The United States should significantly contest Chinese influence in Latin America.

Hi all,

I have crafted a few different resolutions. I tried to meet the following criteria while making these:

1. Resolution came from a currently noteworthy topic.

2. Resolution has a term of art or phrase that yields specific and useful information during a google search.

3. Intuitive and tenable ground for both sides.

I am somewhat worried that several of the resolutions rely too much on finding the exact search term to use if the teams don't already know something about the area. While I think it's good to reward more literate teams, I don't know how to balance this against very specific resolutions which will result in bad debates for less knowledgable teams.

I have included the articles I drew solvency mechanisms/ideas from as well as commentary in case that will be helpful. Please revise as necessary.

Best,

Will

EU IMMIGRATION

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I have included several possible resolutions on the immigration crisis in Europe. I found it very hard to write resolutions for this area for two reasons:

1. Immigration seems inevitable: this hijacks uniqueness for most neg stratslike EU dissolution, budget DAs, right-wing backlash, terrorism, etc. No source I have read has any belief that the EU will be able to stem the tide of migrants.

2. Solvency mechanisms: the solvency mechanisms are pretty sparse. Foreign Affairs, CFR, etc. have great resources on the scope of the problem, but I cant find a lot of easily accessible solutions. While there are some specific ideas that I think have a division of ground, I worry that they are bad because finding information about them rapidly in prep requires very precise search terms and a bit of luck.

Articles

http://www.cfr.org/migration/europes-migration-crisis/p32874

http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/09/16/us-europe-migrants-benefits-factbox-idUSKCN0RG1MJ20150916

http://www.cfr.org/europe/borderline-chaos-eus-new-challenge/p36981

http://www.economist.com/news/europe/21662597-asylum-seekers-economic-migrants-and-residents-all-stripes-fret-over-their-place-looking

http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-33986738

1. The European Union should prosecute member countries under non-discrimination laws that select migrants based on religion.

2. The European Union should fund the construction of asylum centers outside its borders and give preference to asylum seekers who use them.

3. The European Union should grant asylum seekers the right to work on their moment of arrival.

4. The European Union should increase the number of each immigrants each member state must accept in the next two years by 5 fold.

5. The European Union should significantly reduce the number of asylum seekers it accepts.

ASIA

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In addition to the resolutions below I think it would be valuable to include a resolution on the possible cyber warfare treaty that is supposedly being negotiated by China and the US. I did not include it because it appears that a significant announcement will be released tomorrow at the conclusion of Xi Jinping's visit. Definitely would be happy to look at it then and add one if you'd like.

Articles

http://thediplomat.com/2015/09/okinawa-base-issue-heats-up-as-governor-rescinds-construction-approval/

http://thediplomat.com/2015/03/okinawa-pushes-back-against-us-base-relocation/

http://thediplomat.com/2015/09/revise-the-plan-to-build-the-u-s-marine-air-base-in-henoko-okinawa/

http://www.military.com/daily-news/2015/04/06/okinawa-protests-intensify-futenma-relocation-construction-begin.html

http://www.cfr.org/burmamyanmar/rohingya-migrant-crisis/p36651

http://thediplomat.com/2015/08/protecting-the-rohingya-muslims-in-burma/

http://thediplomat.com/2015/06/why-china-is-stopping-its-south-china-sea-island-building-for-now/

http://www.gtreview.com/news/asia/xi-jinping-reiterates-us-invitation-to-aiib/

http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/07/30/world/asia/what-china-has-been-building-in-the-south-china-sea.html?\_r=0

1. The United States should significantly reduce its military footprint on the island of Okinawa.

2. The United States should pressure Burma to grant citizenship to the Rohingya.

3. The United States should significantly increase pressure on China over its island building in the South China Sea.

4. The United States should join the Asian Infrastructure Bank.

AUTONOMOUS WEAPONS

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A debate with big impacts both ways - intuitive stuff for both sides here.

1. The United States Federal Government should ban the use and development of lethal autonomous weapons systems by it's military.

VW SCANDAL

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The VW scandal is hot right now and I think could form the basis of some interesting debate. I think the best angle for this is the discussion of the 'openness' of the source code that vehicles carry. This has the advantage of intersecting with a really interesting debate on ownership of things like tractors due to the code in them. These resolutions are very specific, but I attempted to make them easily searchable so that aff's could grasp their ground rapidly. Only one of resolution 1 and 2 should be used: they delineate the same ground, but 1 is specific to the way it would actually have to occur as I understand.

Articles

http://www.wired.com/2015/09/epa-opposes-rules-couldve-exposed-vws-cheating/

http://www.nytimes.com/2015/09/23/nyregion/volkswagens-diesel-fraud-makes-critic-of-secret-code-a-prophet.html?smid=fb-nytimes&smtyp=cur&\_r=0

http://www.wired.com/2015/04/dmca-ownership-john-deere/

1. The Library of Congress should issue an exemption to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act making it legal to reverse engineer the source code of vehicles sold in the United States.

2. The United States Federal Government should require vehicles sold in the United States to have publicly auditable source code.

CHINA AND SOUTH AMERICA

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Debates about clashes between the US and China usually happen in the context of the South China Sea and/or Africa. Latin America is also an area of competition that I think would be valuable to look at.

1. The United States should significantly contest Chinese influence in Latin America.

ISIS, IRAQ, AND SYRIA

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Perennial topics here. Barrel-bombs are a more recent topic by virtue of Petraeus's comments. Resolutions 1 and 2 have the aff defending opposite general strategies, perhaps only 1 of them should be chosen.

1. The United States should deploy active ground forces to fight ISIS in Iraq.

2. The United States should cease military operations in Iraq and Syria.

3. The United States should take military action to stop the use of barrel-bombs by the Syrian military.

ECOLOGY TOPICS

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Neonicotinoid pesticides are banned in the EU and may contribute to decline of keystone species like monarchs and bees. However, lots of controversy over this research, and recent changes due to banning of sulfoxaflor about 2 weeks ago. Synthetic biology is a big upcoming topic. Prominent in the news recently because of the researchers at Stanford who figured out how to make yeast produce opioid compounds.

Articles

https://www.newscientist.com/article/dn28167-bees-win-as-us-court-rules-against-neonicotinoid-pesticide/

http://thebulletin.org/myths-and-realities-synthetic-bioweapons7626

http://www.technologyreview.com/news/406067/keeping-synthetic-biology-away-from-terrorists/

http://blogs.cfr.org/zenko/2015/02/13/guest-post-the-unknown-limits-of-synthetic-biology/

http://www.cfr.org/health/mitigating-risks-synthetic-biology/p36097?cid=otr-marketing\_use-synthetic\_biology

http://www.psmag.com/health-and-behavior/air-pollution-is-still-killing-us

1. The USDA should ban neonicotinoid pesticide use in the United States.

2. The United States Federal government should take significant action to mitigate the risk of or from harmful misuse of synthetic biology. \*Note: I took this language almost verbatim from a CFR report (http://www.cfr.org/health/mitigating-risks-synthetic-biology/p36097?cid=otr-marketing\_use-synthetic\_biology).

3. The EPA should establish significantly stricter rules on particulate pollutants pollution and/or NO2 pollution.

ECONOMY TOPICS

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1. The United States Federal Government should guarantee a universal basic income.

**2. The United States Federal Government should limit prices of drugs whose patents have expired.**

RANDOM TOPIC

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Might be a little uncomfortable, but maybe could be amended or spark some really cool debates from perspectives we don't usually involve.

http://www.dw.com/en/a-slippery-decision-chevron-oil-pollution-in-ecuador/a-18697563

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/15/world/americas/15ecuador.html

1. Union of People Affected by the Operations of Texaco should adopt an extra-legal strategy to force Chevron to comply with the 2011 ruling by Judge Nicolás Zambrano.