Affirmative Novice Packet Contents

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# Introduction:

Welcome to the WUDL Novice Affirmative Evidence Set. In here, you’ll find all the research you need to construct winning negative arguments in the Novice Division and beyond on this year’s topic, Arms Sales. Remember, the goal of the affirmative is to propose a policy change, and show why it would be a good idea and how it would work. We’ve organized this evidence into a few different types of arguments:

* **Samples 1st Affirmative Constructive (1AC):** These are sample affirmative cases that you can use as is, or adjust as you see fit using the evidence in this packet. The idea is to show what a solid affirmative case looks like, to show how arguments are constructed, and how evidence is integrated into the case.
* **2AC Answers:** The negative team is going to have a lot to say about your case, and you will need additional resources to answer their arguments. This is where you’ll look to find these answers.

**How to use this file:**

The file is organized by argument type, and which speech evidence should be used.

1. Read the summaries of each argument available in the packet.
2. Check out the glossary to make sure you understand all of the words and terms.
3. Read and highlight the evidence, making sure you understand the argument being made and pulling out the key parts of each piece of evidence.

When you are ready to debate:

1. Choose an affirmative, (End Small Arms Sales, or Saudi Arabia), and prepare a 1st affirmative constructive (1AC).
2. Expand on those initial arguments in the second affirmative constructive (2AC) and the first affirmative rebuttal (1AR).
3. Make a closing statement in the second affirmative rebuttal (2AR), explaining why the Affirmative team’s arguments are more important than those made by the negative team.

# Being Affirmative:

The goal of the affirmative is simple: Prove that the plan presented in your first speech is a good idea. The more you focus on the plan and why it is a good idea, the more often you’ll win debates.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Speech** | **Time (Minutes)** |
| **1st Affirmative Constructive (1AC)** | **8** |
| **2nd Negative Speaker Questions 1st Affirmative Speaker** | **3** |
| **1st Negative Constructive (1NC)** | **8** |
| **1st Affirmative Speaker Questions 1st Negative Speaker** | **3** |
| **2nd Affirmative Constructive (2AC)** | **8** |
| **1st Negative Speaker Questions 2nd Affirmative Speaker** | **3** |
| **2nd Negative Constructive (2NC)** | **8** |
| **2nd Affirmative Speaker Questions 2nd Negative Speaker** | **3** |
| **1st Negative Rebuttal (1NR)** | **5** |
| **1st Affirmative Rebuttal (1AR)** | **5** |
| **2nd Negative Rebuttal (Closing Statement) (2NR)** | **5** |
| **2nd Affirmative Rebuttal (Closing Statement) (2AR)** | **5** |

**Speaking Roles on the Negative:**

* **1st Affirmative Speaker:** Your job is to introduce the case in a powerful and persuasive manner in the first affirmative constructive (1AC), including a lot of arguments and evidence that can be used later in the debater. Then, in the first affirmative rebuttal (1AR), you need to keep your key arguments alive and hand some good ideas off to your partner to finish the debate.
* **2nd Affirmative Speaker:** Your job is to expand upon the key affirmative ideas and defend the case from negative attacks in the second affirmative constructive (2AC). You also give the last speech in the debate, where you need to make sense of all of the evidence and arguments that have been made and explain how your team should come out victorious.

**Phases of a Debate:**

1. **1AC:** Outline a few different reasons why the affirmative is a good idea and how it works.
2. **2AC/1AR:** The idea in both of these speeches is to keep at least one good reason to vote for the affirmative team alive and answer all of the negative attacks against the case. **2AR:** The last speech in the debate is to clarify and persuade the judge why your team is going to win, focusing on your strongest remaining arguments. Tell the judge why your team should win.

# Argument Overview:

There are two affirmative cases in this file. Choose one of them to use when you are the affirmative team (but be prepared to answer both when you are the negative team).

**Saudi Arabia Affirmative:** The United States is selling an array of weapons to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. They are using these weapons to wage war in Yemen, killing thousands of civilians and violating human rights. We should end our arm sales to Saudi Arabia to end the war and save lives.

**Small Arms Affirmative:** The United States is the world’s largest seller of small arms and ammunition. These are the weapons that actually get used to kill people, machine guns and bullets are the biggest global killers and are used in every war-zone. Easy access to weapons and ammo makes people more likely to wage war, and makes existing religious, ethnic, and other conflicts more violent. Ending the sale of small arms would reduce the global availability of these weapons and reduce global violence.

# Saudi Arabia Background:

The Middle East is a region that ranges from Turkey in the North, Sudan in the South, Libya to the West, and Iran and Afghanistan to the East. The Middle East is often associated with Islam, although it is home to many other religions, and the birthplace of Judaism and Christianity. It is also a melting pot of different ethnic and tribal identities, including Turks, Arabs, Bedouins, Copts, and Kurds. 

The Middle East has long been a contested geographic region, contested by many empires, including the Babylonians, Romans, Greeks, and Parthians/ Persians. The successors to the Prophet Muhammad inspired Islamic Caliphates to conquer much of the Mediterreanean world, from modern day Saudi Arabia to Spain. Eventually, the Ottoman Empire (from modern day Turkey) established a level of stability by ruling over a multi-ethnic feudal society for several centuries. At its peak, the Ottoman Empire was the predominant power, almost conquering Europe and the center of learning and scientific advancement when most of Europe was still mired in the Dark Ages.

Different interpretations of the Prophet's words and succession disputes resulted in political and military conflicts between his successors and split Islam roughly into Shia (Shiite) and Sunni Muslims (as well as a host of other smaller groups). Sunni Islam is pre-dominant in Saudi Arabia, and the Persian Gulf, while Shia Islam is dominant in Iran and most of Iraq.

As society industrialized, the demand for energy to power the industrial revolution (cars, factories, tanks, planes, etc.) became insatiable. Much of the easily accessible oil fields were found in the Middle East, but the Ottoman Empire was slow to capitalize on this key resource. The Ottoman Empire fought on the side of Germany in World War 1, and was invaded and occupied French and British soldiers seeking to destabilize the Ottoman Empire and secure access to oil. They succeeded, inspiring rebellions and independence movements across the region, collapsing the Ottoman Empire.

One of these independence movements occurred in the Arabian Penninsula, where the Al Saud family formed an alliance with Wahabi muslim clerics (a conservative branch of Sunni Islam) to form what is now the modern state of Saudi Arabia. Much of the rest of the Middle East was occupied by Europeans, who arbitrarily drew borders to suit their colonial needs that ignored the social and political divisions of the people who actually lived in the region. After World War Two, the European powers gave up their colonial claims, and new nations sprung forth from their former colonies. Many of these borders were illogically drawn, dividing tribal and religious groups with arbitrarily drawn lines.

The history of the Middle East has been defined by several overlapping forces: religion (spiritual and political Islam), ethnic/tribal identity, oil, and colonialism. These forces continue to shape the modern politics of the region today, and will be underlying concepts for this case.

**Modern Saudi Arabia:**

Saudi Arabia is a large nation ruled by a royal family, the Al Sauds. They claim a divine right to rule based on their ability to trace their ancestry back to the Prophet Muhammad and his successors, the founder of modern Islam. Social conservatism from the Wahabis remains a defining feature of the country today (for example, Saudi women only got the right to drive in Summer 2018, and still don’t have many rights). The Saudi royal family (and government, which are basically the same thing) is fabulously wealthy, because Saudi Arabia is home to many of the world's largest and most accessible oil wells. This energy resource has given the royal family fabulous wealth and made their rule unaccountable to the common person, since most of their wealth and power doesn't come from popular consent or a broad base of taxpayers.

**Modern Iran:**

Iran was an early democracy in the Middle East, but the CIA overthrew a popularly elected leader who they thought would endanger western access to/dominance of Iranian oil. The pro-western government was short-lived, and was overthrown by Muslim clerics who set up a theocracy (government by religion). During the revolution, many Americans were held hostage, and US-Iranian relations have never been very positive. Iran has frequently supported Anti-American and Anti-Israel causes across the region, such as anti-American militias in Iraq and the Assad government in Syria.

**Saudi-Iranian Competition:**

Saudi Arabia is competing for regional superiority with Iran. This conflict is based in questions of religion (Shia versus Sunni Islam) and identity (Saudi Arabians are generally ethnic Arabs who speak Arabic, while Iranians are generally ethnic Persians and speak Farsi). The conflict is also geo-political, about what the future of the region is supposed to look like, and who the Middle East should look to for leadership. Both nations are building up their military capabilities through arms purchases (Saudi Arabia mostly buying from the United States, and Iran mostly buying from Russia and China), and hunting for allies.

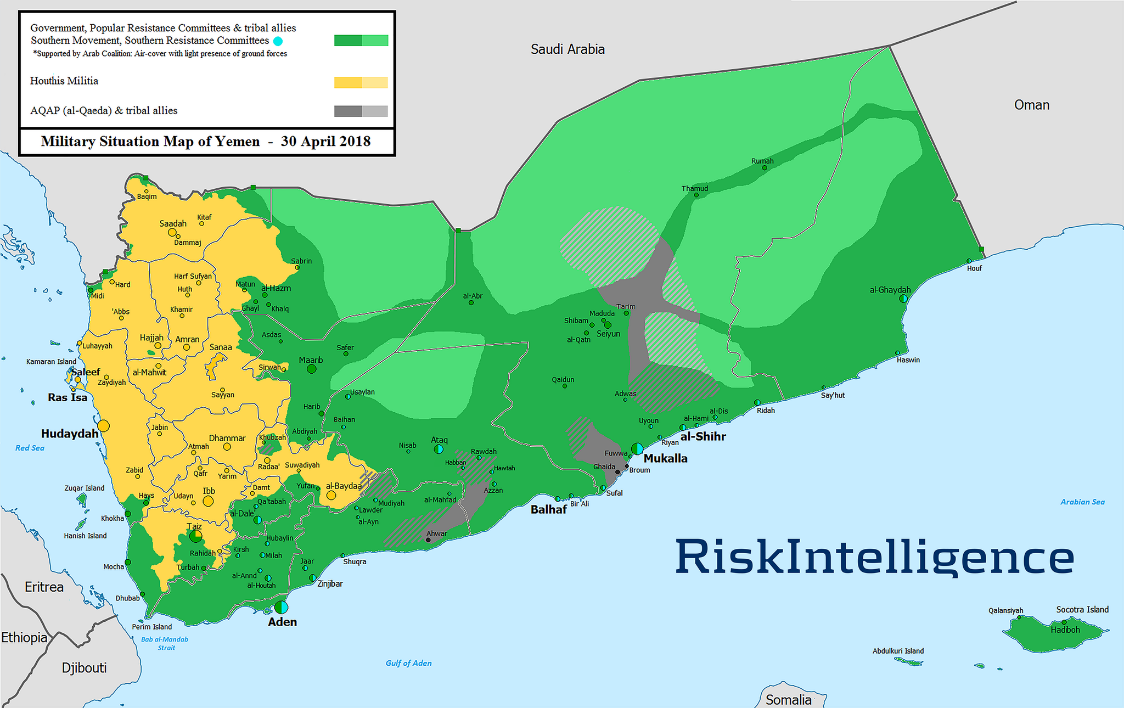
While the Iranians don't have many allied nations in the region, Iran works with a number of non-state actors across the region (supporting Shiite militias in Iraq, Hezbollah in Lebanon, and Hamas in Palestine). Saudi Arabia is generally allied with most of its Sunni neighbors in the Persian Gulf, such as Oman and the United Arab Emirates. On the question of Iran, Israel and Saudi Arabia are also generally in agreement, as Iran's religious government is more hostile to the existence of a Jewish state in the Middle East.

**Nuclear Weapons:**

Iran and Saudi Arabia have both considered building nuclear weapons. Saudi Arabia has largely been persuaded not to do so by the United States and our promises of protection, but Iran sees nuclear weapons as a way to ensure that the US, Saudi Arabia, and Israel don't have a significant military advantage over them. President Obama worked with major world powers to sign a treaty with Iran, removing economic sanctions in exchange for Iran ending its nuclear weapons program. President Trump pulled out of this deal, and Iran has re-started its pursuit of nuclear weapons, alarming Saudi Arabia and Israel. Both nations have an incentive to attack Iran militarily to prevent them from completing nuclear weapons.

**Conflict in Yemen:**

The conflict between the two nations has emerged most directly in Yemen, a poor nation at the end of the Arabian Peninsula. Unlike most of the Middle East, Yemen does not have oil wealth, leaving them at a large economic disadvantage. The country has struggled with civil strife, famine, poverty, and a lack of water for much of the past decade.

Right now, a tribal/political group known as the Houthis (Yellow, below) has taken control of large parts of Yemen, including the capital city and most population centers. Their tribal group also extends into parts of Saudi Arabia, as many of the borders in the Middle East were drawn arbitrarily without concern for those who live there. The Houthis represent a threat to Saudi Arabia, who has begun an extensive military campaign against them, mainly using arms sold to them by the United States. Their bombing campaign has killed tens of thousands of civilians directly, and made the lack of water and food in many parts of Yemen much worse, endangering many more people. 

The Saudi government accuses the Houthis of being another rebel group armed by the Iranians. Most experts assert that originally, the Houthis were not aligned with Iran, but are increasingly embracing Iranian assistance to counter the attacks by Saudi Arabia (with US support). Regardless of the origins of the conflict, Saudi Arabia believes that they are allied with Iran, and it is increasingly true.

This affirmative case discusses the US role supporting Saudi Arabia in the conflict between the government of Saudi Arabia and the Houthis of Yemen (and their potential Iranian supporters). It has broader regional implications for the balance of power (and arms race) between Saudi Arabia and Iran, and peace and stability of the broader Middle East.

# Saudi Arabia Affirmative Glossary of Terms:

**Saudi Arabia:** A large, oil rich nation in the Middle East. Saudi Arabia is predominantly populated by Arabic speaking ethnic Arabs who are Sunni Muslims. Saudi Arabia is the birthplace of modern day Islam, and is currently ruled by the Al Saud extended family. Saudi Arabia has religious and political differences with Iran, and buys a lot of weapons from the United States. They are currently leading a war against the Houthis in Yemen.

**Iran:** A large, oil rich nation in the Middle East, populated by Farsi speaking ethnic Persians who are mostly Shia Muslims. Iran has historically disagreements with the United States (we supported a coup in their country and supported their enemies in multiple wars), and political and religious differences with Saudi Arabia. Iran has a number of allies across the region such as Hamas and Hezbollah, and has a controversial nuclear weapons program.

**Yemen:** A poor nation in the Middle East. Yemen is involved in an armed conflict between the Houthis (the dominant military power in Yemen), and a Saudi Arabia led coalition of local militias. The nation is suffering extreme drought and most of its population are at risk of famine. Humanitarian assistance can reach many of the most in need people because of the conflict.

**Houthis:** The Houthi are a religious, political, and military organization in Yemen. They are a loose coalition of nationalists, populists, and anti-imperialists that threw out a Saudi-backed puppet government, and have resisted external influence in the nation. They control the western half of Yemen, where most of the population lives. As the conflict with Saudi Arabia has expanded, they have increasingly accepted military and humanitarian assistance from Iran.

**Islam:** The world’s second largest religion, with about 1.8 billion believers, or 25% of the world’s population. Islam is similar to Christianity and Judaism in many ways: adherents believe in some of the same original prophets (Abraham, Moses, etc.) as Christianity and Judaism, but subsequent scholars such as the Prophet Muhammad have taken the teachings of God (Allah) in a slightly different direction. There are different groups that interpret Islamic teachings in different directions, the two biggest groups being the Shia (Shiite) and the Sunni.

**Shia:** A group of Muslims most commonly found in the Middle East in Iran.

**Sunni:** A group of Muslims most commonly found in Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Jordan.

**Wahabi:** A particularly conservative sect of Sunni Muslims. Their leading religious scholars made a deal with the Al Saud family in Saudi Arabia to elevate them above the other tribal groups to leadership in exchange for support for their conservative interpretation of religion.

**Al Saud:** The ruling tribal group in Saudi Arabia. Originally, the Al Saud family was an extended tribal group that joined British troops to fight the Ottoman Empire in World War One. They allied with Wahabi clerics to form what is now Saudi Arabia.

**Militia:** A militia is a group of armed fighters who are not professional fighters, but citizen-soldiers. In the Middle East, they are often allied to religious or political groups instead of national governments.

**Colonialism:** Western powers controlled most of the world, either directly through occupation of foreign lands or indirectly through economic and political coercion. This was often oppressive to the dominated populations and stole much of the wealth of Africa, parts of Latin America and Asia. Colonial powers (such as the UK, France, Italy, etc.) drew many of the world’s borders, ignoring the populations whose nations they were designing.

**Oil:** A compound of fossilized organic materials (ancient animal and plant remains) that is very valuable to the modern economy as an energy source. Burning oil is a common fuel source (such as gas for cars) that emits CO2, which increases climate change. Access to oil is an important geo-political resource, and the Middle East is one of the world’s largest sources of oil, including Iran and Saudi Arabia.

**Theocracy:** A form of government where religious authorities have a large hand in governing. Iran is a good example of a theocracy, where religion is a primary guide of public policy.

**Nuclear Weapons:** Weapons that harness the power of splitting the atom to create extremely large and powerful explosions. They require advanced scientific know-how to and money to produce, and are some of the most destructive weapons available to a nation. They have only been used once, by the United States against Japan to end World War 2, and scare other nations away from conflict with their destructive power. Only a handful of nations have nuclear weapons: US, UK, France, China, Russia, India, Pakistan, Israel, and North Korea. Iran is the closest nation to joining the nuclear club.

**Proxy:** A proxy is a representative or substitute. Used in the context of foreign policy, a proxy is a smaller country or group that can do things that a larger power can’t. For example, Iran supports Hezbollah attacking Israeli, Kurdish, and western military targets, without taking direct responsibility.

**Civilian Casualty:** Civilians are presumed innocent non-soldiers that are potentially involved or near military actions. A civilian casualty is a non-soldier, such as a child, who is injured or killed by military action. Most systems of morality and legal rules of engagement discourage injuring civilians during armed conflict.

**Human Rights:** Rights that are assumed that everyone deserve, such as freedom, privacy, access to food and drink, etc.

# Saudi Arabia Aff Strategy Guide:

Here are the basic arguments made in the affirmative:

What (Inherency): The United States is selling bombs and other weapons to Saudi Arabia now, and Congress has little power to stop them.

Action (Plan): The United States should stop selling weapons to Saudi Arabia

Why (Advantages):

1. Middle Eastern Stability: Saudi Arabia gives the weapons we sell them to terrorist groups and others that cause violence and instability. Additionally, our sales make Saudi Arabia feel powerful and encourages them to be aggressive towards other nations. These small conflicts could escalate into a large war.
2. Human Rights: The Saudi led war against the Houthis in Yemen is killing thousands, mostly civilians, and causing starvation. We need to end the war to prevent famine and civilian deaths.

How (Solvency): Ending Arms Sales will cut Saudi Arabia off from the weapons it needs to wage war, and doing so will send a signal of disapproval that will reign in their foreign policy.

# Small Arms Background:

Columbine. Sandy Hook. Charleston. Aurora. Parkland. Las Vegas. Pulse. The list of mass shootings in the United States is far too long, especially when it comes to attacks on schools and entertainment venues where innocent people just want to relax and enjoy themselves. Headlines about gun violence in the United States (and the violence not covered, often in communities of color), is a regular occurrence for many Americans. While US politicians offer thoughts and prayers, and debate about background checks and mental health funding, we seldom look deeper.

The United States is the leading manufacturer of “small arms,” a term used to describe weapons carried easily by a single individual, such as rifles, pistols, etc. Not only are these weapons of war regularly available for purchase in the U.S., but we export gun violence (and tens of thousands of weapons) all over the world. US made weapons kill people across the world, enable oppression by autocratic governments, escalate religious and ethnic conflicts, and provide the tools for genocides, child soldiers, and civilian casualties across the globe.

**History:**

Before World War Two, the United States had few armed forces and didn’t have a lot of manufacturing capacity to support a military. This “defense industrial base,” or DIB, rapidly expanded as President Roosevelt started the lend-lease (and other) programs to support French and British resistance to the Nazis. Factories that once built cars now built tanks, and those that made plumbing equipment and tools began to make guns and bullets.

This trend continued after World War Two, as the US sustained a huge armed forces during the Cold War, to discourage action by the Soviet Union, and to engage in small conflicts across the world such as in Vietnam, Korea, South America, and beyond. During the Cold War, the US often sent arms and other tools of war to its allies and other “non-communist” forces, instead of sending its own armies. These exports helped countries resist communism, and strengthened the rule of many governments, democratic and otherwise. It also created a huge market for American companies tasked with building the weapons, making the producers very wealthy and influential.

In conflicts across the world, most armed groups don’t have the advanced weaponry of the United States and other developed nations. In lieu of helicopters and tanks, smart bombs and cyber-warfare, most global violence is committed by relatively unsophisticated weapons. Semi and automatic rifles, grenades, and rocket-propelled grenades, or “RPGs” are the go-to tools of war for governments, warlords, drug cartels, terrorists, and others across the world. The United States is also a large producer of the “small arms”. US made weapons and ammunition can expand and prolong wars, making them much more deadly. Even when they are sold legally to legitimate buyers, US made weapons often find their way into the hands of rebel groups, terrorists, and oppressive governments.

The Trump Administration wants to make it easier for the U.S. to export arms of all kinds, especially small arms. They point to the jobs that are created by manufacturing these weapons and ammunition, and the money made selling them. Other advocates argue that selling weapons to a nation allows the U.S. a say in how they are used, and influence over the buyers of the weapons. Their dependence on the U.S. creates important diplomatic advantages.

In 2014, the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty was enacted and signed by 130 countries, including the U.S. However, President Trump has decided to unsign treaty. The Arms Trade Treaty creates standards on how we should go about selling small arms to other countries and creates consequences when certain countries aren’t upholding those standards. Currently the U.S. arms many different groups with weapons abroad and sometimes these weapons get smuggled to criminals and terrorist groups fighting against us and our allies. This treaty would hold the U.S. accountable for when this happens and forces the U.S. to keep track of their weapons so it won’t happen. Republicans and pro-gun groups like the NRA do not support this treaty.

# Small Arms Affirmative Strategy:

This affirmative is designed to provide an introduction to this year’s topic of Arms Sales. The Affirmative Team will advocate that the United States should sign the Arms Trade Treaty to limit small arms sales. They will lay out a number of reasons why US small arms sales are bad, and propose that they stop doing so.

**Inherency:** What is the problem the affirmative team wants to solve?

President Trump is reducing restrictions on US small arms sales, making it easier to sell them to other countries.

**Plan:** This is what the affirmative team proposes to do about the problem (inherency)

.The President of the United States should sign and the Senate should ratify the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty(ATT)

**Solvency:** These are arguments about how the plan will work

The solvency for this case is straight-forward. The current U.S. policy of selling small arms, is causing harm, so we should change how we sell arms internationally.

**Advantages:** This is why we should take action/do the plan. Advantages are structured as either preventing problems, or gaining benefits.

The advantages of changing the US small arms sales policy are reducing violence, human rights abuses, and conflict across the world.

# Small Arms Affirmative Glossary of Terms:

**Small Arms:** Weapons that can be carried around and/or used by a single person. Also called “light weapons,” these include pistols, rifles, grenades, rocket and grenade launchers, and other single person used weapons.

**Ethnic conflict:** A war, series of terrorist actions, or other regular acts of violence between members of different racial or identify groups within a nation.

**Religious conflict:** A war or other violence motivated by religious differences.

**Genocide:** The attempt to kill every member of a identity group (race, ethnicity, religion, etc.)

**Child soldier:** A young person, even as young as 7 or 8, that is forced to join an army, militia, or terrorist group. Child soldiers are either brain-washed into joining, or their families are threatened unless they are willing to serve.

**Defense industrial base:** The entire economic system that produces weapons and other supporting items for a nation’s military.

**Human rights:** Sets of privileges that are assumed that everyone should get, such as food, water, education, basic healthcare, dignity, freedom from prosecution and torture, etc.

**Ammunition:** The bullets, rockets, and other items that are fired out of guns or other projectile weapons.

**Global norm:** Something that is generally accepted by most countries around the world, even if it isn’t formally written down in a treaty or agreement.

# Saudi Arabia Sample 1AC

**1AC Saudi Arabia (1/10): Inherency**

**CONTENTION ONE IS INHERENCY:**

**The Trump Administration used an emergency declaration to bypass Congressional oversight on weapons sales to Saudi Arabia.**

**Oswald 2019 (**Rachel, Roll Call. “Democrats spar with State officials over arms sales maneuver,” 12 June 2019, <https://www.rollcall.com/news/congress/democrats-spar-with-state-official-over-arms-sales-maneuver> )

**A senior State Department official** on Wednesday **appeared to blame Democrats for the administration’s decision** last month **to declare a state of emergency over Iran to avoid congressional review of billions of dollars of weapon sales to Arab Gulf states.** R. Clarke Cooper, assistant secretary of State for political-military affairs, attributed the emergency order to holds placed in spring 2018 by Senate Foreign Relations ranking member Robert Menendez on **$2 billion in proposed precision-guided missile sales to Saudi Arabia** and the United Arab Emirates. **Menendez,** D-N.J., **placed the holds in response to the many civilian casualties in the Yemen civil war,** in which the two Gulf nations are fighting against Iranian-backed Houthi insurgents. **The holds were broken with the emergency declaration.** “Yes, the protracted process did contribute to the conditions that necessitated an emergency,” Cooper testified at a House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing examining the rationale for the May emergency declaration. Menendez’s holds were not legally binding but part of a longstanding bipartisan tradition between the executive branch and lawmakers for resolving concerns about weapon exports before they are formally announced and put before Congress for review under the Arms Export Control Act. **Secretary of State Mike Pompeo cited the emergency declaration as justification to avoid an otherwise mandatory 30-day review period under the arms export law.** **The $2 billion in missile sales were combined with other weapon systems to form a 22-component $8.1 billion package.** Democrats used the hearing to roundly castigate the Trump administration’s rationale for declaring an emergency, alternately characterizing it as “phony” and “bogus.” They accused Cooper and other State Department officials, including Pompeo, of trying to circumvent lawful congressional oversight. “It’s a little hard to believe that we’re supposed to take your complete disregard for the congressional review process as an indication that you value congressional engagement,” Rep. David Cicilline, said to Cooper, who was involved in the decision on the emergency declaration. “This is gas-lighting. Your claiming you’re ignoring this provision is your way of affirming the role Congress plays. That’s an absurdity.” Rep. Abigail Spanberger chided Cooper for his complaints that Democrats were drawing out the arms sale review process. “You’ve referred multiple times to a protracted process and I would just remind you, sir, that the protracted process you are bemoaning is, in fact, the constitutional process that we as members of Congress have a responsibility to exercise when we are selling our weapon systems that are this lethal to countries abroad,” the Virginia Democrat said. Menendez also responded in a statement to CQ Roll Call. “Disdain for law and process is not an excuse to break it,” he said. **“It’s also not an excuse to create a fake emergency, mislead Congress, and rush weapons into Saudi hands without assurances that they won’t be used to kill civilians.”**

**1AC Saudi Arabia (2/10): Inherency**

**And Saudi Arabia is the largest consumer of US arms, but equipment has been transferred to terrorist groups.**

**Vittori 2019 (**Jodi, Democracy, Conflict, and Governance Program. “American Weapons in the Wrong Hands,” 19 February 2019, <https://carnegieendowment.org/2019/02/19/american-weapons-in-wrong-hands-pub-78408> )

Earlier this month, a CNN investigation provided further evidence that **U.S. military equipment has been transferred from Saudi Arabia** and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) **to a variety of militias, including some linked to al-Qaeda.** Given the additional scrutiny of U.S.-Saudi relations since the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, recent U.S. Senate and House resolutions on arms sales to Saudi Arabia, and ongoing Saudi and Emirati tensions with neighbor Qatar, **now is the time for a full-scale review of U.S. arms sales to the Gulf region.** There are clear rules against arms transfers to third parties. There are also end-use monitoring requirements for U.S. arms exports, but these checks are hardly universal. Given that at least some of **the equipment found in militia hands can be tied to U.S. arms sales,** the Department of Defense, State Department, and Commerce Department are clearly not adequately monitoring sales. (Which U.S. agency is responsible for end-use checks depends on the type of sale conducted.) **The United States is the largest arms supplier to Saudi Arabia** and the UAE, two lucrative customers of the U.S. defense industry. **Saudi Arabia was the largest importer of U.S. arms, having purchased $112 billion in weapons from 2013 through 2017.** The UAE was the second-largest importer of U.S. arms in the same time span. Since 2009, over $27 billion in weapons have been offered to the UAE in thirty-two separate deals **under the Pentagon’s Foreign Military Sales program.** These arms sales continue, despite both countries’ history of diverting arms to favored militias. Saudi Arabia has been purchasing weapons from third parties to pass on to allied governments and groups at least since the 1970s, sometimes on behalf of the U.S. government. Transparency International’s Government Defense Anti-Corruption Index ranks Saudi Arabia and the UAE in its high-risk category for corruption, with Saudi Arabia receiving a score of zero out of four (zero being the worst) and the UAE receiving a score of one for lacking a well-scrutinized process for arms export decisions that aligns with international protocols. The CNN investigation comes as Congress ramps up its opposition to U.S. support for the Saudi-led coalition. Former U.S. president Barack Obama’s administration only reluctantly agreed to support the Saudi-led coalition as it went on the offense in 2015, seeing it as an unwinnable proxy war against Iran. **Obama had put restrictions on arms sales** and intelligence cooperation **with the coalition in 2016, but President Donald Trump’s administration lifted those restrictions in March 2017,** just prior to Trump’s overseas visit to Saudi Arabia. **Saudi human rights abuses in Yemen using U.S. weapons, such as the airstrike on a school bus in August 2018 that killed forty children, and the murder of Khashoggi have shocked the U.S. public and Congress.**

**1AC Saudi Arabia (3/10): The Plan**

**Thus the plan: The United States federal government, through an act of Congress, should pass H.R. 7080 and switch to an up vote when authorizing arms sales.**

**1AC Saudi Arabia (4/10): Solvency**

**CONTENTION TWO IS SOLVENCY:**

**Passage of HR 7080 would grant Congress broad oversight power and would close the loophole in the AECA that allows for “emergency” declarations to justify arms sales.**

**Mahanty & Eikenberry 2018 (**Daniel, Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC). Eric, Yemen Peace Project, “How the “Arms Sales Oversight Act” Could Prevent American Arms from Contributing to the Next Overseas Crisis,” 5 December 2018, <https://www.justsecurity.org/61719/arms-sales-oversight-act-prevent-american-arms-contributing-overseas-crisis/> )

The debate over U.S. complicity in Yemen’s humanitarian catastrophe is coming to a head in the Senate, with a series of votes on the Sanders-Lee-Murphy war powers resolution. But beyond this immediate measure, other **members of Congress are planning to increase their long-term leverage over weapons sales to problematic security partners.** Foremost among them, Representatives Ted Lieu (D-Calif.) and Jim McGovern (D-Mass.) recently introduced **House Resolution 7080, the “Arms Sale Oversight Act,”** to little fanfare. The bill’s unassuming title and procedural focus should not escape the attention of conventional arms control advocates. If passed, H.R. 7080 **would expand Congress’s constricted ability to vote down damaging arms sales and mark a first step toward preventing the United States from exacerbating the human cost of conflict.** **The legislation would reform** Section 36 of **the Arms Export Control Act (AECA)** to ensure that any supportive representative can move to discharge a joint resolution of disapproval against a proposed arms sale ten days following its introduction if the presiding committee fails to report it. Win the vote in the House, pass the same joint resolution in the Senate (or vice versa), and Congress has successfully exercised its primary legal means of immediately barring a harmful transfer (whether or not the White House agrees). **The measure could dramatically reshape congressional authorities over arms exports.** Currently, due to a separate AECA provision, only senators are guaranteed a vote on a joint resolution of disapproval. Absent H.R. 7080’s proposed reform, corresponding House resolutions will remain “highly privileged”—which means that those seeking to stop a transfer at present can only secure a vote only if leadership acquiesces. This inter-chamber imbalance not only robs representatives of a vote in determining U.S. foreign policy, but also diminishes the efforts of conventional arms control advocates in the Senate. Because joint legislation from the House is unlikely to see the floor, Senate efforts can be reduced to signaling opposition to, rather than truly shutting down, an administration’s proposed sale. By correcting this imbalance, **H.R. 7080 will open another avenue to ending U.S. enabling of other governments’ gross violations of** international humanitarian and **human rights** laws. **Nowhere is this avenue more needed than for Yemen’s internationalized civil war.**

**The effective embargo, implemented by the aff, would signal to the world our disdain for the Yemeni war and would allow us to hold Saudi Arabia accountable.**

**Spindel 2019 (**Jennifer, University of Oklahoma, “The Case for Suspending American Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia,” 14 May 2019, <https://warontherocks.com/2019/05/the-case-for-suspending-american-arms-sales-to-saudi-arabia/> )

**Arms embargos are often dismissed as symbolic,** and therefore ineffective. **But just because something is symbolic, doesn’t mean that it won’t have an effect. A U.S. arms embargo against Saudi Arabia would be a clear signal of American disapproval** of Saudi actions in Yemen, and would be an equally important signal to Washington’s allies, who are left wondering if the United States is ambivalent or uninterested in the growing Yemeni humanitarian catastrophe. **By continuing to provide weapons,** President Donald **Trump** tacitly **endorses Saudi policies.** This signal is strengthened by Trump’s recent veto of the resolution that called for an end to U.S. support for the war in Yemen. While Trump justified the veto by saying that the resolution was a “dangerous attempt to weaken my constitutional authorities,” statements from **Congressional representatives show they are aware of the powerful signals sent by arms sales.** Sen. Tim Kaine said that the veto “shows the world [Trump] is determined to keep aiding a Saudi-backed war that has killed thousands of civilians and pushed millions more to the brink of starvation.” **An arms embargo against Saudi Arabia would be a signal both to leaders of that country, and other states, that the United States does not endorse Saudi actions.** Those arguing against a ban are correct on one point: Embargos as blunt force instruments of coercion are rarely effective. But **arms embargos are effective as signals of political dissatisfaction, and serve an important communication role in international politics.**

**1AC Saudi Arabia (5/10): Harms: Middles East Stability**

**CONTENTION THREE IS HARMS: ADVANTAGE ONE IS MIDDLE EAST STABILITY**

**For years the US has been selling arms to Saudi Arabia while they have been giving these weapons to terrorist groups as incentives to do the Saudi’s bidding; this harms stability in the Middle East.**

**Hunter 2019 (**Jack, Washington Examiner's Beltway Confidential blog. “Rand Paul said US weapons would end up in terrorists' hands. You should have listened to Rand Paul,” 5 February 2019, <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/rand-paul-said-us-weapons-would-end-up-in-terrorists-hands-you-should-have-listened-to-rand-paul> )

At The American Conservative’s annual foreign policy conference in October, Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., said, "If you ask me **who’s the worst at spreading hatred and trying to engender terrorism around the world, it’s Saudi Arabia hands down."** Paul was comparing Saudi Arabia to Iran in terms of which country should be considered more a threat to U.S. interests in the Middle East. The senator has warned for years that **sending American military aid to alleged allies abroad could end up in terrorists’ hands, which has happened repeatedly.** On Monday, we learned it’s been happening again. CNN reported that **Saudi Arabia has been giving American-made weapons to groups linked to al Qaeda. The Saudis have been using weapon sales to gain leverage in the ongoing war in Yemen.** In August, the Washington Post reported, “New Associated Press reporting from Yemen has laid bare the fact that the UAE and **Saudi Arabia have been busy cutting ‘secret deals with al-Qaida fighters,** paying some to leave key cities and towns and letting others retreat with weapons, equipment and wads of looted cash … hundreds more were recruited to join the coalition itself.’” Now CNN reveals this is happening with American weapons. Why wouldn’t this happen? Anyone could have predicted it. After all, **Saudi Arabia is America’s number one weapons customer.** The weapons and equipment CNN learned are in al Qaeda’s possession were sold by the U.S. during the Obama administration, though sales continue under President Trump.

**Arms sales embolden Saudi Arabia, causing them to escalate proxy wars.**

**Bazzi 2017 (**Mohamad, Currently Writing a Book on Iran Saudi Proxy Wars (“How Trump Is Inflaming the Middle East’s Proxy Wars” <https://www.thenation.com/article/the-trump-administration-could-provoke-yet-another-mideast-war/> )

Aside from his virtually unqualified rhetorical support for Saudi Arabia, **Trump announced a package of weapons sales to the kingdom that will total nearly $110 billion over 10 years.** Trump and his top aides—especially his son-in-law and senior adviser Jared Kushner, who took a lead role in negotiating parts of the agreement—were quick to claim credit for a massive arms deal that would boost the US economy. But many of the weapons that the Saudis want to buy—including dozens of advanced F-15 fighter jets, Apache attack helicopters, Patriot missile-defense systems, thousands of bombs and other munitions, and hundreds of armored vehicles—were already approved by the Obama administration. From 2009 to 2016, Obama authorized a record $115 billion in military sales to Saudi Arabia, far more than any previous administration. (Of that total, US and Saudi officials inked formal deals worth about $58 billion, and Washington delivered $14 billion worth of weaponry from 2009 to 2015.) **With such a large influx of US weapons and Trump’s uncritical support, the emboldened Saudi leadership now sees itself as perfectly aligned with Washington against Iran**—and even against a longtime US ally like Qatar, which, in the Saudi view, has been too cozy with Iran. **Iran and Saudi Arabia have been fighting a cold war since the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran—and their struggle has only intensified over the past decade.** While the conflict is partly rooted in the Sunni-Shiite schism within Islam, it is mainly **a struggle for political dominance of the Middle East** between Shiite-led Iran and Sunni-led Saudi Arabia. **This series of proxy battles—in Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Lebanon, and Bahrain—has shaped the Middle East** since the Bush administration invaded Iraq in 2003. The House of Saud rests its legitimacy—and its claim of leadership over the wider Muslim world—on the fact that the kingdom is the home of Islam’s two holiest cities, Mecca and Medina, where the religion was founded.

**1AC Saudi Arabia (6/10): Harms: Middles East Stability**

**Conflict would escalate to global nuclear war**

**Steinbach 2018 (**John, 6-30, Global Research,Israel’s nuclear arsenal and a threat to peace, <https://www.globalresearch.ca/israeli-weapons-of-mass-destruction-a-threat-to-peace-israel-s-nuclear-arsenal/4365> )

Meanwhile, the existence of an arsenal of mass destruction in such an unstable region in turn has serious implications for future arms control and disarmament negotiations, and even the threat of nuclear war. Seymour Hersh warns, **“Should war break out in the Middle East again** or should any Arab.nation fire missiles against Israel, as the Iraqis did, **a nuclear escalation, once unthinkable except as a last resort would now be a strong probability.”**(41) and Ezar Weissman, Israel’s current President said **“The nuclear issue is gaining momentum(and the) next war will not be conventional.** (42) Russia and before it the Soviet Union has long been a major (if not the major) target of Israeli nukes. It is widely reported that the principal purpose of Jonathan Pollard’s spying for Israel was to furnish satellite images of Soviet targets and other super sensitive data relating to U.S. nuclear targeting strategy. (43) (Since launching its own satellite in 1988, Israel no longer needs U S. spy secrets.) Israeli nukes aimed at the Russian heartland seriously complicate disarmament and arms control negotiations and, at the very least, **the unilateral possession of nuclear weapons by Israel is enormously destabilizing,**  **and dramatically lowers the threshold for** their actual use if not for **all out nuclear war.** In the words of Mark Gaffney, “... if the familiar pattern(Israel refining its weapons of mass destruction with U.S. complicity) is not reversed, soon- for whatever reason- **the deepening Middle East conflict could trigger a world conflagration.”** (44)

**1AC Saudi Arabia (7/10): Harms: Human Rights**

**ADVANTAGE TWO IS HUMAN RIGHTS:**

**Yemen is the world’s worst humanitarian crisis because the US continues to sell arms to Saudi Arabia.**

**Aljamra, 2019**

Helal, Yemeni journalist, “How U.S. Relations with Saudi Arabia Are Prolonging the War in Yemen,” 9 January 2019, <https://insidearabia.com/us-saudi-arabia-war-yemen/>

The Yemeni people have tried to appeal to the international community to intervene in the conflict in Yemen for years with little success. **Despite** the words of the UN Secretary General himself and **numerous reports published by international organizations describing the war in Yemen as the “world’s worst humanitarian crisis,” the response from the international community has been sparse.** Why are the cries of the Yemeni people falling on deaf ears? **The answer may lie in the multi-billion dollar arms and trade deals** that many **countries already have** and continue to sign **with Saudi Arabia** and the UAE. Since the beginning of the Saudi-UAE-led military intervention in Yemen in 2015, **the West has provided political and logistical support, intelligence, and weapons to fuel the war.** Since assuming control of Saudi Arabia’s Ministry of Defense and thus the de facto rule of Saudi Arabia in 2015, MbS has bolstered the kingdom’s relationships with countries such as the U.S., Britain, and France through long-term arms deals. Currently, Saudi Arabia is the top arms importer in the Arab region. Despite strong opposition by several international human rights organizations and activists in the West, most of the proposed arms deals have progressed without impediment. Arms sales to the Middle East, Asia, and Oceania (comprised of Australia and the nearby islands in the Pacific Ocean) have increased dramatically in the past ten years. “Saudi Arabia was the world’s second-largest arms importer, with arms imports increasing by 225 percent [between 2013 and 2017], compared with 2008 to 2012.” The kingdom is followed by Egypt and the UAE, according to a report published by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. World superpowers’ perspectives of the conflict in Yemen directly correlate with the volume of weapons they export to Saudi Arabia and the UAE. The most steadfast supporters of the Saudi-UAE-driven war appear to be the countries that benefit most from the arms sales and subsidies they receive from the two countries. “In 2013 to 2017, 61 percent of [Saudi] arms imports came from the USA and 23 percent from the UK. Deliveries during this period included 78 combat aircrafts, 72 combat helicopters, 328 tanks, and about 4,000 other armored vehicles,” according to the report. U.S. arms exports to Saudi Arabia alone reached more than $43 billion between 2015 and 2017. Recently, **Riyadh has consistently tried to use generous military and trade deals to buy the world’s silence**—the most notorious perhaps being the deal that President Trump signed with King Salman in mid-May 2017. This deal included several military, defense, and commercial cooperation agreements; described as “the deal of the century,” the agreements are valued at a total of $460 billion.

**1AC Saudi Arabia (8/10): Harms: Human Rights**

**US enabled attacks on Yemen are killing thousands of civilians and causing mass starvation.**

**Rovera 2015 (**Donatella Rovera is the senior crisis response advisor for Amnesty International. <https://foreignpolicy.com/2015/08/26/the-human-carnage-of-saudi-arabias-war-in-yemen/> )

**The Houthis and their allies are the declared targets** of the coalition’s 5-month-old air campaign. **In reality, however, it is civilians** like little Rahma and her family **who all too often pay the price of this war. Hundreds have been killed** in such strikes **while asleep in their homes, when going about their daily activities, or in the very places where they had sought refuge from the conflict. The United States,** meanwhile, **has provided the weapons that have made many of these killings possible. The conflict has worsened an already dire humanitarian situation** in the Middle East’s poorest country. **Prior to the conflict, more than half of Yemen’s population was in need of some humanitarian assistance. That number has now increased to more than 80 percent,** while a coalition-imposed blockade on commercial imports remains in place in much of the country and the ability of international aid agencies to deliver desperately needed supplies continues to be hindered by the conflict. The damage inflicted by a coalition airstrike last week on the port of the northwestern city of Hudaydah, the only point of entry for humanitarian aid to the north of the country, is only the latest example. **The situation is poised to deteriorate** further: **The U.N. World Food Program warned** last week **of the possibility of famine in Yemen for millions,** mostly women and children. Bombs dropped by the Saudi-led air campaign have all too often landed on civilians, contributing to this humanitarian disaster. In the ruins of the Musaab bin Omar school, the meager possessions of the families who were sheltering there included a few children’s clothes, blankets, and cooking pots. I found no sign of any military activity that could have made the site a military target. But I did see the remains of the weapon used in the attack — a fin from a U.S.-designed MK80 general-purpose bomb, similar to those found at many other locations of coalition strikes. This was far from the only instance where U.S. weapons killed Yemeni civilians. In the nearby village of Waht, another coalition airstrike killed 11 worshipers in a mosque two days earlier. There, too, bewildered survivors and families of the victims asked why they had been targeted. One of the two bombs dropped on the mosque failed to explode and was still mostly intact when I visited the site. It was a U.S.-manufactured MK82 general-purpose bomb, fitted with a fusing system also of U.S. manufacture. The 500-pound bomb was stamped “explosive bomb” and “tritonal” — the latter a designation indicating the type of explosive it contains. Mistakes in the identification of targets and in the execution of attacks can and do happen in wars. In such cases, it is incumbent on the responsible parties to promptly take the necessary corrective action to avoid the recurrence of the same mistakes. But there is no sign that this is occurring in Yemen: Five months since the onset of the coalition airstrike campaign, **innocent civilians continue to be killed and maimed every day, raising serious concerns about an apparent disregard for civilian life** and for fundamental principles of international humanitarian law. Strikes that are carried out in the knowledge that they will cause civilian casualties are disproportionate or indiscriminate and constitute war crimes.

**And the US sales of arms to Saudi Arabia makes us responsible for this violence.**

**Rovera 2015 (**Donatella Rovera is the senior crisis response advisor for Amnesty International. <https://foreignpolicy.com/2015/08/26/the-human-carnage-of-saudi-arabias-war-in-yemen/> )

**While the United States is not formally part of the Saudi-led coalition, it is assisting the coalition air campaign** by providing intelligence and aerial refueling facilities to coalition bomber jets. The sum total of **its assistance to the coalition makes the United States** partly **responsible for civilian casualties** resulting from unlawful attacks. **Washington has also long been a key supplier of military equipment to Saudi Arabia** and other members of the coalition, providing them with the weapons that they are now unleashing in Yemen. Regardless of when the weapons used by coalition forces in Yemen were acquired — whether before or since the start of the air campaign — **the countries that supplied the weapons have a responsibility to ensure that they are not used to commit violations of international law.** The poisonous legacy of these U.S.-made weapons will plague Yemen for years to come.

**1AC Saudi Arabia (9/10): Harms: Human Rights**

**Civilian casualties from strikes or famine are entirely preventable but entail massive suffering.**

**Noack 2018 (**Rick, 11-21-18, Washington Post, Children have starved to death during Saudi led intervention<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2018/11/21/children-have-starved-death-during-saudi-led-intervention-yemen-says-new-report/?utm_term=.b026eca4ad1c> )

**More than 85,000 children may have died of hunger since Saudi Arabia intervened in the war in Yemen** three years ago, according to Save the Children, an international NGO. **“For every child killed by bombs and bullets, dozens are starving to death and it’s entirely preventable,”** said Tamer Kirolos, Save the Children’s country director in Yemen. With only a few hospitals still operational, the nongovernmental organization says that the human toll of the conflict cannot be fully captured by simply relying on official numbers. Instead, the charity used historical mortality rates and United Nations data on Yemeni malnutrition to estimate that more than 25,000, or 20 to 30 percent of all acutely malnourished children, have died every year since April 2015. **The estimates,** the NGO said, **may still be lower than the actual number of deaths.** “Children who die in this way suffer immensely as their vital organ functions slow down and eventually stop. Their immune systems are so weak they are more prone to infections, with some too frail to even cry,” said Save the Children representative Kirolos. “Parents are having to witness their children wasting away, unable to do anything about it,” he said. According to the United Nations, half the Yemeni population suffers from famine. The United States has remained largely silent on the war, even when Saudi Arabia enacted a blockade on its borders with Yemen last November. Since then, **human rights groups have struggled to supply some of the most malnourished areas in the country with food and drinking water.** About 90 percent of the country is considered to be desert or arid and the Yemeni government heavily relied on food imports before the conflict.

**1AC Saudi Arabia (10/10): Harms: Human Rights**

**US support for Saudi Arabia places millions at risk-prioritize reducing human suffering Almutawakel and Alfaqih 2018 (**Almutawakel & Alfaqih, Award winning Human Rights Activists, 11-8-18,<https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/11/08/saudi-arabia-and-the-united-arab-emirates-are-starving-yemenis-to-death-mbs-khashoggi-famine-yemen-blockade-houthis/> )

**Jamal Khashoggi was but the latest victim of a reckless arrogance that has become the hallmark of Saudi Arabia’s foreign policy.** Yemenis were saddened, but not surprised, at the extent of the brutality exhibited in Khashoggi’s killing, because our country has been living through this same Saudi brutality for almost four years. As human rights advocates working in Yemen, we are intimately familiar with the violence, the killing of innocents, and the shredding of international norms that have been the hallmarks of Saudi Arabia’s military intervention in our country. For nearly four years, **Saudi Arabia has** led a coalition, along with the United Arab Emirates, that has cynically and **viciously bombarded Yemen’s cities, blockaded Yemen’s ports, and prevented humanitarian aid from reaching millions in need.** According to the Yemen Data Project, Saudi and Emirati aircraft have conducted over 18,500 air raids on Yemen since the war began—an average of over 14 attacks every day for over 1,300 days. **They have bombed schools, hospitals, homes, markets, factories, roads, farms, and even historical sites.** Tens of thousands of civilians, including thousands of children, have been killed or maimed by Saudi airstrikes. **But the Saudis and Emiratis couldn’t continue their bombing campaign in Yemen without U.S. military support.** American planes refuel Saudi aircraft en route to their targets, and Saudi and Emirati

pilots drop bombs made in the United States and the United Kingdom onto Yemeni homes and schools Nevertheless, U.S. attention to the war in Yemen has been largely confined to brief spats of outrage over particularly dramatic attacks, like the August school bus bombing that killed dozens of children. Saudi crimes in Yemen are not limited to regular and intentional bombing of civilians in violation of international humanitarian law. By escalating the war and destroying essential civilian infrastructure, **Saudi Arabia is also responsible for the tens of thousands of Yemeni civilians who have died from preventable disease and starvation brought on by the war.** The United Nations concluded that blockades have had “devastating effects on the civilian population” in Yemen, as Saudi and Emirati airstrikes have targeted Yemen’s food production and distribution, including the agricultural sector and the fishing industry. Meanwhile, the collapse of Yemen’s currency due to the war has prevented millions of civilians from purchasing the food that exists in markets. Food prices have skyrocketed, but civil servants haven’t received regular salaries in two years. Yemenis are being starved to death on purpose, with starvation of civilians used by Saudi Arabia as a weapon of war. **Three-quarters of Yemen’s population—over 22 million men, women, and children—are currently dependent on international aid** and protection. The U.N. warned in September that **Yemen soon will reach a “tipping point,” beyond which it will be impossible to avoid massive civilian deaths. Over 8 million people are currently on the verge of starvation, a figure likely to rise to 14 million—half of the country—by the end of 2018** if the fighting does not subside, import obstructions are not removed, and the currency is not stabilized.

# Small Arms Sample 1AC

**1AC Small Arms (1/14): Inherency**

**CONTENTION ONE IS INHERENCY:**

**Trump has “unsigned” the Arms Trade Treaty**

**Olabuenaga 19**(Pablo Arrocha,Pablo Arrocha Olabuenaga is Legal Adviser of the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations, Why the Arms Trade Treaty Matters – and Why It Matters That the US Is Walking Away, May 8, 2019, <https://www.justsecurity.org/63968/why-the-arms-trade-treaty-matters-and-why-it-matters-that-the-us-is-walking-away/> )DD

It was not surprising or unexpected when **President Donald Trump announced that the United States would “withdraw” from the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in an April 26** address to the National Rifle Association (NRA). To a roaring crowd, he declared:“Under my administration, we will never surrender American sovereignty to anyone. We will never allow foreign bureaucrats to trample on your second amendment freedom. **I’m officially announcing today that the United States will be revoking the effect of America’s signature from this badly misguided treaty.”**

**Trump Administration is working on rules to make it easier to sell weapons internationally**

**Abramson 2019 (**Jeff, Senior Fellow for Arms Control, Arms Control Association, Congress has the opportunity to halt dangerous firearms export changes, [https://www.armscontrol.org/taxonomy/term/36)](https://www.armscontrol.org/taxonomy/term/36)

**The Trump administration will soon** publish final rules that would likely **expedite how certain firearms and military-style weapons are sold internationally.** Congress can and should seek to block these changes, **which exacerbate the export of U.S. gun violence problems abroad.** On Monday, mildly revised versions of rules first released for comment in May were presented to Congress, starting a 30-day review period. Specifically, the proposed rules relate to the first three categories of the United States Munitions List (USML) maintained under the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), whose lead administrator is the Department of State. Under the new rules, non-automatic and semi-automatic firearms and their ammunition currently controlled under the USML would move to the Commerce Control List (CCL) to become part of the Export Administration Regulations (EAR), whose lead administrator is the Commerce Department. **Under the new rules, Congress would lose its ability to provide oversight on many firearms sales.** In 2002, Congress amended notifications requirements so it would be informed of potential commercial sales of firearms under USML category I when they were valued at just $1 million, but no such notifications exist for items on the CCL. **In recent years, Congressional involvement has helped forestall firearms transfers to repressive forces in Turkey and the Philippines. At the core of these proposed changes is the mistaken belief that firearms do not merit tighter control because they are neither high-tech nor provide unique military advantages. In reality, they are some of the weapons most often used to commit abuses and extend conflict around the world. These weapons, used in the mass shootings at Sandy Hook, the Pulse nightclub, Las Vegas, and Parkland, are not the commodities that the United States should make easier to export. Exported** and trafficked **into Mexico and Central America, for example, U.S.-origin small arms are already falling into the hands of human rights abusers and criminal organizations.** In 2017, the administration notified Congress of more than [$660 million](https://securityassistance.org/fact_sheet/us-proposed-firearms-sales-2017) of proposed firearms sales regulated under the USML, according to the Security Assistance Monitor. The value of transfers that would be subject to the new rule is not yet clear as that data cannot be fully disaggregated. A bill introduced Friday by Representative Norma Torres (D-Calif.) and co-sponsored by House Foreign Affairs Chair Elliot Engel (D-N.Y.) and others would simply prohibit the changes. **If not halted** or significantly changed, **the new rules would continue the cynical approach of the Trump administration to treat weapons as any other trade commodity, threatening to undermine long-term global security and upsetting decades of more responsible U.S. arms transfer policy.**

**1AC Small Arms (3/14): Plan**

**Thus the Plan:**

**The President of the United States should sign and the Senate should ratify the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)**

**1AC Small Arms (4/14): Solvency**

**CONTENTION 2 IS SOLVENCY:**

**U.S. arms sales causes international instability**

**Thrall 2018 (**Trevor, July 2nd, Cato Institute, Arm Sales: Pouring Gas on the Fires of Conflict [https://www.cato.org/blog/arms-sales-pouring-gas-fires-conflict)](https://www.cato.org/blog/arms-sales-pouring-gas-fires-conflict)

**This new confidence in the arms sales/conflict connection should compel serious revision to American arms sales policies.** Since 2002 the United States has sold over $286 billion dollars of weapons to 167 countries. These **exports have gone to numerous countries where the conditions were or remain ripe for conflict.** **U.S. arms transfers to an unstable Iraq preceded the emergence of the Islamic State, but wound up** [**helping amplify**](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/isis-weapons-arsenal-included-some-purchased-u-s-government-n829201) **the Islamic State’s military capability when it took vast quantities of American weapons from defeated Iraqi army units. U.S. arms sales over the past decade also** [**helped prepare**](https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2018/03/yemen-shows-why-us-needs-change-its-arms-sales-policy/146845/) **Saudi Arabia to launch its disastrous intervention in Yemen and** [**enabled**](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/checkpoint/wp/2017/04/10/u-s-looks-to-sell-ground-attack-aircraft-to-nigeria-report-says/?utm_term=.bf8427d049b7) **the Nigerian government to unleash more effective violence on its own citizens, just to list a few examples. Academic research often gets a bad rap in policy making circles. In the case of arms sales and arms transfers, however, the scholarly literature has correctly pointed out the serious risks involved. If the United States is serious about preventing conflict and managing regional stability in trouble spots around the globe, it would do well to stop pouring gas on the fire.**

**The US arms at least one side in most global conflicts--our action will significantly reduce the availability of arms world-wide**

**Thrall and Dorminey 2018 (**Trevor and Caroline, March 13th, Cato Institute, Risky Business, The Role of Arms Sales in US Foreign Policy, [https://www.cato.org/publications/policy-analysis/risky-business-role-arms-sales-us-foreign-policy)](https://www.cato.org/publications/policy-analysis/risky-business-role-arms-sales-us-foreign-policy)

Moreover, **the United States has a long history of selling weapons to nations where the immediate risks were obvious.** From 1981 to 2010, **the United States sold small arms and light weapons to 59 percent** and major conventional weapons to 35 percent **of countries actively engaged in a high-level conflict.** **The United States sold small arms to 66 percent** and major conventional weapons to 40 percent **of countries actively engaged in a low-level conflict.**[7](https://www.cato.org/publications/policy-analysis/risky-business-role-arms-sales-us-foreign-policy#_idTextAnchor007) As one author noted, in 1994 **there were 50 ongoing ethnic and territorial conflicts in the world and the United States had armed at least one side in 45 of them.** Since 9/11, the United States has sold weapons to at least two dyads in conflict: Saudi Arabia and Yemen, and Turkey and the Kurds.[8](https://www.cato.org/publications/policy-analysis/risky-business-role-arms-sales-us-foreign-policy#_idTextAnchor008)

**1AC Small Arms (5/14): Solvency**

**A strong ATT can end the cycle of violence internationally**

**Kimball 2012 (**Daryl, Arms Control Association, The Urgent Need for an Arms Control Treaty, [https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2012\_06/Focus)](https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2012_06/Focus)

**Each year, thousands of civilians around the world are slaughtered by weapons sold to unscrupulous regimes and transferred by arms brokers to criminals and illegal militias. The enormous human toll of this cycle of violence undermines economic and social development and political stability in fragile regions, as well as international security.**

According to a recent report published by Oxfam, more than $2.2 billion worth of arms and ammunition have been imported since 2000 by countries operating under 26 UN, regional, or multilateral arms embargoes in force during that time. To succeed, **the United States** and other major weapons exporters, including Russia and China, **need to put people over arms profiteering** and play a constructive role in the upcoming negotiations to secure a treaty with the highest possible standards. To be effective, an A**TT should identify possible criteria for denial of international arms transfer licenses; this list should address human rights, security, and development concerns. A strong treaty should require member states to report regularly on their arms sales and purchases, transfer approvals, and license denials. Under an effective ATT, states-parties would not authorize a transfer of conventional arms in contravention of UN arms embargoes or when there is a substantial risk the items will be used for serious violations of international human rights law or international humanitarian law, as in the case of Syria.** A key question in the negotiations will be whether the treaty will require states to withhold such arms transfers or simply require that states take into account the potential risks associated with the transfer. The latter approach is simply not acceptable because it will allow many states to ignore existing international obligations and sidestep the basic standards outlined in an ATT. **An ATT also must apply to all types of international trade, transfers, and transactions in conventional weaponry and cover the broadest range of conventional arms possible, from military aircraft to small arms.** The British government estimates that **at least 400,000 people are killed by illegal small arms and light weapons each year.** An ATT also should specifically require that national laws regulate the activities of international arms brokers and other intermediaries. Negotiators must **include ammunition** in the scope of the treaty. **The world is already full of guns. It is often the supply and resupply of ammunition that feeds and prolongs conflicts and armed violence.**

**1AC Small Arms (6/14): Solvency**

**Trump wants to destroy global norms on arms control to give our arms manufacturers a competitive edge. This will cause other countries to rapidly expand exports and cause more violence.**

**Goodman and Stohl 2017 (**Colby and Rachel, Defense News, 9/25, 5 Dangers of giving the commerce department oversight of firearm exports,

[https://www.defensenews.com/opinion/commentary/2017/09/25/five-dangers-of-giving-the-commerce-department-oversight-of-firearms-exports-commentary/?utm\_source=Sailthru&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=EBB%209.26.2017&utm\_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief)](https://www.defensenews.com/opinion/commentary/2017/09/25/five-dangers-of-giving-the-commerce-department-oversight-of-firearms-exports-commentary/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%209.26.2017&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief)

Such a shift would thereby dilute the State Department’s ability to prevent high-risk transfers. Fourth, **the Trump proposal risks eroding global norms on firearms exports. Over the past two decades, through bilateral and multilateral agreements, the United States has successfully encouraged governments around the world to adopt better laws and policies to stop irresponsible and illegal arms transfers. Many of these agreements note the need to review export licenses on a case-by-case basis, highlight the importance of brokering registration and licensing and contain other key controls. If the United States decides to reduce or remove some of these controls, many other countries may choose**

**to do so as well, particularly if it allows them to better compete with the United States.**

**1AC Small Arms (7/14): Advantage One: Human Rights**

**CONTENTION 3 IS HARMS: Advantage One is Human Rights**

**US arms and ammunition sales enable oppression and cause refugees**

**Yablon 2019 (**Alex, The Trace, March 8th, US Gun Makers Send Weapons South As Migrants Flee North, [https://www.thetrace.org/2019/03/american-gun-exports-violence-latin-america-colt/)](https://www.thetrace.org/2019/03/american-gun-exports-violence-latin-america-colt/)

**The United States provides more small arms and ammunition to Central America than any other country does.** The market there steadily expanded during Barack Obama’s time in office and appears set to increase under President Donald Trump as well, according to customs data collected by the United Nations Comtrade program. **Though the transactions look small compared to the multibillion-dollar arms deals the United States conducts** with, say, Saudi Arabia — the United States approved $2 million to $4 million in gun sales per year to Honduras between [2015](https://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/article221908900.html) and [2017](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/08/22/2017-17770/notifications-to-congress-of-proposed-export-licenses) — **the impact of such sales can be substantial in a poor country with a small population and a weak or corrupt government. Some of those guns went to authorities who turned them on innocent civilians,** as the 2017 protests show. The guns seen in the photos seem to have been exported by Colt’s Manufacturing, a Connecticut-based gun-maker. The company did not return phone calls seeking comment. Other **weapons ended up in the hands of criminals,** through illicit deals involving corrupt army officers, according to a [2017 report](https://www.justice.gov/eoir/page/file/1031606/download) by two nongovernmental groups that investigate law enforcement and corruption in Latin America. **In November 2018**, TheMiami Herald [identified](https://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/article221908900.html) **rifles used by Honduran military police to kill civilians as U.S.-made M4 assault rifles**. The newspaper was unable to identify the company that made the guns, however. Here’s how we were able to connect them to Colt: Under current regulations, the State Department must notify Congress when it approves a license to export a shipment of firearms worth $1 million or more. In [2015](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2015/04/07/2015-07986/bureau-of-political-military-affairs-directorate-of-defense-trade-controls-notifications-to-the) and again in [2017](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/08/22/2017-17770/notifications-to-congress-of-proposed-export-licenses), the State Department notified Congress that it planned to authorize the sale of M4s to Honduras. The 2015 notification specified that Honduras wanted to buy “R0977 M4 Carbines.” Colt gives different model numbers to its products it sells domestically and internationally, and the company [assigns R0977](https://www.colt.com/detail-page/colt-m4-select-fire-carbine) to M4s made for export. **We also looked at state-level export data from the Census Bureau, which showed that Connecticut sent more military-style firearms to Honduras between 2015 and 2017 than any other state. Out of $3.7 million worth of military firearms exported to the country over those three years, guns worth $3.5 million came from the New England state.** Colt is headquartered in West Hartford, and the only Connecticut-based company that manufacturers the M4. According to the the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Colt was also the largest manufacturer of rifles for export in Connecticut in [2015](https://www.atf.gov/file/113611/download), [2016](https://www.atf.gov/file/123801/download), and [2017](https://www.atf.gov/file/133476/download). **“There’s nobody down there we could really trust not to sell them on the black market,” said Mark Ungar, a political scientist at Brooklyn College who studies arms trafficking, gangs, and corruption in Central America. “There’s no illusion of a difference between the state and organized crime” in the region.** **The violence, corruption, and abuse in Central American countries tend to be the biggest factors driving migration** to the United States— a phenomenon the Trump administration has dedicated itself to curbing.

**1AC Small Arms (8/14): Advantage One: Human Rights**

**US produced guns are responsible for violence across the globe. We have a moral obligation to stop expanding violence.**

**Parsons and Vargas 2018 (**Chelsea and Eugenio Weigend, Feb 2nd, Center for American Progress, Beyond our Borders, How Weak US Gun Laws Contrinute to Violent Crime Abroad [https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/guns-crime/reports/2018/02/02/445659/beyond-our-borders/)](https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/guns-crime/reports/2018/02/02/445659/beyond-our-borders/)

However, often overlooked in this debate is the degree to which exportation of violence goes in the other direction—that is to say, from the United States to other countries—and, in particular, **the substantial U.S. role in providing guns that are used in lethal violence in other nations. From 2014 to 2016, across 15 countries in North America, Central America, and the Caribbean, 50,133 guns that originated in the United States were recovered as part of criminal investigations**.[1](https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/guns-crime/reports/2018/02/02/445659/beyond-our-borders/#fn-445659-1) Put another way, during this span, **U.S.-sourced guns were used to commit crimes in nearby countries approximately once every 31 minutes.** Certainly, **many of these U.S.-sourced crime guns were legally exported** and were not diverted for criminal use until they crossed the border. **The United States is a major manufacturer and a leading exporter of firearms, legally exporting an average of 298,000 guns each year**.[3](https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/guns-crime/reports/2018/02/02/445659/beyond-our-borders/#fn-445659-3) However, many of the same gaps and weaknesses in U.S. gun laws that contribute to illegal gun trafficking domestically likewise contribute to the illegal trafficking of guns from the United States to nearby nations. This report discusses the scope of the problem of U.S. guns being trafficked abroad and used in the commission of violent crimes in other nations. For example, in 2015, a trafficking ring bought more than 100 guns via straw purchases in the Rio Grande Valley of the United States and smuggled them to Mexico. At least 14 of these firearms were recovered in Mexico.[4](https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/guns-crime/reports/2018/02/02/445659/beyond-our-borders/#fn-445659-4) In addition, this report identifies a number of policy solutions that would help to reduce the flow of crime guns abroad and begin to minimize the U.S. role in arming lethal violence in nearby countries. These recommendations include: Instituting universal background checks for gun purchases, Making gun trafficking and straw purchasing federal crimes, Requiring the reporting of multiple sales of long guns, Increasing access to international gun trafficking data, Rejecting efforts that weaken firearm export oversight **The United States has a moral obligation to mitigate its role in arming lethal violence abroad.** While there are many factors unique to each nation that affect rates of violent crime, **there is more the United States could do to reduce the risks posed by U.S.-sourced guns that cross the border and are used in crime in nearby countries.**

**1AC Small Arms (9/14) Advantage One: Human Rights**

**These arms, made highly available by the United States, destroy communities**

**Alpers and Twyford 2003 (**Philip and Conor, Federation of American Scientists, Small Arms in the Pacific, March, [https://fas.org/asmp/campaigns/smallarms/SAS-OP8-Pacifics.pdf)](https://fas.org/asmp/campaigns/smallarms/SAS-OP8-Pacifics.pdf)

Most Pacific nations are at peace, whether armed or not. In countries free from armed conflict, levels of firearm-related violence range from moderate to very low. **In communities that have recently suffered widespread small arms-related violence, the social and economic consequences have been both painful and profound.** In this report, case studies of Fiji, the Solomon Islands, and Bougainville (Papua New Guinea) show how devastating the impacts of armed conflict can be. The Solomon Islands continue to teeter on the edge of economic collapse, while in Bougainville the production base has been almost completely destroyed. Public confidence in the institutions of state has been badly shaken in all three case study communities. **Direct impacts of armed conflict include death and injury, violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, and forced displacement. While indirect impacts are rarely as clear-cut, many can be attributed to the ready availability of lethal weapons. They include declining access to basic entitlements such as health and education, long-term trauma and disruption, in particular to the prospects of an entire generation of young people, damage to social and economic infrastructure, and declining levels of investment, economic productivity, and self sufficiency**

**1AC Small Arms (10/14): Advantage Two: Global Violence**

**ADVANTAGE TWO IS GLOBAL VIOLENCE:**

**The US is the largest small arms exporter and is expanding its sales. However, weapons that are legitimately sold abroad are often trafficked to war zones.**

**Shepp 2018 (Jonah, Feb 23rd, Intelligencer, The American gun glut is a problem for the entire world,** [**http://nymag.com/intelligencer/2018/02/the-american-gun-glut-is-a-problem-for-the-entire-world.html)**](http://nymag.com/intelligencer/2018/02/the-american-gun-glut-is-a-problem-for-the-entire-world.html)

**American guns** also **travel abroad via the legitimate small arms trade.** A [2016 study](https://apnews.com/9d3699a615dd443ba65e0f5eb14cf0a6) by the Small Arms Survey, an independent research project, found that small arms imports in the Middle East nearly doubled from $342 million to $630 million between 2012 and 2013. The study also observed that some of **these guns were being passed on from licit importers in the region to the war zones** of Syria, Iraq, Libya, and Yemen. Again, not all of these guns were American, but many of them undoubtedly were, considering that **the U.S. was the top small arms exporter in 2013, making $1.1 billion in sales.** (The U.S. was also the top importer, to the tune of $2.5 billion.) **Those sales might be set to increase even further, if a plan drawn up by the Trump administration** last September **is put into action.** That plan, officials [told](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-weapons-exclusive/exclusive-trump-administration-prepares-to-ease-export-rules-for-u-s-guns-idUSKCN1BU2N8) Reuters at the time, would move oversight of foreign non-military firearms sales from the State Department to the Commerce Department, supposedly cutting red tape and potentially boosting \*U.S. gun makers’ annual international sales by 15–20 percent. (Manufacturers have been counting on more access to the global market to make up for their lost revenue, now that American gun enthusiasts are no longer afraid of the president taking their toys away.) [Critics](https://www.defensenews.com/opinion/commentary/2017/09/25/five-dangers-of-giving-the-commerce-department-oversight-of-firearms-exports-commentary/) of the proposal say **it will raise the risk of these guns being diverted to unauthorized users and into conflict zones, while making it harder to prevent and prosecute illegal arms trafficking.**

**Small Arms Kill a person every minute--that’s 8 people during this speech and 600 people during this tournament.**

**Stohl and Hogendoorn 2010 (**Rachel and EJ, March, Center for American Progress, Stopping the spread of destructive small arms, <https://cdn.americanprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/issues/2010/03/pdf/small_arms.pdf>)

**Small arms contribute to deaths and injuries, killing hundreds of thousands** and injuring thousands more every year. In fact, **one person dies every minute from gun violence according to the International Action Network on Small Arms.**17 Small arms are used to kill, and **they are also used in forced disappearances, torture, and for sexual violence**, particularly rape and forced prostitution. **Conflict and violence fueled by these weapons often force large numbers of people to flee their homes** and refugees and internally displaced populations are prevented from returning home after a conflict because large numbers of weapons remain in circulation. **Small arms violence also contributes to psychosocial trauma, which takes much longer than physical wounds to heal.**

**1AC Small Arms (11/14): Advantage Two: Global Violence**

**Empirically, Arms Sales make conflicts, escalation, and human rights abuses more likely.**

**Thrall 2018 (**Trevor, July 2nd, Cato Institute, Arm Sales: Pouring Gas on the Fires of Conflict [https://www.cato.org/blog/arms-sales-pouring-gas-fires-conflict)](https://www.cato.org/blog/arms-sales-pouring-gas-fires-conflict)

As it turns out, **several academic studies have looked at this question. The primary conclusion of these works is that although arms sales do not create conflicts out of thin air, they do make conflict more likely when the conditions for conflict are already present.** The basic logic behind this conclusion is fairly straightforward and has been noted in the academic literature for some time. In a 1998 article, “[Arms Transfer Dependence and Foreign Policy Conflict](http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0022343398035001002),” David Kinsella argues that **states that enjoy a steady flow of arms** – especially from multiple countries – **tend to pursue more aggressive foreign policies.** The increase in the recipient’s military capability makes victory in a potential conflict more likely, which in turn raises the likelihood that the state will start disputes, demand concessions from its neighbors in those disputes, and to escalate to conflict if negotiations fail to produce the desired outcome. Using case studies from Israel, Egypt, Syria, Iran, Iraq, India, Pakistan, Ethiopia, and Somalia Kinsella finds that, **when a country has more than one weapons supplier, arms sales drastically increase the chances of conflict.** In their 2002 article, “[The Arms Trade and the Incidence of Political Violence in Sub-Saharan Africa, 1967-97](http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0022343302039006003),” Cassady Craft and Joseph Smaldone identify another mechanism by which arms sales can fuel conflict. They find that **autocratic governments importing weapons are more likely to use those weapons to oppress/mistreat/kill their own citizens since they now have a greater coercive capability.** But despite the straightforward logic behind the arms sales/conflict connection, most work on the topic to date has relied on case studies, which are wonderful for highlighting potential causal mechanisms but not much use for establishing whether those mechanisms hold across the time and space. Until recently there had not been any work using statistical methods that would allow scholars to state with confidence which direction the causal mechanism actually flows – that is, do arms sales precede conflict or do impending conflicts lead to increased arms sales? Happily, the most recent article on arms sales by Oliver Pamp and his colleagues in the January 2018 issue of the Journal of Peace Research entitled, “[The Build-Up of Coercive Capacities: Arms Imports and the Outbreak of Violent Intrastate Conflict](http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0022343317740417),” uses a simultaneous equations model to overcome this problem. **Looking at the relationship between arms sales and the outbreak of civil conflicts,** the authors confirm the general thrust of previous research, concluding that: “…**while arms imports are not a genuine cause of intrastate conflicts, they significantly increase the probability** of an onset **in countries where conditions are notoriously conducive to conflict. In such situations, arms are not an effective deterrent but rather spark conflict escalation.”**

**1AC Small Arms (12/14): Advantage Two: Global Violence**

**Modern global conflicts are between ethnic and religious groups, not major countries.**

**Boutwell and Klare 1998 (**Jeffrey, Director of International Security, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and Michael, Arms Control Association, Spring,[https://www.armscontrol.org/act/1998\_08-09/mkas98)](https://www.armscontrol.org/act/1998_08-09/mkas98)

**One of the dominant features of the global community** in the 1990s **has been the violent breakdown of civil society in dozens of countries throughout the world.** From the socialist states of the former Soviet bloc to Africa and Asia, **we have witnessed the outbreak of** ethnic, **religious, racial,** linguistic **and other forms of communal strife** and the melting away of social norms and government structures that would otherwise contain the violence. Adding to the disorder, in many instances, has been a significant upsurge in armed banditry and criminal violence. The importance of this "failed state syndrome" during this decade can hardly be overstated. **The very nature of conflict has been transformed—from traditional combat between nation-states to inter-communal conflict within states. Such strife typically involves** a wide variety of actors, including governments, **rebel movements,** armed political **militias, ethnic and religious groups,** tribes and clans, expatriate and diaspora groups, criminal gangs and mercenaries.

**These conflicts have killed millions, displaced tens of millions, and resulted in genocide. Small arms make the violence worse and disincentivize peace and diplomacy**

**Boutwell and Klare 1998 (**Jeffrey, Director of International Security, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and Michael, Arms Control Association, Spring,<https://www.armscontrol.org/act/1998_08-09/mkas98>)

Since 1990, **these conflicts have resulted in the deaths of more than 4 million people and have produced 20 million refugees** and 24 million displaced persons.< [2](https://www.armscontrol.org/act/1998_08-09/mkas98#2) > **The resources of the international community are being overwhelmed by bitter conflicts, large-scale refugee movements and even genocide.** In response to these disasters, the international community has spent tens of billions of dollars on emergency relief, refugee care and resettlement, peacekeeping, and direct military intervention. For the United Nations alone, the annual cost of humanitarian assistance and relief for war victims has increased ten-fold, from about $300 million a year in the 1980s to $3 billion a year in the mid-1990s. In recent years, attention has come to focus on the ways in which **the increased availability of low-cost small arms and light weapons contributes to the likelihood, intensity and duration of armed conflict.** Although these conflicts often possess deep and complex roots, it is evident that **the widespread availability of modern light weapons has emboldened belligerents to pursue their objectives on the battlefield, rather than at the bargaining table.**

**1AC Small Arms (13/14): Advantage Two: Global Violence**

**Small Arms Sales are slow motion weapons of mass destruction, because they are the weapons people actually fight with instead of just stockpile for deterrence**

**Hartung 2018 (**William, The Nation, August 14th, Donald Trump, Gunrunner for Hire, [https://www.thenation.com/article/donald-trump-gunrunner-for-hire/)](https://www.thenation.com/article/donald-trump-gunrunner-for-hire/)

Yes, those **massive sales of tanks, helicopters, and fighter aircraft are indeed a grim wonder** of the modern world and never receive the attention they truly deserve. **However, a potentially deadlier aspect of the US weapons trade receives even less attention than the sale of big-ticket items: the export of firearms, ammunition, and related equipment.** Global arms control advocates have [termed](http://thehill.com/opinion/national-security/389255-deregulating-firearms-exports-risks-putting-guns-in-the-wrong-hands) such small arms and light weaponry—rifles, automatic and semi-automatic weapons, and handguns—**“slow motion weapons of mass destruction” because they’re the weapons of choice in the majority of the 40** [**armed conflicts**](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-4453666/The-world-war-Interactive-map-reveals-conflicts.html) **now underway around the world. They and they alone have been responsible for** [**nearly half**](http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/fileadmin/docs/H-Research_Notes/SAS-Research-Note-60.pdf) **of the roughly 200,000 violent deaths by weapon that have been occurring annually both in and outside of official war zones.**

**1AC Small Arms (14/14): Framing Arguments**

**CONTENTION 4 IS FRAMING:**

**We have become comfortably numb to gun violence. Break free from this apathy and vote affirmative.**

**Creditor 2015** (Menachem, Rabbi’s Against Gun Violence, Gun Violence is a Moral Problem, Jun 20th, <https://www.huffpost.com/entry/gun-violence-is-a-moral-problem_b_7096458>)

Yet **this is an epidemic Americans barely notice anymore. The torrent of gun violence headlines and statistics has led many to simply stop seeing them.** I believe we are, as a nation, weary to our bones from all this death. **We have, as a society, become victims of** what Malcolm Gladwell famously called **“**[**the problem of immunity**](http://www.hachettebookgroup.com/titles/malcolm-gladwell/the-tipping-point/9780316067195)**“, in which being overwhelmed by massive amounts of information leads one or more people to be unable to process it, rendering it functionally invisible.** It is, perhaps understandable. **We have become,** to borrow a phrase from Pink Floyd, **“comfortably numb.”** Once in a while, national attention is provoked by either a slow media cycle or a large number of casualties. But in the aftermaths of even these tragedies, despite overwhelming support for universal background checks for gun sales ([even among NRA members](http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2013/01/28/strong-majority-of-americans-nra-members-back-gun-control)), there has been no significant and lasting national response. Legislators seem incapable of compromise, and the frontlines of the culture war are bombarded by extremists who alternatively demonize gun owners and gun reform advocates alike. Is there anything to be done? Is there no way to make any change in a system of sustained violence that costs upwards of 30,000 lives every year? My claim is that my fellow faith leaders can bridge the divide between gun owners and gun reform advocates. **This is a moral crisis, and it requires a moral response.** Whereas elected officials and those employed to sway their decisions are driven by the market, faith communities of all stripes are driven to maintain the dignity of the Divine Image in every human life. Faith reminds us of our common humanity, can provoke that most human of responses to the needless deaths of our fellow citizens: compassion. Americans of all political leanings — gun owners, gun law reformers, mental health advocates — wish for the fulfillment of American Scripture, which includes in its promises a basic right: life. The great civil rights activist Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel [once claimed](http://www.amazon.com/Moral-Grandeur-Spiritual-Audacity-Essays/dp/0374524955) that, when confronting great societal rupture, there is “no time for neutrality,” that: ...one of the lessons we have derived from the events of our time is that we cannot dwell at ease under the sun of our civilization, that man is the least harmless of beings.We know this is true. **We must allow our numbed hearts to be shaken from a false sense of security** and reclaim our roles as partners in a noble American impulse, based in the very basic societal value of mutual obligation. And, if we need more motivation than our national prophetic values, we might do well to consider the statistical reality — if we do nothing — that our streets, our churches, our children are all on the line.

# 2AC Arguments: Saudi Arabia:

**2AC Saudi Arabia Extensions: Inherency**

1. **They say, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(Write the Neg’s Inherency Argument)**

**But extend our** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **evidence that states**

**(Write your author/date)**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**(Write a short summary of your card)**

**It’s better than their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ evidence because**

**(Write their author/date)**

*(Circle one or more of the following reasons and read it aloud)*

(it’s newer) (our author is more qualified)

(their evidence is out of context/contradicts itself) (history proves it to be true) (it has more specific facts) (it takes their argument into account) (Their author is biased) (their evidence supports our argument)

(Or ... WRITE IN YOUR OWN! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

**“You should prefer our evidence because...”**

*(Explain the reasons you selected above for why your evidence is better)*

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**“And this means that ...”**

*(Explain why it’s important that your evidence is better - what argument does it mean is true and what does it mean for the overall debate?)*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2AC Saudi Arabia Extensions: Inherency**

1. **Militias have used weapons sold exclusively to Saudi Arabia in Yemen against civilians**

**Elbagir et. al, 2019** (Nima, Sudanese journalist, Mohamed Abo El Gheit covers the Middle East for CNN. Laura Smith-Spark, CNN Digital. “Exclusive Report Sold to an ally, lost to an enemy,” 5 February 2019 <https://www.cnn.com/interactive/2019/02/middleeast/yemen-lost-us-arms/> )

**Saudi Arabia and its coalition partners have transferred American-made weapons to al Qaeda-linked fighters, hardline Salafi militias, and other factions waging war in Yemen,** in violation of their agreements with the United States, a CNN investigation has found. **The weapons have also made their way into the hands of Iranian-backed rebels** battling the coalition for control of the country, **exposing some of America's sensitive military technology to Tehran and potentially endangering the lives of US troops in other conflict zones.** **Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates,** its main partner in the war, **have used the US-manufactured weapons as a form of currency to buy the loyalties of militias or tribes,** bolster chosen armed actors, **and influence the complex political landscape,** according to local commanders on the ground and analysts who spoke to CNN. By handing off this military equipment to third parties, the Saudi-led coalition is breaking the terms of its arms sales with the US, according to the Department of Defense. After CNN presented its findings, a US defense official confirmed there was an ongoing investigation into the issue. The revelations raise fresh questions about whether **the US has lost control over a key ally presiding over one of the most horrific wars of the past decade,** and whether Saudi Arabia is responsible enough to be allowed to continue buying the sophisticated arms and fighting hardware. Previous CNN investigations established that US-made weapons were used in a series of deadly Saudi coalition attacks that killed dozens of civilians, many of them children. The developments also come as Congress, outraged with Riyadh over the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi last year, considers whether to force an end to the Trump administration's support for the Saudi coalition, which relies on American weapons to conduct its war. In 2015, Riyadh launched a coalition to oust Iranian-supported Houthi rebels from the country's capital and reinstate the internationally recognized government of President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi. The war split the country in two, and with it came the weapons -- not just guns, but anti-tank missiles, armored vehicles, heat-seeking lasers and artillery -- all flooding into an unruly and complex state. Since then, some of America's "beautiful military equipment," as US President Donald Trump once called it, has been passed on, sold, stolen or abandoned in Yemen's state of chaos, where murky alliances and fractured politics mean little hope for any system of accountability or tracking. Some terror groups have gained from the influx of US arms, with the barrier of entry to advanced weaponry now lowered by the laws of supply and demand. Militia leaders have had ample opportunity to obtain military hardware in exchange for the [people] manpower to fight the Houthi militias. Arms dealers have flourished, with traders offering to buy or sell anything, from a US-manufactured rifle to a tank, to the highest bidder. And Iran's proxies have captured American weapons they can exploit for vulnerabilities or reverse-engineer for native production.

**2AC Saudi Arabia Extensions: Inherency**

1. **Saudi Arabia is America’s biggest arms buyer and used our weapons to bomb a school bus full of children.**

**Ivanova, 2018** (Irina, CBS MoneyWatch. “Saudi Arabia is America's No. 1 weapons customer,” 12 October 2018, <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/saudi-arabia-is-the-top-buyer-of-u-s-weapons/>)

**The U.S. remains the world's largest weapons exporter,** a position it has held since the late 1990s. **Our biggest customer? Saudi Arabia.** That business reality came to the forefront this week in President Donald Trump's refusal to crack down on the kingdom whose royal rulers have been accused of murdering a Saudi-born, U.S.-based dissident journalist who disappeared after entering the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. **The U.S. sold a total of $55.6 billion of weapons worldwide** in the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30 — **up 33 percent from the previous fiscal year, and a near record.** In 2017, the U.S. cleared some $18 billion in new Saudi arms deals. Mr. Trump has dismissed the idea of suspending weapons sales to Saudi Arabia to punish its crown prince, Mohammad bin Salman, for any involvement in the alleged murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi. "I don't like the concept of stopping an investment of $110 billion into the United States," Mr. Trump said this week. Last year in May, President Trump used his first foreign trip as an occasion to visit the kingdom and sign an arms deal advertised as $110 billion — a figure experts have since disputed as inflated, since it was not based on actual, signed contracts and included at least $23 billion previously approved by the Obama administration, according to Defense One. But even before that announcement, Saudi Arabia was by far the U.S.' largest arms client, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. Over the five years ending in 2017, nearly one-fifth of American weapons exports went to Saudi Arabia, SIPRI reports. Overall, half went to the Middle East and North Africa. In the 2017 calendar year alone, some $18 billion in new Saudi arms deals were cleared by the U.S. Bombs away The current White House has shifted the type of weapons exports the U.S. favors. Prior to this year, aircraft was the largest component of U.S. arms sales, according to the Security Assistance Monitor. Under the first year of the Trump administration, sales of bombs and missiles dominated. That year, the U.S. sold Saudi Arabia $298 million worth of Paveway laser-guided missiles, $98 million in ammunition for various types of firearms and $95 million worth of programmable bomb systems. **A recent attack on a school bus in Yemen that killed dozens of children was carried out with a bomb the U.S. sold to Saudi Arabia,** CNN has reported. Just this year, the State Department has approved sales to Saudi Arabia of $670 million worth of BGM-71 TOWs, a type of anti-tank missile, $1.3 billion worth of medium self-propelled Howitzers and at least $600 million in "maintenance support services."

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: China/Russia Fill In**

1. **The war in Yemen has inspired most countries to stop selling arms to Saudi Arabia.**

**Dewan 2018 (**Angela, CNN, 11-23-18, Senior Producer, <https://www.cnn.com/2018/11/22/middleeast/arms-exports-saudi-arabia-intl/index.html> )

**A number of countries have restricted arms sales to Saudi Arabia since the kingdom began airstrikes on Yemen** in 2015, **in a war that the UN describes as the world's worst man-made humanitarian disaster. Calls for more restrictions on arms exports have been growing, particularly in Europe, since the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi** at the Saudi consulate in Turkey last month. US President Donald Trump, however, has repeatedly pointed to the US' lucrative arms deals with the Saudis as a reason to stand by the kingdom. Denmark and Finland on Thursday became the latest countries to suspend new arms deals with Saudi Arabia. Denmark's Foreign Ministry said it was freezing new deals over both Khashoggi and Yemen, while the Finnish Foreign Ministry mentioned only Yemen. Finland also banned new arms sales to the United Arab Emirates, which is part of the Saudi-led coalition in the conflict. Their announcements came just two days after Germany said it was stopping all arms transfers to the kingdom. Denmark and Finland are not major suppliers of weapons to Saudi Arabia, but Germany certainly is. It had already suspended new arms deals to Saudi Arabia, but on Monday it widened that ban to include the transfers of weapons on existing orders as well. **So where is Saudi Arabia getting its weapons from?** Arms deals are often done in secret or with little publicity. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) tries to track deals involving major weapons, and **a database of Saudi imports from the last decade shows the United States as the biggest supplier,** followed by the United Kingdom, France, Spain and then Germany. But a lot of exporters still selling to the Saudis have dramatically decreased their supply in recent years. The United Kingdom, for example, transferred arms worth an estimated $843 million in 2016 but almost halved that value to $436 million last year, according to SIPRI. (The database uses values constant with 1990 prices to eliminate currency fluctuations and inflation.) French exports of major weapons to Saudi Arabia were worth $174 million in 2015 but dropped to $91 million in 2016 and $27 million last year. The value of Spanish exports also dramatically decreased in that time period, but the Spanish government confirmed this year it would go ahead with arms deals it had previously suggested it would freeze, bowing to pressure from Spanish manufacturers, according to reports. US dwarfs other exporters Despite these decreases, the overall value of Saudi weapons imports actually increased by 38% between 2016 and 2017. That was almost entirely because of a huge uptick in transfers from the United States, which almost doubled its exports in terms of value from $1.8 billion to $3.4 billion in that time. Germany also multiplied its exports from $14 million to $105 million, although it is expected to be much lower this year following its suspension. Overall, **no country comes close to the United States in major weapons supply.** Over the past five years, for example, the US accounted for 61% of major arms sales to the Saudis. The UK was a distant second, with a 23% share, while France, in third place, was a mere 4%. In a statement on Tuesday, Trump said that canceling major arms contracts with the Saudis would be foolish, and that "Russia and China would be the enormous beneficiaries" if the US halted its sales.

1. **China wouldn’t want to be involved in Saudi-Yemen mess, and doesn’t have the tech to fill in.**

**Zheng, 18 (**Sarah, Washington Post, “China may seek to boost ties with Saudi Arabia but it ‘can’t fill US arms sales gap’,” 17 October 2018, <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/2168849/china-may-seek-boost-ties-saudi-arabia-it-cant-fill-us-arms> )

**The Arab nation could turn to countries such as China and Russia to help fulfil its military needs if US sanctions were imposed, a step that would “create an economic disaster that would rock the entire world”,** according to a widely cited opinion piece by the general manager of the Saudi-owned Al Arabiya news channel. In the editorial, Turki Aldakhil said Saudi Arabia – the world’s largest oil exporter – was considering more than 30 countermeasures to be taken against the US, including trading oil in yuan instead of the US dollar. But in the military realm, **China’s arms exports to Saudi Arabia lag far behind those of the US a**nd its European allies. Beijing exported only around US$20 million in arms last year compared to US$3.4 billion from Washington, according to data from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, a Swedish think tank. Jamal Khashoggi fallout: how much damage can Saudi Arabia do to the global economy? Jonathan Fulton, assistant professor of political science at Zayed University in Abu Dhabi, said China had grown more serious in its regional arms relationships with Gulf states in recent years, with the potential to serve as a “wedge” as US-Saudi relations frayed. Along with Riyadh’s previous indications that it was willing to consider funding in yuan, increased arms sales would be a “natural progression” of their relationship, he said. “Part of the reason why [Saudi Arabia] is diversifying is there’s been so many kinds of structural changes in the relationship with the US,” Fulton said. “Another important part is just obviously the commercial relationship and economic relationship between these Gulf states and China, with these energy exports. We’re seeing a lot more engagement both ways.” But as evidence piles up that Saudi Arabia ordered Khashoggi’s assassination, which the government denies, the backlash is getting louder. A bipartisan group of US senators have pressured Trump to enact sanctions and key corporate sponsors have pulled out of the high-profile “Davos in the Desert” investment forum to be held in Riyadh this month. “I would expect to see some kind of … Saudi-led way to ease the tensions between the US and Riyadh because I don’t think they can afford to let the US relationship deteriorate,” Fulton said. Simone van Nieuwenhuizen, an Australia-based researcher of China-Middle East relations at the University of Technology Sydney, said **China would be “extremely unlikely” to follow US sanctions if they were levelled against Saudi Arabia, but may not necessarily increase trade with the country either. “I think China is likely to keep a low profile on this issue and see how it plays out** before directly addressing it,” she said. **“While its technology is developing, China still lags behind the US in the sophistication and capability of its military equipment. It simply can’t fill the gap.”** Robert Mason, director of the Middle East Studies Centre at the American University in Cairo, said China would not want to get involved at this stage to avoid further tensions with the Trump administration.

**2AC Saudi Arabia Extensions: Solvency**

1. **They say, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(Write the Neg’s Solvency Argument)**

**But extend our** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **evidence that states**

**(Write your author/date)**

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**(Write a short summary of your card)**

**It’s better than their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ evidence because**

**(Write their author/date)**

*(Circle one or more of the following reasons and read it aloud)*

(it’s newer) (our author is more qualified)

(their evidence is out of context/contradicts itself) (history proves it to be true) (it has more specific facts) (it takes their argument into account) (Their author is biased) (their evidence supports our argument)

(Or ... WRITE IN YOUR OWN! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

**“You should prefer our evidence because...”**

*(Explain the reasons you selected above for why your evidence is better)*

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**“And this means that ...”**

*(Explain why it’s important that your evidence is better - what argument does it mean is true and what does it mean for the overall debate?)*

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**2AC Saudi Arabia Extensions: Solvency**

1. **By switching to an approval, instead of a disapproval model, Congress will be given an effective check on executive ability to sell weapons.**

**Ford 2019 (**Matt, The New Republic. “A Farewell to Arms Deals,” 11 June 2019, https://newrepublic.com/article/154160/trump-arms-deals-executive-power-democrats-congress] )

For arms sales, Biden’s solution was to invert the legal mechanism in question. **Rather than giving Congress an opportunity to stop each sale before it took effect,** **his bill would have required the White House to seek affirmative support from lawmakers first.** “Under a joint resolution of approval, of course, **a sale cannot go through until it is approved by both houses and signed by the President,”** he wrote. “That can take up a lot of Senate and House time, but **it is the only way for Congress to retain the same degree of control we had over arms sales** before Chadha.” This maneuver would remove the mathematical disadvantage faced by lawmakers: the president’s veto power. “Under a joint resolution of disapproval, Congress can get its way only if it has enough votes to override a presidential veto,” Biden explained. “So instead of needing fifty-one senators’ votes to defeat an arms sale we would need sixty-seven, plus two-thirds of the House of Representatives.” In other words, **so long as the president can muster the support of one-third of one chamber of Congress, lawmakers are generally powerless to halt controversial arms sales to foreign powers.**

1. **HR 7080 makes it easier for Congress to prevent human rights abuse and can send a signal of disapproval even if the arms sale goes through.**

**Mahanty & Eikenberry 2018 (**Daniel, Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC). Eric, Yemen Peace Project, “How the “Arms Sales Oversight Act” Could Prevent American Arms from Contributing to the Next Overseas Crisis,” 5 December 2018, <https://www.justsecurity.org/61719/arms-sales-oversight-act-prevent-american-arms-contributing-overseas-crisis/> )

Admittedly, the Senate has rarely made a serious attempt to block an arms sale by resolution of disapproval, but support for exercising greater Congressional oversight over arms sales seems to be on the rise. And **even when a resolution of disapproval fails to pass, mere consideration of the legislation can send clear signals to the executive branch and recipient countries alike, and can stimulate valuable policy debate.** While S.J. Res. 39, a 2016 effort to block tank sales to Saudi Arabia, mustered 27 votes, S.J. Res. 42, a June 2017 measure to freeze a sale of precision-guided munitions to Saudi Arabia, garnered 47. The administration has not moved forward with a further sale of as many as 120,000 precision munitions to both Saudi Arabia and the UAE due to Senate opposition; the weapons’ traceable serial numbers, as damning as “made in the USA” stickers, could embroil the United States in further strikes on buses, hospitals, and homes. While the threat of unicameral opposition has worked for now, the reforms advanced by **H.R. 7080 would further increase the chances for debate on arms sales in the Congress, and create a more efficient path for the House and Senate to indefinitely arrest a sale.**

**2AC Saudi Arabia Extensions: Solvency**

1. **HR 7080 is key to stop the Yemeni crisis and restraining executive authority.**

**Mahanty & Eikenberry 2018 (**Daniel, Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC). Eric, Yemen Peace Project, “How the “Arms Sales Oversight Act” Could Prevent American Arms from Contributing to the Next Overseas Crisis,” 5 December 2018, <https://www.justsecurity.org/61719/arms-sales-oversight-act-prevent-american-arms-contributing-overseas-crisis/> )

While the most recent and egregious example, **Yemen is not the only case where enhanced Congressional oversight is necessary to add reasonable constraints to the arms sales process.** By some credible estimates, **the United States sells arms, including bombs and missiles, to at least 62 countries that are an active party to a conflict.** Some countries to whom the United States sells arms, such as Bahrain and Egypt, have demonstrated a consistent pattern of human rights violations; others present a very clear risk of misuse or diversion, or even the potential for mass atrocities. And some countries with lower levels of capacity simply require a greater degree of due diligence to ensure equipment can be used appropriately. If **H.R. 7080 makes it more likely that Congress could exercise more meaningful oversight** in even a handful of these cases, **the risk of U.S. complicity in human rights abuses** or the next humanitarian disaster, wherever it is, **could be meaningfully diminished** – and at minimal opportunity cost. H.R. 7080 does not have to become law this Congress to have an impact – advocates should view it as an organizing tool around which to rally, and that could ease the way to reforms small and large which can check the executive’s nearly unfettered prerogative to sell weapons to any regime, regardless of their crimes. To begin, H.R. 7080 does not have to pass for next year’s House to respect its provisions as an intra-chamber rule: regardless of eventual passage, Democratic leadership should open this procedural path to the floor for joint resolutions of disapproval as a matter of course. Furthermore, if H.R. 7080 is reintroduced in the 116th Congress, it should be resurfaced alongside a host of measures to strengthen Congress’s hand in overall arms export policy. These can include requiring detailed and unclassified answers from the departments of State and Defense concerning the likelihood that a sale of certain items will exacerbate armed conflict or spur an arms race (theoretically a judgment the executive already makes under AECA) and outlining robust processes for monitoring the way weapons’ are used among recipients with a history of rights violations or violations of the laws of armed conflict, and those for which the indicators suggest a high risk of future violations. Congress should also consider lowering notification thresholds, so that members can vet arms sales valued at less than $50 million. The time is also long past for Congress to unequivocally clarify that the Leahy Law applies to Foreign Military Sales (FMS) and Direct Commercial Sales (DCS), thereby prohibiting State and Defense from permitting the transfer or maintenance of defense articles to security forces that have committed unconscionable human rights violations with impunity. **There is no simple trick to ending the devastation yielded by the war and intervention in Yemen,** which has directly killed at least 57,000, contributed to the further deaths of tens of thousands of children per year from preventable causes, and threatened 14 million with famine. **Yet without a congressional freeze on weapons to the coalition states, there will never be enough political space for peace negotiations** to take root.

1. **The embargo would send a strong signal that would change Saudi behavior.**

**Spindel 2019 (**Jennifer, University of Oklahoma, “The Case for Suspending American Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia,” 14 May 2019, [https://warontherocks.com/2019/05/the-case-for-suspending-american-arms-sales-to-saudi-arabia](https://warontherocks.com/2019/05/the-case-for-suspending-american-arms-sales-to-saudi-arabia/))

But **even if an arms embargo isn’t a direct tool of coercion, an embargo would be an important political signal.** There are at least two reasons for the United States to seriously consider an arms embargo against Saudi Arabia. First, **arms sales are signals that cut through the noise of the international system. Cutting off arms transfers is a common way that states express their dissatisfaction with others and try to influence behavior.** As Lawrence Freedman observed in 1978, “refusing to sell arms is a major political act. It appears as a calculated insult, reflecting on the stability, trust, and credit-worthiness, or technical competence of the would-be recipient.” Yet this crucial point seems to have been lost in the current policy debate about whether or not the United States should continue selling arms to Saudi Arabia. My research shows that **stopping arms transfers** or denying requests **is an effective way to signal dissatisfaction and causes the would-be recipient to re-think their behavior.**

**2AC Saudi Arabia Extensions: Solvency**

1. **The plan sends a signal to allies that US support must be earned encouraging moderation- this stabilizes the region, oil prices, reduces terrorism and proliferation.**

**Walt, 18** (Stephen Walt PhD, IR@Harvard, 1-16 https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/01/16/the-islamic-republic-of-hysteria-iran-middle-east-trump/)

Fortunately, no state inside or outside the Middle East was then — or is today — in a position to control it. As a result, the United States does not have to do much to maintain a regional balance of power. **Instead of giving Saudi Arabia** or Israel **a blank check** to counter some mythical Iranian hegemon, **Washington should seek more balanced relations with all states** in the region, Iran included. **This more equitable approach would facilitate cooperation on issues where U.S. and Iranian interests align,** such as Afghanistan. The prospect of better relations with the United States would give Tehran an incentive to moderate its behavior. Past U.S. efforts to isolate the clerical regime encouraged it to play a spoiler’s role instead, with some degree of success. **This approach would also discourage America’s present allies from taking U.S. support for granted and encourage them to do more to retain its favor.** America’s current regional allies (and their domestic lobbies) would surely protest vehemently if Washington stopped backing them to the hilt and sought even a modest détente with Iran. But that is ultimately their problem, not America’s. **Excessive U.S. support encourages allies to behave recklessly,** as Israel does when it expands illegal settlements and **as Saudi Arabia is doing with its military campaign in Yemen,** its diplomatic squabble with Qatar, and its bungled attempt to reshape politics inside Lebanon. If U.S. allies understood that Washington was talking to everyone, however, they would have more reason to listen to America’s advice lest it curtail its support and look elsewhere. Having many options is the ultimate source of leverage. Playing balance-of-power politics in the Middle East does not require Washington to abandon its current allies completely or tilt toward Tehran. Rather, it means using U.S. power to maintain a rough balance, discourage overt efforts to alter the status quo, and prevent any state from dominating the region while helping local powers resolve their differences. Lowering the temperature in this way would safeguard access to oil, dampen desire in the region for weapons of mass destruction, and give these states less reason to fund extremists and other proxies.

**2AC Saudi Arabia Extensions: Solvency**

1. **Their arguments are a product of the Kingdom Industrial Complex.**

**Hiatt et al, 18** [WaPo Editorial Board 10-24-18 https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/global-opinions/does-saudi-money-leave-room-for-an-honest-debate/2018/10/24/678654c2-d7bb-11e8-aeb7-ddcad4a0a54e\_story.html?utm\_term=.ecdabd07f4fe]

WASHINGTON NEEDS to have a thorough debate about Saudi Arabia and whether the bilateral relationship as it now stands serves U.S. interests. That raises a difficult question: Is it possible to have an honest discussion when so many American experts are, in one way or another, on the Saudi payroll? **Many countries spend heavily to influence Congress or U.S. public opinion, but the Saudi operation dwarfs most of them. In the decade after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, in which 15 of the 19 hijackers were Saudi nationals, the regime spent more than $100 million to rebuild its image here, according to Ben Freeman of the Center for International Policy. Last year alone it spent $27.3 million on lobbyists and consultants, according to public records; more than 200 people have registered as Saudi agents**. Prominent Washington think tanks, including the Middle East Institute and the Center for Strategic and International Studies, have accepted millions in Saudi money; so have universities, museums and other cultural organizations. **U.S. financial firms are brokering big deals for the Saudi government, which is effectively controlled by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. Members of Congress or journalists looking for expert advice on Saudi Arabia might typically turn to former ambassadors or former chiefs of the Pentagon’s Central Command. But a number of them are connected to those think tanks or financial firms. According to Mr. Freeman, lobbyists made nearly $400,000 in campaign contributions last year to Senate and House members they contacted on behalf of the Saudis;** in 11 cases, the contributions were made on the same day as the contact. One of those lobbyists is Norm Coleman, a former Republican senator. He told The Post that “the relationship with Saudi Arabia is critically important, and its partnership in confronting the Iranian threat is critical for U.S. security.” That’s an oft-made and legitimate argument. But do those who hear it take into account the fact that Mr. Coleman is paid to represent Saudi rather than U.S. interests?

**2AC Saudi Arabia Extensions: Human Rights**

1. **They say, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(Write the Neg’s Human Rights Argument)**

**But extend our** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **evidence that states**

**(Write your author/date)**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**(Write a short summary of your card)**

**It’s better than their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ evidence because**

**(Write their author/date)**

*(Circle one or more of the following reasons and read it aloud)*

(it’s newer) (our author is more qualified)

(their evidence is out of context/contradicts itself) (history proves it to be true) (it has more specific facts) (it takes their argument into account) (Their author is biased) (their evidence supports our argument)

(Or ... WRITE IN YOUR OWN! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

**“You should prefer our evidence because...”**

*(Explain the reasons you selected above for why your evidence is better)*

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**“And this means that ...”**

*(Explain why it’s important that your evidence is better - what argument does it mean is true and what does it mean for the overall debate?)*

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**2AC Saudi Arabia Extensions: Human Rights**

1. **These arms are used specifically against civilians**

**Malsin ’17** [Jared Malsin, 5/22/17, Time, http://time.com/4787797/donald-trump-yemen-saudi-arabia-arms-deal/]

The weapons sale was one of the largest in history, totaling close to $110 billion worth of tanks, artillery, radar systems, armored personnel carriers, and Blackhawk helicopters. The package also included ships, patrol boats, Patriot missiles, and THAAD missile defense systems. **Much of that military hardware will likely be pressed into service in the Saudi fight against its neighbor Yemen, where more than 10,000 people have been killed over more than two years of heavy airstrikes** and fighting. This puts the U.S. in a precarious ethical position, say human rights groups and former U.S. officials. **The Saudi-led airstrike campaign has hit numerous schools, hospitals, factories, and other civilian targets,** leading to well-documented allegations of war crimes by human rights organizations. **The war has also pushed much of the country to the brink of starvation, with more than 17 million people facing famine,** according to the U.N. “There’s a humanitarian aspect that tends to be ignored. This is something that will come back to bite the Saudis as well, and by implication the Americans, because **we’re the ones providing the bombs and bullets,”** says Robert Jordan, the former U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia appointed by George W. Bush. “The implication is not necessarily that these are war crimes, but it is a stain on the reputation of both the Saudis and potentially the Americans to continue this kind of bloodshed with indiscriminate attacks on civilian populations,” he tells TIME in a phone interview. Far from Washington and the ever-expanding investigation into Trump’s relations with Russia, the president trumpeted the weapons deal as a step that will boost Saudi security and the American economy.

**2AC Saudi Arabia Extensions: Middle East Stability**

1. **They say, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(Write the Neg’s Middle East Stability Argument)**

**But extend our** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **evidence that states**

**(Write your author/date)**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**(Write a short summary of your card)**

**It’s better than their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ evidence because**

**(Write their author/date)**

*(Circle one or more of the following reasons and read it aloud)*

(it’s newer) (our author is more qualified)

(their evidence is out of context/contradicts itself) (history proves it to be true) (it has more specific facts) (it takes their argument into account) (Their author is biased) (their evidence supports our argument)

(Or ... WRITE IN YOUR OWN! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

**“You should prefer our evidence because...”**

*(Explain the reasons you selected above for why your evidence is better)*

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**“And this means that ...”**

*(Explain why it’s important that your evidence is better - what argument does it mean is true and what does it mean for the overall debate?)*

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**2AC Saudi Arabia Extensions: Middle East Stability**

1. **The US and Saudi Arabia have used their weapons sales to increase influence in Syria; this has only helped to embolden ISIS.**

**O’Connor 2018 (**Tom, Newsweek. “How Did ISIS Get Its Weapons? Europe Wants to Limit U.S. and Saudi Arabia Arms Sales Because Guns Went to Militant Group,” 14 November 2018, <https://www.newsweek.com/europe-limit-us-saudi-weapons-sales-went-isis-1215758> )

The document cited specific examples of taking measures to cut **weapons exports to Saudi Arabia and the United States in order to ensure they were not acquired by** banned organizations such as **the Islamic State** militant group, commonly known as ISIS or Daesh. The document quoted parliamentarians as saying they were "shocked at the amount of EU-made weapons and ammunition found in the hands of Da'esh, in Syria and Iraq." The lawmakers highlighted EU protocols designed to prevent arms intended for a legitimate customer from then being transferred to a restricted one, but called out Bulgaria and Romania specifically for not adhering to them. Due to the risks associated with such sales, the lawmakers said member states should "refuse similar transfer in the future, notably to the US and Saudi Arabia." The U.S. and Saudi Arabia have garnered criticism for their support of groups fighting to overthrow Syrian President Bashar al-Assad in the wake of a 2011 rebel and jihadi uprising. As the opposition made gains in the early years of the war, **ISIS arose out of a post-U.S. invasion Sunni Muslim insurgency in neighboring Iraq and came to control up to half of both countries** at its height in 2014. That same year, the U.S. formed a coalition to battle ISIS in Iraq and Syria. **ISIS's rapid takeover,** however, **was assisted by U.S. weapons looted from government forces in Iraq and from Syrian fighters that either were defeated or absorbed by the militant group.** In December, the U.K.-based Conflict Armament Research released a report that accused the U.S. and Saudi Arabia of intentionally violating EU rules by purchasing "large numbers" of European arms and ammunition and then quietly diverting them to nonstate actors in Syria without telling the suppliers. These sales were reportedly made possible through deals between Eastern European members of the EU, as well as the U.S. and Saudi Arabia, both of whom "supplied most of this material without authorization, apparently to Syrian opposition forces," the 2017 report found. It added: "Supplies of material into the Syrian conflict from foreign parties—notably the United States and Saudi Arabia—have indirectly allowed IS to obtain substantial quantities of anti-armor ammunition."

**2AC Saudi Arabia Extensions: Answers: Saudi Needs Arms for Protection**

1. **Saudi Arabia is the most well armed country in the Middle East; it’s not even close.**

**Wezeman, 18** [Pieter D. Wezeman is a Senior Researcher with the SIPRI Arms Transfers and Military Expenditure Programme. His area of research is the global production and proliferation of conventional arms with a special focus on military expenditure and arms procurement in and arms transfers to the Middle East and Africa. He also monitors multilateral arms embargoes and maintains the SIPRI database on that issue. “Saudi Arabia, armaments and conflict in the Middle East,” 14 December 2018, https://www.sipri.org/commentary/topical-backgrounder/2018/saudi-arabia-armaments-and-conflict-middle-east]

**The SIPRI arms transfers database yields a long list of arms imported by Saudi Arabia in the period 2013–2017. As these are generally advanced weapons, Saudi Arabia is the most well-armed country in the Gulf region in terms of its inventory of modern equipment. Only a few examples are necessary to illustrate the types of recently acquired weapons that are important to Saudi Arabia’s capability to wage war in Yemen while at the same time conducting internal military operations, maintaining a military capability at the border with Iraq, facing Iran militarily and contemplating the possibility of deploying its military in Syria.** A combination of newly procured air force assets has increased the reach and strike power of the Saudi Arabian armed forces. The Royal Saudi Air Forces (RSAF) uses several types of combat aircraft, all of which have been used in the war in Yemen. During the 1990s, the USA supplied 72 F-15S. Starting in 2016, these began being replaced by 154 F-15SA, a heavily modernized version of the F-15S ordered from the USA in 2011. In addition, the USA continues to deliver large quantities of ordnance for these aircraft, such as SLAM-ER cruise missiles with a 280-kilometre range, and a variety of guided bombs that have been used in Yemen. The United Kingdom supplied Tornado combat aircraft in the 1990s, and 84 of these were upgraded in the period 2007–13 to enable them to carry new guided weapons, such as Storm Shadow cruise missiles which have a range of at least 250 kilometres. These and other guided weapons delivered by the UK have been used in Yemen since 2015, and deliveries are ongoing. The UK also delivered 72 Typhoon combat aircraft in 2009–17 and contract negotiations for 48 more were continuing in 2018. Saudi Arabia bases its long-range strike capability on aircraft, but it also maintains a secretive Strategic Missile Force equipped with a small arsenal of DF-3 ballistic missiles. These have a range of at least 2500 km and were supplied by China in 1988. There are indications that this force was modernized around 2010. A small fleet of tanker aircraft extends the range and increases the payload of Saudi Arabia’s combat aircraft. To supplement its existing tanker aircraft, six new A-330 MRTT built by the trans-European Airbus consortium were delivered from Spain between 2011 and 2015. The significance of this tanker fleet was highlighted when, in November 2018, Saudi Arabia stated that it no longer required aerial refuelling support from the USA for its operations in Yemen ‘because it could now handle it by itself’. Nonetheless, it remains uncertain just how independent the country really is in this regard. Sophisticated intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, and command and control equipment is crucial to the Saudi Arabian military. Five E-3 airborne early warning and control (AEW&C) aircraft were acquired from the USA in the 1980s and are currently being extensively upgraded. In addition, Sweden supplied two Erieye AEW&C aircraft in 2014. At the same time, Saudi Arabia is improving its capability to defend against air and missile attacks. In 2014–17 it received 21 Patriot PAC-3 air defence systems from the USA, which have been used with mixed success to defend Riyadh and other places in Saudi Arabia against ballistic missiles fired by Houthi rebels from Yemen. In November 2018 Saudi Arabia signed an agreement with the USA to buy THAAD systems, the most advanced anti-missile system available. Together, the increasing reach of the RSAF combined with improved target acquisition capabilities and evolving air and missile defence systems widen the technological gap between the Saudi Arabian arsenal and that of its main rival, Iran. Saudi Arabia’s land and naval forces are also continuously being improved. In the period 2013–17, for example, the army and National Guard received over 3000 armoured vehicles from Austria, Canada, France, Georgia, South Africa, Turkey and the USA. Many of the vehicle types delivered in recent years have been highly visible in coverage of the war in Yemen. The Royal Saudi Naval Forces (RSNF), which play an important role in the blockade of Yemen, has initiated several major procurement projects in recent years, including orders for at least 33 patrol boats from Germany in 2014, two large patrol boats from France in 2015, 4 highly advanced frigates from the USA in 2017 and 5 corvettes from Spain in 2018. One aspect of Saudi Arabian military activities remains especially difficult to assess as reliable information is so scarce—the extent of the support it provides to its allies in the Middle East,

**2AC Saudi Arabia Extensions: Answers: Saudi Needs Arms for Protection**

often in competition with Iranian support to its allies. F**or example, there are strong indications that Saudi Arabia has supplied significant amounts of weaponry to rebel forces in Syria and to government forces or related armed groups in Yemen. These weapons come from existing Saudi Arabian stocks or have reportedly been procured specifically for this purpose from Bulgaria, Croatia and Serbia, among others.**

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Economy DA**

1. **Case Outweighs:**

(Explain what your impacts are bigger than the Negs using Magnitude, Probability, and/or Timeframe)

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **No Link: Cancelling the Saudi Arms Deal would not impact US defense industry much**

**Macias 2018 (**Amanda, Nov. 26th, CNBC, Restrictions on Arm Sales to Saudi Arabia would likely have a limited impact on US defense firms, <https://www.cnbc.com/2018/11/26/saudi-arms-sale-limits-would-have-slight-impact-on-us-defense-firms.html> )

WASHINGTON — **America’s top defense firms will face limited financial risks in their dealings with Saudi Arabia, even as lawmakers consider imposing limits on arms sales to the kingdom,** according to analysts at Cowen Research. “It would appear that these would be limited in duration and scope, and big-ticket buys of missile defense systems would not be impacted,” the analysts wrote in the note. Of the major defense suppliers, [Lockheed Martin](https://www.cnbc.com/quotes/?symbol=LMT) would have the most exposure, according to the note, but **it would still amount to a relatively tiny portion of the company’s business.** Saudi Arabia’s oil-rich monarchy is one of America’s most strategic partners and a significant patron of U.S. defense companies. The Saudis are the indisputable top buyers of U.S.-made arms, a title that has safeguarded the kingdom from retaliatory sanctions over the disappearance of journalist Jamal Khashoggi and the Saudi-led war in Yemen. President [Donald Trump](https://www.cnbc.com/donald-trump/) has often cited the importance of the U.S. relationship with Saudi Arabia, repeatedly pushing back on approving significant economic or political consequences for Riyadh’s actions. [In an extraordinary statement last week](https://www.cnbc.com/2018/11/20/trump-says-us-stands-with-saudi-arabia-despite-khashoggi-killing.html), Trump affirmed that the U.S. would continue to stand with Saudi Arabia. Trump has also commented on the potential impact to defense suppliers if the U.S. were to sanction the Saudis over the Khashoggi killing. Read more: [Saudi Arabia is the top US weapons buyer – but it doesn’t spend as much as Trump boasts](https://www.cnbc.com/2018/10/15/saudi-arabia-top-us-weapons-buyer-but-doesnt-spend-as-much-as-trump-boasts.html) “I tell you what I don’t want to do,” Trump said to CBS’ “60 Minutes” last month, when he was asked about possibly blocking arms sales to Riyadh. “Boeing, Lockheed, Raytheon, all these [companies]. I don’t want to hurt jobs. I don’t want to lose an order like that. There are other ways of punishing, to use a word that’s a pretty harsh word, but it’s true.” However, **if Congress imposed short-term restrictions on Saudi weapons sales the resulting impact looks to be less than 2 percent of sales for Lockheed Martin,** [**Raytheon**](https://www.cnbc.com/quotes/?symbol=RTN)**,** [**Boeing**](https://www.cnbc.com/quotes/?symbol=BA) **and** [**General Dynamics**](https://www.cnbc.com/quotes/?symbol=GD)**, and negligible for** [**Northrop Grumman**](https://www.cnbc.com/quotes/?symbol=NOC)**.**

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Economy DA**

1. **US weapons get used against us over-seas, and economic justifications for arms sales aren’t worth it.**

**Boutwell and Klare 1998 (**Jeffrey, Director of International Security, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and Michael, Arms Control Association, Spring,[https://www.armscontrol.org/act/1998\_08-09/mkas98)](https://www.armscontrol.org/act/1998_08-09/mkas98)

**Clearly, the U.S.** and other governments, especially those **responsible for the majority of light weapons production and supply, need to do more.** At the moment, most countries, including the United States, are putting greater emphasis on the illicit light weapons trade. Yet, **it is the continued supply of large amounts of small arms and light weapons, through legal channels,** to governments and non-state actors, **that is most worrisome.** All too often, **supplier states continue to** give away or **sell** at a discount **hundreds of thousands of surplus light weapons that end up in the wrong hands. In some cases,** such as Somalia, **these weapons are then used against U.S. peace-keeping forces** that are sent to restore civil order. In other cases, such as Bosnia, Liberia and Sierra Leone, the United States and the international community will spend billions of dollars in peace-keeping and economic reconstruction when a more restrictive policy on light weapons transfers might have prevented or diminished the intensity of civil conflict in these countries. As the international community is beginning to recognize, **the humanitarian and development benefits of cutting the link between light weapons availability and civil conflict would be substantial.** **For the United States, the economic benefits of the light weapons trade are exceedingly minor compared to the ultimate costs of having to rescue "failed states," provide for millions of refugees, and reconstruct societies torn apart by genocide and ethnic strife.** The savings inherent in preventing or greatly limiting conflict in even one Rwanda, Bosnia or Liberia would greatly outweigh the minimal political and economic benefits of being an indiscriminate light weapons supplier.

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Economy DA**

#### **No Impact – empirically democracies are extremely unlikely to enter conflict with any type of regime, and economic growth is insignificant in conflict with democracies**

**Tir and Oneal, International Studies Quarterly, 2006** (Jaroslav and John R., December 2006, “Does the Diversionary Use of Force Threaten the Democratic Peace? Assessing the Effect of Economic Growth on Interstate Conflict, 1921-2001,” International Studies Quarterly, Vol. 50, No. 4 (Dec., 2006), http://www.jstor.org/stable/4092778, accessed 7/6/17, JCP-PW

In Table I we report the results of our first set of tests. In column 1 are the estimated coefficients of a baseline model. The democracy score of both the focal state and the potential target are included. The results indicate that democracies are less likely to initiate conflict than are more autocratic states (p<.02). On aver- age, democracies are more peaceful than other political regimes. **The political character of the target state does not influence the likelihood of an initiation in this specification.** Democracies seem

disinclined to start a dispute with any type of re- gime, not just other democracies; but this specification does not allow for the pos- sibility that the political character of a potential target affects the likelihood of conflict differently for different types of regimes. That is, autocratic states may be likely to initiate military action against a democratic target while democracies are particularly unlikely to do so (Oneal and Russett 1997). We reconsider this issue below. ¶ The other variables in the baseline equation generally perform as expected. **States that are economically interdependent with the potential target are unlikely to initiate conflict** (p<.03); and a balance of power, rather than preponderance, makes the use of force more likely. The logarithm of the ratio of the focal state's capabilities to those of the target and its square are jointly significant at the .02 level. Both the weak and the strong are unlikely to initiate a fatal dispute, though presumably for very different reasons. The sign of the estimated coefficient of the alliance indicator is negative as expected but insignificant (p<.30). Distance makes the initiation of a fatal dispute less likely, while the existence of a shared border increases the likelihood of conflict. The major powers are prone to use military force (p < .04); a long period without a fatal dispute is a good predictor of continued peace; and the probability of conflict for a given pair of noncontiguous, minor powers has declined as the number of states in the system has increased. All of these statistical controls are very significant (p < .001). The results of estimating our baseline model are consistent with those reported by Bennett and Stam (2004) and Hegre (2004).¶ The general form of diversionary theory holds that the leaders of both autocratic and democratic states have an incentive to use interstate conflict to distract their citizens from poor economic performance. To evaluate this possibility, we add to the baseline model the potential initiator's rate of growth in GDP per capita. As seen in the second column of Table 1, **there is no indication that national leaders generally are susceptible to diversionary pressure during hard economic times**. *The eco- nomic growth rate is clearly insignificant* (p<.23). The influences of the other variables in the equation are essentially unchanged

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Economy DA**

1. **Non-unique: U.S. economy is weak now**

**SALISBURY 19** (IAN, Senior Editor at Money Magazine, 'Shockingly Weak': These Economic Indicators Are Flashing Red, According to Experts

June 27, 2019, <http://money.com/money/5647960/slowing-economy-signals/>) DD

With the stock market up and jobs plentiful, the U.S. economy appears to be hitting on all cylinders. Not so fast, say many investors. Earlier this month the S&P 500 hit a record high. Meanwhile the U.S. unemployment rate, at 3.6%, is the lowest it’s been since at least the late 1990s. President Trump, for one, has been quick to herald these successes. But there may be trouble just beneath the surface, say experts. Indeed, even the recent stock market high came in response to downbeat news on the economy: the rally followed followed an announcement that the Federal Reserve could soon decide to cut short-term interest rates. While that makes it cheaper for corporations to borrow (hence the stock market rally), it’s a sign policymakers are fretting about the economy’s long-term health. So, what exactly is to worry about? **Here are five signs experts say the economy is about weaken**. A topsy-turvy bond market Earlier this year the bond market started flashing one of its most reliable recession signals: Yields on long-dated Treasurys slipped below those of shorter dated ones, suggesting fixed-income investors foresee slow rates of growth and modest inflation in coming years. (Investors rush to buy longer-dated bonds, locking in today’s comparatively high yields. But as those bonds’ prices rise, their yields fall). **The event, known as a yield curve inversion, made headlines when it first happened in March, but lasted only a week. That, along with some recent tinkering in the bond market by the Federal Reserve, led many to ignore the indicator, which has historically suggested a recession could take place in the next year or two**. Starting in May, however the yield curve inverted again. This time around the inversion has lasted a month and counting, making it much harder to write off. “Almost 60% of the US yield curve now inverted, said Crescat Capital analyst Otavio Costa, in a recent tweet, referring to different bond maturities along the curve. **“We are at the pinnacle of a historic bubble. At any moment, the wheels will come off.” Struggling manufacturers President Trump has put U.S. manufacturing jobs at the center of his economic vision. Earlier this month, however, the closely watched ISM manufacturing index fell to 52.1 for May from 52.8 for April.** While any number over 50 suggests manufacturing businesses are still expanding, commentators were quick to point out the May reading was the lowest level of the Trump presidency. **Since then regional manufacturing indicators have also shown weakness. On June 18, the New York Fed said the Empire State Manufacturing Index posted its largest one-month drop on record, a “shockingly weak”** result, according to a note by Maria Fiorini Ramirez Inc. Chief Economist Joshua Shapiro. **One big culprit: Trump’s trade war with China.** The Trump Administration hopes tariffs on Chinese goods will aid U.S. manufacturers in the long run by making imports comparatively more expensive for U.S. consumers. In the short run, however, it’s hurting, according to business executives quoted in the ISM survey who blamed the tariffs for higher materials costs and snarled supply chains. A looming earnings recession The 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act gave U.S. companies a big boost last year by slashing the corporate tax rate, thereby increasing profits. The bad news: **Companies can’t count on lower rates for another year-over-year bump. That has a many market watchers worried about what they call an earnings recession — typically defined as two or more quarters in which corporate profits contract. After noticeably weak profits in last quarter of 2018 — which prompted the Dow’s worst December since the 1930s** — earnings recovered somewhat during the first quarter. **Now, however, a relatively weak global economy, rising U.S. wages and trade tensions with China are putting the pressure back on. Wall Street analysts expect corporate earnings to decline 2.6% for the second quarter and 0.3%** for the third before rebounding later this year, according to CNBC. Some investors may still be too optimistic. “We saw companies that did poorly in the first quarter hold on to strong fourth-quarter guidance and maintain optimism,” said Morgan Stanley Equity Strategist Michael Wilson in a recent note. “We don’t buy this story,” he added. Softening home prices While it may not seem like it if you’re a millennial trying to buy a first home, **the U.S. real estate market has slowed considerably over the past several months.** On Tuesday the widely watched S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller index showed U.S. home prices grew 3.5% year over year in April. While still positive, that represents the slowest growth rate in seven years. By at least one lesser-watched measure, housing website Zillow’s compilation of national home values, prices actually declined between April and March. If the market does continue to weaken, that would be bad news. **A housing downturn has preceded every U.S. recession since the 1950s, according the Fed.** Wary consumers Bullish U.S. consumers, encouraged by a humming job market, have been one of economy’s strongest pillars. Even here, however, cracks are starting to show. **Earlier this week the Conference Board said its index of consumer sentiment fell to 121.5, its lowest level in nearly two years.** The reading was below all forecasts by analysts that Bloomberg polled. **While unemployment remains low, there are also signs of softening in the job market, with the U.S. adding just 75,000 jobs in May, compared to an average of 212,000 over the previous 12 months.** While consumers’ confidence remains historically high, the recent dip “highlights the risk of ‘talking ourselves into a recession’,” according to Greg McBride, the chief financial analyst for Bankrate.com. “Consumers that think the economy is weak will spend less and business owners that think the economy is weak won’t hire more people.”

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Economy DA**

1. **No Link: Arm Sales Don’t help the economy**

**Thrall and Cohen 2019 (**Trevor, and Jordan, George Mason University, The False Promise of Trump’s Arms Sales <https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2019/04/false-promises-trumps-arms-sales/156071/> )

Finally, **Trump’s claims about the economic benefits of arms sales ring the** [**hollowest of all**](https://www.thenation.com/article/pentagon-spending-is-a-poor-job-creator/)**.** For starters, **not only won’t arms sales create a million new American jobs, but a great number of the jobs created by arms sales will go to citizens of the purchasing nations.** As the Security Assistance Monitor [report](https://securityassistance.org/publication/trends-major-us-arms-sales-2018-trump-record-rhetoric-versus-reality) notes, the number of licenses granted to weapons manufacturers outside the United States doubled from 2017 to 2018. As a result, **more than one-quarter of all U.S. arms “sales” last year were deals to permit the manufacturing of U.S.-designed weapons** under license — that is, they created jobs **in other nations instead of the United States.** The report also finds that the Trump administration has sharply increased the number of deals in which foreign countries produce U.S.-developed weaponry under coproduction agreements, further reducing the number of U.S. jobs tied to arms sales. **Weakening the economic rationale even further is the fact that in order to seal major deals, American defense contractors have to** [**offer massive discounts**](https://i/)**,** or offsets, to the purchasing nations in the form of co-production arrangements or technology transfer. **In 2014, for example, these offsets equaled roughly one-third of the value of total U.S. arms sales. These offsets mean not only that American arms sales are less profitable than they appear on paper, but also that they lead to fewer jobs created in the United States** than many, including the president, would like to think. Trump’s big Saudi arms deal, for example, would likely lead to somewhere between 20,000 and 40,000 jobs, or less than two-tenths of one percent of the American labor market. **The unpleasant truth is that the underwhelming economic benefits cannot justify Washington’s love of arms sales. Arms sales simply do not benefit the U.S. economy** nearly as much as Trump likes to claim. Meanwhile, a large percentage of American arms sales goes to countries with horrible human rights records, to nations where arms are at risk of finding their way into the wrong hands, and to nations embroiled in dangerous and destabilizing conflicts. Given this, it is long past time to rethink American arms sales policy.

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Economy DA**

1. **Economic benefits of arms sales are exaggerated**

**Hartung 2018 (**William, Arms and Security Project Director, Saudi Arms Sales and the Promise of Jobs, <https://civiliansinconflict.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/CaseStudySaudiJobs.pdf> )

**The promise of jobs created by US weapons exports plays a major role in generating support for arms sales** in Congress and the Executive Branch. During President Trump’s 2017 state visit to Saudi Arabia, he pledged $110 billion in new arms offers in the name of “jobs, jobs, jobs.”1 The president’s focus on US jobs tied to weapons exports reflects the prioritization of economic factors in the way the US government has traditionally considered arms sales. **However, the numbers of jobs created and sustained by arms sales are frequently exaggerated, calling into question the validity of economic arguments in the face of high-risk sales.** As Heidi Garrett-Peltier of the University of Massachusetts demonstrated in a recent paper commissioned by the Costs of War Project at Brown University, **job creation through defense spending lags behind comparable investments in infrastructure, alternative energy, transportation, health care, and education.**2 This comparison is most relevant when applied to military equipment purchased with US tax dollars. While foreign sales funded by the recipient nation are a net gain to the US economy, direct arms sales made by the Pentagon require a budget tradeoff. **The routine use of “offsets”, or side deals in which the purchasing nation is offered economic benefits to help defray the costs of buying a major weapons system, also limits the impact of arms exports on the labor market.** Offsets can include the manufacture of components of an exported weapon in the purchasing country, or investments by US exporting companies in the military, aerospace, or other sectors of the economy of the recipient nation.

1. **Turn: Justifying arms policy through economic concerns trades off with US arms leadership, guiding exports of other nations, supporting human rights, and expanding US influence**

**Caverly 2018 (**Jonathan, War on the Rocks, April 6th, 2018, America’s Arm Sales Policy: Security Abroad, Not Jobs at Home. <https://warontherocks.com/2018/04/americas-arms-sales-policy-security-abroad-not-jobs-at-home/> )

**The United States** — by dint of its huge military budget, massive defense R&D, and long dominance of the global arms market — **can use arms transfers in ways beyond the dreams of its competitors**. Indeed, many competitors recognize this, albeit grudgingly. I have interviewed **officials in multiple countries (both clients and competitors of the United States) claiming they will defer to U.S. wishes on arms exports** if they trust it is done for political rather than economic reasons. **Many of America’s closest allies, who are also arms export competitors, look to the United States for leadership on controversial importers such as Saudi Arabia.** And, **the Trump administration should be given due credit for exercising discretion,** given, for instance, its recent [unilateral embargo on arms transfer to South Sudan](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/02/world/africa/us-arms-ban-on-south-sudan-.html). In fact, one administration official stated flatly that sales “[will not come at the expense of human rights](https://breakingdefense.com/2018/03/nsc-readies-major-overhaul-in-us-arms-exports/).” In no small part, **U.S. domination of the global arms trade is based on the world’s belief that the United States uses its clout to advance its political ends, not economic gain. Destroying this reputation will do little to bring jobs to the United States, while doing much to damage American influence abroad.**

1. **Turn: Trump will win a second term if the economy is strong, and he’ll destroy Heg**

**Porter 2018 (**Patrick, War on the Rocks, August 6th, 2018, Crisis and Conviction, US grand strategy in Trump’s second term, <https://warontherocks.com/2018/08/crisis-and-conviction-u-s-grand-strategy-in-trumps-second-term/> )

**There are good reasons to expect Trump to be a strong contender for re-election.** Since World War II, [**incumbency**](https://theconversation.com/trump-will-likely-win-reelection-in-2020-77362) **has been a strong force in U.S. presidential politics.** It has been rare for one of the two major parties to hold the presidency for only one term. Consider too Trump’s standing. His disapproval ratings are at historic highs, yet he also strongly [mobilizes his base](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-44324545). **Donations to Trump’s re-election campaign** [**flood in**](https://www.politico.com/story/2018/04/15/trump-fundraising-2018-525567)**. Trump enjoys near record approval from Republican voters, with no sign of mass defections.** As things stand, **he can campaign for a second term with a contentious but powerful story: a booming economy,** **low unemployment, a rising stock market,** strictly enforced borders and tariff walls, and making peace through tough confrontation of North Korea and Iran. Each of these claims can be unpicked. But rebutting them takes explanation. In politics, if you’re explaining, you’re failing. Trump may be fortunate that his re-election timetable coincides with the right side of an economic “[boom bust](https://www.theguardian.com/business/2017/feb/16/stock-market-crash-optimism-recklessness-boom-bust)” cycle. **Were he to win a second term,** and especially if the margin was more decisive, **the conditions of his presidency would change.** If he won big, **he would have more political capital to spend. He would feel vindicated by the authority of a second mandate. Term limits would mean that he would no longer need fear election failure.** It is possible that **Trump “Mark 2” would be more willing to tolerate the costs of introducing major change in American grand strategy.**

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Economy DA**

1. **Selling arms to Saudi Arabia will not have an impact on the US economy; multiple reasons.**

**Campbell, 18** [Alexia Fernández Campbell is a Politics & Policy Reporter for Vox. “Trump says selling weapons to Saudi Arabia will create a lot of jobs. That’s not true.,” 20 November 2018, https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/10/17/17967510/trump-saudi-arabia-arms-sales-khashoggi]

**In May 2017, Trump made his first foreign trip to the Saudi capital of Riyadh, where he met with MBS, the kingdom’s new crown prince. Trump said he was brokering a $110 billion arms deal that would create “jobs, jobs, jobs.” Even though Trump had lifted the hold on the $500 bomb sale, some members of Congress tried to block it. They couldn’t. I**n June, the Senate narrowly approved the deal. **Since then, the Saudi-led coalition has killed thousands of civilians with American-made bombs, including at least 40 children who were riding a school bus. The United Nations now considers the situation in Yemen “the world’s worst humanitarian crisis.”** But instead of reprimanding MBS, Trump has continued to push for arms sales to the kingdom, touting the supposed economic benefits for the United States. When MBS visited the White House in March, Trump was effusive about it. He even held up a US map highlighting all the states that would get jobs from the arms deal with Saudi Arabia. **The map stated that 40,000 jobs would be created, though the administration didn’t cite the source for that number (In recent days, Trump has thrown out even more ludicrous numbers). He doesn’t say where he got these estimates because no one knows exactly how many US jobs depend on arms sales. The federal government doesn’t keep data on that, and it doesn’t even break down how many total jobs are related to manufacturing military equipment. That’s because it’s a tiny fraction of the US labor force. Here’s what we do know: The private-sector defense industry directly employed a total of 355,500 in 2016,** according to the most the recent estimates from the Aerospace Industries Association. That includes manufacturing jobs, but also every other job in the defense industry, even those who are supplying uniforms for soldiers. **This entire group makes up less than 0.5 percent of the total US labor force**. And their main client is the US military, not the Saudi military. **About 153,800 American workers are directly involved in making commercial and military aircraft, according to the most recent industry employment numbers from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. But that includes workers who make passenger planes for commercial airlines, a much larger sector of the economy that those who make military jets and helicopters.** But we can get pretty specific data on how many American workers are making bombs. **That data is more clear-cut, and Saudi Arabia buys plenty of American bombs for its war in Yemen. Only about 7,666 workers were making bombs for the defense and law enforcement industries in 2016, and that includes explosives sold to the entire US military. It’s doubtful these jobs are entirely dependent on arms sales to Saudi Arabia. In short, the US economy does not need Saudi Arabia to keep buying bombs.** (Besides, MBS wants all arms deals to include some production in the kingdom.)

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Economy DA**

1. **Arms sales have a very small impact on manufacturing.**

**Campbell, 18** [Alexia Fernández Campbell is a Politics & Policy Reporter for Vox. “Trump says selling weapons to Saudi Arabia will create a lot of jobs. That’s not true.,” 20 November 2018, https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/10/17/17967510/trump-saudi-arabia-arms-sales-khashoggi]

**In the short term, selling weapons to Saudi Arabia may support some US factory jobs. But here’s the thing: Saudi Arabia plans to start manufacturing a lot of those weapons at home. Building up a local weapons manufacturing industry is part of the crown prince’s much-touted 2030 economic development plan, which is supposed to reduce the kingdom’s economic dependence on oil exports. Saudi Arabia expects half of all jobs created by weapons deals to be local jobs**. Here’s what he says in an outline of the plan that the Saudi government has posted online: Localization will be achieved through direct investments and strategic partnerships with leading companies in this sector. These moves will transfer knowledge and technology, and build national expertise in the fields of manufacturing, maintenance, repair, research and development. We will also train our employees and establish more specialized and integrated industrial complexes. American defense contractors that sell a lot of military equipment to Saudi Arabia are on board. Raytheon, for example, is in the process of opening a subsidiary in Riyadh. Aside from shifting manufacturing jobs overseas, Saudi Arabia’s defense industry could eventually compete with the US defense industry. This focus would completely change the current economic relationship between both countries, according to Reuters. Since Trump took office, Saudi Arabia has signed about $14.5 billion in commitments to buy US weaponry. No contracts have actually been signed, so details are scarce. Items in the pipeline include bombs, missiles, tanks, and aircraft. But at least one involves manufacturing parts overseas, not in the United States. Now Congress is reportedly reviewing another proposed sale of 12,000 guided bombs to Saudi Arabia, according to Reuters. The Senate could cancel the sale if they can get enough votes, and some senators have suggested this as a form of sanctions in response to the Khashoggi case. Trump said that would be bad for American workers. But, once again, US workers don’t need Saudi Arabia.

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: They Will Modernize Using Other Means**

1. **It would take a long time for Saudi Arabia to transition from a US backed weapons arsenal. Spindel, 19** [Jennifer Spindel is an assistant professor of international security at the University of Oklahoma, and the Associate Director of the Cyber Governance and Policy Center. You can follow her on Twitter: @jsspindel. “The Case for Suspending American Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia,” 14 May 2019, https://warontherocks.com/2019/05/the-case-for-suspending-american-arms-sales-to-saudi-arabia]

**Beyond signaling, we know U.S. arms sales often end up in the wrong hands, and have been used in Yemen. The Saudi-led war in Yemen has led to starvation conditions, caused thousands of civilian casualties, and has led to the displacement of millions of people. The United Nations estimates that 80 percent of Yemen’s population – 24 million people – require some form of humanitarian or protection assistance, and that the severity of the situation is increasing.** Would an arms embargo create meaningful change in Yemen? An initial effect of an embargo is that Saudi Arabia would have to work harder to access war materiel. As Jonathan Caverley noted, more than 60 percent of Saudi Arabia’s arms delivered in the past five years came from the United States. Even if this percentage decreases over time, it will be costly for Saudi Arabia to transition to a primarily Russian- or Chinese-supplied military. **Though Saudi Arabia might be willing to pay this cost, it would still have to pay, and take the time to transition to its new weapons systems. This would represent a brief break in hostilities that could facilitate the delivery of aid and assistance in Yemen. The United States could, in theory, impose stricter end-user controls on Saudi Arabia.** This would have the advantage of keeping Saudi Arabia within the world of U.S. weapons systems, and might prevent it from diversifying its suppliers, which would ultimately weaken any leverage the United States might have. Longer-term, it would not be to America’s advantage if Saudi Arabia takes a lesson from Turkey, and starts courting Russia as a new arms supplier. It is difficult to enforce end-user controls, since, once a weapon is transferred, the recipient can use it however it wishes. It might also be the case that Saudi Arabia would object to stricter end-user controls, and would seek new suppliers as a result. An arms embargo will not be a panacea. But not doing something sets a problematic precedent, and allows the difficulty of coordinating an arms embargo outweigh the potential benefits of one. An embargo is unlikely to have an immediate effect on Saudi behavior, because an embargo would be a political signal, rather than a blunt instrument of coercion. It will take time for a multilateral embargo to emerge and be put into place, and the United States should work with its allies to help support their ability to participate in the embargo. Not acting, however, would continue to implicitly endorse Saudi behavior, and would make it more difficult for U.S. allies to believe that future threats of an embargo are credible.

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Europe Fills In**

1. **No Europe fill in – there’s a consensus.**

**Noack, 18** (Rick, https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2018/11/22/denmark-joins-germany-halting-arms-sales-saudi-arabia/?utm\_term=.56c1983e0134)

**BERLIN — Denmark and Finland both announced Thursday that they would halt future arms exports to Saudi Arabia, following a similar decision by neighboring Germany earlier this month. The Danish and Finnish announcements come the same week President Trump backed Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, despite the CIA assessing that he ordered the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi. Denmark’s ban includes goods that can be used both for military and civilian purposes but is still less expansive than the German measures, which also included sales that had already been approved. While the Nordic countries are tiny arms equipment exporters in comparison with bigger players such as the United States, Britain or France, their decision will probably exacerbate concerns within the European arms industry of a growing anti-Saudi consensus in the European Union and beyond.**

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Heg DA**

1. **Case Impacts Outweigh and Solve the Impacts to the DA:**

**(**Explain how your impacts outweigh on Magnitude, Probability, and/or Timeframe and how your aff stops the neg’s impacts from happening)

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1. **The best research shows that state based conflict is a thing of the past, and contemporary violence is insurgent or civil war. Prefer the affs more likely impacts versus abstract great power conflicts.**

**Watts Et Al 2017 (**Stephen, Jennifer Kacanagh, Bryan Fredrick, Tova Norlen, Angela O’Mahony, Phoenix Voorhies and Thomas Szayna, RAND Corp, Understanding Conflict Trends, A review of the social science literature on the causes of conflict, <https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_reports/RR1000/RR1063z1/RAND_RR1063z1.pdf> )

**The nature of conflict has changed** over the past several decades. **While most conflicts in the past occurred between states, contemporary conflicts tend to be insurgencies or civil wars.** There is little consensus on the causes of the change in conflict patterns, although **the fact that the pattern has changed is clear.** The critical question for policymakers is whether the current conflict patterns represent a permanent shift or a temporary aberration. To explore this question, **we carried out an extensive review of** the literature about **armed conflicts and global strategic trends** to determine the possible reasons for the change in conflict patterns and to assess the potential for a change in these patterns that might portend increased propensity toward state-on-state conflicts. This document is both a stand-alone review of the social-scientific literature on the causes of conflict and an appendix to the RAND report Conflict Trends and Conflict Drivers: An Empirical Assessment of Historical Conflict Patterns and Future Conflict Projections. 1 It should be of interest to readers who want to review in greater depth the social science literature underlying our ultimate findings. This review was **drawn from dozens of scholarly journals and academic presses.** Since political science has been the academic discipline most engaged with the question of large-scale violent conflict, the literature review focuses primarily on political science, but other fields— including economics, sociology, political and social psychology, and anthropology—are also represented. Although the review draws on schools of thought that have evolved over decades, **it emphasizes the most-recent empirical findings.** Because the ultimate goal of this study was to develop tools for projecting future levels and types of conflict, the review emphasizes quantitative research findings.

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Hegemony DA**

1. **No Impact: Large Wars Won’t happen: interdependence, deterrence, fear, and institutions**

**Hammond 2018 (**Andrew, London School of Economics, Nov. 25 Why Another Great Power War is unlikely soon, <https://gulfnews.com/opinion/op-eds/why-another-great-power-war-is-unlikely-soon-1.60546310> )

Yet, while the risk of a major war in Asia or elsewhere in the world certainly cannot be dismissed, **there are some key differences today** with the world of 100 years ago **which,** in the absence of catastrophic miscalculation, **makes a major-power war unlikely for the foreseeable future.** Most notably, **the relative global balance of power is different today and, nuclear weapons and international institutions,** especially the United Nations, generally **act as a restraining force against major conflict that did not exist then. The reduced chances of great-power war are not least because memories of the** First and indeed Second **World Wars, linger powerfully even today.** With justification, the First World War was described as the “greatest seminal catastrophe” of the Twentieth Century by US diplomat George Kennan, who would later become the architect for the US Cold War ‘containment strategy’. Aside from the many millions who died from 1914 to 1918, the war set in chain several developments that blighted the world for decades to come. These include the emergence of Communism in Russia and — as numerous historians assert — the rise of Nazi Germany and the seeds of the Second World War. **Another major difference** between now and 100 years ago **is the presence of nuclear weapons which, as during the Cold War, generally serve as a brake on major-power conflict.** It is noteworthy here that both the key emerging powers, including China and India, as well as established powers, such as the US, Russia, France and the United Kingdom, possess nuclear arsenals. **A further change is that,** unlike 1914, **there is now a dense web of post-war international institutions,** especially the United Nations, **which continue to have significant resilience and legitimacy decades after their creation.** While these bodies are imperfect, and in need of reform, the fact remains that they have generally enabled international security, especially with five of the key powers all on the UN Security Council. Moreover, **the relative balance between the two leading powers today is different** today than a century ago. That is, the gap between US and China is greater today than that between the UK and Germany 100 years ago. Indeed, perhaps the biggest consequence of the First World War was the dawn of the ‘American Century’ in which the US emerged as the world’s most powerful nation. To be sure, the country has undergone relative decline, and China is now the largest economy in the world based on purchasing power parity data. However, **the US remains significantly ahead of China on most measures of national strength, including military might, and is likely to enjoy an overall advantage for years.** Indeed, unlike the UK in the Twentieth Century, there are indications that US power will remain resilient potentially for decades to come, buoyed by factors such as the country’s ‘energy revolution’, which has potentially far-reaching geopolitical consequences. **Taken overall, the prospect of a major-power war for the foreseeable future is not** as **high** as a century ago.

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Hegemony DA**

1. **Non-Unique: U.S. Heg is low now**

**Wittes 2007** (Tamara Cofman, Senior Fellow - Foreign Policy, Center for Middle East Policy, March 22, 2007, American Hegemony: Myth and Reality, <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/american-hegemony-myth-and-reality/> ) DD

**For many outside the US, news that America’s era of supremacy was over might produce more relief than regret. As any recent poll will show you, the US reign of power has not been a popular one.** America is more mistrusted and more reviled, in more places around the world, than it has ever been in its history. But while it is clear that the international environment—especially in the Middle East—has shifted in ways that constrain US power today, I do not believe it is proper to call 2006 the year that America lost its supremacy in international affairs. **In fact US supremacy was never as total, or as meaningful, as either its admirers or its enemies claimed. What has diminished over the past few years has not been US power itself, but rather our perceptions of that power and what it can do**. Nowhere have the limits of American hegemony been more clearly on display, and with more serious results, than in the Middle East over the past four years. Iraq is the area where the real limits of American hegemony are most evident. Since the US and its allies invaded Iraq and overthrew the government of Saddam Hussein, America’s position in the region has shifted from advantageous to disadvantaged, from nearly unstoppable to deeply restrained. **The decline in America’s ability to influence events in the Middle East has not come about because America’s military capabilities or economic capacity have declined. Rather, American influence in the region has been sapped by the failure of efforts at political reconstruction in Iraq, by war-weariness at home, by relative neglect of the Arab-Israeli peace process, and by the effect of US regional policies on the influence of Iran.**

1. **No Impact: Risk of terrorism is low, and the American right wing is the more likely concern**

**Bergen and Sterman 2018 (**Peter and David, New American Security, Sept. 10th, Jihad Terrorism 17 Years After 9/11 <https://www.newamerica.org/international-security/reports/jihadist-terrorism-17-years-after-911/> )

**The** jihadist **terrorist threat to the United States is relatively limited. The threat posed by ISIS is receding, and the number of terrorism-related cases in the United States has declined substantially since its peak in 2015,** though the nature and level of the threat is unlikely to change in a fundamental manner. The most likely threat to the United States comes from terrorists inspired by ISIS or in contact with its virtual recruitment networks, as opposed to ISIS-directed attacks of the sort seen in Paris in 2015 and Brussels in 2016. **The most typical threat to the United States remains homegrown rather than from infiltrating foreign nationals.** The travel ban is thus not an effective response to this threat. **Finally, the United States faces a continued threat from non-jihadist terrorists, most notably those motivated by far-right ideologies.**

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Hegemony DA**

1. **Trump and his irrational policies are a symptom of heg decline, not the cause – constant involvement in the Middle East, mismanagement of the economy, income inequality, the decline of the middle class, and the rise of China are all impersonal alt causes the aff can’t solve for**

**Layne, 18** [Christopher, 2018, International Affairs, “The US–Chinese power shift and the end of the Pax Americana”, p. 1-2, https://www.chathamhouse.org/sites/default/files/images/ia/INTA94\_1\_6\_249\_Layne.pdf, DMH]

As I explain below, the LRBIO actually is the international order—the Pax Americana—that **the United States constructed after the Second World War: it is now fraying, but Donald Trump is a symptom of this, not the cause. There are both internal and external factors that explain why** the Pax Americana is under stress. **Internally, income inequality, stagnant real incomes, the outsourcing of manufacturing jobs and slow productivity growth have hollowed out the middle class.** These trends have hit the white working class especially hard, and their effect has been amplified by rapid demographic changes taking place in the United States. By artfully employing ‘dog whistle’6 tactics, Trump was able to capitalize on the concern among blue-collar voters about America’s changing national identity. The political blowback from these trends helped to fuel **Trump’s victory—a triumph that can be viewed as a populist backlash against globalization’s effects**, and against the elites—the ‘One Percent’—who are seen to have profited from it.7 **Externally,** the Pax Americana is imperilled by **the shifting of the world’s economic—and geopolitical—centres of gravity from the Euro-Atlantic world to Asia, which presages the end of the West’s five centuries of global dominance.** As Financial Times chief economic commentator Martin Wolf notes, this change really is ‘all about the rise of Asia, and, most importantly, China’.8 To be precise, rather than Donald Trump’s election, it is the big, impersonal forces of history— the relative decline of American power, and the emergence of a risen China—that explain why the Pax Americana’s days are numbered. For good measure, both **the paralysing effects of the US political system’s polarization, and America’s own policies—the mismanagement of its economy** that led to the Great Recession in 2008, **and the ‘forever wars’ in which it has become entrapped in the Middle East and Afghanistan—have given these big, impersonal forces of history a powerful shove forward.**9

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Hegemony DA**

1. **Link Turn :Current policy of arms sales uniquely limits US hegemony; we are giving Iran access to info that can hurt us in Iraq and Afghanistan.**

**Bollag, 19** [Uri Bollag is a Senior Breaking News Editor at The Jerusalem Post. “U.S. arms land in hands of terror groups in Yemen, incl. Iranians – report,” 5 February 2019, https://www.jpost.com/Middle-East/US-arms-land-in-hands-of-terror-groups-in-Yemen-incl-Iranians-report-579738]

**Arms sold by the United States to Saudi Arabia have been passed on to extremist groups in Yemen and have even landed in the hands of Iranian-backed rebels,** potentially exposing sensitive information to the Iranian regime, an investigative report by CNN revealed on Monday. The findings show that **Saudi Arabia has violated US agreements about transferring such weapons.** The weapons were transferred directly by the Saudi government and its coalition partners to groups waging war on its behalf to push the Iranian-backed Houthi rebels out of Yemen, which has been torn apart by the struggle for power since 2015. The investigation found that guns, anti-tank missiles, armored vehicles, heat-seeking lasers and artillery are all being traded on the black market in Yemen, **with little accountability over who acquires these weapons.** Among others, al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) now counts US-produced armored vehicles of the Oshkosh brand among its inventory. AQAP is considered a terrorist organization by the US, yet it fights alongside Saudi-backed militias in Yemen and belongs to the coalition-supported 35th Brigade of the Yemeni army. But **Iranian-supported militias fighting the coalition have also captured some of the military hardware, giving Iranian intelligence the opportunity to gain sensitive information on US military technology.** A member of the Preventative Security Force, a secret unit overseeing transfers of military technology to and from Tehran, confirmed to CNN that the Iranians have thoroughly inspected mine-resistant ambush-protected (MRAP) vehicles they had captured. This is particularly worrying to the US military because improvised explosive devices are the main cause of deaths of American troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. Taking into account the inability to track all of the equipment that has been transferred to Saudi Arabia, **the findings raise questions about whether the US administration can trust the kingdom to handle such important weaponry after it has become evident that they are handing out these arms in return for loyalty and influence.** American support for Saudi Arabia is at a recent low after the murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi last October caused outrage and led many voices inside Congress to call on US President Donald Trump to put an end to his friendly ties with the monarchy, a request the American president is not likely to heed. In the wake of the Khashoggi scandal, Trump said it would be foolish to cancel the multi-billion dollar arms deals with Saudi Arabia.

**2AC Saudi Arabia Answers: Hegemony DA**

1. **No Impact: Empirics go aff – most qualified studies disprove hegemonic stability theories.**

**Fettweis 17** (Christopher J. Fettweis is an American political scientist and the Associate Professor of Political Science at Tulane University. “Unipolarity, Hegemony, and the New Peace, Security Studies” 26:3, 423-451)

**Even the most ardent supporters of the hegemonic-stability explanation do not contend that US influence extends equally to all corners of the globe.** **The United States has concentrated its policing** in what George Kennan used to call “strong points,” or the most important parts of the world: Western Europe, the Pacific Rim, and Persian Gulf.64 **By doing so, Washington may well have contributed more to great power peace than the overall global decline in warfare.** If the former phenomenon contributed to the latter, by essentially providing a behavioral model for weaker states to emulate, then perhaps this lends some support to the hegemonic-stability case.65 During the Cold War, the United States played referee to a few intra-West squabbles, especially between Greece and Turkey, and provided Hobbesian reassurance to Germany’s nervous neighbors. **Other, equally plausible explanations exist for stability in the first world, including the presence of a common enemy, democracy, economic interdependence, general war aversion,** etc. The looming presence of the leviathan is certainly among these plausible explanations, but only inside the US sphere of influence. Bipolarity was bad for the nonaligned world, where Soviet and Western intervention routinely exacerbated local conflicts. Unipolarity has generally been much better, but whether or not this was due to US action is again unclear. **Overall US interest in the affairs of the Global South has dropped markedly since the end of the Cold War, as has the level of violence in almost all regions.** There is less US intervention in the political and military affairs of Latin America compared to any time in the twentieth century, for instance, and also less conflict. Warfare in Africa is at an all-time low, as is relative US interest outside of counterterrorism and security assistance.

# 2AC Small Arms Affirmative

**2AC Small Arms Extensions: Inherency**

1. **They say, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(Write the Neg’s Inherency Argument)**

**But extend our Abramson 19 evidence that states**

**(Write your author/date)**

**Trump wants to make arms sales internationally easier and will be creating new rules to make that happen.**

**(Write a short summary of your card)**

**It’s better than their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ evidence because**

**(Write their author/date)**

*(Circle one or more of the following reasons and read it aloud)*

(it’s newer) (our author is more qualified)

(their evidence is out of context/contradicts itself) (history proves it to be true) (it has more specific facts) (it takes their argument into account) (Their author is biased) (their evidence supports our argument)

(Or ... WRITE IN YOUR OWN! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

**“You should prefer our evidence because...”**

*(Explain the reasons you selected above for why your evidence is better)*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**“And this means that ...”**

*(Explain why it’s important that your evidence is better - what argument does it mean is true and what does it mean for the overall debate?)*

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**2AC Small Arms Extensions: Inherency**

1. **Trump and the NRA is exporting American Gun Violence for profit**

**Volsky 2019 (**Igor, Guns Down America, March 28th, The NRA is going global. Here’s Why[https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2019/03/28/nra-is-going-global-heres-why/?utm\_term=.6c7973faeb7d)](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2019/03/28/nra-is-going-global-heres-why/?utm_term=.6c7973faeb7d)

**The National Rifle Association is trying to export its guns-for-everyone-everywhere agenda overseas** — and its global activities have little to do with its mission to protect the constitutional rights of gun owners. This week, an [investigation](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/03/sell-massacre-nra-playbook-revealed-190325111828105.html) released by Al Jazeera showed how NRA lobbyists advised politicians from Australia’s far-right One Nation party who sought to loosen the nation’s gun-control measures and make firearms more accessible. Among other recommendations, the NRA representatives suggested shaming gun-control groups after mass shootings and ghost-writing columns in local newspapers. This was not an isolated incident. In fact, just days after a gunman killed 50 people in Christchurch, New Zealand, figures affiliated with the NRA went into [overdrive](https://www.nratv.com/videos/cam-and-company-2019-stephen-halbrook-analyzing-gun-rights-in-new-zealand) [arguing](https://www.ammoland.com/2019/03/restrictive-new-zealand-gun-laws-useless-at-stopping-mosque-massacres/#axzz5jNJHd1uV) that New Zealand’s gun-control measures led to the massacre. Twitter accounts began [tweeting](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.nzherald.co.nz_nz_news_article.cfm-3Fc-5Fid-3D1-26objectid-3D12216973&d=DwMFaQ&c=RAhzPLrCAq19eJdrcQiUVEwFYoMRqGDAXQ_puw5tYjg&r=c_NSuJhznu9Yh6qjd60qDvDT8v2c2jpSDb6KgKxoEls&m=_OxmkR05lmXSY9W-pXQpw6XE5NuaZYrEL0PaBkSXJNU&s=pDjM-kJJ3vzxdc47pEavfqsvT0zUnLRFjnE8qRBXrRM&e=) the NRA’s [pro-gun propaganda at New Zealand lawmakers](https://www.smh.com.au/world/oceania/bugger-off-nz-ex-police-minister-tells-national-rifle-association-20190322-p516hw.html) and [citizens](https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/rural/2019/03/don-t-lose-your-nerve-message-to-the-government-from-kiwi-farmer-at-centre-of-gun-debate.html), and the country’s pro-gun lobbyIsts began [parroting NRA talking points. Similarly, at the end of 2016](https://www.newsweek.com/new-zealand-gun-reform-judith-collins-nra-1371993), prominent NRA-linked researchers appeared before the Mexican Senate to discuss bringing in more firearms, leading one Mexican newspaper to [publish the headline](https://elpais.com/internacional/2016/11/24/mexico/1480005576_941181.html), “The Mexican Senate Opens its Doors to the National Rifle Association.” So why would an organization that wraps itself in the American flag and [regularly attacks](http://www.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/1802/22/cnr.03.html) gun-control supporters for importing “European-style” socialism into the United States spend so much time working with pro-gun politicians and advocates in places such as [Brazil](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2019-01-03/nra-goes-global-with-its-pro-gun-agenda), [Australia](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/03/sell-massacre-nra-playbook-revealed-190325111828105.html), [Russia](https://www.npr.org/2018/09/21/649209429/russias-pro-gun-influence-accounts-copied-the-nra-and-sometimes-vice-versa) and [New Zealand](https://www.smh.com.au/world/oceania/bugger-off-nz-ex-police-minister-tells-national-rifle-association-20190322-p516hw.html) — all in an effort to push those nations to loosen their gun laws? The likely answer is that **the lobby is motivated to find new international customers for American gun manufacturers** and help foreign gun makers sell their firearms in the U.S. market. After all, it gets a cut. **The United States is already the** [**largest gun exporter**](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2019-01-03/nra-goes-global-with-its-pro-gun-agenda) **in the world, with firearm exports** [**increasing**](https://www.thetrace.org/2019/03/american-gun-exports-violence-latin-america-colt/) **over** [**the past six years**](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2019-01-03/nra-goes-global-with-its-pro-gun-agenda). A recent report from the Center for American Progress [concluded](https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/guns-crime/reports/2018/02/02/445659/beyond-our-borders/) that U.S.-sourced guns “were used to commit crimes in nearby countries approximately once every 31 minutes” between 2014 and 2016. And just last month, partly at the NRA’s behest, **the Trump administration** [**made it even easier**](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/white-house/new-trump-rules-make-it-easier-u-s-gun-makers-n968601) **for U.S. weapons manufacturers to send their products overseas by imposing a less onerous licensing process for exporters. The new system will also make it harder to track how American weapons are used globally.**

**2AC Small Arms Extensions: Solvency**

1. **They say, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(Write the Neg’s Solvency Argument)**

**But extend our** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **evidence that states**

**(Write your author/date)**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**(Write a short summary of your card)**

**It’s better than their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ evidence because**

**(Write their author/date)**

*(Circle one or more of the following reasons and read it aloud)*

(it’s newer) (our author is more qualified)

(their evidence is out of context/contradicts itself) (history proves it to be true) (it has more specific facts) (it takes their argument into account) (Their author is biased) (their evidence supports our argument)

(Or ... WRITE IN YOUR OWN! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

**“You should prefer our evidence because...”**

*(Explain the reasons you selected above for why your evidence is better)*

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**“And this means that ...”**

*(Explain why it’s important that your evidence is better - what argument does it mean is true and what does it mean for the overall debate?)*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2AC Small Arms Extensions: Solvency**

1. **Arms and ammunition sales are causing mass casualties and preventing development**

**Kimball and Jannuzi 2012 (**Daryl and Frank, Arms Control Association, July 9th, 2012, Time to curb the illicit global arms trade, [https://www.armscontrol.org/pressroom/Op-Ed-Time-to-curb-the-illicit-global-arms-trade)](https://www.armscontrol.org/pressroom/Op-Ed-Time-to-curb-the-illicit-global-arms-trade)

**The enormous human toll from the unregulated trade of conventional arms undermines international security and impedes economic and social development.** But the **governments** and arms brokers that **contribute to crimes against humanity by pouring guns and ammo into conflict zones** are not violating any international law and are often outside the jurisdiction of national laws. **This hole in the fabric of international security can and must be fixed beginning this month.** After three years of preparations, diplomats from the United States and more than 100 other countries are meeting at the United Nations in New York to work out a new legally binding, global arms trade treaty by a July 27 deadline. The goal is to establish common standards for the import, export, and transfer of conventional arms and ammunition. While the US and a few other countries have relatively tough regulations governing the trade of weapons, many countries have weak or ineffective regulations, if they have any at all. The result is that there are more international laws governing the trade of bananas than conventional weapons, like AK-47s. In the absence of international standards and effective national controls, irresponsible arms suppliers exploit the gaps for profit. For years, for instance, Russian firms have supplied helicopters to Syria which have reportedly been used by the Assad regime to attack civilian population centers in recent weeks. Weapons, ammunition, and equipment made in Belarus, China, and Russia continue to flow into Sudan, supplying government military forces that commit atrocities in Darfur and the Nuba Mountains regions. As US Assistant Secretary of State for International Security Thomas Countryman said in April, **when it comes to the arms trade there must be “a new sense of responsibility** upon every member of the United Nations **that you cannot simply export and forget.”** The arms trade treaty won’t stop all illicit arms transfers, but it has the potential to change behavior by requiring states to put in place basic regulations and follow common sense criteria that reduce irresponsible international arms transfers and hold arms suppliers more accountable for their actions. To succeed, the assembled ambassadors must put sons over guns and daughters over slaughter. At a minimum, the new treaty should require states to withhold approval for the international transfer of arms in contravention of UN embargoes or when there is a substantial risk the items will be used to commit serious violations of human rights. Despite its strong, pro-human rights rhetoric, the Obama administration has not yet endorsed such a formula. Negotiators must also ensure that the treaty covers all types of transfers and the full range of conventional weapons, from military aircraft to small arms. **The treaty must also cover the import and export of ammunition. The world is already full of guns. The constant flows of ammunition feed and prolong conflicts and armed violence. The exclusion of ammunition** from the scope of the treaty **would greatly reduce its ability to achieve many of its most important goals.**

**2AC Small Arms Extensions: Human Rights Advantage**

1. **They say, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(Write the Neg’s Human Rights Argument)**

**But extend our** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **evidence that states**

**(Write your author/date)**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**(Write a short summary of your card)**

**It’s better than their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ evidence because**

**(Write their author/date)**

*(Circle one or more of the following reasons and read it aloud)*

(it’s newer) (our author is more qualified)

(their evidence is out of context/contradicts itself) (history proves it to be true) (it has more specific facts) (it takes their argument into account) (Their author is biased) (their evidence supports our argument)

(Or ... WRITE IN YOUR OWN! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

**“You should prefer our evidence because...”**

*(Explain the reasons you selected above for why your evidence is better)*

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**“And this means that ...”**

*(Explain why it’s important that your evidence is better - what argument does it mean is true and what does it mean for the overall debate?)*

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**2AC Small Arms Extensions: Human Rights Advantage**

1. **Thousands die every day from small arms**

**Benowitz and Kellman 2013 (**Brittany and Barry, Arms Control Association, Rethink plans to loosen US Controls on Arms Exports, [https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2013\_04/Rethink-Plans-to-Loosen-US-Controls-on-Arms-Exports%20)](https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2013_04/Rethink-Plans-to-Loosen-US-Controls-on-Arms-Exports%20)

**Exports of less-sophisticated military equipment,** including semiautomatic and automatic weapons, **are controlled for altogether different reasons.** These small arms are plentiful and cannot seriously be considered sensitive technology. Illicit traffic in firearms and small weapons does not threaten a technological edge of the United States. **Such exports are controlled because a significant amount of violence that actually occurs, including against U.S. military and law enforcement personnel, is inflicted by small arms.** By one estimate, **1,000 people are killed every day around the world by terrorists, insurgents, and criminal gangs using such weapons.**[[3]](https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2013_04/Rethink-Plans-to-Loosen-US-Controls-on-Arms-Exports%20#3) Thus, **controlling small arms exports is uniquely concerned with diminishing the role of firearms and related small weapons in inflaming global conflict, tyranny, terrorism, and crime.** Various items and services that may not threaten a U.S. military advantage may be used to engage in atrocities, repression, or other forms of mass violence.

1. **The US emphasis on human rights causes controversy and is hypocritical**

**McMahon 2009 (**Robert, March 25th, Council on Foreign Relations, Human Rights Reporting and US foreign policy, <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/human-rights-reporting-and-us-foreign-policy> )

The annual U.S. State Department report **cataloguing the human rights failures and progress of nations around the world regularly arouses controversy** as well as acclaim. **Nations that receive poor ratings in the report, sometimes important U.S. partners, bitterly resent the exercise and often accuse Washington of hypocrisy.** Since 9/11, **many states have sharply criticized the United States for singling out their records when Washington has itself been under scrutiny for its actions at the Guantanamo Bay detention camp and Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq.** At the same time, many rights activists say the annual U.S. report shines a useful spotlight on abusive nations. Since the U.S. Congress mandated the reports in 1976, policymakers have sought to balance the need to engage friends and allies while acknowledging the human rights shortcomings cited by the State Department. The Obama administration has stressed a commitment to improving the United States’ own record, but already has grappled with reconciling strategic interests with China and other partners against the human rights concerns.

**2AC Small Arms Extensions: Human Rights Advantage**

1. **The US must balance human rights with other priorities in foreign policy, we can’t fix every problem.**

**McMahon 2009 (**Robert, March 25th, Council on Foreign Relations, Human Rights Reporting and US foreign policy, <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/human-rights-reporting-and-us-foreign-policy> )

The question of how to respond to especially dark allegations in the report about partners has vexed administrations both Republican and Democratic. Henry **Kissinger,** former secretary of state for Presidents Nixon and Ford in the 1970s, when congressional activism on human rights hit a peak, **has warned against placing too strong an emphasis on human rights and democracy promotion in U.S. foreign policy. "However powerful America is, no country has the capacity to impose all of its preferences on the rest of mankind," he wrote** in his 1994 book *Diplomacy*. **"Priorities must be established."**

1. **Human rights are expanding now--perception versus reality, NGOs, and international laws**

**Falk 2009** Richard, Oct. 28th, Foreign Policy, Think Again Human Rights, <https://foreignpolicy.com/2009/10/28/think-again-human-rights/>)

Wrong. **The clash here is between perceptions and realities. As with cancer** and other diseases, **the ability to identify human rights abuses more accurately and treat their symptoms more effectively creates the illusion that the disease itself is more prevalent. Every reliable human rights indicator suggests progress** in the direction of self-determination and democratization in all parts of the world, which means more participation by individuals in their own destiny and more restraint on the part of governments. About two thirds of the world’s population, or **4 billion people, now live in countries that Freedom House judges to be "free" or "partly free"; overall, these nations account for 94 percent of the world’s gross domestic product.** Moreover, **one of the truly notable achievements of the U.N. system over the past six decades has been the creation of a significant human rights architecture consisting of treaties on discrimination against women, racism, children, religious beliefs, and refugees,** as well as institutional innovations such as the establishment in Geneva of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. **Much of the credit for this upgrading of human rights should be given to nongovernmental organizations** (NGOs), which took the promise of minimum standards seriously several decades ago when governments regarded such matters as either harmless pieties or as purely voluntary directives. Although human rights NGOs began as a Western phenomenon, by the end of the 20th century, they had proliferated to all parts of the world and were active even in many otherwise authoritarian countries. Yet there is a paradox inherent in their success: **The more effective they are at shining a spotlight on human rights abuses and drawing support for their work, the more likely the public imagination is to be fixed on the persistence of failure.**

**2AC Small Arms Extensions: Global Violence**

1. **They say, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(Write the Neg’s Global Violence Argument)**

**But extend our** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **evidence that states**

**(Write your author/date)**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**(Write a short summary of your card)**

**It’s better than their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ evidence because**

**(Write their author/date)**

*(Circle one or more of the following reasons and read it aloud)*

(it’s newer) (our author is more qualified)

(their evidence is out of context/contradicts itself) (history proves it to be true) (it has more specific facts) (it takes their argument into account) (Their author is biased) (their evidence supports our argument)

(Or ... WRITE IN YOUR OWN! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

**“You should prefer our evidence because...”**

*(Explain the reasons you selected above for why your evidence is better)*

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**“And this means that ...”**

*(Explain why it’s important that your evidence is better - what argument does it mean is true and what does it mean for the overall debate?)*

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**2AC Small Arms Extensions: Global Violence**

1. **Gun violence has additional psychological impacts on the community**

**Novick 2019 (**Dorothy, Pediatrician, Washington Post,the parkland and sandy hook tragedies inflict more than just bullet wounds, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-parkland-and-sandy-hook-tragedies-inflict-more-than-just-bullet-wounds/2019/03/26/9d11cbe4-4fd9-11e9-88a1-ed346f0ec94f\_story.html?utm\_term=.fa45d09e1406 )](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-parkland-and-sandy-hook-tragedies-inflict-more-than-just-bullet-wounds/2019/03/26/9d11cbe4-4fd9-11e9-88a1-ed346f0ec94f_story.html?utm_term=.fa45d09e1406)

We will never know the extent to which the unimaginable trauma of the school shootings contributed to these suicides. But stories such as these remind us that **trauma has far-reaching and devastating effects. It reminds us that the victims are not only the deceased but also the survivors.** And not only the deceased and the survivors, but also each member of their families. And not only each member of their families but also every person who loves each member of their families. And so on. In children, the effects of trauma are magnified. As a pediatrician, I care for countless children who have come face to face with life-threatening violence. Many have witnessed domestic abuse. Many have witnessed shootings in their communities. Many have lost loved ones. As I care for them, I bear witness to their penetrating wounds. I see the profound ways that trauma affects them over the course of their lives. Groundbreaking neuro-biologic research over the past two decades has detailed the unique ways that trauma affects the developing child. **Studies show that the “fight or flight” response,** while protective in certain situations, **can be toxic** to children **if intense or prolonged.** It can lead to alterations in the immune and endocrine systems and in the architecture of the developing brain. **These changes are** [**strongly associated**](https://www.samhsa.gov/capt/practicing-effective-prevention/prevention-behavioral-health/adverse-childhood-experiences) **with long-term psychological problems such as depression, anxiety and addiction.** And with suicidal ideation. Not surprisingly, there is a dose-response curve: The more intense or prolonged the traumatic experience, the more significant the effects. And to make matters worse, the stress response itself often becomes overactive, creating a self-perpetuating cycle.

1. **Small arms kill 1,000 people a day from terrorism, criminal organizations, and abusive security forces**

**Goodman and Stohl 2017 (**Colby and Rachel, Defense News, 9/25, 5 Dangers of giving the commerce department oversight of firearm exports, [https://www.defensenews.com/opinion/commentary/2017/09/25/five-dangers-of-giving-the-commerce-department-oversight-of-firearms-exports-commentary/ )](https://www.defensenews.com/opinion/commentary/2017/09/25/five-dangers-of-giving-the-commerce-department-oversight-of-firearms-exports-commentary/)

WASHINGTON — U.S. President Donald **Trump’s “Buy American” agenda is taking a potentially deadly turn, with the administration expected to issue new regulations that would make it easier for U.S. firearms and related ammunition to reach terrorists, criminal organizations and corrupt and abusive foreign security forces.** The Trump administration’s proposed regulations would likely transfer responsibility for reviewing licenses to export certain types of weapons — including assault-style rifles and pistols and armor-piercing sniper rifles — from the State Department to the Commerce Department. **Although not as eye catching as an F-35, these small arms are often called “the real weapons of mass destruction.” Responsible for up to 1,000 deaths a day, these weapons also threaten U.S. service members around the world.** The proposal has raised significant concerns, including from U.S. law enforcement agencies that have fiercely opposed the transfer of these items because of the increased risk that they may land in the hands of unintended end users. There are five key dangers of shifting oversight of firearms exports to the Commerce Department. First, there is an increased risk of exports to unauthorized end users and conflict zones. Under the Commerce Department system, companies can generally use several broad license exemptions to export military equipment without U.S. government approval. **When the U.S. government shifts oversight of firearms exports to companies,** **it loses the ability to identify** key warning signs, including risky middlemen, unusual routes and mismatched weapons systems, of a **possible diversion of U.S. guns to terrorists, criminals or conflict zones. Without U.S. oversight, the government also couldn’t stop the sale of firearms to foreign security force units accused of serious human rights violations or corruption.**

**2AC Small Arms Extensions: Global Violence**

1. **Small arms are weapons of mass destruction, comparatively the most lethal weapons**

**Akkad 2019 (**Dania, March 5th, Middle East Eye, Exporting America’s gun problem? The proposed rule that has monitors up in arms, [https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/exporting-americas-gun-problem-proposed-rule-has-monitors-arms )](https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/exporting-americas-gun-problem-proposed-rule-has-monitors-arms)

**The Trump administration is on the cusp of changing small-arms export regulations that** opponents say **could flood conflict zones** like the Middle East **with the same retail guns used in mass shootings in the US.** **The rules,** which could be finalised this month, **would allow sniper rifles,** semi-automatic firearms **and** AK-47-style **assault rifles to be sold commercially** without requiring US companies to register with the State Department. The State Department is required under the Arms Export Control Act to inform Congress of any arms sales worth $1m or more, a process which led lawmakers to block [$1.2m in handgun and ammunition sales](https://www.dw.com/en/us-blocks-weapons-sales-to-turkish-presidents-security-guards/a-40572110) to Turkish security forces after President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's bodyguards [beat up protesters](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/may/17/erdogans-bodyguards-in-violent-clash-with-protesters-in-washington-dc) in Washington DC in 2017. But the Commerce Department, which would now oversee the commercial sales of small arms, is not required to do so. Last month, Democrats in both the House and Senate introduced legislation to block the proposed rules and would have had until Monday to intervene. But Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ), the ranking Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, placed a hold on the rules, telling Secretary of State Mike Pompeo [in a letter](https://www.menendez.senate.gov/news-and-events/press/menendez-announces-hold-on-trump-admins-proposed-move-to-weaken-regulatory-control-over-us-guns-sales-abroad) that firearms and ammunition "should be subject to more, not less, rigorous export controls and oversight". While Menendez's hold may extend discussion around the proposed rules, it is not legally binding and the Trump administration could brush aside his objection and implement the changes anyway. Proponents of the rules, including the gun lobby, say this is a housekeeping exercise which started under the Obama administration to improve a bureaucratic export system and will keep US gun manufacturers competitive. But arms monitors and human rights advocates say **this is the latest instance** after decades **of gun deregulation and has the potential to fuel conflict,** particularly through arms trafficking to third parties. Earlier this year, a CNN investigation found that Saudi Arabia and the UAE [had transferred](https://edition.cnn.com/interactive/2019/02/middleeast/yemen-lost-us-arms/) US-made weapons to al-Qaeda-linked fighters in Yemen. In Iraq and Afghanistan, US troops have been fired on with American-made arms originally transferred to Iraqi and Afghan security forces. “This is already a problem, and this is becoming a bigger problem,” said Christina Arabia, director at the Washington-based Security Assistance Monitor. “We are putting our own service members at risk.” Arms monitors say the system currently in place to track US small arms once they are sold is already insufficient. Moreover, they emphasise that it's **light weapons that are used in the vast majority of human rights violations worldwide. “Things like small arms and light weapons –** in sub-Saharan Africa, **these are considered the weapons of mass destruction,”** Arabia said. Seth Binder, an advocacy officer at the Washington-based Project on Middle East Democracy, said: “This is just one more way that the US is sort of potentially fuelling regional conflicts and partners in the region [are] not being held accountable for actions.” Philippe Nassif, Amnesty International's Middle East North Africa advocacy director, said **loosening export requirements for these kinds of weapons "simply to bring in a few extra dollars is profoundly misguided and immoral".**

**2AC Small Arms Extensions: Global Violence**

1. **Small arms are a multiplier of violence across the globe**

**Stohl, Schroeder and Smith 2007 (**Rachel, Center for Defense Information, Matt, FAS Manager of Arms Sales Monitoring Project, and Dan, US Army and Friends Committee on Legislation, The Small Arms Trade [https://fas.org/programs/ssp/asmp/documents/The%20Small%20Arms%20Trade--book%20summary.pdf )](https://fas.org/programs/ssp/asmp/documents/The%20Small%20Arms%20Trade--book%20summary.pdf)

The Small Arms Trade provides a gripping overview of the global impact of nearly 640 million small arms and light weapons – pistols, carbines, assault rifles, light machine guns and surface to air missiles – in circulation around the world. In the hands of irresponsible government armies, rebel groups, and terrorists, these weapons cause tremendous human suffering. **The wars that ravaged Central America and that continue in Afghanistan, Iraq, Liberia, the Sudan and dozens of other countries – wars in which millions of innocent men, women, and children have died and millions more have been deprived of economic opportunities — are fought primarily with small arms. Drug lords use them to eliminate competitors and assassinate government officials; abusive governments use them to suppress internal dissent and silence opposition; insurgents use them to kill soldiers on patrol; terrorists use them to elicit fear**…the list goes on and on. “Small arms are the true weapons of individual destruction,” said Rachel Stohl, senior analyst at the World Security Institute’s Center for Defense Information. “Controlling these deadly weapons requires national governments, regional organizations, and international institutions to work cooperatively. They must simultaneously control supply, take existing weapons out of circulation, end misuse, and address demand.”

1. **Small arms proliferation causes violence**

**Stohl and Hogendoorn 2010 (**Rachel and EJ, March, Center for American Progress, Stopping the spread of destructive small arms, <https://cdn.americanprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/issues/2010/03/pdf/small_arms.pdf> )

**The proliferation of small arms and light weapons is an immediate security challenge** to individuals, societies, and states around the world and an enormous hurdle to sustainable security and development. **Small arms fuel civil wars, organized criminal violence, and terrorist activities.** **They also undermine multimillion dollar development programs and other assistance to fragile states.** Fragile and failing states should be of particular strategic interest to the United States because **even small insurgencies, if unchecked, can** erupt into larger civil wars and possibly **destabilize entire regions.** In some cases fragile and failing states can also become bases for terrorist groups directly hostile to the United States. In many conflict zones **small arms and light weapons are the weapon of choice, the main instrument of death and destruction,** and are often used to forcibly displace civilians, impede humanitarian assistance, prevent or delay development projects, and hinder peace-keeping and peace-building efforts. When conflicts end or abate small arms often remain in circulation, which may lead to additional violence and suffering since fighting can resume or conflicts may erupt in neighboring regions. In nonconflict areas small arms may be used in criminal violence or may be used in homicides, suicides, and accidents. And they are frequently the primary tools of terrorists bent on sowing chaos and discord. The weapons can exact a staggering toll. For example, in January 2010 narco-traffickers armed with assault rifles massacred 16 people—mostly teenagers—attending a birthday party in Ciudad Juarez on the U.S. border. In November 2008 roughly two dozen terrorists from Lashkar-e-Taiba with AK-47-type assault rifles, 9 mm pistols, and grenades killed nearly 200 people and wounded 350 in Mumbai, India. Approximately 875 million small arms are in circulation worldwide, and only about a third are in the hands of legally constituted security forces. **Because small arms are simple to use, durable, and easy to conceal they are especially prone to misuse,** and their misuse directly and indirectly affects hundreds of thousands of people and severely undermines sustainable development in scores of countries around the world.

**2AC Small Arms Extensions: Global Violence**

1. **Prioritize violence from small arms instead of nuclear threats**

**Stohl 2005 (**Rachel, The Danger of Small Arms Proliferation, Georgetown Journal of International Affairs, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/43134095?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents> )

**While the world focuses on hypothetical consequences from the use of nuclear,** chemical, or biological **weapons, another class of weapons is actually killing hundreds of thousands and devastating entire societies every year.** These weapons, known as **small arms** and light weapons (hereafter small arms) **are truly weapons of mass destruction. The need to address small arms proliferation and misuse is just as urgent and critical as their nuclear counterparts. Small arms impact all dimensions of conflicts and their resolutions. Small arms are responsible for the majority of today’s conflict deaths** and thousands more injuries each year. Moreover, the spread and misuse of small arms cause, prolong, **and exacerbate humanitarian crises and violent conflicts** around the world and are the weapons of choice for terrorism.

**2AC Small Arms Answers: Economy DA**

1. **Case Outweighs:** The impact for our Human Global Violence advantages outweigh the Econ DA on probability and magnitude. Our **Thrall and Dorminey 2018** evidence states that the U.S. is currently supplying arms to half of the arm conflicts in the world. This instability can spill up into a larger war with multiple actors like China and Russia. The gun industry is only a small portion of the U.S. economy and will not trigger a nuclear war.
2. **Prefer our impact framing:** Our **Creditor 2015** card states that U.S. tries to create a false sense of security, which the neg is doing with the economy DA, and the false sense of security has allowed for apathy towards gun violence. Vote aff to reject apathy to gun violence because that it was what helps maintain inaction to gun violence.
3. **No Link:**  Companies are still able to sell arms, the treaty just restricts how they are sold
4. **US weapons get used against us over-seas, and economic justifications for arms sales aren’t worth it.**

**Boutwell and Klare 1998 (**Jeffrey, Director of International Security, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and Michael, Arms Control Association, Spring,[https://www.armscontrol.org/act/1998\_08-09/mkas98)](https://www.armscontrol.org/act/1998_08-09/mkas98)

**Clearly, the U.S.** and other governments, especially those **responsible for the majority of light weapons production and supply, need to do more.** At the moment, most countries, including the United States, are putting greater emphasis on the illicit light weapons trade. Yet, **it is the continued supply of large amounts of small arms and light weapons, through legal channels,** to governments and non-state actors, **that is most worrisome.** All too often, **supplier states continue to** give away or **sell** at a discount **hundreds of thousands of surplus light weapons that end up in the wrong hands. In some cases,** such as Somalia, **these weapons are then used against U.S. peace-keeping forces** that are sent to restore civil order. In other cases, such as Bosnia, Liberia and Sierra Leone, the United States and the international community will spend billions of dollars in peace-keeping and economic reconstruction when a more restrictive policy on light weapons transfers might have prevented or diminished the intensity of civil conflict in these countries. As the international community is beginning to recognize, **the humanitarian and development benefits of cutting the link between light weapons availability and civil conflict would be substantial.** **For the United States, the economic benefits of the light weapons trade are exceedingly minor compared to the ultimate costs of having to rescue "failed states," provide for millions of refugees, and reconstruct societies torn apart by genocide and ethnic strife.** The savings inherent in preventing or greatly limiting conflict in even one Rwanda, Bosnia or Liberia would greatly outweigh the minimal political and economic benefits of being an indiscriminate light weapons supplier.

**2AC Small Arms Answers: Economy DA**

#### **No Impact – empirically democracies are extremely unlikely to enter conflict with any type of regime, and economic growth is insignificant in conflict with democracies**

**Tir and Oneal, International Studies Quarterly, 2006** (Jaroslav and John R., December 2006, “Does the Diversionary Use of Force Threaten the Democratic Peace? Assessing the Effect of Economic Growth on Interstate Conflict, 1921-2001,” International Studies Quarterly, Vol. 50, No. 4 (Dec., 2006), http://www.jstor.org/stable/4092778, accessed 7/6/17, JCP-PW

In Table I we report the results of our first set of tests. In column 1 are the estimated coefficients of a baseline model. The democracy score of both the focal state and the potential target are included. The results indicate that democracies are less likely to initiate conflict than are more autocratic states (p<.02). On aver- age, democracies are more peaceful than other political regimes. **The political character of the target state does not influence the likelihood of an initiation in this specification.** Democracies seem disinclined to start a dispute with any type of re- gime, not just other democracies; but this specification does not allow for the pos- sibility that the political character of a potential target affects the likelihood of conflict differently for different types of regimes. That is, autocratic states may be likely to initiate military action against a democratic target while democracies are particularly unlikely to do so (Oneal and Russett 1997). We reconsider this issue below. ¶ The other variables in the baseline equation generally perform as expected. **States that are economically interdependent with the potential target are unlikely to initiate conflict** (p<.03); and a balance of power, rather than preponderance, makes the use of force more likely. The logarithm of the ratio of the focal state's capabilities to those of the target and its square are jointly significant at the .02 level. Both the weak and the strong are unlikely to initiate a fatal dispute, though presumably for very different reasons. The sign of the estimated coefficient of the alliance indicator is negative as expected but insignificant (p<.30). Distance makes the initiation of a fatal dispute less likely, while the existence of a shared border increases the likelihood of conflict. The major powers are prone to use military force (p < .04); a long period without a fatal dispute is a good predictor of continued peace; and the probability of conflict for a given pair of noncontiguous, minor powers has declined as the number of states in the system has increased. All of these statistical controls are very significant (p < .001). The results of estimating our baseline model are consistent with those reported by Bennett and Stam (2004) and Hegre (2004).¶ The general form of diversionary theory holds that the leaders of both autocratic and democratic states have an incentive to use interstate conflict to distract their citizens from poor economic performance. To evaluate this possibility, we add to the baseline model the potential initiator's rate of growth in GDP per capita. As seen in the second column of Table 1, **there is no indication that national leaders generally are susceptible to diversionary pressure during hard economic times**. *The eco- nomic growth rate is clearly insignificant* (p<.23). The influences of the other variables in the equation are essentially unchanged

**2AC Small Arms Answers: Economy DA**

1. **Case turns DA: Gun Violence costs the United States $229 billion a year**

**Follman and et al 2015** (MARK FOLLMAN, JULIA LURIE, JAEAH LEE, AND JAMES WEST,Mother Jones is a reader-supported investigative news organization recently honored as Magazine of the Year by our peers in the industry. Our nonprofit newsroom goes deep on the biggest stories of the moment, from politics and criminal and racial justice to education, climate change, and food/agriculture, The True Cost of Gun Violence in America, 4/15/15, <https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2015/04/true-cost-of-gun-violence-in-america/> )

To begin to get a grasp on the economic toll, Mother Jones turned to Ted Miller at the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation, an independent nonprofit that studies public health, education, and safety issues. Miller has been one of the few researchers to delve

deeply into guns, going back to the late 1980s when he began analyzing societal costs from violence, injury, and substance abuse, as well as the savings from prevention. Most of his 30-plus years of research has been funded by government grants and contracts; his work on guns in recent years has either been tucked into broader projects or done on the side. “I never take positions on legislation,” he notes. “Instead, I provide numbers to inform decision making.”Miller’s approach looks at two categories of costs. The first is direct: Every time a bullet hits somebody, expenses can include emergency services, police investigations, and long-term medical and mental-health care, as well as court and prison costs. About 87 percent of these costs fall on taxpayers. The second category consists of indirect costs: Factors here include lost income, losses to employers, and impact on quality of life, which Miller bases on amounts that juries award for pain and suffering to victims of wrongful injury and death. **In collaboration with Miller, Mother Jones crunched data from 2012 and found that the annual cost of gun violence in America exceeds $229 billion.** Direct costs account for $8.6 billion—including long-term prison costs for people who commit assault and homicide using guns, which at $5.2 billion a year is the largest direct expense. Even before accounting for the more intangible costs of the violence, in other words, the average cost to taxpayers for a single gun homicide in America is nearly $400,000. And we pay for 32 of them every single day. Indirect costs amount to at least $221 billion, about $169 billion of which comes from what researchers consider to be the impact on victims’ quality of life. Victims’ lost wages, which account for $49 billion annually, are the other major factor. Miller’s calculation for indirect costs, based on jury awards, values the average “statistical life” harmed by gun violence at about $6.2 million. That’s toward the lower end of the range for this analytical method, which is used widely by industry and government. (The EPA, for example, currently values a statistical life at $7.9 million, and the DOT uses $9.2 million.) Our investigation also begins to illuminate the economic toll for individual states. Louisiana has the highest gun homicide rate in the nation, with costs per capita of more than $1,300. Wyoming has a small population but the highest overall rate of gun deaths—including the nation’s highest suicide rate—with costs working out to about $1,400 per resident. Among the four most populous states, the costs per capita in the gun rights strongholds of Florida and Texas outpace those in more strictly regulated California and New York. Hawaii and Massachusetts, with their relatively low gun ownership rates and tight gun laws, have the lowest gun death rates, and costs per capita roughly a fifth as much as those of the states that pay the most. At $229 billion, the toll from gun violence would have been $47 billion more than Apple’s 2014 worldwide revenue and $88 billion more than what the US government budgeted for education that year. Divvied up among every man, woman, and child in the United States, it would work out to more than $700 per person.

**2AC Small Arms Answers: Economy DA**

1. **Non-unique: U.S. economy is weak now**

**SALISBURY 19** (IAN, Senior Editor at Money Magazine, 'Shockingly Weak': These Economic Indicators Are Flashing Red, According to Experts

June 27, 2019, <http://money.com/money/5647960/slowing-economy-signals/>) DD

With the stock market up and jobs plentiful, the U.S. economy appears to be hitting on all cylinders. Not so fast, say many investors. Earlier this month the S&P 500 hit a record high. Meanwhile the U.S. unemployment rate, at 3.6%, is the lowest it’s been since at least the late 1990s. President Trump, for one, has been quick to herald these successes. But there may be trouble just beneath the surface, say experts. Indeed, even the recent stock market high came in response to downbeat news on the economy: the rally followed followed an announcement that the Federal Reserve could soon decide to cut short-term interest rates. While that makes it cheaper for corporations to borrow (hence the stock market rally), it’s a sign policymakers are fretting about the economy’s long-term health. So, what exactly is to worry about? **Here are five signs experts say the economy is about weaken**. A topsy-turvy bond market Earlier this year the bond market started flashing one of its most reliable recession signals: Yields on long-dated Treasurys slipped below those of shorter dated ones, suggesting fixed-income investors foresee slow rates of growth and modest inflation in coming years. (Investors rush to buy longer-dated bonds, locking in today’s comparatively high yields. But as those bonds’ prices rise, their yields fall). **The event, known as a yield curve inversion, made headlines when it first happened in March, but lasted only a week. That, along with some recent tinkering in the bond market by the Federal Reserve, led many to ignore the indicator, which has historically suggested a recession could take place in the next year or two**. Starting in May, however the yield curve inverted again. This time around the inversion has lasted a month and counting, making it much harder to write off. “Almost 60% of the US yield curve now inverted, said Crescat Capital analyst Otavio Costa, in a recent tweet, referring to different bond maturities along the curve. **“We are at the pinnacle of a historic bubble. At any moment, the wheels will come off.” Struggling manufacturers President Trump has put U.S. manufacturing jobs at the center of his economic vision. Earlier this month, however, the closely watched ISM manufacturing index fell to 52.1 for May from 52.8 for April.** While any number over 50 suggests manufacturing businesses are still expanding, commentators were quick to point out the May reading was the lowest level of the Trump presidency. **Since then regional manufacturing indicators have also shown weakness. On June 18, the New York Fed said the Empire State Manufacturing Index posted its largest one-month drop on record, a “shockingly weak”** result, according to a note by Maria Fiorini Ramirez Inc. Chief Economist Joshua Shapiro. **One big culprit: Trump’s trade war with China.** The Trump Administration hopes tariffs on Chinese goods will aid U.S. manufacturers in the long run by making imports comparatively more expensive for U.S. consumers. In the short run, however, it’s hurting, according to business executives quoted in the ISM survey who blamed the tariffs for higher materials costs and snarled supply chains. A looming earnings recession The 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act gave U.S. companies a big boost last year by slashing the corporate tax rate, thereby increasing profits. The bad news: **Companies can’t count on lower rates for another year-over-year bump. That has a many market watchers worried about what they call an earnings recession — typically defined as two or more quarters in which corporate profits contract. After noticeably weak profits in last quarter of 2018 — which prompted the Dow’s worst December since the 1930s** — earnings recovered somewhat during the first quarter. **Now, however, a relatively weak global economy, rising U.S. wages and trade tensions with China are putting the pressure back on. Wall Street analysts expect corporate earnings to decline 2.6% for the second quarter and 0.3%** for the third before rebounding later this year, according to CNBC. Some investors may still be too optimistic. “We saw companies that did poorly in the first quarter hold on to strong fourth-quarter guidance and maintain optimism,” said Morgan Stanley Equity Strategist Michael Wilson in a recent note. “We don’t buy this story,” he added. Softening home prices While it may not seem like it if you’re a millennial trying to buy a first home, **the U.S. real estate market has slowed considerably over the past several months.** On Tuesday the widely watched S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller index showed U.S. home prices grew 3.5% year over year in April. While still positive, that represents the slowest growth rate in seven years. By at least one lesser-watched measure, housing website Zillow’s compilation of national home values, prices actually declined between April and March. If the market does continue to weaken, that would be bad news. **A housing downturn has preceded every U.S.** **recession since the 1950s, according the Fed.** Wary consumers Bullish U.S. consumers, encouraged by a humming job market, have been one of economy’s strongest pillars. Even here, however, cracks are starting to show. **Earlier this week the Conference Board said its index of consumer sentiment fell to 121.5, its lowest level in nearly two years.** The reading was below all forecasts by analysts that Bloomberg polled. **While unemployment remains low, there are also signs of softening in the job market, with the U.S. adding just 75,000 jobs in May, compared to an average of 212,000 over the previous 12 months.** While consumers’ confidence remains historically high, the recent dip “highlights the risk of ‘talking ourselves into a recession’,” according to Greg McBride, the chief financial analyst for Bankrate.com. “Consumers that think the economy is weak will spend less and business owners that think the economy is weak won’t hire more people.”

**2AC Small Arms Answers: Economy DA**

1. **No Link: Arm Sales Don’t help the economy**

**Thrall and Cohen 2019 (**Trevor, and Jordan, George Mason University, The False Promise of Trump’s Arms Sales <https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2019/04/false-promises-trumps-arms-sales/156071/> )

Finally, **Trump’s claims about the economic benefits of arms sales ring the** [**hollowest of all**](https://www.thenation.com/article/pentagon-spending-is-a-poor-job-creator/)**.** For starters, **not only won’t arms sales create a million new American jobs, but a great number of the jobs created by arms sales will go to citizens of the purchasing nations.** As the Security Assistance Monitor [report](https://securityassistance.org/publication/trends-major-us-arms-sales-2018-trump-record-rhetoric-versus-reality) notes, the number of licenses granted to weapons manufacturers outside the United States doubled from 2017 to 2018. As a result, **more than one-quarter of all U.S. arms “sales” last year were deals to permit the manufacturing of U.S.-designed weapons** under license — that is, they created jobs **in other nations instead of the United States.** The report also finds that the Trump administration has sharply increased the number of deals in which foreign countries produce U.S.-developed weaponry under coproduction agreements, further reducing the number of U.S. jobs tied to arms sales. **Weakening the economic rationale even further is the fact that in order to seal major deals, American defense contractors have to** [**offer massive discounts**](https://i/)**,** or offsets, to the purchasing nations in the form of co-production arrangements or technology transfer. **In 2014, for example, these offsets equaled roughly one-third of the value of total U.S. arms sales. These offsets mean not only that American arms sales are less profitable than they appear on paper, but also that they lead to fewer jobs created in the United States** than many, including the president, would like to think. Trump’s big Saudi arms deal, for example, would likely lead to somewhere between 20,000 and 40,000 jobs, or less than two-tenths of one percent of the American labor market. **The unpleasant truth is that the underwhelming economic benefits cannot justify Washington’s love of arms sales. Arms sales simply do not benefit the U.S. economy** nearly as much as Trump likes to claim.

1. **Economic benefits of arms sales are exaggerated**

**Hartung 2018 (**William, Arms and Security Project Director, Saudi Arms Sales and the Promise of Jobs, <https://civiliansinconflict.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/CaseStudySaudiJobs.pdf> )

**The promise of jobs created by US weapons exports plays a major role in generating support for arms sales** in Congress and the Executive Branch. During President Trump’s 2017 state visit to Saudi Arabia, he pledged $110 billion in new arms offers in the name of “jobs, jobs, jobs.”1 The president’s focus on US jobs tied to weapons exports reflects the prioritization of economic factors in the way the US government has traditionally considered arms sales. **However, the numbers of jobs created and sustained by arms sales are frequently exaggerated, calling into question the validity of economic arguments in the face of high-risk sales.** As Heidi Garrett-Peltier of the University of Massachusetts demonstrated in a recent paper commissioned by the Costs of War Project at Brown University, **job creation through defense spending lags behind comparable investments in infrastructure, alternative energy, transportation, health care, and education.**2 This comparison is most relevant when applied to military equipment purchased with US tax dollars. While foreign sales funded by the recipient nation are a net gain to the US economy, direct arms sales made by the Pentagon require a budget tradeoff. **The routine use of “offsets”, or side deals in which the purchasing nation is offered economic benefits to help defray the costs of buying a major weapons system, also limits the impact of arms exports on the labor market.** Offsets can include the manufacture of components of an exported weapon in the purchasing country, or investments by US exporting companies in the military, aerospace, or other sectors of the economy of the recipient nation.

**2AC Small Arms Answers: Economy DA**

1. **Turn: Justifying arms policy through economic concerns trades off with US arms leadership, guiding exports of other nations, supporting human rights, and expanding US influence**

**Caverly 2018 (**Jonathan, War on the Rocks, April 6th, 2018, America’s Arm Sales Policy: Security Abroad, Not Jobs at Home. <https://warontherocks.com/2018/04/americas-arms-sales-policy-security-abroad-not-jobs-at-home/> )

**The United States** — by dint of its huge military budget, massive defense R&D, and long dominance of the global arms market — **can use arms transfers in ways beyond the dreams of its competitors**. Indeed, many competitors recognize this, albeit grudgingly. I have interviewed **officials in multiple countries (both clients and competitors of the United States) claiming they will defer to U.S. wishes on arms exports** if they trust it is done for political rather than economic reasons. **Many of America’s closest allies, who are also arms export competitors, look to the United States for leadership on controversial importers such as Saudi Arabia.** And, **the Trump administration should be given due credit for exercising discretion,** given, for instance, its recent [unilateral embargo on arms transfer to South Sudan](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/02/world/africa/us-arms-ban-on-south-sudan-.html). In fact, one administration official stated flatly that sales “[will not come at the expense of human rights](https://breakingdefense.com/2018/03/nsc-readies-major-overhaul-in-us-arms-exports/).” In no small part, **U.S. domination of the global arms trade is based on the world’s belief that the United States uses its clout to advance its political ends, not economic gain. Destroying this reputation will do little to bring jobs to the United States, while doing much to damage American influence abroad.**

1. **Trump will win a second term if the economy is strong, and he’ll destroy Heg**

**Porter 2018 (**Patrick, War on the Rocks, August 6th, 2018, Crisis and Conviction, US grand strategy in Trump’s second term, <https://warontherocks.com/2018/08/crisis-and-conviction-u-s-grand-strategy-in-trumps-second-term/> )

**There are good reasons to expect Trump to be a strong contender for re-election.** Since World War II, [**incumbency**](https://theconversation.com/trump-will-likely-win-reelection-in-2020-77362) **has been a strong force in U.S. presidential politics.** It has been rare for one of the two major parties to hold the presidency for only one term. Consider too Trump’s standing. His disapproval ratings are at historic highs, yet he also strongly [mobilizes his base](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-44324545). **Donations to Trump’s re-election campaign** [**flood in**](https://www.politico.com/story/2018/04/15/trump-fundraising-2018-525567)**. Trump enjoys near record approval from Republican voters, with no sign of mass defections.** As things stand, **he can campaign for a second term with a contentious but powerful story: a booming economy,** **low unemployment, a rising stock market,** strictly enforced borders and tariff walls, and making peace through tough confrontation of North Korea and Iran. Each of these claims can be unpicked. But rebutting them takes explanation. In politics, if you’re explaining, you’re failing. Trump may be fortunate that his re-election timetable coincides with the right side of an economic “[boom bust](https://www.theguardian.com/business/2017/feb/16/stock-market-crash-optimism-recklessness-boom-bust)” cycle. **Were he to win a second term,** and especially if the margin was more decisive, **the conditions of his presidency would change.** If he won big, **he would have more political capital to spend. He would feel vindicated by the authority of a second mandate. Term limits would mean that he would no longer need fear election failure.** It is possible that **Trump “Mark 2” would be more willing to tolerate the costs of introducing major change in American grand strategy.**

**2AC Smalls Arms Answers: Hegemony DA**

1. **Case Impacts Outweigh and Solve the Impacts to the DA:**

**(**Explain how your impacts outweigh on Magnitude, Probability, and/or Timeframe and how your aff stops the neg’s impacts from happening)

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1. **The best research shows that state based conflict is a thing of the past, and contemporary violence is insurgent or civil war. Prefer the affs more likely impacts versus abstract great power conflicts.**

**Watts Et Al 2017 (**Stephen, Jennifer Kacanagh, Bryan Fredrick, Tova Norlen, Angela O’Mahony, Phoenix Voorhies and Thomas Szayna, RAND Corp, Understanding Conflict Trends, A review of the social science literature on the causes of conflict, <https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_reports/RR1000/RR1063z1/RAND_RR1063z1.pdf> )

**The nature of conflict has changed** over the past several decades. **While most conflicts in the past occurred between states, contemporary conflicts tend to be insurgencies or civil wars.** There is little consensus on the causes of the change in conflict patterns, although **the fact that the pattern has changed is clear.** The critical question for policymakers is whether the current conflict patterns represent a permanent shift or a temporary aberration. To explore this question, **we carried out an extensive review of** the literature about **armed conflicts and global strategic trends** to determine the possible reasons for the change in conflict patterns and to assess the potential for a change in these patterns that might portend increased propensity toward state-on-state conflicts. This document is both a stand-alone review of the social-scientific literature on the causes of conflict and an appendix to the RAND report Conflict Trends and Conflict Drivers: An Empirical Assessment of Historical Conflict Patterns and Future Conflict Projections. 1 It should be of interest to readers who want to review in greater depth the social science literature underlying our ultimate findings. This review was **drawn from dozens of scholarly journals and academic presses.** Since political science has been the academic discipline most engaged with the question of large-scale violent conflict, the literature review focuses primarily on political science, but other fields— including economics, sociology, political and social psychology, and anthropology—are also represented. Although the review draws on schools of thought that have evolved over decades, **it emphasizes the most-recent empirical findings.** Because the ultimate goal of this study was to develop tools for projecting future levels and types of conflict, the review emphasizes quantitative research findings.

**2AC Small Arms Answers: Hegemony DA**

1. **No Impact: Large Wars Won’t happen: interdependence, deterrence, fear, and institutions**

**Hammond 2018 (**Andrew, London School of Economics, Nov. 25 Why Another Great Power War is unlikely soon, <https://gulfnews.com/opinion/op-eds/why-another-great-power-war-is-unlikely-soon-1.60546310> )

Yet, while the risk of a major war in Asia or elsewhere in the world certainly cannot be dismissed, **there are some key differences today** with the world of 100 years ago **which,** in the absence of catastrophic miscalculation, **makes a major-power war unlikely for the foreseeable future.** Most notably, **the relative global balance of power is different today and, nuclear weapons and international institutions,** especially the United Nations, generally **act as a restraining force against major conflict that did not exist then. The reduced chances of great-power war are not least because memories of the** First and indeed Second **World Wars, linger powerfully even today.** With justification, the First World War was described as the “greatest seminal catastrophe” of the Twentieth Century by US diplomat George Kennan, who would later become the architect for the US Cold War ‘containment strategy’. Aside from the many millions who died from 1914 to 1918, the war set in chain several developments that blighted the world for decades to come. These include the emergence of Communism in Russia and — as numerous historians assert — the rise of Nazi Germany and the seeds of the Second World War. **Another major difference** between now and 100 years ago **is the presence of nuclear weapons which, as during the Cold War, generally serve as a brake on major-power conflict.** It is noteworthy here that both the key emerging powers, including China and India, as well as established powers, such as the US, Russia, France and the United Kingdom, possess nuclear arsenals. **A further change is that,** unlike 1914, **there is now a dense web of post-war international institutions,** especially the United Nations, **which continue to have significant resilience and legitimacy decades after their creation.** While these bodies are imperfect, and in need of reform, the fact remains that they have generally enabled international security, especially with five of the key powers all on the UN Security Council. Moreover, **the relative balance between the two leading powers today is different** today than a century ago. That is, the gap between US and China is greater today than that between the UK and Germany 100 years ago. Indeed, perhaps the biggest consequence of the First World War was the dawn of the ‘American Century’ in which the US emerged as the world’s most powerful nation. To be sure, the country has undergone relative decline, and China is now the largest economy in the world based on purchasing power parity data. However, **the US remains significantly ahead of China on most measures of national strength, including military might, and is likely to enjoy an overall advantage for years.** Indeed, unlike the UK in the Twentieth Century, there are indications that US power will remain resilient potentially for decades to come, buoyed by factors such as the country’s ‘energy revolution’, which has potentially far-reaching geopolitical consequences. **Taken overall, the prospect of a major-power war for the foreseeable future is not** as **high** as a century ago.

**2AC Small Arms Answers: Hegemony DA**

1. **Non-Unique: U.S. Heg is low now**

**Wittes 2007** (Tamara Cofman, Senior Fellow - Foreign Policy, Center for Middle East Policy, March 22, 2007, American Hegemony: Myth and Reality, <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/american-hegemony-myth-and-reality/> ) DD

**For many outside the US, news that America’s era of supremacy was over might produce more relief than regret. As any recent poll will show you, the US reign of power has not been a popular one.** America is more mistrusted and more reviled, in more places around the world, than it has ever been in its history. But while it is clear that the international environment—especially in the Middle East—has shifted in ways that constrain US power today, I do not believe it is proper to call 2006 the year that America lost its supremacy in international affairs. **In fact US supremacy was never as total, or as meaningful, as either its admirers or its enemies claimed. What has diminished over the past few years has not been US power itself, but rather our perceptions of that power and what it can do**. Nowhere have the limits of American hegemony been more clearly on display, and with more serious results, than in the Middle East over the past four years. Iraq is the area where the real limits of American hegemony are most evident. Since the US and its allies invaded Iraq and overthrew the government of Saddam Hussein, America’s position in the region has shifted from advantageous to disadvantaged, from nearly unstoppable to deeply restrained. **The decline in America’s ability to influence events in the Middle East has not come about because America’s military capabilities or economic capacity have declined. Rather, American influence in the region has been sapped by the failure of efforts at political reconstruction in Iraq, by war-weariness at home, by relative neglect of the Arab-Israeli peace process, and by the effect of US regional policies on the influence of Iran.** The result of these developments is the emergence of a new fault line in the region. In the Middle East today, we can see an emerging struggle for power between an Iranian-led bloc of mainly Shia actors, and a bloc of Sunni forces led by the Arab states of Saudi Arabia and Egypt. The sectarian killing in Iraq has fed, and been fed by, this broader regional contest. But the conflict is not as simple as the one described by US President George W. Bush in announcing his surge strategy for Iraq, which he called a conflict between radicals and moderates. Each bloc encompasses both moderates and extremists, severely complicating the effort to pursue a coherent US strategy to bolster moderates at the expense of extremists. It took a war to expose this new sectarian fault line. For some time Arab leaders in Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan had been warning that a “Shiite crescent” was spreading its influence across the region. Iraq’s descent into civil war and Iran’s defiant pursuit of nuclear weapons fed these Arab concerns. But it was only in 2006 that these leaders rang alarm bells: when Hezbollah provoked a confrontation with Israel in Lebanon, and when the Assad regime in Damascus blocked Egypt from organizing a prisoner exchange to calm tensions in the Gaza Strip. For America’s Arab allies in Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan, it was simply unacceptable that a Shia-dominated, Persian Iran should blatantly interfere in Iraq, Lebanon and Palestine and become the arbiter of Arab interests in those places. They decried the Shia crescent that appears to stretch from its base in Tehran, to the Shia-led government in Baghdad, to the minority Alawi regime in Damascus and on to Hezbollah in Beirut. When, just before year’s end, cameras caught Shia guards jeering at Saddam Hussein on the gallows, the broader Sunni Arab public began to share their leaders’ concerns.

**2AC Small Arms Answers: Hegemony DA**

1. **No Impact: Risk of terrorism is low, and the American right wing is the more likely concern**

**Bergen and Sterman 2018 (**Peter and David, New American Security, Sept. 10th, Jihad Terrorism 17 Years After 9/11 <https://www.newamerica.org/international-security/reports/jihadist-terrorism-17-years-after-911/> )

**The** jihadist **terrorist threat to the United States is relatively limited. The threat posed by ISIS is receding, and the number of terrorism-related cases in the United States has declined substantially since its peak in 2015,** though the nature and level of the threat is unlikely to change in a fundamental manner. The most likely threat to the United States comes from terrorists inspired by ISIS or in contact with its virtual recruitment networks, as opposed to ISIS-directed attacks of the sort seen in Paris in 2015 and Brussels in 2016. **The most typical threat to the United States remains homegrown rather than from infiltrating foreign nationals.** The travel ban is thus not an effective response to this threat. **Finally, the United States faces a continued threat from non-jihadist terrorists, most notably those motivated by far-right ideologies.**

1. **Small Arms Availability makes terrorism more likely**

**Olofsson et al 2017 (**Karin, Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Nov. 23rd, <http://parliamentaryforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Policy-Statement-on-Illicit-Small-Arms-and-Light-Weapons-and-Terrorism-1-3.pdf> )

**The availability of illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) is a key factor enabling terrorism, having high human, social and economic costs.**1 Based on the over-all objective to contribute to the achievement of more peaceful and developed societies through parliamentary action against armed violence to increase human security, the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons finds it crucial to strengthen the role of parliamentarians in addressing conditions conducive to terrorism. Importantly, the parliamentary responsibility relate to aligning efforts with existing international frameworks for preventing and reducing armed violence, specifically the 2030 Agenda, the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and the United Nations Programme of Actions to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (UNPoA). Over the last couple of decades **the world has seen an increase in terrorist activity, today more serious and widely distributed across the world** than at the turn of the century. The Middle East, North Africa, South Asia and sub- Saharan Africa are particularly affected, accounting for 84% of attacks and 94 % of all deaths, in 2016 amounting to more than 24 000 victims. The majority of terrorist attacks are carried out in countries experiencing internal conflict, disproportionately affecting developing countries. Hence, tackling terrorism has bearing on conflict prevention and the consolidation of peace.2 **SALW are used by terrorists in a wide range of activities supporting their cause, including massacres, robberies and kidnappings.** These arms are oftentimes the most readily available and tactical option for terrorists, being easy to transport and conceal as well as causing extensive damage during a short period of time.3 Firearms were used in 18% of terrorist attacks globally in 2016, and in 32 % of the 50 most deadly terrorist attacks in 2015. 4**The proliferation of illicit arms is an important source considerably increasing armed capabilities of terrorist groups.**5 **Much of the illicit small arms trade depends on the lack of control of legal transfers. Diversion of lawful arms and ammunition to the illicit market,** in the form of theft or unlawful transfers from civilian and national stockpiles, **is the principal cause for illicit arms proliferation.**

**2AC Small Arms Answer: Ukraine Turn**

1. **US sales to the Ukraine risk a conflict with Russia**

**Carpenter 2018 (**Ted Galen, The American Conservative, Sept. 10th, Washington Quietly increases lethal weapons to Ukraine, <https://www.theamericanconservative.com/articles/washington-quietly-increases-lethal-weapons-to-ukraine/> )

Officials in both the Obama and Trump administration have taken a much too casual attitude toward [U.S. cooperation](https://www.thenation.com/article/americas-collusion-with-neo-nazis/) with extremist elements and a deeply flawed Ukrainian government. Both **the danger of stoking tensions with Moscow** and becoming too close to a regime in Kiev that exhibits disturbing features **should caution the Trump administration against boosting military aid to Ukraine.** **It is an unwise policy on strategic as well as moral grounds.** Trump administration officials should refuse to be intimidated or stampeded into forging a risky and unsavory alliance with Kiev out of fear of being portrayed as excessively “soft” toward Russia. Instead, **the president and his advisers need to spurn efforts to increase U.S. support for Ukraine. A good place to start would be to restore the Obama administration’s refusal to approve arms sales to Kiev. Washington must not pour gasoline on a geo-strategic fire that could lead to a full-blown crisis between the United States and Russia.**

**2AC Small Arms Answer: Effects Topicality**

1. **We Meet:** The plan reduces sales of small arms internationally through tougher restrictions on international arms sales

1. **Counter Interpretation:** The affirmative just has to prove that their plan substantially reduces Direct Commercial Sales and/or Foreign Military Sales of arms from the United States.
2. **Counter Standards**
   1. **Reasonability:**  The arms trade treaty is the core of the topic. The framers of the resolution wanted us to learn about international arms sales and the ATT is key to that
   2. **Ground:**  The neg has not loss any ground, there are still multiple disadvantages we link to.
   3. **Overlimits:** Gun control affs are the core of the topic. Not allowing those affs would cut out a third of the affs on this years topic. This creates an unfair neg bias and destroys education.

1. **Topicality is not a voter for fairness and education**