# 1AC

Resolved: We affirm the resolution; The United States should lift its embargo against Cuba.

Definitions: The United States embargo against Cuba is defined as; a proclamation or order of the state, usually issued in time of war or threatened hostiles, prohibiting the departure of ships or goods from some or all the ports of such states until further order. ~Black Law Dictionary

Weighing Mechanism: Out of the greatest outcomes for the majority of citizens, both in Cuba and the United States, this round should be assessed by the means of Utilitarianism. In order for the negation to win this debate they must be able to prove that by lifting the embargo, the majority of citizens of both countries will be benefited. (24 sec)

Despite Cuba not meeting the requirements, it’s the US job to fulfill duties other countries can’t stand up and do.

## Contention 1: Economy

Intentions from the embargo failed, causing the US to lose money every term. (Donohue 09) While the Cuban economy is small and underdeveloped, our allies are taking a disproportionate share of the market of an island that is only 90 miles from our shores and is a natural market for U.S. goods and services. In 2001, the International Trade Commission estimate that the embargo cost U.S. exporters up to $1.2 billion annually in lost sales. (1) 1.2 billion dollars annually adds up to a 64.8 billion dollar loss and counting since the creation of the embargo. Instead of adding to this number, we should repeal trade sanctions against Cuba and in turn this new earned 1.2 billion dollars annually can be added to the economy, the net income will revolutionize industries, better the unemployment rate, and aid to the betterment of both Cuba and United States.

## Subpoint A: Hegemony

Moving Cuba to further normalization requires a government force from non other than the United States. Furthering normalization will contend on the embargo and that hegemony is a necessity.

## Subpoint B: Farming Employment

(Brooks, 16) , the most essential job in the United States and around the world are Farmers, Ranchers, and agricultural managers. End quote. (2) Without food and water the challenge to maintain a healthy population is very difficult.

(Tymins, 14) Studies on the subject believe that ending the embargo could create 6,000 American jobs, predominantly in agriculture and telecommunications. By jobs being created this can reduces the amount of structural unemployed people from jobs such as agriculture and telecommunications. In fact at The moment According to the Department of Labor The Agricultural unemployment rate is 11.2 percent, with Agriculture experiencing the highest rate of unemployment, it is important to introduce 6,000 more jobs into the field to offer unemployed citizens with the skillset of an agriculture worker to stay in the business. (3) Maintaining the embargo adds unnecessary finances to Cuba and the US. One promising area is

agricultural goods, which, due to the TSRA, can already be exported. Last year, American food producers captured $348 million of Cuba’s $1.7 billion market, primarily through the sale of corn, soybeans, and frozen chicken. But sales are far lower than they could be due to TSRA restrictions on the financing of agricultural goods and assistance for agricultural export to Cuba. Because of these constraints, the Cuban government must provide cash up front for the purchase of agricultural products, and a third-party bank must process the exchange of money. These measures add significant transaction costs to U.S. food producers, hindering U.S. agricultural exports from competing with those from other countries. (4) These costs don’t only affect Cuba, they affect the US. If our transaction costs where lower we could feed more people, and the price for groceries would be cheaper. Cuban’s market will increase, bettering both economies and local farmers.

## Contention 2: Politics

The next administration’s policy toward Cuba will hinge on who is elected president. Both major Democratic candidates, Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders, have expressed support for normalization. However, of the six Republican candidates currently leading the polls, only Donald Trump supports normalizing ties with Cuba, while the other five (Senators Rubio and Cruz, Dr. Carson, and Governors Bush and Christie) have vocally opposed the policy. Donald Trump will allow us to continue the legacy Barack Obama set forth. (5) Donald Trump wants to convert the Cuban government in to a democracy and further normalization’s. This will be made more possible if Raul Castro, retires as Prime Minister.

(Oppman 13) (6) Cuban President Raul Castro said Sunday that he would step down from power in 2018, when his second term as president is set to end. Also Sunday, lawmakers elevated Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez, 52, to the position of first vice president, putting him next in line to succeed Castro. Raul Castro’s stepping down from power means that the Castro regime will have finally come to an end. Miguel Diaz – Canel Bermudez wants change and can possibly move towards normalizations. Normalizations will support international financial Institutions and will lead to humanitarian aid.

## Subpoint A: International Financial Institutions

## Subpoint B: Humanitarian Aid

Citations:

1. <https://www.uschamber.com/sites/default/files/legacy/testimony/090427tradecuba.pdf>
2. <http://www.businessnewsdaily.com/9209-essential-us-jobs.html>
3. <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.t14.htm>
4. http://www.boozman.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2015/4/boozman-heitkamp-introduce-bipartisan-legislation-to-expandu-s-agricultural-exports-to-cuba
5. <http://blogs.wsj.com/washwire/2015/09/08/donald-trump-backs-cuba-opening-at-odds-with-most-of-gop-field/>