common Principles and a Community of Practice,” USIP PeaceWorks #77, http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PW77.pdf [ACG USC]

The concern over better understanding the role of media (particularly of media programs implemented by international funders) builds on a preexisting movement within the international development community for improved evaluation of all forms of international interventions.12 In the face of broader calls for ….15 Consequently, methodologists and M & E professionals have turned their attention to charting the best ways forward and sharing evaluation resources (see box 1).

### Won’t pass

Gerry Smith, cyber-security reporter at The Huffington Post, former Metro reporter at the Chicago Tribune, 3-19-12

“Cybersecurity Bill Faces Uncertain Future In Fight Over Regulation,” Huffington Post, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/03/19/cybersecurity-bill-regulation\_n\_1362529.html

Yet in recent weeks, the prospect of passing … over cyber legislation has become increasingly partisan and that time is running short to pass legislation in an election year.

### The bill doesn’t solve anything

Gerry Smith, cyber-security reporter at The Huffington Post, former Metro reporter at the Chicago Tribune, 3-19-12

“Cybersecurity Bill Faces Uncertain Future In Fight Over Regulation,” Huffington Post, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/03/19/cybersecurity-bill-regulation\_n\_1362529.html

In February, Sens. Joe Lieberman (I-Conn.), … has more than three wheels, the bill doesn't apply,'" Paller said.

**No risk of cyber-attacks.**

**Cato Institute ’11**

“The Underwhelming Threat of Cyber-terrorism,” Cato Policy Report, January/February 2011, http://www.cato.org/pubs/policy\_report/v33n1/cpr33n1-6.html

In 1983, Americans watched as Matthew Broderick, armed with only a personal computer, brought the world to its knees. In the popular movie WarGames, Broderick played a …and that threat of cyberwarfare is minimal. Claims to the contrary result from technological illiteracy and the incentives of government officials and contractors that favor inflating threats. Cyberterrorism is "cyber–snake oil," Harper says.

**Obama isn’t key**

Eric **Chabrow**, Gov Info Security, “Schmidt Hopeful on Bill's Passage,” **3-1**, Schmidt Hopeful on Bill's Passage

White House Cybersecurity … Conference 2012, the IT security conference held in San Francisco.

## 2AC AT: Russia - Geoptx

### Russia perceives the U.S. assisting the opposition.

New York Times 3-25-12

Anne Barnard: “U.S. and Turkey to Step Up ‘Nonlethal’ Aid to Rebels in Syria,” New York Times, http://www.nytimes.com/2012/03/26/world/middleeast/us-and-turkey-to-step-up-nonlethal-aid-to-syrian-rebels.html [ACG NDT]

The news that the United States was … United States and others.

### Libya destroyed the “reset”.

CSM 3-3-12

Howard LaFranchi: “A cold-war chill? US-Russia relations falter over Libya and Syria,” Christian Science Monitor, http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Foreign-Policy/2012/0303/A-cold-war-chill-US-Russia-relations-falter-over-Libya-and-Syria [ACG NDT 1]

[Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton](http://www.csmonitor.com/tags/topic/Hillary+Clinton" \t "_self) doffed .. The US would say Syria happened – revealing Russia's revived obstructionist tendencies on the Security Council and demonstrating Russia's determination to protect an old ally at the expense of the Syrian people.

### **Russia will try to restore relations with the US by pressuring Assad**

CSM 3-21-12

Fred Weir, “Two vetoes later, Russia says it will now back UN plan on Syria.” <http://www.minnpost.com/christian-science-monitor/2012/03/two-vetoes-later-russia-says-it-will-now-back-un-plan-syria> [LVC NAT]

At the same time, some experts … the decisions of the Syrian government, with many of which we disagree," he added.

### The U.S. is hounding Russia over Syria.

VoA News 2-7-12

Dan Robinson: “White House Underscores Displeasure with China, Russia Votes on Syria,” Voice of America, http://www.voanews.com/english/news/usa/White-House-Underscores-Displeasure-with-China-Russia-Votes-on-Syria-138894259.html [ACG UTA; DUP: China, Russia, & SCO]

The White House is underscoring U.S. displeasure with … the "ever-deepening crisis in Syria and a growing threat to regional peace and security."

### TURN: Russia’s afraid of Islamists.

Al-Nahar 2-1-12

Sarkis Naoum, Frequent Contributor, Al Nahar is a Lebanese Daily: “Fears of Islamist Expansion Prompt Russian Support for Assad,” Translated by Al-Monitor,

Why does Russia support Assad's regime so fervently?

The American observers offer several responses to this .. its immediate vicinity. Russia fears that these regimes will provide direct support to [Russian separatists].

### TURN: Pressure – without encirclement – makes the price of Russian opposition clear. Prefer this card because it puts the situation in context.

Cohen, Heritage, 3-15-12

Ariel, Senior Research Fellow for Russian and Eurasian Studies and International Energy Policy, The Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Institute for International Studies, Heritage Foundation: “How the U.S. Should Respond to Russia's Unhelpful Role in the Middle East,” <http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2012/03/how-the-us-should-respond-to-russias-unhelpful-role-in-the-middle-east> [ACG CEDA 2]

Unless Russia fundamentally .. and defends U.S. allies.

### Syria’s importance to Russia is exaggerated.

* $1.5 billion / 10 years = $150 million / year

Trenin, Director, Carnegie Moscow Center, 2-9-12

Dmitri: “Why Russia Supports Assad,” New York Times, <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/10/opinion/why-russia-supports-assad.html?_r=1> [LVC D8T EXP]

Russia’s stance on Syria is often .. around $1.5 billion, which makes Damascus Moscow’s seventh-largest client.

### Other countries will compensate Russia for lost influence and trade.

BBC, Citing Sheikh, Director, Brookings-Qatar, 1-30-12

Richard Galpin: “Russian arms shipments bolster Syria's embattled Assad,” http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-16797818 [LVC D8T EXP]

To compensate Russia for any loss of .. partnerships which can be formed and there are arms that can be sold."

### Russia will retain influence after the transition.

Daily Star 3-8-12

Michael Young, Opinion Editor, “Make Vladimir Putin reassess in Syria,” http://www.dailystar.com.lb/Opinion/Columnist/2012/Mar-08/165923-make-vladimir-putin-reassess-in-syria.ashx#axzz1qYpsHZ5N [ACG NDT 1]

In that case, the United Nations … the influence it seeks in Damascus, on the condition that it embrace a change of regime.

### Violent military intervention absent the plan— that’s Rabil

### That sparks war with Russia

Cooke 1-5

Shamus, social service worker, trade unionist and writer for Workers Action, “The Threat of War Against Iran and Syria Is Real.” 5 January 2012. <http://www.truth-out.org/threat-war-against-iran-and-syria-real/1325772640> [LVC MNM]

Attacking Syria and/or Iran opens the door … have a limit that may soon be reached, at the expense of the Middle Eastern people and possibly the rest of us. If the U.S. becomes militarily involved with Syria and Iran, it is up to the working people of the U.S. to mobilize in massive numbers in the streets to prevent such an attack.

### Russia wants peace in Syria

MacFARQUHAR and SCHWIRTZ 2-8

Neil and Michael, bureau chief at the United Nations and contributing reporter and researcher for The Times in Moscow, “.Russia Defends Its Diplomacy in Syria Amid Accounts of Escalating Violence,” NYT, February 8, 2012. http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/09/world/middleeast/syrian-forces-said-to-renew-assault-on-homs.html

BEIRUT, Lebanon — As reports of assaults by Syrian tanks and other forces at several major rebellious areas across Syria continued for a fifth day, Russia’s leaders tried … while others were acting like “a bull in a china shop,” as Mr. Putin put it.

### Mutual interest prevents relations spiral.

CSM 3-3-12

Howard LaFranchi: “A cold-war chill? US-Russia relations falter over Libya and Syria,” Christian Science Monitor, http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Foreign-Policy/2012/0303/A-cold-war-chill-US-Russia-relations-falter-over-Libya-and-Syria [ACG NDT 1]

Not everyone foresees an unchecked …, she says, just as the US "has no interest in seeing this escalate."