

NFHS Topic Proposal: Middle East

Submitted by: Colton Gilbert
Little Rock Central High School
Arkansas Communication and Theatre Arts Association
Voting Delegate, Arkansas
Summer 2018

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
Background.....	3
Scope.....	3
Topic Durability	4
Accessibility.....	4
Areas.....	5
Iran	5
Iraq	7
Syria	8
Saudi Arabia	10
Libya	12
Women in the Middle East.....	13
Additional Negative Arguments.....	14
Definitions.....	16
Middle East	16
United States federal government.....	16
Substantially.....	17
Increase	19
Its.....	20
Economic.....	21
Diplomatic	22
Engagement.....	23
Economic Engagement.....	25
Toward.....	31
Potential Wordings.....	31
Bibliography.....	33

Introduction

Background

For years, in the debate community, we have debated the impacts of the Middle East. We have explored how different resolutions had indirect impacts on the region but we have never explored this region as a resolutional subject.

During the 2010-11 school year we debated military/police presence in parts of the Middle East, but not the region as a whole. During the 2004-05 school year we debated United Nations Peacekeeping Operations; there was less than a handful that affected the region. In other years we have debated the Middle East by proxy, whether it be an Arms Sales, Trade, or an Energy topic. It is time that we as a community looked at this region of the globe during an important time in international politics.

Scope

The most liberal of definitions will tell us that there are 16 countries that make up the Middle East: Egypt, Iran, Turkey, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Syria, Jordan, UAE, Israel, Libya, Lebanon, Oman, Kuwait, Qatar, and Bahrain.

In an effort to not overload negative teams the topic would be best limited to Iran, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and Libya. This collection of countries provides a diverse literature base as well as a wide range of affirmative and negative options for teams of all pedagogies. The current administration provides an ever-changing world that would allow a topic centered on these countries to never become dull. In addition to the accessibility of the topic, in terms of a research

burden, a limitation to these five countries would exclude micro affirmatives that are be too small for negative teams to adequately be prepared.

Topic Durability

It is highly unlikely that any significant portion of the topic will become non-inherent before the topic has a chance to possibly be debated in 2019-20. Trump has made it clear through his recent policies that he views the Middle East as a “troubled place” and has stated, “No amount of American blood or treasure can produce lasting peace and security in the Middle East” (Indyk, 2018). It would be safe to assume, in spite of the flip-flops of the current administration, that this resolve would hold true. Assuming this does not change, we are all but guaranteed a durable topic if/when it comes time to debate Middle East policy.

Accessibility

This topic would be accessible to both novice and experienced debaters. Every year there is an international element, debaters find themselves debating impact scenarios directly from this region. Debaters of this generation have grown up with the Middle East being a crux of US Foreign Policy so the novices can bring their working knowledge of the region to construct cases and negative positions. More seasoned debaters can take the topic and delve into some policy-style arguments as well as nuanced, critical ones. With this being an international topic there would be no shortage of advantage/disadvantage, counterplan and kritikal ground.

Areas

Iran

There are scholars who feel like the destabilization of Iran could “have reverberations around the globe” (Ghoreishi, 2018). This potential risk of affecting the entire Middle East could provide debaters with a rich ground to explore possible solutions to Iran destabilization. President Trump pulling out of the Iran Nuclear Deal only magnifies the fears associated with a destabilized Iran. Some would argue that there is a US-Israel led coalition that is attempting to discredit legitimate protestors inside of the country. Affirmatives can explore the ways in which we can negotiate a better Nuclear Deal, stop protestor de-legitimization, or find alternative methods of diplomatic engagement. Negative teams can counter this by saying a new Nuclear Deal would be politically damning, that a new Deal wouldn’t work, or that diplomacy empirically fails with Iran. Ghoreishi concludes:

“An isolated, destabilized Iran will hurt U.S. allies in the region and cause blowback, per usual. Washington has engaged in enough self-inflicted crises. Economic and diplomatic engagement with Iran, on the other hand, can help restore some stability to a chronically unstable region.”

Economically Iran has put itself in a precarious position. Depressed oil prices and continuous proxy wars have hampered the countries economic success

(McLaughlin, 2018). As a country, Iran is not immune from internal turmoil. Protestors have become more brazen as the Iranian regime has cracked down on it's citizens. Labor strikes have popped up around the country in an effort to increase workers' rights. Affirmatives can explore ways to use economic engagement (sanctions, incentives, etc.) to improve Iran's economic prowess. Negative teams can argue why reliance on such policies is counterproductive and haven't given us desired results in the past.

Iran has been using its influence in the Syria conflict to expand ties with Russia (Alamuddin, 2018). Both countries have benefited greatly from supporting Asad; Russia continues its destabilization of the Middle East while Iran has asserted its regional dominance. When the United States pulled out of the United Nations Human Rights Council we lost a lot of the moral high ground we used in the past to coerce Iran into policy changes. Citizens in the country are being slaughtered while the rest of the world pays attention to other things (Stevenson, 2018). Affirmatives can use their plans as a wedge driven between Iran and Russia claiming some Soft Power benefits or access to reasons why counterbalancing Russia is preferential to the status quo. Negative teams can come back and argue that there's no risk of the United States driving a wedge between Russia and Iran. Additionally, negatives can argue that US Soft Power is terminally a lost cause.

The rhetoric towards Iran by the current administration has been harsh, to say the least. Secretary of State Pompeo is on record saying Iran uses its embassies to plot terror attacks (Lee & Gambrell, 2018).

Iraq

When President Trump enacted his Travel Ban in the early stages of his presidency it altered an already rocky relationship with the country of Iraq. Trump's actions and statements have caused political problems for Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi (Arango, 2018). Prime Minister al-Abadi, before the 2016 election, spoke optimistically about renewed relations with the West and now not being able to deliver on his promises has already begun to cost him with Iraqis. Affirmatives could look at repealing the travel ban or enacting measures that allow for Iraqi nationals to study abroad in the United States, which would help stabilize the country. Negative teams can argue that repealing the ban would put our country's security in jeopardy. The negative can also cite instances where jihadists studied in the United States in the past and used that expertise to enact harm against the United States.

Even though it seems as if the President has turned his back on Iraq American-funded partners have purchased tens of thousands of kilograms of explosive material to assist in fighting ISIS (VOA, 2018). As a nation, Iraq has needs to be rebuilt. In an effort to assist the Iraqi people affirmatives could take up nation building in Iraq; making some claim that this would help boost our global Soft Power and help drive ISIS out of the Middle East. Negative teams can argue that United States nation building is ineffective, counterproductive, or that there is little to no risk of the United States driving ISIS out of the region.

Like most countries, Iraq has not kept up its infrastructure with the changing times. ISIS has weaponized this neglect by using its members to attack power grids and oil pipelines. This shut down the cities of Tikrit and Hawija

causing hospitals to be inoperable and putting countless other Iraqi lives in danger; attacks like these are becoming more and more prevalent. ISIS used suicide bombers, September of 2017, to attack a power plant in Baghdad (Al Jazeera, 2017) killing seven civilians. Affirmative teams can argue that security needs to be given to Iraqi energy needs. They also have at their disposal the option of investment into energy infrastructure in Iraq. Negatives can offer unique counter options like micro loans to citizens for solar panels.

For those who love a good “War on Terror” debate ISIS has given us a lot of ground in parts of Iraq and Syria. Affirmatives can advocate for Troop Surges or for a new Military Authorization that assumes the current world given what ISIS has done in recent memory. Considering Iraq’s current political situation, affirmatives can attempt to install a central government that would provide a stable foundation of governing. Peter Mandaville, who previously served as a top adviser to the State Department on ISIS, told Business Insider “I think it would be difficult for ISIS to retake significant territory given the ongoing presence and vigilance of [US-led] coalition forces. They certainly have the capacity to engage in an extended insurgency campaign using the kinds of tactics highlighted in the Soufan Center report” (Haltiwanger, 2018).

Syria

Assad’s regime in Syria has been the catalyst for a world of atrocities in Syria. Members of the international community have used this war, and their support for rivaling factions, to advance their own global agendas (BBC News, 2018). The civil war started when citizens complained about high unemployment

and political corruption. President Bashar al-Assad, used deadly force in retaliation for a protest demanding his resignation; fast forward to today and we have the Syrian civil war. The war has pitted the Sunni Muslim majority against the Shia Alawite sect. Affirmatives can explore a number of options in response to the ongoing conflict in Syria. They can push for military intervention, negotiate diplomatic solutions, or provide some form of humanitarian aid for the civilians dealing with the constant fighting. Negatives can argue that military intervention would overstretch our military or that humanitarian aid is never used efficiently enough to change the problems civilians in war-torn countries face.

The Syrian Civil War presents a unique place to have the Israel/Iran debate. The Iranians have played an important part in supporting Assad's regime and some in Israel fear that Iran will use the war as a backdoor to cross Israel's border (Kraft, 2018). This is a large reason why we see "refugee cities" at the Syrian/Israeli border. Citizens would rather camp out in tents and trailers next to the Israeli border instead of risk being killed in the civil war. Affirmatives can approach this problem by offering some kind of diplomatic assistance to ensure a resolution to the war or, at the very least, a way to deal with civilian displacement. While there was a truce agreed to in July of 2018 (Sharif, 2018), there is an argument to be made that ceasefires in the past failed to stop the violence and there's no evidence to suggest the current one is durable.

Women and children of fallen, and lost, ISIS fighters are held in detention camps in northeastern Syria (Hubbard, 2018). When we think about the "War on Terror" we rarely think about the impact it has on the families

involved. Their home countries do not want them and ISIS doesn't claim them either; they are stuck in political limbo. This ground is ripe for affirmatives to explore diplomatic and/or humanitarian solutions to this forgotten portion of the "War on Terror." With Syria being in the state that it is in, negative teams can argue that diplomatic and/or humanitarian solutions won't work because the leadership of Syria would not be inclined to work with the United States.

Refugees fleeing the conflict in Syria find there are limited avenues for escaping the warzone they live in. Refugee aid is not reaching the ones that need it most. There are stories of people who received aid for months; as a mechanism to live. The payments stopped coming and those families were told they weren't "hungry enough" to qualify for aid (Sewell, 2018). The Travel Ban has also had an adverse affect on refugees seeking a better life in America. The ban applies to immigrants coming to America looking to unite with families and refugees (Aldana, 2018). Affirmative teams can tackle these problems with policy changes in the United States, increased aid, or further diplomatic engagement to end the civil war in Syria.

Saudi Arabia

It seems that when a country in the Middle East has nuclear ambitions, the thought of that makes their neighbors cringe; that's how Israel feels about the United States working with Saudi Arabia on building nuclear reactors (Lemon, 2018). Affirmatives could explore this option through a Nuclear Deal or some kind of quid pro quo.

When Secretary of State Pompeo visited Saudi Arabia in early 2018 he stated that the Saudis' security concerns were of the utmost importance to the United States (Zavis, 2018). During that same visit Pompeo pressured the Saudis for a political solution in Yemen since the Saudi-led coalition hasn't achieved desired results and has caught the attention of the United Nations. The United States also believes that the stalemate between Saudi Arabia and Qatar is preventing a united Arab response to Iranian ambitions. Affirmatives could explore options of correcting these issues by providing military, diplomatic, and/or economic support. Once again, negatives can argue the downsides of military intervention, problems with humanitarian aid, or reasons why the affirmative wouldn't boost economic growth.

Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has enjoyed limited successes at home but very limited results in his international endeavors (Lynch, 2017). Mohammed bin Salman's intervention into Yemen has caused those around the globe to question his leadership yet the United States has stood behind him. Their political problem with Qatar has all but destroyed the Gulf Cooperation Council. These international ineptitudes have kept Saudi Arabia from taking the next step as a regional hegemon. Once again a form of diplomatic engagement could help resolve these issues.

Saudi Arabia has slowly become the driving force behind OPEC's (the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) recent price hikes (El Gamal & Lawler, 2018). In previous years Iran was seen as the price hawk but Saudi Arabia has overtaken them. Affirmatives can approach the possible impending energy crisis in a variety of ways. The oil dependence good/bad debate is in play,

“green tech” policies are options as well as counter options for negative teams to explore.

Libya

Some would argue that including Libya in the topic expands the definition of “Middle East” too far west. Assuming that is true there are still reasons why Libya would be fertile ground to include in this topic area. The United States has executed about 550 drone strikes in Libya since 2011 (Turse et. el, 2018). This number surpasses Yemen, Somalia, and Pakistan. Some would argue that this is taking an untold toll on the citizens of Libya. The United States constantly undervalues the number of strikes that it executes in Libya. The United States has been conducting these drone strikes out of an airbase in Italy since 2011 as a response to a Gaddafi-backed group. When Gaddafi was removed and chaos ensued the United States kept using drone strikes in Libya. Affirmatives can approach this problematic area by renewing a Military Authorization or simply ending the practice altogether.

The United States media rarely covers the conflict in Libya (Kofas, 2018) and there is little evidence to suggest that any change in the political landscape in the 2018 Midterms will have an impact on policy changes in Libya. Most people don’t know that eighty percent (80%) of people in Libya are in need of some form of humanitarian assistance. The United States has been silent on the issue, largely because American corporations make profits funding the ongoing conflict here. Affirmatives can explore ending arms sales to nations in conflict, sending in boots on the ground, and/or sending humanitarian aid to the civilians in need.

Three different political factions are vying for control of Libya; two of which have militias backing their causes (Mach, 2017). This has led to almost half-a-million displaced individuals in the country. To compound this problem the Criminal Justice system has essentially halted to a stop, which has only given a green light to criminal activity. This has created the perfect storm for the citizens of Libya. Upwards of twenty (20) hospitals have closed and access to medicine is limited to say the least. Affirmatives can explore humanitarian and/or military responses to this predicament. Some would argue that the President's rhetoric has depleted the United States' standing around the globe (Raju & Landers, 2018); affirmatives can argue what they do helps the United States' standing around the globe.

Women in the Middle East

Many people praised Saudi Arabia for allowing women to drive but the fact that this was newsworthy only highlights how oppressed women have been in this region for so long. Even though the ban that barred women from driving was lifted, the eight (8) activists who campaigned against the ban are still detained in Saudi Arabia (Amnesty International, 2018). In Saudi Arabia, women are still precluded from working-for-hire, higher education, and marriage without consent from a male guardian. Affirmatives can explore mechanisms to combat the oppression of women in Saudi Arabia; they can apply diplomatic pressure for reforms or demand changes in the form of *qui pro quo*.

There has been untold unrest in Libya due to the country's assault on women's rights. Four years ago a civil rights activist and lawyer, named Salwa

Bugaighis, was assassinated for speaking out in support of women's rights. Since that time gender-based violence against women has increased in the form of sexual violence, assault abductions, and defamation on social media (Slobe, 2018). Some within the country have argued that not prosecuting Bugaighis's assassins only sent a message that crime against women, in Libya, would go unpunished. Affirmatives could apply political pressure and/or use diplomatic engagement to find an effective solution for the discrimination against women in Libya.

Women in Iran also face dire challenges when it comes to living life the way they would prefer. An Iranian woman was arrested for taking off her compulsory hijab, in protest, and was sentenced to twenty (20) years in prison (Osborne, 2018). Her attorney that represented her was also arrested, subjected to torture/beatings, and was released in April of 2018 but her whereabouts are still unknown. Affirmatives can explore the possibility of applying pressure to Iran in the form of diplomacy or as amendments to another Nuclear Deal.

Additional Negative Arguments

While it may seem that the majority of the paper was devoted to affirmative argumentation, there are a plethora of disadvantages (DAs) negative teams could argue. In addition to the aforementioned case debate arguments they have access to Politics scenarios that talk about how the American public perceives action taken and their responses to it (Trump Base DA, Midterms DA, Political Process DAs, etc.). Negative teams also have relations scenarios at their disposal. If an affirmative is reading an Iran affirmative, the negative can read a

relations saying that this would upset Russia and cause them to lash out. These types of DAs also could come in the form of EU Isolation or something similar. Another type of DA negatives can read are military-based DAs. If an affirmative puts boots on the ground the negative can read a Military Readiness or Overstretch DA. Depending on the direction of the affirmative negative teams also have access to Hard Power good/bad scenarios.

Negatives can also read different types of Counterplans (CPs) to solve impact scenarios the affirmative may be reading. In response to affirmatives that attempt to achieve some kind of energy security, negative's can propose "green tech" initiatives or always revert to the oil dependence good/bad debate. If an affirmative is reading something that involves military intervention, then the negative can recommend, as a policy option, to use Private Military Contractors (PMCs). If the goal of the affirmative is to increase humanitarian aid, then the negative can argue that this would be done better by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) because they don't have all of the alleged "red tape."

Non-traditional teams have a host of arguments at their disposal. They can read economics based arguments like the Capitalism K, Neoliberalism K, Dedev, Foucault or Deleuze. In terms of international relations the types of IR arguments that can be read include: Threat Construction K, Fem IR Ks, Queer Ks, Imperialism K, Borders K, Security K, and Development K. In terms of identity arguments, depending on the debater they should still have access to their Afro-Pessimism K, Orientalism K, or Model Minority Myth arguments.

Definitions

Middle East

Infoplease.com (<https://www.infoplease.com/atlas/middle-east>) – “The Middle East’ is a term traditionally applied by western Europeans to the countries of SW Asia and NE Africa lying W of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India. Thus defined it includes Cyprus, the Asian part of Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, the West Bank and Gaza, Jordan, Iraq, Iran, the countries of the Arabian peninsula (Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait), and Egypt and Libya. The area was viewed as midway between Europe and East Asia (traditionally called the Far East). The term is sometimes used in a cultural sense to mean the group of lands in that part of the world predominantly Islamic in culture, thus including the remaining states of N Africa as well as Afghanistan and Pakistan. In the 20th cent. the Middle East has been the scene of political turmoil and major warfare, including World War I, World War II, the Arab-Israeli Wars , the Iran-Iraq War and the Persian Gulf Wars.”

United States federal government

Amy Blackwell, (J.D., Staff, U. Virginia Law Library), THE ESSENTIAL LAW DICTIONARY, 2008, 187.

Federal: Relating to the central government of a union of states, such as the national government of the United States.

Carol-June Cassidy, (Editor), CAMBRIDGE DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN ENGLISH, 2nd Ed., 2008, 308. Federal government: of or connected with the central government

Carol-June Cassidy, (Editor), CAMBRIDGE DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN ENGLISH, 2nd Ed., 2008, 308.

Federal government: a system of government in which states unite and give up some of their powers to a central authority

Daniel Oran, (Assistant Dir., National Paralegal Institute & J.D., Yale Law School), ORAN’S DICTIONARY OF

THE LAW, 4th Ed., 2008, 206. Federal government: The U.S. federal government is the national, as opposed to state, government.

James Clapp, (Member of the New York Bar, Editor), RANDOM HOUSE WEBSTER’S POCKET LEGAL DICTIONARY, 3rd Ed., 2007, 103. Federal government: Relating to the government and law of the United States, as distinguished from a state.

Maurice Waite, (Editor), OXFORD DICTIONARY & THESAURUS, 2007, 377. Federal government: relating to the central government of a federation.

Michael Agnes, (Editor), WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD DICTIONARY, 4th College Edition, 2007, 290. Federal government: Of the central government.

Michael Agnes, (Editor), WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD DICTIONARY, 4th College Edition, 2007, 290. Federal government: Of a union of states under a central government.

Substantially

"Substantial" means the "essential" part of something.

Christine Lindberg, (Editor), OXFORD COLLEGE DICTIONARY, 2nd Ed., 2007, 1369. Substantially: Concerning the essentials of something.

Elizabeth Jewell, (Editor), THE OXFORD DESK DICTIONARY AND THESAURUS, 2nd Ed., 2007, 835. Substantially: Essentially, at bottom, fundamentally, basically, in essence, intrinsically.

Elizabeth Jewell, (Editor), THE OXFORD DESK DICTIONARY AND THESAURUS, 2nd Ed., 2007, 835. Substantially: Essential; true in large part.

Maurice Waite, (Editor), OXFORD DICTIONARY & THESAURUS, 2007, 1032. Substantially: in essence, basically, fundamentally.

Maurice Waite, (Editor), OXFORD DICTIONARY & THESAURUS, 2007, 1032. Substantially: concerning the essential points of something

Maurice Waite, (Editor), OXFORD DICTIONARY & THESAURUS, 2007, 1032. Substantially: fundamental, essential, basic.

Michael Agnes, (Editor), WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD DICTIONARY, 4th College Edition, 2007, 780. Substantial: In essentials.

"Substantial" means "valuable."

Christopher Leonesio, (Managing Editor), AMERICAN HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL DICTIONARY, 4th Ed., 2007, 1376. Substantial: Considerable in importance, value, degree, amount, or extent.

Daniel Oran, (Assitant Dir., National Paralegal Institute & J.D., Yale Law School), ORAN'S DICTIONARY OF THE LAW, 4th Ed., 2008, 510. Substantial: Valuable, real, worthwhile.

"Substantial" means permanent as opposed to temporary.

Richard Bowyer, (Editor), DICTIONARY OF MILITARY TERMS, 3rd Ed. 2004, 235. Substantive: Permanent (as opposed to acting or temporary).

"Substantial" means relating to the "fundamental substance" of a thing.

Sandra Anderson, (Editor), COLLINS ENGLISH DICTIONARY, 8th Ed., 2006, 1606. Substantial: Of or relating to the basic or fundamental substance or aspects of a thing.

Christopher Leonesio, (Managing Editor), AMERICAN HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL DICTIONARY, 4th Ed., 2007, 1376. Substantial: Of, relating to, or having substance.

“Substantial” means of a “corporeal or material nature.”

Stuart Flexner, (Editor-in-chief), R
ANDOM HOUSE DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE,
UNABRIDGED, 2nd Ed., 1987, 1897. Substantial: Of a corporeal or material
nature; tangible; real.

“Substantially” means more than 25%.

Federal Tax Regulation, Section 1.409A-3(j)6, INCOME TAX
REGULATIONS (Wolters Kluwer Business Publication), 2008, 723. For this
purpose, a reduction that is less than 25% of the deferred amount in dispute is
not a substantial reduction.”

A reduction of less than 15% is not substantial.

WORDS AND PHRASES, Vol. 40B, 2002, 326.
Where debtor-jewelry retailers historically obtained 15-25% of the inventory of
their two divisions through consignments, they were not, as a matter of
law, substantially engaged in selling the goods of others. In re Wedlo Holdings,
Inc. (North Dakota case)

“Substantial” means “important.” Amy Blackwell, (J.D., Staff, U. Virginia Law
Library), THE ESSENTIAL LAW DICTIONARY, 2008, 477.

Substantial: Important, large, considerable, valuable.

Carol-June Cassidy, (Editor), CAMBRIDGE DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN
ENGLISH, 2nd Ed., 2008, 873. Substantially: large in size, value, or
importance

Christine Lindberg, (Editor), OXFORD COLLEGE DICTIONARY, 2nd Ed.,
2007, 1369. Substantially: Of considerable importance, size, or worth.

Elizabeth Jewell, (Editor), THE OXFORD DESK DICTIONARY AND
THESAURUS, 2nd Ed., 2007, 835. Substantially: Of real importance, value, or
validity.

Maurice Waite, (Editor), OXFORD DICTIONARY & THESAURUS, 2007,
1032. Substantially: real, significant, important, major, valuable.

Maurice Waite, (Editor), OXFORD DICTIONARY & THESAURUS, 2007,
1032. Substantially: of great importance, size, or value.

“Substantial” means “socially important.”

Christine Lindberg, (Editor), OXFORD COLLEGE DICTIONARY, 2nd Ed.,
2007, 1369. Substantially: Important in material or social terms.

“Substantial” means “not imaginary.”

Christopher Leonesio, (Managing Editor), AMERICAN HERITAGE HIGH
SCHOOL DICTIONARY, 4th Ed., 2007, 1376. Substantial: True or real; not
imaginary.

Maurice Waite, (Editor), OXFORD DICTIONARY & THESAURUS, 2007,
1032. Substantially: real and tangible rather than imaginary.

Increase

“Increase” means to become greater in size or degree.

Carol-June Cassidy, (Editor), CAMBRIDGE DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN ENGLISH, 2nd Ed., 2008, 441. Increase: to become or make something larger or greater.

Christine Lindberg, (Editor), OXFORD COLLEGE DICTIONARY, 2nd Ed., 2007, 687. Increase: Become or make greater in size, amount, intensity, or degree.

Christopher Leonesio, (Managing Editor), AMERICAN HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL DICTIONARY, 4th Ed., 2007, 702. Increase: To become greater or larger.

Elizabeth Jewell, (Editor), THE OXFORD DESK DICTIONARY AND THESAURUS, 2nd Ed., 2007, 415. Increase: Build up, enlarge, amplify, expand.

Elizabeth Jewell, (Editor), THE OXFORD DESK DICTIONARY AND THESAURUS, 2nd Ed., 2007, 415. Increase: Make or become greater or more numerous.

Erin McKean, (Sr. Editor), THE OXFORD AMERICAN DICTIONARY AND THESAURUS, 2003, 751. Increase: To make or become greater in size, amount, etc., or more numerous.

Ian Brookes, (Sr. Editor), THE CHAMBERS DICTIONARY, 10th ed., 2006, 754. Increase: To grow in size or number.

Jean McKechnie, (Sr. Editor), WEBSTER’S NEW TWENTIETH CENTURY DICTIONARY, UNABRIDGED, 2nd Ed., 1979, 926. Increase: To become greater in size, quantity, value, degree, etc.

Michael Agnes, (Editor), WEBSTER’S NEW WORLD DICTIONARY, 4th College Edition, 2007, 396. Increase: To make or become greater, larger.

Sidney Landau, (Sr. Editor), CAMBRIDGE DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN ENGLISH, 2nd ed., 2008, 440. Increase: To become or make something larger or greater.

“Increase” means to make larger, even if the starting point was zero.

WORDS AND PHRASES CUMULATIVE SUPPLEMENTARY PAMPHLET, Vol. 20A, 07, 76. Increase: Salary change of from zero to \$12,000 and \$1,200 annually for mayor and councilmen respectively was an “increase” in salary and not merely the fixing of salary. King v. Herron, 243 S.E.2d36, 241 Ga. 5.

“Increase” can refer to a “net change,” meaning there can be some elements going up and others going down so long as the total goes up.

WORDS AND PHRASES CUMULATIVE SUPPLEMENTARY PAMPHLET, Vol. 20A, 07, 76. Increase: Within insurance company’s superintendent’s employment contract, “increase” meant net increase in premiums generated by agent calculated by subtracting “lapses” or premiums lost on policies previously issued. Lanier v. Trans-World Life Ins. Co., 258 So.2d 103.

“Increase” can mean to extend in time (or duration).

WORDS AND PHRASES CUMULATIVE SUPPLEMENTARY PAMPHLET, Vol. 20A, 07, 76. Increase: A durational modification of child support is as much an

“increase” as a monetary modification. State ex rel. Jarvela v. Burke, 678 N.W.2d 68.15.

“Increase” can mean an improvement in quality or intensity rather than in number.

Maurice Waite, (Editor), OXFORD DICTIONARY & THESAURUS, 2007, 526.

Increase: Become or make greater in size, amount, or intensity.

Elizabeth Jewell, (Editor), THE OXFORD DESK DICTIONARY AND THESAURUS, 2nd Ed., 2007, 415. Increase: Advance in quality, attainment, etc.

Erin McKean, (Sr. Editor), THE OXFORD AMERICAN DICTIONARY AND THESAURUS, 2003, 751. Increase: Intensify a quality.

“Increase” means to “extend.”

Maurice Waite, (Editor), OXFORD DICTIONARY & THESAURUS, 2007, 526.

Increase: Intensify, strengthen, extend.

“Increase” means “to multiply” or “reproduce.”

Christopher Leonesio, (Managing Editor), AMERICAN HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL DICTIONARY, 4th Ed., 2007, 702. Increase: To multiply; reproduce.

“Increase” means to “supplement.”

Maurice Waite, (Editor), OXFORD DICTIONARY & THESAURUS, 2007, 526.

Increase: Make bigger, augment, supplement.

“Increase” refers to that which already exists.

Ian Brookes, (Sr. Editor), THE CHAMBERS DICTIONARY, 10th ed., 2006, 754.

Increase: Growth; increment; addition to the original stock.

Its

“Its” means belonging to the thing previously mentioned.

Augustus Stevenson, (Editor), NEW OXFORD AMERICAN DICTIONARY, 3rd Ed., 2010, 924. Its: Belonging to or associated with a thing previously mentioned or easily identified.

“Its” means “relating to itself” or “possessing” something.

Frederick Mish, (Editor-in-chief), WEBSTER'S COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY, 10th ed., 1993, 623. Its: Of or relating to it or itself, esp. as possessor.

“Its” means “belonging to.”

Justin Crozier, (Editor), COLLINS DICTIONARY AND THESAURUS, 2005, 448. Its: Of or belonging to it.

Jean McKechnie, (Sr. Editor), WEBSTER'S NEW TWENTIETH CENTURY DICTIONARY, UNABRIDGED, 2nd Ed., 1979, 977. Its: Of, or belonging to, or done by it.

Erin McKean, (Sr. Editor), THE OXFORD AMERICAN DICTIONARY AND

THESAURUS, 2003, 798. Its: Of itself.

Carol-June Cassidy, (Managing Editor), CAMBRIDGE DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN ENGLISH, 2nd Ed., 2008, 464. Its: Belonging to or connected with the thing or animal mentioned; the possessive form of it.

Stuart Flexner, (Editor-in-chief), RANDOM HOUSE DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, UNABRIDGED, 2nd Ed., 1987, 1017. Its: The possessive form of it.

“Its” can mean simply “relating to” or “associated with.”

Frederick Mish, (Editor-in-chief), WEBSTER'S COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY, 10th ed., 1993, 623. Its: Of or relating to it or itself, esp. as possessor.

Sandra Anderson, (Editor), COLLINS ENGLISH DICTIONARY, 8th Ed., 2006, 867. Its: Belonging to, or associated in some way with.

Carol-June Cassidy, (Managing Editor), CAMBRIDGE DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN ENGLISH, 2nd Ed., 2008, 464. Its: Belonging to or connected with the thing or animal mentioned; the possessive form of it.

Economic

“Economic” means “pertaining to the economy.”

Stuart Flexner, (Editor), RANDOM HOUSE DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, UNABRIDGED, 1987, 618. Economic: Pertaining to an economy, or system of organization or operation.

Maurice Waite, (Editor), OXFORD DICTIONARY AND THESAURUS, 2007, 322. Economic: Relating to economics or the economy of a country or region.

“Economic” means “relating to the production, distribution, and use of income, wealth, and commodities.”

Wendalyn Nichols, (Editor), RANDOM HOUSE WEBSTER'S COLLEGE DICTIONARY, 2000, 417. Economic: Of or pertaining to the production, distribution, and use of income, wealth, and commodities.

Frederick Mish, (Editor), MERRIAM WEBSTER'S COLLEGE DICTIONARY, 1998, 365. Economic: Of, relating, to, or based on the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services.

Stuart Flexner, (Editor), RANDOM HOUSE DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, UNABRIDGED, 1987, 618. Economic: Pertaining to the production, distribution, and use of income, wealth, and commodities.

“Economic” means “relating to industry or business.”

Ian Brookes, (Editor), THE CHAMBERS DICTIONARY, 2006, 475. Economic: Relating to industry or business.

Stephen Bullon, (Editor), LONGMAN DICTIONARY OF CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH, 2005, 499. Economic: Relating to trade, industry, and the management of money.

“Economic” means “relating to profit.”

Ian Brookes, (Editor), THE CHAMBERS DICTIONARY, 2006, 475. Economic: Operating at, or capable of achieving, a profit.
Maurice Waite, (Editor), OXFORD DICTIONARY AND THESAURUS, 2007, 322. Economic: Profitable, or concerned with profitability.

“Economic” refers to “material resources.”

Sandra Anderson, (Editor), COLLINS ENGLISH DICTIONARY UNABRIDGED, 2006, 520. Economic: Concerning or affecting material resources or welfare.
Stuart Flexner, (Editor), RANDOM HOUSE DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, UNABRIDGED, 1987, 618. Economic: Pertaining to the use of resources in the economy.

Diplomatic

“Diplomacy” is defined by the U.S. State Department as “the art and practice of conducting and maintaining relations between nations.”

U.S. Department of State. DIPLOMATIC DICTIONARY, 2015. Retrieved Apr. 25, 2016 from <http://diplomacy.state.gov/discoverdiplomacy/references/169792.htm#D>. Diplomacy: The art and practice of conducting negotiations and maintaining relations between nations; skill in handling affairs without arousing hostility.

“Diplomatic” is defined as “maintaining good relations between governments.”

MERRIAM WEBSTER DICTIONARY, 2014. Retrieved Apr. 25, 2016 from <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/diplomatic>. Diplomatic: Involving the work of maintaining good relations between the governments of different countries : of or relating to diplomats or their work.
Edwards, China Topicality Evidence, p.8

“Diplomatic” is defined as “maintaining friendly relations between countries.”

MACMILLAN DICTIONARY, 2015. Retrieved Apr. 25, 2016 from <http://www.macmillandictionary.com/us/dictionary/american/diplomatic>. Diplomatic: Relating to the profession or skill of preserving or creating friendly relationships between countries.

“Diplomatic refers to contact with other nations.

U.S. LEGAL DICTIONARY, 2014. <http://definitions.uslegal.com/d/diplomatic-relations/>. Diplomatic relations refers to the customary diplomatic intercourse between nations. It involves permanent contact and communication between sovereign countries. As a part of the diplomatic relations two countries send diplomats to work in each other’s country and to deal with each other formally.
Retrieved Apr. 25, 2016 from

“Diplomatic” relations includes cybersecurity issues.

Jon Lindsay, (Prof., Global Affairs, U. Toronto), CHINA AND CYBERSECURITY: ESPIONAGE, STRATEGY, AND POLITICS IN THE DIGITAL DOMAIN, 2015, 351. It is increasingly clear that the United States and China, or any other advanced industrial countries for that matter, will not be able to separate cybersecurity from their diplomatic relations.

Engagement

“Engagement” means the state of being involved in something.

Maurice Waite, (Editor), OXFORD DICTIONARY AND THESAURUS, 2007, 337. Engagement: The state of being involved in something.

“Engagement” means a promise to do something.

Sandra Anderson, (Editor), COLLINS ENGLISH DICTIONARY UNABRIDGED, 2006, 543. Engage: To promise to do something.

“Engagement” refers to a pledge.

Stuart Flexner, (Editor), RANDOM HOUSE DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, UNABRIDGED, 1987, 644. Engagement: A pledge; an obligation or agreement.

“Engagement” means to bring together or interlock.

Wendalyn Nichols, (Editor), RANDOM HOUSE WEBSTER’S COLLEGE DICTIONARY, 2000, 437. Engagement: The act or state of interlocking.

“Engagement” means to bind to an action.

Wendalyn Nichols, (Editor), RANDOM HOUSE WEBSTER’S COLLEGE DICTIONARY, 2000, 437. Engage: To bind, as by a pledge or compromise.

“Engagement” means to assume an obligation.

Wendalyn Nichols, (Editor), RANDOM HOUSE WEBSTER’S COLLEGE DICTIONARY, 2000, 437. Engage: To assume an obligation.

“Engagement” means the “state of being engaged.”

Stuart Flexner, (Editor), RANDOM HOUSE DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, UNABRIDGED, 1987, 644. Engagement: The act of engaging or the state of being engaged.

“Engagement” refers to a “promise or obligation.”

Sandra Anderson, (Editor), COLLINS ENGLISH DICTIONARY UNABRIDGED, 2006, 543. Engagement: A promise, obligation, or other condition that binds.

“Engagement” means “being committed to a point of view.”

Ian Brookes, (Editor), THE CHAMBERS DICTIONARY, 2006, 496. Engagement: The state of being committed to a point of view or action.

“Engage” means to “attract by influence or power.”

Frederick Mish, (Editor), MERRIAM WEBSTER’S COLLEGE DICTIONARY, 1998, 383. Engage: To attract and hold by influence or power.

“Engagement” means “to begin involved with someone or something in order to better understand them.”

Stephen Bullon, (Editor), LONGMAN DICTIONARY OF CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH, 2005, 518. Engagement: To become involved with someone or something in order to understand them. Ex: A strategy of engagement and cooperation with China.

Increased direct foreign investment constitutes engagement.

Carol Adelman, (Dir., Center for Science in Public Policy), AMERICA’S TOTAL ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT WITH THE DEVELOPING WORLD, June 28, 2005, 3. U.S. Private Capital Flows: This number includes foreign direct investment and net capital markets in developing and emerging economies, and is an important measure of U.S. total economic engagement with developing nations. This category is most indicative of the U.S. contribution to long-lasting economic growth and prosperity in these countries. The number includes direct investment by American companies in agriculture, manufacturing and service industries that creates jobs and income for poor people. It represents the involvement of U.S. companies and institutions in foreign capital markets as well, investment that helps develop permanent economic and social infrastructure in the developing world.

Carol Adelman, (Dir., Center for Science in Public Policy), AMERICA’S TOTAL ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT WITH THE DEVELOPING WORLD, June 28, 2005, 8. Now that Official Development Assistance makes up a much smaller part of the developing world economy and private flows of both philanthropy and investment prevail, the way we measure and think about foreign aid must change. In short, ODA is the handout of the last century. It is America's total economic engagement with the developing world that creates prosperity.

John Delury, (Prof., International Relations, Yonsei U., Seoul), AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY INTERESTS, Apr. 26, 2012, 71-72. Economic engagement includes state-backed assistance, market-based provincial trade, and long-term strategic investment. Assistance includes technical assistance, knowledge sharing and human capacity building – in effect, educating North Korean counterparts on the China model of market transition and authoritarian capitalism.

Engagement includes access to technology.

Richard Haas, (Dir., Foreign Policy Studies, Brookings Institution), SURVIVAL, SUMMER 2000, 114-115.

Architects of engagement strategies can choose from a wide variety of incentives. Economic engagement might offer tangible incentives such as export credits, investment insurance or promotion, access to technology, loans or economic aid. Other equally useful economic incentives involve the removal of penalties such as trade embargoes, investment bans or high tariffs, which have impeded economic relations between the United States and the target country.

Engagement can refer to the promotion of human rights.

L. Kathleen Roberts, (J.D. Candidate), BERKELEY JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, 2003, 638. In sum, when President Bush took office, mechanisms for human rights diplomacy were already in motion. The U.S. government was engaged in a multi-pronged strategy of multilateral, bilateral, and unilateral engagement with a variety of state and non-state actors to promote human rights goals.

Engagement can be non-government.

Richard Haas, (Dir., Foreign Policy Studies, Brookings Institution), SURVIVAL, SUMMER 2000, 115. While these areas of engagement are likely to involve working with state institutions, cultural or civil society engagement entails building people-to-people contacts. Funding non-governmental organizations, facilitating the flow of remittances and promoting the exchange of students, tourists and other non-governmental people between countries are just some of the possible incentives used in this form of engagement.

Economic Engagement

“Economic engagement” refers to capital flows, such as economic assistance.

Carol Adelman, (Dir., Center for Science in Public Policy), AMERICA’S TOTAL ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT WITH THE DEVELOPING WORLD, June 28, 2005, 1. The following table, using the latest official government figures as well, shows total U.S. economic engagement with developing countries. This engagement includes our government foreign aid or ODA, our private assistance or philanthropy, and our private capital flows or private investment overseas.

“Economic engagement” must refer to efforts to change the behavior of the target state.

Arda Celik, (Prof., International Studies, Uppsala U.), ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AND ENGAGEMENT POLICIES, 2011, 11. Economic engagement policies are strategic integration behavior which involves with the target state. Engagement policies differ from other tools in Economic Diplomacy. They target to deepen the economic relations to create economic intersection, interconnectedness, and mutual dependence and finally seeks economic interdependence. This interdependence serves the sender state to change the political behavior of the target state.

Arda Celik, (Prof., International Studies, Uppsala U.), ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AND ENGAGEMENT POLICIES, 2011, 11. Kahler and Kastner define the engagement policies as follows: “It is a policy of deliberately expanding economic ties with an adversary in order to change the behavior of the target state and improve bilateral relations.” It is an intentional economic strategy that expects

bigger benefits such as long term economic gains and, more importantly, political gains.

Miles Kahler & Scott Kastner, (Prof., International Relations, U. California at San Diego/Prof., Government, U. Maryland), *JOURNAL OF PEACE RESEARCH*, Sept. 2006, 524. Economic engagement – a policy of deliberately expanding economic ties with an adversary in order to change the behavior of the target state and improve bilateral political relations – is a subject of growing interest in international relations. Most research on economic statecraft emphasizes coercive policies such as economic sanctions. This emphasis on negative forms of economic statecraft is not without justification: the use of economic sanctions is widespread and well documented, and several quantitative studies have shown that adversarial relations between countries tend to correspond to reduced, rather than enhanced, levels of trade. At the same time, however, relatively little is known about how often strategies of economic engagement are deployed.

“Economic engagement” refers to an effort to bring other nations under U.S. economic influence.

54. Michael Mastanduno, (Prof., Government, Dartmouth College), *ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE AND INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT*, July 2010, 175.

Whatever one calls it, economic engagement is the subject of renewed interest among political scientists. It has profound policy significance as well. During the first decade following the Cold War, economic engagement proved to be the centerpiece of U.S. foreign policy toward its two most important potential competitors, Russia and China. In both cases, U.S. officials relied heavily on economic instruments in an effort to integrate would-be challengers into a U.S.-centered international order. The United States has also relied on economic incentives, since 1994, in an effort to dissuade North Korea from breaking out of the nuclear nonproliferation regime.

55. Michael Mastanduno, (Prof., Government, Dartmouth College), *ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE AND INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT*, July 2010, 178. How the Cold War ended is also relevant. Economic engagement proved to be a key factor in Gorbachev’s calculation that the Soviet Union should accept the risks and consequences inherent in the significant reform of its economy. Although Gorbachev eagerly anticipated the expansion of economic ties with the United States, the Cold War endgame was shaped even more profoundly by German economic statecraft.

“Economic engagement” is not the same as “political engagement.”

56. Kenneth Juster, (Former U.S. Undersecretary of Commerce), *HONEY AND VINEGAR: INCENTIVES, SANCTIONS, AND FOREIGN POLICY*, 2000, 62.

While moral indignation may underlie a policy of sanctions, other factors within the sanctioning country and among its friends and allies, such as commercial interests, people-to-people relationships, humanitarian concerns, and even historical ties, may eventually push policy in the direction of some form of engagement, especially economic engagement – which often is less visible publicly, and thus less contentious, than full-blown political engagement.

“Economic engagement” is distinguished from military or diplomatic engagement.

Richard Haas, (Dir., Foreign Policy Studies, Brookings Institution), SURVIVAL, SUMMER 2000, 115. Similarly, political engagement can involve the lure of diplomatic recognition, access to regional or international institutions, the scheduling of summits between leaders – or the termination of these benefits. Military engagement could involve the extension of international military-educational training in order both to strengthen respect for civilian authority and human rights among a country’s armed forces and, more feasibly, to establish relationships between Americans and young foreign military officers.

“Economic engagement” refers to positive incentives rather than negative ones.

Richard Haas, (Dir., Foreign Policy Studies, Brookings Institution), SURVIVAL, SUMMER 2000, 113-114. The term “engagement” was popularized in the early 1980s amid controversy about the Reagan administration’s policy of “constructive engagement” towards South Africa. However, the term itself remains a source of confusion. Except in the few instances where the U.S. has sought to isolate a regime or country, America arguably “engages” states and actors all the time simply by interacting with them. To be a meaningful subject of analysis, the term “engagement” must refer to something more specific than a policy of “non-isolation.” As used in this article, “engagement” refers to a foreign policy strategy which depends to a significant degree on positive incentives to achieve its objectives.

Richard Haas, (Dir., Foreign Policy Studies, Brookings Institution), SURVIVAL, SUMMER 2000, 114.

Certainly it does not preclude the simultaneous use of other foreign policy instruments such as sanctions or military force; in practice, there is often considerable overlap of strategies, particularly when the termination or lifting of sanctions is used as a positive inducement. The distinguishing feature of American engagement strategies is their reliance on the extension or provision of incentives to shape the behavior of countries with which the U.S. has important disagreements.

“Economic engagement” is not punitive.

Richard Haas, (Dir., Foreign Policy Studies, Brookings Institution), SURVIVAL, SUMMER 2000, 114. Today’s rapidly growing globalizing world, no longer beset by Cold War competitions, creates new possibilities for engagement as a foreign policy option. In particular, the growing recognition of the drawbacks of punitive policies in this new environment has spurred a search for alternative strategies. Economic engagement refers to measures designed to promote indigenous economic growth.

Bureau of Economic, Energy, and Business Affairs, U.S. Department of State, WHAT IS TOTAL ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT?, Jan. 17, 2009. Retrieved Jan. 9, 2013 from <http://2001-2009.state.gov/e/eeb/92986.htm>. Our goal, therefore, must be the creation of the right conditions for individual economic growth and success. We must cultivate conditions for private sector growth, investment and trade. This cannot be accomplished through Official Development Assistance

(ODA) funds alone. Foreign assistance must support a developing country's own effort to improve their economic climate. Total economic engagement is putting all of the players to the same plow.

There is no difference between “constructive engagement” and “economic engagement.”

Maria Welau, (Prof., International Relations, George Washington U.), CUBA IN TRANSITION, 1996, 456. Since the collapse of the Soviet Bloc, the Cuban government embarked on economic liberalization based on the adoption of capitalist mechanisms which include an opening to foreign investment. This has led to increasing claims abroad that engagement—particularly commercial engagement within the context of constructive engagement—is the policy instrument that will lead to economic and political reform and the eventual collapse of Castro's regime. Engagement, in fact, is the fundamental element of the foreign policy of most countries towards Cuba.

Maria Welau, (Prof., International Relations, George Washington U.), CUBA IN TRANSITION, 1996, 456. Although the term commercial engagement generally refers to diverse international commercial and financial transactions, we will use it primarily in reference to foreign investment. The term "constructive engagement" encompasses economic engagement and is normally used within the context of a more comprehensive diplomatic and political relationship.

Economic engagement includes many things.

Bureau of Economic, Energy, and Business Affairs, U.S. Department of State, WHAT IS TOTAL ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT?, Jan. 17, 2009. Retrieved Jan. 9, 2013 from <http://2001-2009.state.gov/e/eeb/92986.htm>. Total Economic Engagement seeks to integrate and coordinate all U.S. economic instruments and programs into our regional and country strategies. The Bureau of Economic, Energy and Business Affairs' (EEB) broad cross-section of economic disciplines, interagency contacts, and expertise in such areas as trade, finance, energy, development, transportation, and telecommunications help ensure this coordination.

Bureau of Economic, Energy, and Business Affairs, U.S. Department of State, WHAT IS TOTAL ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT?, Jan. 17, 2009. Retrieved Jan. 9, 2013 from <http://2001-2009.state.gov/e/eeb/92986.htm>. An accurate accounting of a nation's total engagement must include economic policies as well as, trade, remittances, and foreign direct investment. In these areas, the U.S. leads the world in total economic engagement with the developing world. The private donations of American citizens, military emergency aid and peacekeeping and government assistance provide the primary sources for development financing.

Richard Haas, (President, Council on Foreign Relations & Former Dir., Foreign Policy Studies, Brookings Institution), HONEY AND VINEGAR: INCENTIVES, SANCTIONS, AND FOREIGN POLICY, 2000, 5. Architects of engagement strategies have a wide variety of incentives from which to choose. Economic engagement might offer tangible incentives such as export credits, investment insurance or promotion, access to technology, loans, and economic aid. Other

equally useful economic incentives involve the removal of penalties, whether they be trade embargoes, investment bans, or high tariffs that have impeded economic relations between the United States and the target country. In addition, facilitated entry into the global economic arena and the institutions that govern it rank among the most potent incentives in today's global market.

Economic Engagement includes economic assistance.

Helen Milner, (Prof., Politics, Princeton U.), INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, Winter 2011, 58. Even though aid is a smaller part of the U.S. economy than trade, aid is often seen as an important means of economic engagement with the world economy.

Economic Engagement is an alternative to conflict.

Arda Celik, (Prof., International Studies, Uppsala U.), ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AND ENGAGEMENT POLICIES, 2011, 11. Economic engagement targets to seek deeper economic linkages via promoting institutionalized mutual trade thus mentioned interdependence creates two major concepts. Firstly it builds strong trade partnership to avoid possible militarized and non-militarized conflicts. Secondly it gives a leeway to perceive the international political atmosphere from the same and harmonized perspective.

Economic engagement is the opposite of the use of sanctions.

Miles Kahler & Scott Kastner, (Prof., International Relations, U. California at San Diego/Prof., Government, U. Maryland), JOURNAL OF PEACE RESEARCH, Sept. 2006, 523. While the determinants and effectiveness of economic sanctions have been the subject of a substantial and growing literature in international relations, much less attention has been given to economic engagement strategies, where a country deliberately expands economic ties with an adversary to change the target's behavior.

Economic engagement refers to the use of carrots rather than sticks.

Michael Mastanduno, (Prof., Government, Dartmouth College), ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE AND INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT, July 2010, 175. Under what circumstances does the cultivation of economic ties, that is, the fostering of economic interdependence as a conscious state strategy, lead to important and predictable changes in the foreign policy behavior of a target state? Students of economic statecraft refer to this strategy variously as economic engagement, economic inducement, economic diplomacy, positive sanctions, positive economic linkage, or the use of economic "carrots" instead of sticks. Critics of the strategy call it economic appeasement.

Economic engagement is the opposite of isolation.

Michael Mastanduno, (Prof., Government, Dartmouth College), ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE AND INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT, July 2010, 175-176. For at least a decade, the Washington policy community has been debating seriously whether economic engagement toward Cuba would serve U.S. interests

more effectively than the economic-isolation strategy that has been carried out by nine presidents across more than forty years.

Economic engagement includes remittances.

Richard Haass, (President, Council on Foreign Relations & Former Dir., Foreign Policy Studies, Brookings Institution), HONEY AND VINEGAR: INCENTIVES, SANCTIONS, AND FOREIGN POLICY, 2000, 185. In addition to these civic measures, the United States should also expand unconditional engagement with Cuba in economic matters, for several important reasons. Particularly given that America has few serious concerns about Cuban behavior abroad, no worries exist that foreign exchange that accrues to Cuba through economic engagement will fuel dangerous activities; in fact, the large volume of remittances that cross the Florida Straits to Cuba has already made America the second largest source of external capital for Cuba. In this situation, limited economic engagement is a low-risk strategy that can gradually promote internal changes as Cubans benefit from new economic opportunities with America.

Economic Engagement does not require concessions from the other country.

Miles Kahler & Scott Kastner, (Prof., International Relations, U. California at San Diego/Prof., Government, U. Maryland), JOURNAL OF PEACE RESEARCH, Sept. 2006, 524. Scholars have usefully distinguished between two types of economic engagement: conditional policies that require an explicit quid pro quo on the part of the target country and policies that are unconditional. Conditional policies, sometimes labeled linkage or economic ‘carrots’, are the inverse of economic sanctions. Instead of threatening a target country with economic loss (sanction) in the absence of policy change, conditional engagement policies promise increased economic benefits in return for desired policy change.

Miles Kahler & Scott Kastner, (Prof., International Relations, U. California at San Diego/Prof., Government, U. Maryland), JOURNAL OF PEACE RESEARCH, Sept. 2006, 525. Unconditional engagement strategies are more passive than conditional variants in that they do not include a specific quid pro quo. Rather, countries deploy economic links with an adversary in the hopes that economic interdependence itself will, over time, change the target’s foreign policy behavior and yield a reduced threat of military conflict.

Miroslav Nincik, (Prof., Political Science University of California, Davis), THE LOGIC OF POSITIVE ENGAGEMENT, 2011, g 112-113. The military-economic nexus provides a reason for thinking that interests directly connected to the regime and to dynamic segments of the Cuban economy might benefit from economic engagement with the United States. Not at the price of immediately abandoning the political system of which they are the product, but as being willing to make the required economic adjustments, along with the initially limited political changes, whose cumulative long-term implications are very desirable. This is not likely to result from explicit quid pro quos but from what the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations has termed "sequenced engagement." The idea is to make each U.S. step contingent on opportunities for catalysis, rather than on explicit counterconcessions.

Vicki Huddleston, (Co-Director, Brookings Institution Project on U.S. Policy Toward Cuba in Transition & now, Deputy Assistant U.S. Secretary of State), *LEARNING TO SALSA: NEW STEPS IN U.S.-CUBA RELATIONS*, 2010, 216. The history of conditionality shows that continuing that policy will be unlikely to put the two countries on a path toward normalization, whereas economic engagement is a force that cannot be controlled and opens up doors. Small-business formation could stimulate change, as could foreign investment, but Cuba's labor laws and monetary policy do not provide for a competitive environment. Property claims and demands for access to U.S.-held frozen Cuban assets will have to be resolved before real progress can be made on the economic side.

Richard Haas, (Dir., Foreign Policy Studies, Brookings Institution), *SURVIVAL*, SUMMER 2000, 114. Many different types of engagement strategies exist, depending on who is engaged, the kind of incentives employed, and the sorts of objectives pursued. Engagement may be conditional when it entails a negotiated series of exchanges, such as where the U.S. extends positive inducements for changes undertaken by the target country. Or engagement may be unconditional if it offers modifications in U.S. policy towards a country without the explicit expectation that a reciprocal act will follow. Generally, conditional engagement is geared towards a government; unconditional engagement works with a country's civil society or private actor in the hope of promoting forces that will eventually facilitate cooperation.

Toward

Potential Wordings

1. Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its economic engagement with one or more of the following countries: Iran, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and/or Libya.
2. Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its diplomatic engagement with one or more of the following countries: Iran, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and/or Libya.
3. Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its humanitarian assistance with one or more of the following countries: Iran, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and/or Libya.
4. Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its protections of women's rights in one or more of the following countries: Iran, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and/or Libya.

5. Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially change its foreign policy towards one or more of the following countries: Iran, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and/or Libya.

6. Resolved: The United States federal government should promote political stability in one or more of the following countries: Iran, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and/or Libya.

7. Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its democracy promotion in one or more of the following countries: Iran, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and/or Libya.

Bibliography

- Abomo, Paul Tang. *R2P And the US Intervention in Libya*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.
- ABOUZEID, RANIA. *NO TURNING BACK: Life, Loss, and Hope in Wartime Syria*. W W NORTON, 2018.
- Al Halbusi, Hussam. *Strategic Foreign Direct Investment Decision-Making Process: A Study of the Global Competition in Northern Iraq Paperback*. Lambert Academic, 2016.
- Al Jazeera. *ISIL Suicide Attack on Iraq Power Plant Kills Seven*. 2 Sept. 2017, www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/09/isil-suicide-attack-iraq-power-plant-kills-170902143706476.html.
- Alamuddin, Baria. *As Sanctions Bite, Confused Western Policies Let Iran off the Hook*. 24 June 2018, www.arabnews.com/node/1327166.
- Aldana, Raquel. "The Travel Ban in Numbers: Why Families and Refugees Lose Big." *The Conversation*, The Conversation, 12 July 2018, theconversation.com/the-travel-ban-in-numbers-why-families-and-refugees-lose-big-99064.
- Amnesty International. "Saudi Arabia: Women Now Allowed to Drive, but More Reforms Must Follow." *Palm Oil and Human Rights: What You Need to Know*, Amnesty International, 21 June 2018, www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/06/saudi-arabia-women-now-allowed-to-drive-but-more-reforms-must-follow/.
- Amnesty International. "Libya: Women Human Rights Defenders Still under Attack, Four Years after Activist's Assassination." *Palm Oil and Human Rights: What You Need to Know*, 25 June 2018, www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/06/libya-women-human-rights-defenders-still-under-attack-four-years-after-activists-assassination/.
- Arango, Tim. 'You Have Let Us Down, Trump': Iraqis See U.S. Relations Recast. 22 Dec. 2017, www.nytimes.com/2017/01/30/world/middleeast/iraq-trump-refugee-ban.html.
- BBC. "Why Is There a War in Syria?" *BBC News*, BBC, 15 Mar. 2018, www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-35806229.
- Bennis, Phyllis. *ISIS and Syria: the New Global War on Terror*. New Internationalist Publications Ltd, 2016.
- Carlisle, Jessica. *Muslim Divorce in the Middle East. Contesting Gender in the Contemporary Courts*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.
- Dam, Nikolaos van. *Destroying a Nation: the Civil War in Syria*. I.B. Tauris, 2017.
- El Gamal, Rania, and Alex Lawler. "Exclusive: OPEC's New Price Hawk Saudi Arabia Seeks Oil as High as..." *Reuters*, Thomson Reuters, 18 Apr. 2018, www.reuters.com/article/us-opec-oil-exclusive/exclusive-opecs-new-price-hawk-saudi-arabia-seeks-oil-as-high-as-100-sources-idUSKBN1HP1LB.
- Fry, Erika. "What Do Women in Saudi Arabia Really Want? More Choices." *Fortune*, Fortune, 12 June 2018, fortune.com/2018/06/12/saudi-arabia-women-rights/.

- Gonzalez, Steven. *Fighting Saddam in Iraq and Isis in Syria*. Iuniverse Inc, 2017.
- Goreishi, Shahed. *Iran's Destabilization Is Not in U.S. Interest*. 11 July 2018, lobelog.com/irans-destabilization-is-not-in-u-s-interest/.
- Haltiwanger, John. *ISIS Is Trying to Make a Comeback by Creating Chaos with Assassinations - the Same Tactic It Employed before It Rose to Power 5 Years Ago*. 9 July 2018, www.stamfordadvocate.com/technology/businessinsider/article/ISIS-is-trying-to-make-a-comeback-by-creating-13057978.php.
- Harris, Bryant. "Congress Rebukes Lebanon over Syrian Refugee Transfers." *Al-Monitor*, 9 July 2018, www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2018/07/congress-rebuke-lebanon-syria-refugee-transfers.html.
- House, Karen Elliott. *On Saudi Arabia: Its People, Past, Religion, Fault Lines and Future*. Alfred A. Knopf, 2013.
- Hubbard, Ben. "Wives and Children of ISIS: Warehoused in Syria, Unwanted Back Home." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 5 July 2018, www.nytimes.com/2018/07/04/world/middleeast/islamic-state-families-syria.html.
- International Business Publications. *Iraq Energy Policy, Laws and Regulations Handbook 2011: Strategic Information and Regulations*. Intl Business Pubns Usa, 2009.
- Karimi, NASSER. *Iran Summons 3 European Envoys over Its Detained Diplomat*. 5 July 2018, www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/article214350484.html.
- Kofas, Jon V. "Libya: War Against Civilians - the U.S. in Libya and Yemen." *AllAfrica.com*, 5 July 2018, allafrica.com/stories/201807050720.html.
- Kraft, Dina. "Syrian Civil War, on Israel's Doorstep, Brings Swirl of Changing Attitudes." *The Christian Science Monitor*, The Christian Science Monitor, 11 July 2018, www.csmonitor.com/World/Middle-East/2018/0711/Syrian-civil-war-on-Israel-s-doorstep-brings-swirl-of-changing-attitudes.
- Lee, Matthew, and Jon Gambrell. *Pompeo Accuses Iran of Using Embassies for Terror Plots*. 10 July 2018, foxbaltimore.com/news/nation-world/pompeo-accuses-iran-of-using-embassies-for-terror-plots.
- Lemon, Jason. *Saudi Arabia Wants to Be a Nuclear Power and Israel Has Demands, Report Says*. 9 July 2018, www.newsweek.com/saudi-arabia-wants-be-nuclear-power-israel-has-demands-report-says-1014574.
- Leonard, John-Paul, et al. *ISIS Is Us: the Shocking Truth behind the Army of Terror*. Progressive Press, 2016.
- Lewis, William C. *Libya and Guatemala: Oil and Bananas: U.S. Bombed Libya The Last Seven Years More than Pakistan, Somalia and Yemen*. 2018.
- Loizeau, Manon. "Women of Honour: Speaking out on Rape in Syria." *Israeli-Palestinian Conflict | Al Jazeera*, Al Jazeera, 19 June 2018, www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/women-honour-speaking-rape-syria-180619111921852.html.
- Lynch, Marc. *Analysis | What Saudi Arabia's Purge Means for the Middle East*. 6 Nov. 2017, www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-

- cage/wp/2017/11/06/what-saudi-arabias-purge-means-for-the-middle-east/?utm_term=.b471f2e10bba.
- Mach, Magdalena. "Severe Human Rights Violations in Libya." *Words in the Bucket*, 18 Dec. 2017, www.wordsinthebucket.com/severe-human-rights-violations-libya.
- McLaughlin, Michael. *How America Can Counter Russia and Iran*. 21 June 2018, nationalinterest.org/feature/how-america-can-counter-russia-iran-26372.
- Monier, Elizabeth. "The Arabness of Middle East Regionalism: the Arab Spring and Competition for Discursive Hegemony between Egypt, Iran and Turkey. ." *Contemporary Politics*, vol. 20, no. 4, Dec. 2014, pp. 421–434. *Ebscohost*.
- Osborne, Samuel. "Iranian Woman 'Sentenced to 20 Years in Prison' for Removing Her Headscarf in Protest." *The Independent*, Independent Digital News and Media, 10 July 2018, www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/iran-woman-hijab-protest-arrest-jailed-prison-shapark-shajarizadeh-headscarf-white-wednesdays-a8439816.html.
- PEARLMAN, WENDY. *WE CROSSED A BRIDGE AND IT TREMBLED: Voices from Syria*. CUSTOM HOUSE, 2018.
- Phillips, Christopher. *The Battle for Syria: International Rivalry in the New Middle East*. Yale University Press, 2018.
- Raju, Manu, and Elizabeth Landers. "Corker: Trump Rhetoric 'Diminishing' American Leadership around the World." *CNN*, Cable News Network, 11 July 2018, www.cnn.com/2018/07/11/politics/bob-corker-trump-america/index.html.
- Rezaei, Farhad. *Iran's Nuclear Program: A Study in Proliferation and Rollback*. Springer Nature, 2017.
- Riedel, Bruce. *Kings and Presidents: Saudi Arabia and the United States since FDR*. Brookings Institution Press, 2017.
- Sewell, Abby. "New Worries Over Refugee Aid." *U.S. News & World Report*, U.S. News & World Report, www.usnews.com/news/best-countries/articles/2018-06-18/flagging-international-aid-worsens-conditions-for-syrian-refugees.
- Sharif, Osama Al. "Syrian Truce Relieves Pressure on Jordan's Border." *Al-Monitor*, 10 July 2018, www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2018/07/jordan-syria-rebels-regime-control-south-nassib-crossing.html.
- Slobe, Erik. "Amnesty Calls on Libya to Protect Women Human Rights Defenders." *JURIST - History of the Pregnancy Discrimination Act*, 26 June 2018, www.jurist.org/news/2018/06/amnesty-calls-on-libya-to-protect-women-human-rights-defenders/.
- Sprak, Joseph. *Atrocities Committed By ISIS in Syria & Iraq: ISIL/Islamic State/Daesh*. Createspace Independent Publishing, 2014.
- Stevenson, Struan. *Iran on Verge of Political Volcanic Eruption*. 5 July 2018, www.upi.com/Top_News/Voices/2018/07/05/Iran-on-verge-of-political-volcanic-eruption/8341530791098/.

- T, Kurt. *Islamic State Operatives Sabotage Iraqi Infrastructure by Attacking the Power Grid*. 28 May 2018, sofrep.com/103805/islamic-state-operatives-sabotage-iraqi-infrastructure-by-attacking-the-power-grid/.
- Turse, Nick, et al. "The U.S. Has Conducted 550 Drone Strikes in Libya Since 2011 - More Than in Somalia, Yemen, or Pakistan." *The Intercept*, 20 June 2018, theintercept.com/2018/06/20/libya-us-drone-strikes/.
- VOA. *Future of U.S.-Iraq Relations*. 31 Jan. 2018, editorials.voa.gov/a/future-us-iraq-relations/4231499.html.
- Wald, Ellen R. *Saudi, Inc.: The Arabian Kingdom's Pursuit of Profit and Power*. Pegasus Books, 2018.
- Wehrey, Frederic M. *The Burning Shores: inside the Battle for the New Libya*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2018.
- Yaghoubian, David N. *Ethnicity, Identity, and the Development of Nationalism in Iran*. Syracuse University Press, 2014.
- Zavis, Alexandra. *In Saudi Arabia, Pompeo Calls Iran 'the Greatest Sponsor of Terrorism in the World'*. 29 Apr. 2018, www.latimes.com/politics/la-na-pol-essential-washington-updates-in-saudi-arabia-pompeo-calls-iran-the-1525019428-htmlstory.html#.
- Zeller, Frank. *Iran Talks Aim to Save Nuclear Deal after US Pullout*. 6 July 2018, www.yahoo.com/news/iran-talks-aim-save-nuclear-deal-us-pullout-021013046.html.

NFHS Topic Proposal: Middle East

Author's Preferred Resolutions:

1. Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially change its foreign policy towards one or more of the following countries: Iran, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and/or Libya.
2. Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its economic engagement with one or more of the following countries: Iran, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and/or Libya.
3. Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its diplomatic engagement with one or more of the following countries: Iran, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and/or Libya.
4. Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its humanitarian assistance with one or more of the following countries: Iran, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and/or Libya.
5. Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its protections of women's rights in one or more of the following countries: Iran, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and/or Libya.

Possible Iran Affirmatives

1. End protester delegitimization
2. New Nuclear Deal (possible strings of decreasing human rights abuses)
3. Sanctions
4. Economic incentives
5. Soften rhetoric on Iran
6. Increase protections for women's rights

Possible Iraq Affirmatives

1. Repeal Travel Ban
2. Increase chances for Iraqi nationals to study abroad
3. Nation building
4. Investment in Iraqi infrastructure
5. Provide energy security
6. Investment in Iraqi energy infrastructure

Possible Syria Affirmatives

1. Military intervention
2. Diplomatic solutions (e.g. negotiating peace accords)
3. Provide humanitarian aid in the form of supplies, medicine, etc.
4. Increase protections for women's rights
5. Syrian refugee
6. Civilian displacement solutions

7. Asylum for wives of renounced ISIS members
8. Repeal Travel Ban

Possible Saudi Arabia Affirmatives

1. Build nuclear reactors in Saudi Arabia quid pro quo
2. Resolve the stalemate between Qatar and Saudi Arabia
3. Diplomatically arrange a solution to the Saudi invasion of Yemen
4. Military intervention, in conjunction with Saudi Arabia, into Yemen
5. Increase oil purchased from Saudi Arabia

Possible Libya Affirmatives

1. End drone strikes in Libya
2. Chance AUMF to include Libya (restrict usage)
3. Military intervention in Libya
4. End arms sales to Libya
5. Humanitarian aid (food, supplies, medicine, etc.)

Debatability

This topic would be debatable for children across the nation, no matter their experience. Beginning debaters can tackle issues that deal directly with one country and also policies that would be overarching across multiple countries. In addition to this, seasoned debaters would have access to the questions behind policy assumptions we make and the ramifications they would have on the rest of the world. Some affirmative advantage areas could include: Soft Power, Hegemony, Economic Growth, Morality, relations scenarios (depending on the country), and the ending of suffering.

Negative teams have a variety of arguments they can make against affirmatives. The literature is ripe for process, PIC, and alternate actor CPs. In addition to those, there are environmental CPs out there to answer affirmatives that deal with energy security. Negatives have a wealth of international and domestic (US and other countries) political scenarios they could read, depending on what affirmative they are answering. Negatives also have a plethora of kritikal arguments at their disposal including IR Ks, Econ Ks, and Identity Ks.

Topic Synopsis

The Middle East offer a chance for us to debate this region of the globe directly while also giving children the opportunity to predict how policy decisions impact the globe. Affirmatives can advocate for some type of military intervention, diplomatic engagement, or economic engagement with one of the listed Middle East countries. Defenders of the status quo can argue that the policies we have in place a key to continuing the “War on Terror” or that the affirmative plans spurns some kind of international backlash/diminishes US standing around the globe. Examples of possible affirmative cases include protecting women’s rights in, one or more countries, advocating for military intervention, in one or more countries, pursuing diplomatic solutions to conflicts, or attempting to engage economically (whether that be sanctions or otherwise).

Negative teams can focus on the problems associated with the United States attempting to help countries in the Middle East (exploitation, hasn't worked in the past, etc.). Negatives also have a wealth of process CPs, relations DAs, PICs and kritikal arguments to challenge the standing of the affirmative they are debating.