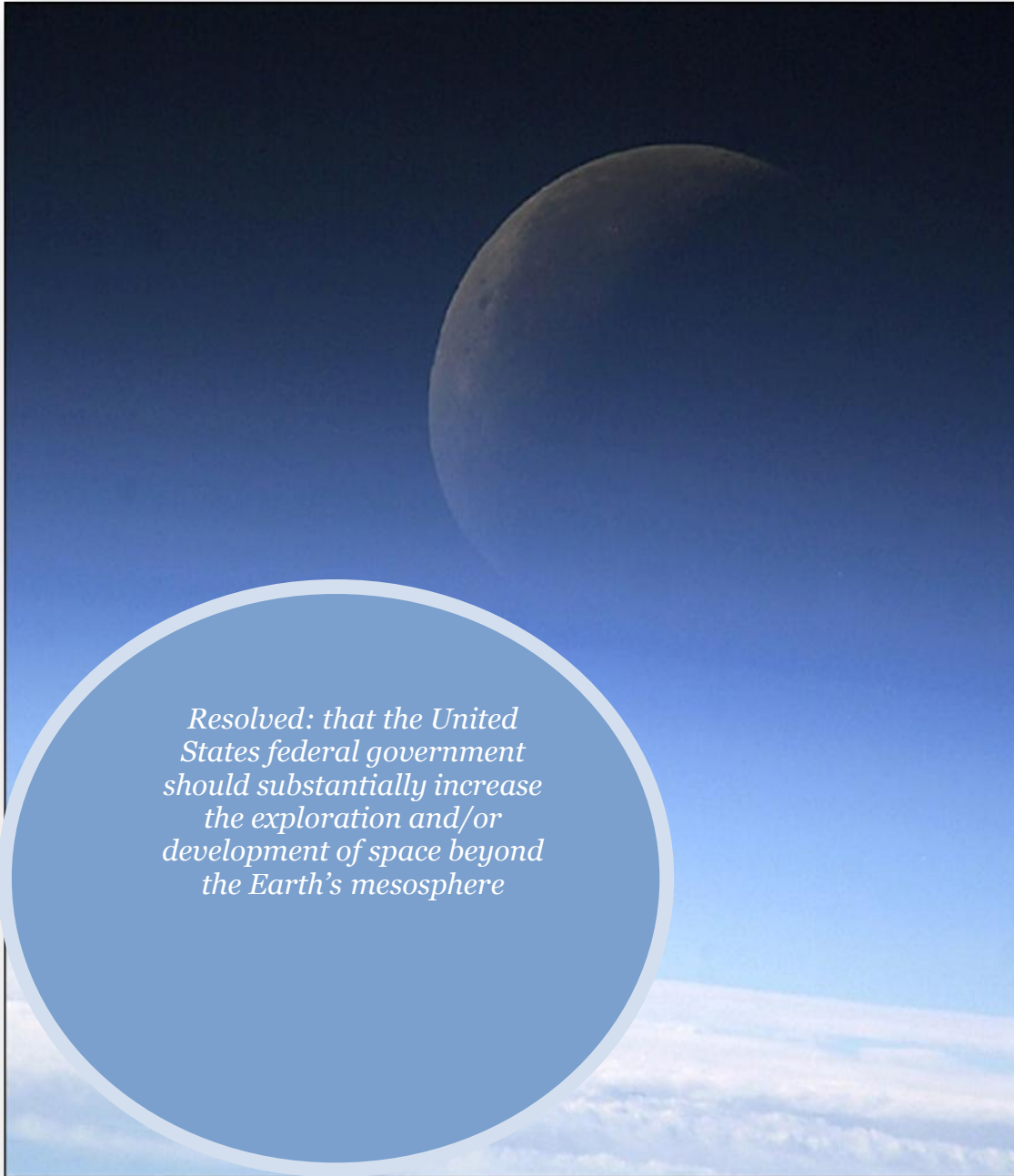


**Evidence Packet**  
**Atlanta Urban Debate League**  
**2011-2012**





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## 1NC Inherency – Private Market Will Take Us to Space

### **Private investors have the motive and the means for space development**

(PETER DIAMANDIS, 2/13/10; Space: The Final Frontier of Profit? ; Peter Diamandis is chief executive of the X Prize Foundation, a nonprofit that conducts incentivized competitions:  
[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703382904575059350409331536.html?mod=googlenews\\_wsj](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703382904575059350409331536.html?mod=googlenews_wsj))

Government agencies have dominated space exploration for three decades. But in a new plan unveiled in President Barack Obama's 2011 budget earlier this month, a new player has taken center stage: American capitalism and entrepreneurship. The plan lays the foundation for the future Google, Cisco and Apple of space to be born, drive job creation and open the cosmos for the rest of us. The Other Argument The Case Against Private Space Two fundamental realities now exist that will drive space exploration forward. First, private capital is seeing space as a good investment, willing to fund individuals who are passionate about exploring space, for adventure as well as profit. What was once affordable only by nations can now be lucrative, public-private partnerships. Second, companies and investors are realizing that everything we hold of value—metals, minerals, energy and real estate—are in near-infinite quantities in space. As space transportation and operations become more affordable, what was once seen as a wasteland will become the next gold rush. Alaska serves as an excellent analogy. Once thought of as "Seward's Folly" (Secretary of State William Seward was criticized for overpaying the sum of \$7.2 million to the Russians for the territory in 1867), Alaska has since become a billion-dollar economy. The same will hold true for space. For example, there are millions of asteroids of different sizes and composition flying throughout space. One category, known as S-type, is composed of iron, magnesium silicates and a variety of other metals, including cobalt and platinum. An average half-kilometer S-type asteroid is worth more than \$20 trillion. Technology is reaching a critical point. Moore's Law has given us exponential growth in computing technology, which has led to exponential growth in nearly every other technological industry.

### **Private space race ensures greater progress than government-run programs**

Caity **Lincoln**, Staff Writer at the University of Tulsa's the Collegian, 2/15/11 [The Collegian, "Privatization seems best medicine for space race", February 15, 2011, <http://www.utulsa.edu/collegian/article.asp?article=4965/Ghosh>]

The final frontier does not seem so final these days. Government agencies have long since pushed the limits of space exploration, but the Google Lunar X Prize is now sponsoring a private space race, offering a \$32 million prize to the team who can make it to the moon first. This is American capitalism at its best a little friendly competition between private and public enterprise which pushes the bounds of discovery. This new private space race certainly has investors scrambling to take advantage. The incentives may ensure a faster return to the lunar surface than if progress were solely entrusted to government agencies with their budgets and red tape.

### **Privatization leads to advances in science and tech – cheaper spaceflight and space tourism**

Caity **Lincoln**, Staff Writer at the University of Tulsa's the Collegian, 2/15/11 [The Collegian, "Privatization seems best medicine for space race", February 15, 2011, <http://www.utulsa.edu/collegian/article.asp?article=4965/Ghosh>]

It should not be forgotten that while the prospect of cheaper spaceflight in the name of scientific discovery is promising, these innovations also make leaps towards the possibility of space tourism. While the thought of being catapulted into outer space may be enough to induce sheer terror in some, there are others who are willing to pay a hefty sum for this experience. Whatever the intentions of the contest sponsors, advancement in budget spaceflight and scientific discovery cannot be a bad thing. Since all of the capital invested in these projects is coming from the private sector, those who do not support the race are not affected or involved. Although investors stand to benefit personally from placing first in the space race, the human race stands to benefit far more from the advances in science and technology than a governmental push for more lunar landings could bring.

## **1NC No Extinction Frontline**

### **1. Asteroids impacts are exaggerated- they are too unlikely**

Ron Cowen, Science News Reporter, 9/13/2010 ["Asteroid Close Calls Happen All the Time", September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010, <http://news.discovery.com/space/asteroids-collisions-earth-near-misses.html>]

The only thing that was particularly unusual about two asteroids that zipped past Earth September 8, astronomers say, was that anybody noticed them. Such close approaches -- one of the asteroids passed within 79,000 kilometers of Earth -- actually happen several times a week, according to scientists' calculations. Yet some media outlets described the close encounter as if it were a brush with Armageddon. "Quite frankly, I don't know why they're making such a fuss about it," says astronomer Brian Marsden of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics in Cambridge, Mass. "This is essentially nothing." Astronomers first spotted the two asteroids three days before their close encounter with Earth, using the Catalina Sky telescope near Tucson, Ariz., which routinely scans the skies for near-Earth objects. At the time they estimated the larger asteroid to be 10 to 20 meters (33 to 66 feet) in diameter, and the smaller 6 to 14 meters (20 to 46 feet) across. But subsequent observations by Richard Binzel and Francesca DeMeo of MIT using NASA's Infrared Telescope Facility on Hawaii's Mauna Kea showed that the objects were actually only about half that size. The discovery of the two space rocks demonstrates that programs like the Catalina survey, designed to find much larger near-Earth asteroids that do have the potential to cause devastating collisions, can also find smaller bodies, Marsden notes.

### **2. Yellowstone won't erupt in the near future**

**Xinhua 11** ("No imminent volcano eruption in Yellowstone National Park, says U.S. expert", February 1, 2011 [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/sci/2011-02/01/c\\_13715811.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/sci/2011-02/01/c_13715811.htm))[KEZIOS]

Asked to comment on the speculation, Cervelli of the Yellowstone National Park Volcano Science Center, told Xinhua in an interview that the eruption of a big volcano is possible, but it is "extremely unlikely it will erupt in a near term." "You are talking about a volcano that has not been erupted for hundred thousand years or so. We do not really expect any imminent volcanic activity. There is no panic, there is no alarm. Basically things in Yellowstone are doing what they are always doing. It is a very active place geologically, but that does not mean a volcano is going to erupt imminently," Cervelli told Xinhua.

## 1NC No Extinction Frontline

### 3. Innovation can achieve global sustainability

**Ried, V. J** (scientist, expert on geoscience) '10 Vol. 330 no. 6006 pp. 916-917 November 2010  
"Earth System Science for Global Sustainability: Grand Challenges"  
<http://www.sciencemag.org/content/330/6006/916.full#aff-1>

Encourage innovation (and mechanisms for evaluation) in technological, policy, and social responses to achieve global sustainability. We need to improve our understanding about how to strengthen incentives for technology, policy, and institutional innovation to respond to global environmental change. For example, there is need for transformative changes in the world's energy system, including efforts at an international level (e.g., establishing a global cap-and-trade system or a global tax on carbon). Insights into how best to attain such international policies can be drawn from innovations at local and regional levels, which are important laboratories for assessing how diverse carbon policies affect economic and social development at multiple scales. Just as countries seek to harmonize public sector research, economic incentives for emerging industries, and public policies to stimulate growth of new competitive industries, a mix of incentives will be needed to generate ideas and technologies to address global change in the context of sustainable development. In particular, we need focused efforts, coupled with careful assessment, on such issues as the potentials and risks of geoengineering strategies (including exploration of local to global institutional arrangements needed to oversee them) and options to meet competing demands for scarce land and water over the next half-century.

### 4. Earth can be sustainable if changes in production and consumption occur

**Finochiaro, Peter** (staff writer of Salon, interview with Fred Pearce: author of "The Coming Population Crash: And Our Planet's Surprising Future") **5/14** Can the Earth sustain 10 billion people? May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
[http://www.salon.com/news/feature/2011/05/04/global\\_population\\_projections](http://www.salon.com/news/feature/2011/05/04/global_population_projections)

Are there any specific policies or changes to the industrial process that could help sustain 10 billion people?  
These figures underline the urgency for doing all the things we know we need to do anyway. The basic fact is we cannot sustain even 3 or 4 or 5 billion people all living the way we do in the West now. If we want the poor world to have a better life, we have to change the way we do an awful lot of things -- certainly the way we generate our energy. We've simply got to move away from high-carbon-emission energy sources. We've got to change the way we produce our foods to use soil and water and much else much more sustainably. That is going to perhaps involve moderation of our diet. But also changes in the way we produce what we want.

There are three elements in our impact on the planet. The first is our numbers. The second is what those people consume. The third, and one we need to think about as well, is how we produce what we consume. I don't believe in simple technical fixes, but we do know how to do things very much better than we are. And, however many billion people there are -- whether it's 7 or 10 or even 12 billion people -- we are going to have to adopt, as fast as we sensibly can, those different ways of doing things. My own gut feeling is that if we can do those things -- and it's a hell of an if -- is that we can sustain 10 billion people on this planet. But saying we can do it is a long way from being sure that we will do it.

## 1NC No Extinction Frontline

### 5. Population growth is stagnating – lower birth rates

**Pearce, Fred '10** (Fred Pearce is currently the environment consultant of *New Scientist* magazine and a regular contributor to the British newspapers *Daily Telegraph*, *The Guardian*, *The Independent*, and *Times Higher Education*. He has also written for several US publications including *Audubon*, *Foreign Policy*, *Popular Science*, *Seed*, and *Time*.) “The Coming Population Crash: And Our Planet's Surprising Future” beacon Press Books: Boston, Massachusetts

But don't despair. There is something you may not have guessed something that may save us all. The population "bomb" is being defused. Only gradually, because the children of the greatest population explosion in history are still mostly of childbearing age, but it is happening. They may be having seven children in Mali, and six in Afghanistan, but half of the world's women are now having two children or fewer-not just in rich countries, but in Iran and parts of India, Burma and Brazil, Vietnam and South Africa. Mothers today have fewer than half as many offspring as their own mothers. This is happening mostly out of choice and not compulsion. Women have always wanted freedom, not domestic drudgery and the childbirth treadmill. And now that most of their babies survive to adulthood, they are grabbing it.

### 6. Nuclear war is not inevitable. History proves it.

**Alex Roland, April 2010**, Prof of History, Duke University, “Was the Nuclear Arms Race Deterministic?” *Technology and Culture*, Volume 51, Number 2, April 2010E-ISSN: 1097-3729 Print ISSN: 0040-165X DOI: 10.1353/tech.0.0457, [http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/technology\\_and\\_culture/v051/51.2.roland.html](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/technology_and_culture/v051/51.2.roland.html)

On the other hand, an equally compelling argument can be made for social construction. After all, humanity did manage to keep its nuclear weapons sheathed throughout the cold war and beyond. It did manage to impose on them safeguards that averted the nightmarish accidents often predicted by their critics. It did manage to put in place a surprisingly successful nonproliferation regime that retarded the spread of these weapons and their associated technologies. The superpowers did conduct a series of arms-reduction agreements that have shrunked the world's stockpile of nuclear warheads from more than 70,000 in 1986 to less than 29,000 in 2006.<sup>55</sup> One may wish that human agency had asserted itself sooner and more forcefully, and that it would move in the future toward elimination of these weapons, but it can hardly be said in retrospect that the nuclear arms race was deterministic. People designed, built, deployed, safeguarded, and partially dismantled these weapons without the catastrophe that many technological determinists had predicted.<sup>56</sup>

## 1NC No Extinction Frontline

### 7. Humans may be extinct proof, even from climate change

Darren Curnoe, 6-7-11, "Climate Change, doomsday and the Inevitable Extinction of Humankind"

Senior Lecturer at University of New South Wales, <http://theconversation.edu.au/climate-change-doomsday-and-the-inevitable-extinction-of-humankind-1656>

Seen in its broadest context, the history of life on Earth soberly demonstrates that the vast majority of organisms that ever lived, perhaps 99% of them, no longer do. It also shows that mammal species normally last 1-2 million years before extinction inevitably bumps them off.

Yet, unlike most mammals, including our dozens of extinct hominin cousins, we have escaped the vulnerabilities of a small and massively fluctuating population.

The simple, but profound act, of growing our own food delivered us the food security that ensured most of our children survived and our population grew.

In effect, farming gave our species level assurance that the biological isn't always inevitable. The odds have shifted to such a degree that we may now be, with or without climate change, extinction-proof.

### 8. The overall probability of human extinction is very low.

Bruce E. Tonn, September 2009, Department of Political Science, U of Tennessee, "Obligations to Future Generations and Acceptable Risks of Human Extinction," *Futures*, 41:7, p. 427-435

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0016328709000020>

These estimates need to be tempered by the fact that none were based upon rigorous analytic methods, only subjective judgment. In reality, it can be argued that at this point in time there are no quantitative methods available to estimate the probability of human extinction. It can also be argued that humans are a very hardy species. Any one catastrophic event or even a series of events would need to doom every human being on the planet, including the last isolated enclaves of a thousand humans here and a thousand humans there. Thus, it can be strongly argued that while the probabilities for large losses of life may be high, the probability of true and final human extinction is probably much lower despite all the risks listed above [13].



**1NC No Solvency – Colonization Impossible Frontline**

### **1. Colonization no practical locations: No good way to get water; terra-forming impossible**

**Williams**, Lynda Williams, Physics Instructor, Santa Rosa Junior College '10  
Peace Review, a Journal of Social Justice; "Irrational Dreams of Space Colonization"; Spring 2011;  
[http://www.scientainment.com/lwilliams\\_peacereview.pdf](http://www.scientainment.com/lwilliams_peacereview.pdf)

What do the prospects of colonies or bases on the Moon and Mars offer? Both the Moon and Mars host extreme environments that are uninhabitable to humans without very sophisticated technological life supporting systems beyond any that are feasible now or will be available in the near future. Both bodies are subjected to deadly levels of solar radiation and are void of atmospheres that could sustain oxygen-based life forms such as humans. Terra-forming either body is not feasible with current technologies or within any reasonable time frames so any colony or base would be restricted to living in space capsules or trailer park like structures which could not support a sufficient number of humans to perpetuate and sustain the species in any long term manner. Although evidence of water has been discovered on both bodies, it exists in a form that is trapped in minerals, which would require huge amounts of energy to access. Water can be converted into fuel either as hydrogen or oxygen, which would eliminate the need to transport vast amounts of fuel from Earth. However, according to Britain's leading spaceflight expert, Professor Colin Pillinger, "You would need to heat up a lot of lunar soil to 200C to get yourself a glass of water."

### **2. It would take at least half a century to colonize space. This means short-term impacts outweigh the case.**

**NASA 05** ["Space Settlement Basics,"  
<http://www.nas.nasa.gov/About/Education/SpaceSettlement/Basics/wwwwh.html>]

How long did it take to build New York? California? France? Even given ample funds the first settlement will take decades to construct. No one is building a space settlement today, and there are no immediate prospects for large amounts of money, so the first settlement will be awhile. If Burt Rutan's prediction of affordable orbital tourism in 25 years is correct, however, it's reasonable to expect the first orbital colony to be built within about 50 years.

## 1NC No Solvency – Colonization Impossible Frontline

### 3. Launch costs are too high

**Laubscher 07**, Bryan: Los Alamos National Laboratory project leader “Where Can We Afford to Go with Rockets?” <http://blog.spaceelevator.com/archives/2007/07/>

Using the value of \$10,000/kg, the cost of moving one kilogram of payload from the surface of Earth to the vicinity of Mars is \$34,000. The cost to the lunar surface is greater. I claim that this is good to at least a factor of two barring a glacial bureaucracy that would drive the cost higher than \$68,000/kg. I do not foresee the lower limit of \$17,000 per kilogram being realized but most people would agree it is a lower limit. NASA’s Space Exploration Initiative called for a Mars rocket with a mass of 1000 metric tons which corresponds to \$340 billion launch cost to Mars! The innovative Mars Direct plans called for a Mars spacecraft of 87 tons implying \$2.9 billion launch cost to Mars! These costs do not include research, development, fabrication, construction or test flights. Also, these costs are not rigorous since these ships were to be constructed and launched from LEO so the mass may include their fuel to Mars – my source did not break down the mass. If the fuel to Mars is included, then the launch costs change to \$100 billion and \$853 million, respectively. In either case, the magnitude of these numbers is useful to realize what we are looking at in terms of launch costs. A manned outpost or colony would require many, many tons of shelter, equipment, food, water etc. to be sent to Mars over a long period of time. If the plan is to “live off the land”, initial missions will still require tremendous amounts of logistical support. The moon requires even more in-situ support since it lacks the inherent resources and advantages of Mars. Of course many fewer resources are required for the 3-day trip to the moon versus the many months travel time to Mars. Conclusion My question is: How much exploration, especially manned exploration, of the moon and Mars will we be doing at \$34,000 per kilogram? My guess is that we’ll do pretty much what we’ve done over the last 35 years since the last Apollo mission.

### 4. Health hazards.

**Stross 07**, Charles: technical author, freelance journalist, and author of The Web Architect’s Handbook “The High Frontier, Redux,”

[http://www.antipope.org/charlie/blogstatic/2007/06/the\\_high\\_frontier\\_redux.html](http://www.antipope.org/charlie/blogstatic/2007/06/the_high_frontier_redux.html)

We’re human beings. We evolved to flourish in a very specific environment that covers perhaps 10% of our home planet’s surface area. (Earth is 70% ocean, and while we can survive, with assistance, in extremely inhospitable terrain, be it arctic or desert or mountain, we aren’t well-adapted to thriving there.) Space itself is a very poor environment for humans to live in. A simple pressure failure can kill a spaceship crew in minutes. And that’s not the only threat. Cosmic radiation poses a serious risk to long duration interplanetary missions, and unlike solar radiation and radiation from coronal mass ejections the energies of the particles responsible make shielding astronauts extremely difficult.

## 1NC No Solvency – Colonization Impossible Frontline

### 5. Infertility stops humans from colonizing space- exposure to radiation

Jerome **Taylor**, reporter for “The Independent”, **2/14/2011** [“Why infertility will stop humans colonising space”, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011, <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/why-infertility-will-stop-humans-colonising-space-2213861.html>]

The early indications from Nasa are not encouraging. Space, it seems, is simply not a good place to have sex. According to a review by three scientists looking into the feasibility of colonising Mars, astronauts would be well advised to avoid getting pregnant along the way because of the high levels of radiation that would bombard their bodies as they travelled through space. Without effective shielding on spaceships, high-energy proton particles would probably sterilise any female foetus conceived in deep space and could have a profound effect on male fertility. "The present shielding capabilities would probably preclude having a pregnancy transited to Mars," said radiation biophysicist Tore Straume of Nasa's Ames Research Center in an essay for the Journal of Cosmology. The DNA which guides the development of all the cells in the body is easily damaged by the kind of radiation that would assail astronauts as they journeyed through space. Studies on non-human primates have shown that exposure to ionising radiation kills egg cells in a female foetus during the second half of pregnancy. "One would have to be very protective of those cells during gestation, during pregnancy, to make sure that the female didn't become sterile so they could continue the colony," Dr Straume said. Radiation in space comes from numerous sources but the two types that have Nasa scientists most concerned are solar flares and galactic cosmic rays. Flares are the result of huge explosions in the Sun's atmosphere that catapult highly charged protons across space. The Earth's atmosphere and magnetic field absorbs much of this harmful radiation – but in space astronauts are much more vulnerable. Galactic cosmic rays pose an even greater threat. They are made up of even heavier charged particles. Although Nasa's shields can protect astronauts against most flare radiation, it is unlikely they could do the same against cosmic rays. Until recently, sex had been a taboo subject for Nasa, which has a strict code of conduct stating that "relationships of trust" among astronauts are to be maintained at all times. Only once has a husband and wife been on the same mission – Jan Davis and Mark Lee – and they have remained tight-lipped over whether they joined the 62-mile high club.



## 1NC No Solvency - Space Colonization Cannot Solve Earth Problems

**The affirmative's expansion into outer space creates space as the new frontier—this expansion extension of intense militarism causing the conflicts they claim to stop.**

**Grondin, 6** – Assistant Professor, School of Political Studies, University of Ottawa (David, The (Power) Politics of Space: The U.S. Astropolitical Discourse of Global Dominance in the War on Terror)

From the outset, many may ask why is there, looming over our head, literally and figuratively, a possibility of seeing war and violence spreading to the cosmos? Outer Space, the “endless frontier”, the “last frontier”, John F. Kennedy’s “New Frontier”, is still largely seen as the “pristine frontier”. Who writes and produces Outer Space? The social construction and production of Outer Space means that it is people with agential power that enact and produce Outer Space, that invest it with meanings and produce it with power relations. If we wish to understand US strategy regarding Space and especially how its strategic analysts produce Outer Space as a (soon-to-be)-“weaponized space”, we must go back to Lacoste’s understanding of geography and that of state and military decisionmakers: Geography is first and foremost a strategic knowledge which is closely linked to a set of political and military practices; these practices demand that extremely different, at first sight heterogeneous pieces of information should be brought together. You cannot understand the grounds for existence nor the importance of such information if you confine yourself to the validity of knowledge for knowledge’s sake. These strategic practices make geography necessary, primarily for those who control the machinery of the state. Is this really a science? It does not really matter; the question is not fundamental insofar as one is aware that geography, being the structuring of knowledge relating to space, is a strategic knowledge, a power (Lacoste 1982 [1976]: 7; quoted in Ó Tuathail 1996: 162). We therein need to reflect critically on spatialities of US space power and the discourse of US space power as space weaponization. US astropolitics deals with the “outer frontiers of national security policy”. However, one major feature of the post-9/11 era is that these new frontiers of homeland security are not the territorial borders of the homeland anymore, but rather the new frontiers for securing the homeland. The profound implications of the Global War on Terror and its desire for global security are that no space, place, site or body will be left unscripted, undisciplined and unsecured. In many regards, US astropolitical thinkers see Space as a territory, as a place to be “conquered” and “mastered”. In much of the US astropolitical discourse, Space is seen the “last frontier” experience: it is a hostile and wild environment which could indeed be seen as the quintessential Hobbesian “state of nature”. This brings me to discuss the (re)territorialization of Outer Space as an *American* space. These deterritorialization and reterritorialization are linked to the War on Terror, especially because of the protection of information, the detection, and the surveillance activities of the US, which are central in “hunting down” terrorists. This illustrates another manifestation of the US acting more and more as a “global security state” when acting for its national security.

## 1NC No Solvency - Space Colonization Cannot Solve Earth Problems

**The concern with expansion into outer space extends the imperial conflicts on earth into outer space.**

**Macdonald, 7** – Professor of Human Geography at the University of Melbourne (Fraser, Anti-Astropolitik: Outer Space and the Orbit of Geography, Online)

My basic claim, then, is that a geographical concern with outer space is an old project, not a new one. A closely related argument is that a geography of outer space is a logical extension of earlier geographies of imperial exploration (for instance Driver, 2001; Smith and Godlewska, 1994). Space exploration has used exactly the same discourses, the same rationales, and even the same institutional frameworks (such as the International Geophysical Year, 1957-1958) as terrestrial exploration. And like its terrestrial counterpart, the move into space has its origins in older imperial enterprises. Marina Benjamin, for instance, argues that for the United States outer space was ‘always a metaphorical extension of the American West’ (Benjamin, 2003: 46). Looking at the imbricated narratives of colonialism and the Ariane space programme in French Guiana, the anthropologist Peter Redfield makes the case that ‘outer space reflects a practical shadow of empire’ (Redfield, 2002: 795; 2000). And the historian of science Richard Sorrenson, writing about the ship as geography’s scientific instrument in the age of high empire, draws on the work of David DeVorkin to argue that the V-2 missile was its natural successor (Sorrenson, 1996: 228; DeVorkin, 1992). A version of the V-2 – the two-stage ‘Bumper WAC Corporal’ – became the first earthly object to penetrate outer space reaching an altitude of 244 miles on the 24<sup>th</sup> February 1949 (Army Ballistic Missile Agency, 1961). Moreover, out of this postwar allied V-2 programme came the means by which Britain attempted to re-assert its geopolitical might in the context of its own ailing empire. In 1954, when America sold Britain its first nuclear missile – a refined version of the WAC Corporal – its possession was seen as a shortcut back to the international stage at a time when Britain’s colonial power was waning fast (Clark, 1994; MacDonald, 2006). Even if the political geography literature has scarcely engaged with outer space, the advent of rocketry was basically Cold War (imperial) geopolitics under another name. Space exploration then, from its earliest origins to the present day, has been about familiar terrestrial and ideological struggles here on Earth.



## **1NC/2NC - Impact Assessment**

### **1. Time Frame.**

**a. The impact of the disadvantage is in the near term and we must focus on solving these problems before we worry about going to space**

**b. Should focus on solving earth's problems now-only hope to ensure human survival. Since the affirmative harms are in the distant future, we can go to space after we have solved earth problems.**

Seth D. **Baum**, 2010, Dept of Geography and Rock Ethics Institute, Penn State U, "Is Humanity Doomed? Insights from Astrobiology," *Sustainability*, 2:591-603, doi:10.3390/su2020591, <http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/2/2/591/pdf>

The fact that the universe will remain habitable for much longer than Earth will means that, if we care about long-term sustainability, then it is extremely important for us to colonize space [38].

Colonizing space will permit us to take advantage of all that the rest of the universe has to offer [39]. But this does not mean that we should focus our current efforts on space colonization. The reason for this is simple: Earth will remain habitable for another billion years or so. While a billion years is quite small compared to the universe's lifetime, it is quite large compared to the amount of time it probably takes to colonize space, especially given our current rapid rates of technological change. If we are to colonize space before the world ends, then we have plenty of time to do it—as long as nothing really bad happens first.

These "really bad" things can be any global catastrophe so large that it would permanently eliminate our capacity to colonize space before the world ends. Several phenomena may be so catastrophic, including nuclear warfare, pandemic outbreaks, ecological collapse, disruptive technology, and of course impact from a large asteroid. Risks of these events have been called *global catastrophic risks* or *existential risks* [40]. I will use the term existential risk here because it is our existence that is ultimately at stake. These risks are far more imminent than the end of the world. Therefore, if we care about long-term sustainability, then we should focus our efforts on avoiding these catastrophes, i.e., on reducing existential risk, SO that future generations can colonize space.

## 1NC/2NC - Impact Assessment

### 2. Risk.

**a. We are certain that humans can live on earth. Earth is the ONLY outpost we know we can survive in. If there is any risk that the plan will not solve. We should stay on earth in the short term.**

**b. We can solve challenges through population control, international cooperation, and pollution reduction.**

**Trevors, J.** (Trevors: University of Guelph and Adjunct Professor, a 28 year record of microbiology research, graduate and undergraduate teaching, consulting and editing/editorships has been achieved) '09 # Springer Science + Business Media B.V. 2009 "The Earth Is the Best Place to Live" – <http://www.springerlink.com/content/p68867688844p083/fulltext.pdf>

The already overpopulated Earth with several billion too many people, consuming and polluting and entangled in complex conflicts for limited resources has no rationale present and future within the current paradigm. There is no future in conflicts, wars, violations of basic human rights and needs, competition, discrimination, lack of public infrastructure, hunger and poverty all entangled within pollution and global climate change. The challenges/ problems that we currently face can quickly turn into global crises (e.g. global warming, pandemics, overpopulation, food shortages) if the correct international actions are not implemented. The Earth is our only outpost. We can not travel quickly to other planetary locations and sustain life as we know it. Our correct choices are conservation, environmental protection, planned and managed human population control, international cooperation, evolve modern democracies and stable governments, education, basic human rights and needs and too all strive for the sanctity of life and humanity. The best way to halt total global pollution and climate change is to reduce total global pollution and the factors that cause climate change and overpopulation. What a wonderful world it will be.

**3. Magnitude. The disadvantages result in certain extinction of all life on earth. Creating space colonies only saves a few people. The plan benefits are not worth the risk of the disadvantages.**

**The Daily Galaxy** *The Daily Galaxy -Great Discoveries Channel* is an eclectic text and video presentation of news and original insights on science, space, and the environment. The Daily Galaxy was founded by Val Landi. Val's background includes executive vice president of global technology-publisher IDG prior to joining Microsoft co-founder.) '09 "Space Colonization: Future or Fantasy?" October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 [http://www.dailygalaxy.com/my\\_weblog/2010/08/space-colonization-the-human-future-or-scifi-fantasy.html](http://www.dailygalaxy.com/my_weblog/2010/08/space-colonization-the-human-future-or-scifi-fantasy.html)

In an earlier Galaxy post we wrote that Stephen Hawking, world-celebrated expert on the cosmological theories of gravity and black holes who held Issac Newton's Lucasian Chair at Cambridge University until his recent retirement, believes that traveling into space is the only way humans will be able to survive in the long-term, while warning about the potential threat of actual alien contact with Earth. "Life on Earth," Hawking has said, "is at the ever-increasing risk of being wiped out by a disaster such as sudden global warming, nuclear war, a genetically engineered virus or other dangers ... I think the human race has no future if it doesn't go into space." Another of his famous quotes reiterates his position that we need to get off the planet relatively soon. "I don't think the human race will survive the next 1,000 years unless we spread into space."

The problems with Hawking's solution is that while it may save a "seed" of human life- a few lucky specimens- it won't save Earth's inhabitants. The majority of Earthlings would surely be left behind on a planet increasingly unfit for life.



## **No Extinction – Asteroid Extensions**

### **1. Asteroids aren't a threat - not probable**

Thomas **Hart**, journalist, copywriter and content specialist, **2/8/2011** ["NASA: Russian claims of Apophis collision with Earth exaggerated", February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011, <http://personalmoneystore.com/moneyblog/2011/02/08/apophis-collision-with-earth/>]

Apophis is the "doomsday asteroid" that Russian astronomers predict will collide with Earth in 2036. The Russians said when Apophis makes a routine pass close to Earth in 2029, it could fly through a "gravitational keyhole" that will put it on a collision course in a later orbit. NASA dismissed the probability of an Apophis/Earth collision, but it is working on methods to deflect doomsday asteroids. Odds of Apophis collision course slim The chance of an Apophis collision with Earth was first announced by NASA scientists in 2004. Initial observations hinted that Apophis, about the size of a cruise ship, could collide with Earth in 2029. A deeper mathematical investigation of the probabilities virtually ruled out any chance of an Apophis/Earth collision. Last month Russian astronomers said that during its 2029 fly-by, Apophis could pass through a pinpoint in space known as a gravitational keyhole that would alter its course enough to hit the bullseye in 2036. A NASA official didn't deny the Russian claims but noted that the odds of Apophis passing through the gravitational keyhole are one in 250,000.

### **2. Asteroids aren't a threat- NASA is working on solutions**

Thomas **Hart**, journalist, copywriter and content specialist, **2/8/2011** ["NASA: Russian claims of Apophis collision with Earth exaggerated", February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011, <http://personalmoneystore.com/moneyblog/2011/02/08/apophis-collision-with-earth/>]

Soon after Apophis caused such a stir, Congress sent NASA a mandate in 2005 that it must discover 90 percent of near earth objects 140 meters in diameter or greater by 2020. The money NASA needs to do that is far greater than the \$4 million a year currently spent. Perhaps just as important as spotting potential Earth/asteroid collisions is planning a means to prevent them. Former astronaut Rusty Schweickart, an outspoken advocate of asteroid deflection research, has said the technology currently exists. The hard part is fostering the international cooperation required to save Earth when the time comes.



**No Extinction – Supervolcano Extensions**

### 1. Most experts say that no eruption likely

**Xinhua 11** ("No imminent volcano eruption in Yellowstone National Park, says U.S. expert", February 1, 2011 [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/sci/2011-02/01/c\\_13715811.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/sci/2011-02/01/c_13715811.htm))[KEZIOS]

The measurements from the GPS are not alarming. They are very interesting from a scientific view and they help us understand what's going on beneath the volcano. But they are not alarming." He said over his career, he has participated in over 10 to 11 responses to volcanoes that actually did erupt. "So I do have some experience in distinguishing signals or data we measured that pointing to the eruption and signals that are just part of the normal background behavior of the volcano. The signals received at Yellowstone are just part of the normal background," said Cervelli. He said some people got to the television to give their opinions on whether the volcano will erupt, but if you have somebody who is educated and experienced and actually has worked at Yellowstone, " none of those people is alarmed," he affirmed.



## **Solvency Colonization Impossible – No practical location**

### **1. Meteors are a huge threat to moon colonies**

**Benaroya, Haym** (Ph.D., Structures, Mechanics, Probabilistic Methods, University of Pennsylvania) '10  
Taylor and Francis Group publications “Lunar Settlements”

Meteoroid bombardment since the formation of the Moon has resulted in the present lunar topography. Meteors are a threat to structures on the Moon because there is almost no atmosphere on the Moon to burn them up or even slow them down. As a result, meteoroids impact the Moon with their full velocity, which can range from 10 to 72 km/s (Coronado et al. 198Z p.12).

### **2. And Mars is too far from Earth**

**Williams 10** (Lynda, M.S. in Physics and a physics faculty member at Santa Rose Junior College, “Irrational Dreams of Space Colonization”, Peace Review: A Journal of Social Justice, 22.1, Spring, pg 6)

A moon base is envisioned as serving as a launch pad for Martian expeditions, so the infeasibility of a lunar base may prohibit trips to Mars, unless they are launched directly from Earth or via an orbiting space station. Mars is, in its closest approach, 36 million miles from Earth and would require a nine-month journey with astronauts exposed to deadly solar cosmic rays. Providing sufficient shielding would require a spacecraft that weighs so much that it becomes prohibitive to carry enough fuel for a roundtrip. Either the astronauts get exposed to lethal doses on a roundtrip, or they make a safe one-way journey and never return. Regardless, it is unlikely that anyone would survive a trip to Mars. Whether or not people are willing to make that sacrifice for the sake of scientific exploration, human missions to Mars do not guarantee the survival of the species, but rather, only the death of any member who attempts the journey.

### **3. Asteroid Mining won't be profitable- It's very unlikely that time will solve the cost**

**Tony Ortega**, editor in chief of the Village Voice, **6/17/2011** [" Robert Burnham Jr.'s 1983 Testament: An Astronomer-Recluse Inscrives His Universe (Part II)", June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011, [http://blogs.villagevoice.com/runninscared/2011/06/robert\\_burnham\\_j\\_1.php](http://blogs.villagevoice.com/runninscared/2011/06/robert_burnham_j_1.php)]

Well, there is a huge gap between what is technically feasible and what is humanly workable. Asteroid mining is technically feasible. But at what cost? My friends at JPL tell me that it could not be done profitably with present techniques even if the asteroid was made of solid gold. Technological advances will bring the cost down in time. Yes, I know. That's what the space-boosters tell me. Massive technological breakthroughs will eventually solve all the problems, and the cost will go way, way down. I am skeptical. This happens in a few rare cases, such as hand calculators, where the market is glutted with some product that can be mass produced cheaply in enormous quantities. But I don't see the price of ocean liners going down. Or jet planes. Or even the family car. If the price of anything so simple as a postage stamp keeps going up, up, up, then I doubt very much that the price of ultra-sophisticated technology is going to go down, down, down.



## Solvency Extensions Colonization Impossible – Health

### 1. Bacteria mutations in Space can stop journeys to Mars and beyond

National Geographic 11/4/2009 [“ Mutant Diseases May Cripple Missions to Mars, Beyond”, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009, <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2009/11/091104-space-diseases-mutants-mars.html>]

Mutant hitchhikers may become a major hurdle in the quest to send humans deeper into the galaxy, scientists say. That's because no matter how fit astronauts feel at liftoff, they're likely to be carrying disease-causing microbes such as toxic E. coli and Staphylococcus strains. At the same time, exposure to cosmic rays and the stresses of long-term weightlessness can dampen the human immune system, encouraging diseases to take hold. Aboard spaceships without advanced medical care, illness could cripple human missions to Mars and beyond, according to a new report published this month in the Journal of Leukocyte Biology. "What is the interest of having people on Mars if they cannot efficiently perform the analyses and studies scheduled during their mission?" said study co-author Jean-Pol Frippiat, an immunologist at Nancy University in France. Cells Change in Zero G For the new report, Frippiat and colleagues analyzed more than 150 studies of the effects of space flight on humans, animals, and pathogens. On Earth humans are protected from the effects of cosmic rays, because most of the particles are deflected by the planet's magnetic field. Out in space, however, such protections vanish, and cosmic radiation can cause mutations when it strikes the DNA inside cells. The absence of gravity can also be detrimental to human health, because weightlessness allows structures to shift around within cells.

### 2. Colonies are susceptible to cosmic rays - cause severe radiation. Shielding makes it worse.

**Heppenheimer** (a major space advocate and researcher in planetary science, aerospace engineering, and celestial mechanics. His books are on the recommended reading list of the National Space Society.)'07 "Colonies in Space – National Space society" [http://www.nss.org/settlement/ColoniesInSpace/colonies\\_chap12.htm](http://www.nss.org/settlement/ColoniesInSpace/colonies_chap12.htm)

Included in the cosmic rays are substantial numbers of iron nuclei totally stripped of electrons. When a fully ionized iron nucleus is traveling at less than half the speed of light, its ionizing power is several thousand times that of an ordinary proton. Passage through the body of a single iron nucleus destroys an entire column of cells along its path. The total amount of energy which the particle dumps into the body is small, but it is highly concentrated. This radiation can not only increase the risks of cancer, it can provide pathways of damaged or dead cells along which the cancer can spread and grow.

The iron nuclei do even more. They destroy nerve cells in the brain and spinal column which cannot reproduce themselves. Once the cells are dead, they can never be replaced. Studies of Apollo astronauts indicate that on their two-week lunar voyages, they may have lost as much as one ten-thousandth of their nonreplaceable neurons. Under such conditions after several years in space, the loss could reach several percent. For children, especially, the effects could be devastating.

It is also important to be aware of the phenomenon of secondary particle production. When high-energy particles collide with matter, as in a radiation shield, they give off a spray of particles. These in turn may produce more particles. In the presence of very energetic particles, therefore, a little shielding may cause an even larger radiation dose than if there were no shielding. There also is the possibility that a little shielding will slow down fast iron nuclei, making them more damaging to tissue.



## Solvency Colonization Impossible – Infertility

### **1. Healthy pregnancy is not possible in space, too much radiation**

**Joseph '10** Rhawn Joseph, Ph.D. Journal of Cosmology, 2010, Vol 12, 4034-4050.; "Sex On Mars: Pregnancy, Fetal Development, and Sex In Outer Space" October-November 2010; <http://journalofcosmology.com/Mars144.html>

The guidelines of The National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements guidelines limit radiation exposure to 500 mrem for an entire pregnancy and to only 50 mrem per month. On the International Space Station, radiation exposure may approach 35,000 mrem or more (Harm et al., 2001), and these levels would significantly impact the viability of the fetus, producing a range of severe to profound abnormalities (Dekaban 1968; Diamond et al., 1973; Otake et al., 1996; Reyners et al., 1992) and would likely kill a developing human fetus.

### **2. Conception in space has detrimental risks from Microgravity**

Charles Q. **Choi**, Astrobiology Magazine Contributor, 10/14/2010 "Embryonic Idea: Human Procreation in Space Would Be Perilous", October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010, <http://www.space.com/9327-embryonic-idea-human-procreation-space-perilous.html>

These findings in embryonic stem cells may not bode well for attempts at procreation in microgravity. "The simulated microgravity experiments we are investigating don't seem to suggest a very positive outcome," Marcal said. Some of the detrimental risks that microgravity may have on an embryo include inhibited bone maturation, heart and blood vessel alterations, delayed neural growth, and altered muscle tissue maturation, Marcal speculated. "The effect that microgravity may have on a growing embryo or fetus would be similar to an adult body, however, much more detrimental," Marcal said. "The adult body can adapt to some microgravity space environments, however, what remains totally unknown is if an embryo can adapt to such an environment too." The researchers now aim to decipher why exactly microgravity is having these molecular effects. "What we are almost certain of is that the human body depends and relies on gravity for some mechanical or circulatory feedback," Marcal said. Mechanical feedback is needed by bone, while circulatory feedback is needed by blood vessels. "Vessel walls become weak and our circulation and immune system becomes compromised," Marcal explained.



## **Colonization Bad – AT: Solves Environment**

### **Other worlds may be ecologically pillaged by previous alien contact**

David **Brin** Ph.D. in applied physics @ UC San Diego, NASA consultant, 9-2002

"A Contrarian Perspective on Altruism: The Dangers of First Contact,"

<http://www.setileague.org/iaaseti/brin.pdf> September 2002

There are also unnatural ways the universe could turn unfriendly. For example, suppose some earlier species unleashed a wave of irresponsible colonization across the galaxy, sweeping like a prairie fire, leaving over-exploited worlds and ravaged ecospheres in its wake. Malevolence is not required, only shortsightedness and unsustainable appetites across many millennia, (a trait that is completely consistent with the behavior of the one sapient species currently known.) If such an unfortunate interstellar ecological disaster happened, our Earth might be among the few life-worlds to have escaped. That, too, could explain why we don't hear anybody.



## **Colonization Bad – Terraforming Unethical**

### **We have not resolved the ethics of terraforming other planets**

Discovery News '10 "The Ethics of Planetary Exploration and Colonization" February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
<http://news.discovery.com/space/the-ethics-of-planetary-exploration-and-colonization.html>

Most of our planetary colonization dreams revolve around changing the environments of other worlds to cater to our own astronomically particular needs. Seriously, imagine if the Smoking Gun posted humanity's tour rider for visiting other worlds. What utter divas we are! As the alternative of changing ourselves to inhabit other worlds is largely unexplored, we have to ponder the far-future ethics of terraforming another planet.

Specifically, Brother Consolmango mentioned the idea of taking material from a c-class asteroid or a Martian moon and spreading it over Mars' pole caps. In theory, this feat would create the sort of drastic global warming we're hoping to avoid on Earth. Coated with dust, the poles would then absorb even more solar radiation than before, causing them to heat up and release carbon dioxide. Atmospheric pressure would increase. The resulting greenhouse effect could possibly raise temperatures to facilitate stabilized liquid water. This could lead to lakes, oxygen and a successful seeding of plant life. Eventually, Arnold Schwarzenegger would be able to take his space helmet off without his eyeballs exploding.

But what are the ethics of this (the terraforming, not the eyeball thing)? What if Mars already contains hidden life? Might the origins of life on Earth trail back to the red planet as well? Thoroughly contaminate everything and we might erase all trace of what was. And the past isn't the only thing potentially at stake.

"Here's a deeper question," Brother Consolmango said. "What if there is no life on Mars or Titan or some other place we're going to go to, but all the ingredients are there, such that at some future time life could exist. The potentiality of life is there and, by terraforming it, we're aborting that possibility. Under what circumstances is that an ethical thing to do?"



## **1NC – Spending Disadvantage**

### **A. Growth is slow but sustainable – double-dip unlikely**

**RJ & Makay 8/9** -- leading human capital recruiting and consulting firm exclusively servicing the financial activities sector (2011, "Monthly Outlook Reports Double-dip Unlikely," <http://www.rjandmakay.com/rj-and-makay-blog/968-monthly-outlook-reports-double-dip-unlikely>, RG)

Worries that GDP growth would slow even further and possibly slip into negative territory have subsided now that much of the July and early August data show modest economic gains. While it is currently weak—at 1.6% in the second quarter—business fixed investments rose during this time period and consumer spending and savings rates are on the rise. Wells Fargo also expects the 1.6% GDP growth rate to remain firm for the remainder of the year, but increase in 2011 as long as interest rates do not rise. While an economic double-dip is unlikely in the U.S., Wells Fargo is prompting the government for more support. Its Monthly Outlook report noted that “increased risks of a double-dip should prompt additional monetary and fiscal stimulus, not because the economy is backsliding but rather because the consequences of a second economic slump would be so costly to counteract.” The global economy, however, is slowing but still expanding. The report states an overseas double-dip recession is probable, particularly in Japan, but will not happen if Asia remains “buoyant.” Unlike Europe and the U.S., Asia didn’t spend the past decade miring itself in debt, so its banking systems remain healthy and credit is still flowing. Meanwhile, the European labor market is currently stable, which should positively impact consumer spending, and the region appears to have narrowly sidestepped another downturn. Latin American economies remain the healthiest, as they weren’t overly leveraged before the crash, are enjoying strong economic growth, and risk of recession in the region is low, the report states.

### **B. LINK – any space program will be expensive and destroy the budget**

**HSU & COX 09** Ph.D., Senior Fellow – Aerospace Technology Working Group & Ph.D., Founder & Director – Aerospace Technology Working Group  
(Feng Hsu and Ken Cox, “Sustainable Space Exploration and Space Development - A Unified Strategic Vision”, 2-20, <http://www.spaceref.com/news/viewwsr.html?pid=30702>)

There are limited financial resources from the U.S. government, which is now struggling with unprecedented high budget deficit and is confronted with extremely costly ongoing wars. So it is nearly irresponsible to impose on the nation and its people an Apollo-like, huge spending lunar-based space exploration program. There is neither significant (or short-term) science value nor space exploration and operation value in revisiting an earth-orbit destination that was explored by mankind four decades ago. Given today's decimated American economic condition, we must adapt a concurrent and comprehensive space exploration and space development strategy that is not only affordable but can be mutually supported.

### **Failure to stop spending will result in economic collapse**

**ROE 5 – 18 – 11** member of the Education and Workforce Committee. Representative from Tennessee  
[Phil Roe Cut, cap and balance: A fight toward fiscal responsibility [http://voices.washingtonpost.com/federal-eye/2010/05/navy\\_plebes\\_scale\\_herdon\\_monu.html](http://voices.washingtonpost.com/federal-eye/2010/05/navy_plebes_scale_herdon_monu.html)]

On Monday, the United States reached the legal limit of its borrowing authority – further evidence that out-of-control **spending** is a matter of national security. Serious reforms and government spending cuts need to be made to avoid severe economic disruptions – both in the short and long-term.

The national debt and deficits are rising at an unconscionable rate. The national debt now exceeds \$14 trillion, and the government is still piling up debt at the rate of \$200 million an hour, \$30 billion a week, \$120 billion a month and \$1.6 trillion a year. It's clear we don't have a revenue problem – we have a spending problem.

Raising the debt ceiling without these serious reforms will only burden our future generations with outrageous debt. Worse, the president and Senate Democrats are saying they want a “clean” debt ceiling increase, which means that they want to continue **spending** and borrowing more money with no strings attached. My view is we must not raise the debt ceiling by \$1 without simultaneously making deep cuts in **spending** and taking real steps towards a balanced budget.

It is imperative to the future of the country that we fight for an immediate shift toward fiscal

responsibility. That is why I, along with my colleagues in the Republican Study Committee (RSC), wrote a letter to House Speaker John Boehner asking him to “Cut, Cap and Balance.” Specifically, we advocated for discretionary and mandatory **spending** reductions that would cut the deficit in half next year; enacting statutory, enforceable total-**spending** caps to reduce federal **spending** to 18 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP); and a Balanced Budget Constitutional Amendment (BBA) with strong protections against federal tax increases and including a

**Spending** Limitation Amendment (SLA). This proposal will put us on a path to prosperity, and I will work to see provisions like this are included in any final agreement.

I believe it is prudent to limit the extension of borrowing authority as much as possible, in order to demand accountability from Senate Democrats and the Obama Administration. Every day, we see more and more evidence of the need to confront the problem now. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) report released in April adds urgency to the need for meaningful actions — both short and long-term — to confront the nation's debt head-on. Additionally, Moody's Analytics released a report several weeks ago forecasting a downgrade in our country's bond rating. It's clear that if we fail to stop the spending spree, our nation will face economic collapse in the long-term.

## 1NC – Disadvantage Spending

### C. Economic Collapse risk global nuclear wars

**Harris and Burrows 09** PhD European History @ Cambridge, counselor in the National Intelligence Council (NIC) & member of the NIC's Long Range Analysis Unit

Mathew, and Jennifer "Revisiting the Future: Geopolitical Effects of the Financial Crisis" [http://www.ciaonet.org/journals/twq/v32i2/f\\_0016178\\_13952.pdf](http://www.ciaonet.org/journals/twq/v32i2/f_0016178_13952.pdf)

Of course, the report encompasses more than economics and indeed believes the future is likely to be the result of a number of intersecting and interlocking forces. With so many possible permutations of outcomes, each with ample Revisiting the Future opportunity for unintended consequences, there is a growing sense of insecurity. Even so, history may be more instructive than ever. While we continue to believe that the Great Depression is not likely to be repeated, the lessons to be drawn from that period include the harmful effects on fledgling democracies and multiethnic societies (think Central Europe in 1920s and 1930s) and on the sustainability of multilateral institutions (think League of Nations in the same period). There is no reason to think that this would not be true in the twenty-first as much as in the twentieth century. For that reason, the ways in which the potential for greater conflict could grow would seem to be even more apt in a constantly volatile economic environment as they would be if change would be steadier. In surveying those risks, the report stressed the likelihood that terrorism and nonproliferation will remain priorities even as resource issues move up on the international agenda. Terrorism's appeal will decline if economic growth continues in the Middle East and youth unemployment is reduced. For those terrorist groups that remain active in 2025, however, the diffusion of technologies and scientific knowledge will place some of the world's most dangerous capabilities within their reach. Terrorist groups in 2025 will likely be a combination of descendants of long established groups inheriting organizational structures, command and control processes, and training procedures necessary to conduct sophisticated attacks and newly emergent collections of the angry and disenfranchised that become self-radicalized, particularly in the absence of economic outlets that would become narrower in an economic downturn. The most dangerous casualty of any economically-induced drawdown of U.S. military presence would almost certainly be the Middle East. Although Iran's acquisition of nuclear weapons is not inevitable, worries about a nuclear-armed Iran could lead states in the region to develop new security arrangements with external powers, acquire additional weapons, and consider pursuing their own nuclear ambitions. It is not clear that the type of stable deterrent relationship that existed between the great powers for most of the Cold War would emerge naturally in the Middle East with a nuclear Iran. Episodes of low intensity conflict and terrorism taking place under a nuclear umbrella could lead to an unintended escalation and broader conflict if clear red lines between those states involved are not well established. The close proximity of potential nuclear rivals combined with underdeveloped surveillance capabilities and mobile dual-capable Iranian missile systems also will produce inherent difficulties in achieving reliable indications and warning of an impending nuclear attack. The lack of strategic depth in neighboring states like Israel, short warning and missile flight times, and uncertainty of Iranian intentions may place more focus on preemption rather than defense, potentially leading to escalating crises. 36 Types of conflict that the world continues to experience, such as over resources, could reemerge, particularly if protectionism grows and there is a resort to neo-mercantilist practices. Perceptions of renewed energy scarcity will drive countries to take actions to assure their future access to energy supplies. In the worst case, this could result in interstate conflicts if government leaders deem assured access to energy resources, for example, to be essential for maintaining domestic stability and the survival of their regime. Even actions short of war, however, will have important geopolitical implications. Maritime security concerns are providing a rationale for naval buildups and modernization efforts, such as China's and India's development of blue water naval capabilities. If the fiscal stimulus focus for these countries indeed turns inward, one of the most obvious funding targets may be military. Buildup of regional naval capabilities could lead to increased tensions, rivalries, and counterbalancing moves, but it also will create opportunities for multinational cooperation in protecting critical sea lanes. With water also becoming scarcer in Asia and the Middle East, cooperation to manage changing water resources is likely to be increasingly difficult both within and between states in a more dog-eat-dog world.

## **Uniqueness Extensions - Economy Improving**

### **No double dip – manufacturing**

**Dufrene 8/5** -- Sanders Chair in Business @ Indiana University Southeast (Uric, 2011, "ECONOMIC ANALYSIS: Perhaps not a double dip, but growth will remain sluggish at best," [http://www.lanereport.com/articles/fastlane\\_article.cfm?id=526](http://www.lanereport.com/articles/fastlane_article.cfm?id=526), RG)

In previous writings, I commented on the possibility of a double dip. It was my assessment that we would not see a double dip due to lean inventories, and the manufacturing production necessary to continue restocking the shelves. Today's manufacturing number helped confirm that expectation. Even with today's positive manufacturing number however, manufacturing has slowed compared to last year.

### **No double-dip**

**Poor 8/7** – Daily Caller (Jeff, 2011, "Greenspan forecasts 'no double-dip,' but slowdown," <http://dailycaller.com/2011/08/07/greenspan-forecast-no-double-dip-but-slowdown/>, RG)

Former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said Sunday that he doesn't think a double-dip recession is on the horizon for the U.S. economy. "There's going to be a solution to this," Greenspan said on NBC's "Meet the Press," referring to America's debt problem. "The great irony and sadness about this whole process is that basically the Bowles-Simpson Commission's recommendation, which will be the core of the final result. But there's another issue here. With all this bickering going on, the economy is slowing down. You can see it in all of the data. I don't see a double-dip, but I do see it slowing down. This deficit problem that sits out there is much larger than we even calculated because the actual numbers employed by those who are calculating the deficits are based on a level of economic activity which we are not achieving." (RELATED: Ron Paul: Debt limit agreement 'super committee' unconstitutional) And while many warn that cutting government spending now will harm America's fragile economy, Greenspan said hiking taxes would be worse for the economy than the spending cuts. "First of all, there's a general view out there that we are somehow going to solve the problem without pain," Greenspan said. "There's no conceivable scenario in which that is true. Cutting back on government spending will cause some contraction in economic activity, but according to the IMF, who has done a considerable number of evaluations of related issues, they've concluded that increases in taxes do curtail economic activity. So do expenditure cuts, but significantly less."

### **Decline is temporary**

**MarketWatch 6/1/11** [Rex Nutting, MarketWatch, "Will the Economic Slump Last?" Wall Street Journal. June 1, 2011. [http://www.marketwatch.com/story/will-the-economic-slump-last-2011-06-01?link=MW\\_latest\\_news](http://www.marketwatch.com/story/will-the-economic-slump-last-2011-06-01?link=MW_latest_news). ]

Isn't there anything good to say about the economy? Sure. Many of the factors depressing the economy are temporary: Gasoline prices have been falling for the past month, and businesses are figuring out how to work around the supply disruptions from the tsunami. Household finances are slowly improving, setting the stage for faster domestic growth. Even the optimists are nervous about the next few months. It's possible that some of the gloomy data reflect excessive caution ahead of several key events: The end of the Federal Reserve's asset purchases, the resolution of the U.S. debt-ceiling soap opera, the resolution of Europe's fiscal disaster, and the ability of the developing world to achieve its soft landing. If all of those go well or even just OK, the future might look a little brighter at the end of the summer. And if they don't? We may look back on this spring with fond memories.

### **Economy is going up – growth rates increasing, jobs, gas prices**

**Bloomberg 6/1/11** [Joshua Zumbrun, "Fed's Pinalto Says U.S. Economy Likely to Grow at 3 Percent Annual Pace," Bloomberg. June 1, 2011. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-06-01/fed-s-pianalto-says-gradual-economic-recovery-to-continue.html>]

Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland President Sandra Pinalto said she expects the U.S. economic expansion to advance further and that the central bank's current monetary stimulus is appropriate. "I expect the economy to continue on a gradual recovery pace over the next few years, with annual growth just above 3 percent a year." Pinalto said today in a speech in Columbus, Ohio. "I believe inflation will be temporarily elevated this year due to developments in oil and food prices, but I expect inflation to fall back below 2 percent in the next couple of years." "Given this outlook, I think that the current accommodative stance of monetary policy, with short-term interest rates close to zero, is appropriate and supports the FOMC's dual mandate of stable prices and maximum employment," Pinalto said at the Columbus Metropolitan Club. Chairman Ben S. Bernanke and the Federal Open Market Committee plan this month to complete a \$600 billion bond

purchase program. At their last meeting in April they said they'll hold interest rates "exceptionally low" for an "extended period." They're considering a policy plan that would follow the end of record monetary stimulus. Pianalto said in response to audience questions that she doesn't anticipate that the economy will fall into "stagflation," with simultaneous high unemployment and high inflation because "there has not been a growth in the money supply." Kept Reserves The Fed has funded its asset purchases by creating bank reserves, and "banks have kept those reserves. They have not put them back into the economy," she said. The softness in recent economic data is different from the slowdown last year, when Europe's fiscal crisis damaged business confidence in the U.S., Pianalto said. "This time around even though we are again seeing some softness, we're not seeing the same reaction on the part of businesses," she said. Businesses are hiring and "not pulling back," indicating the "economy is on firmer footing." The Labor Department will report on June 3 that the economy added 175,000 jobs in May, according to the median of a Bloomberg Survey. The unemployment rate will fall to 8.9 percent from 9 percent in April, according to the survey. More Churning Pianalto cited research from the Cleveland Fed showing that "research reveals that historically, the more dynamism or churn in the job market, the faster the unemployment rate returns to its "trend" rate or "natural" rate, which we believe is between 5.5 and 6 percent."



## Uniqueness Extensions No New Spending

### **Additional spending will not happen both parties will not allow it**

**Fox News 5/16/11** (Chad Pergram, 5/16/11, "An Unenviable Choice: Disaster Relief Versus Spending Cuts", <http://politics.blogs.foxnews.com/2011/05/17/unenviable-choice-disaster-relief-versus-spending-cuts>)

Finally, even the Obama Administration and Democrats are wary of formulating an additional spending bill. If history is any guide, such packages have the potential to become "Christmas Trees." These are bills decorated with an array of spending baubles and ornaments devoted to causes besides the targets of the base legislation. And in order to garner support from lawmakers who don't represent constituents in the tornado or flood zones, a possible bill could require significant garnishment just to conjure up the votes.

Which brings us to the endgame for House Republicans.

If the GOP wants to cut spending, it can't do supplemental spending bills on top of the regular spending bills. That's part of the reason why the national debt exploded. After all, supplemental spending bills to bankroll the war on terror and operations in Iraq helped explode the debt over the past decade. In addition, loading up bills with extras to coax lawmakers to vote for additional spending is a thing of the past in Washington. And it's definitely not what the voters want.

### **Less spending now: Politicians too scared to increase spending**

**WASHINGTON POST, 5-24-10** New spending plans belie Congress's deficit worries, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/05/24/AR2010052403585.html>

Not every item has been "scored" by the Congressional Budget Office, but senior Democratic aides have told The Post that they expect the measure to cost almost \$200 billion over the next decade. This is on top of a separate \$60 billion measure to fund the war in Afghanistan, now before the Senate, to which the White House is trying to attach \$23 billion in additional deficit spending to avoid layoffs of public school teachers.

With deficit anxiety rising in the electorate, there are signs that both the White House and the leadership in Congress are beginning to worry about the political costs of more red ink. House leaders are discussing a one-year budget plan that might cut more than Obama's proposed freeze on non-national security discretionary spending. But first, more dollars out the door.

### **Republican House will not allow new spending**

**Atlantic 5/10/11** (Derek Thompson, 5/10/11, "Boehner Is Beating Democrats in the Debt Ceiling Game", <http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2011/05/boehner-is-beating-democrats-in-the-debt-ceiling-game/238669/>)

Like any well-crafted political message, House Speaker John Boehner's speech to the New York Economic Club on Republicans' debt ceiling strategy could be reduced a dozen words: No new debt without a deal, no new spending, no new taxes, no default.

Simplicity is a virtue in messaging, but in the real world, Boehner's debt ceiling game gets complicated. Raising the debt limit requires a deal. A deal requires Democratic votes. Democratic votes require tax increases. No tax increases means no Democrats, which means no deal, which means no debt limit increase and the possibility of a bond market freakout.



**Uniqueness Extensions – Spending Cuts Coming**

## Massive cuts coming

**Fox News 5/16** (Chad Pergram, 5/16/11, "An Unenviable Choice: Disaster Relief Versus Spending Cuts", <http://politics.blogs.foxnews.com/2011/05/17/unenviable-choice-disaster-relief-versus-spending-cuts>)

But the work on the FY '12 appropriations bills marks the first time a Republican-led House, dominated by conservatives and tea party loyalists, will have a complete stab at slicing federal spending. This is where Republicans truly have a chance to make good on their campaign promises to ax the debt.

Late last week, Rogers and the Appropriations Committee released a set of numbers that would glaze over the eyes of any accountant worth his pocket protector. The numbers were something called 302(b) allocations.

Last month, the House adopted the so-called "Ryan Budget," a non-binding spending blueprint drawn up by House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan (R-WI). And last week, Rogers took Ryan's framework and concocted the 302(b) allocations. In short, Ryan baked the pie. Rogers then sliced up the pie into 12 pieces. Each wedge of pie represented an individual Appropriations subcommittee that governs a set of federal government fiefdoms.

But what's important is how big Rogers rationed each pie slab.

To comply with the Ryan budget, Rogers needed to reduce spending by about \$30 billion from what President Obama proposed. So Rogers offered up a series of spending chunks that trimmed non-defense federal spending by 11 percent.

"These are big-time cuts. They would take us back to the (FY) '06 levels for the cuts," boasted Rogers.

He noted that the agriculture spending bill is on target to absorb a 13 percent reduction. Rogers says transportation and housing programs could lose around 18 percent. Spending for the measure that funds the Departments of Labor and Health & Human Services reverts to FY '04 levels.

This is where the rubber hits the road. And Rogers is bracing for the fights.

"Members of Congress argue with each other?" the Kentucky Republican asked rhetorically. "Of course, there will be some disagreements. But I think when the dust settles, we'll be able to pass those bills and make responsible cuts."

## Cuts coming – compromise on the debt ceiling debate

**Los Angeles Times 5/29/11** (Peter Nicholas, 5/29/11, "Republicans still firmly against raising debt ceiling without big cuts", <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-gop-debt-ceiling-20110530,0,980818.story>)

President Obama has said he expects Congress to increase the ceiling. In an interview last month with the Associated Press, the president said: "We will raise the debt limit. We always have. We will do it again."

The alternative, Obama said, is to "plunge the world economy back into a recession."

Posturing is always a part of congressional negotiations, but Republicans are under enormous pressure from "tea party" conservatives to curtail spending. The debt ceiling debate presents some congressional Republicans with an unhappy choice: A vote to raise the ceiling might expose them to primary challenges in the 2012 election, while a vote against it risks a default on U.S. debt obligations that could jeopardize the fragile economic recovery.

Pawlenty, in an interview with ABC's "This Week," said the consequences of failing to raise the cap might not be as stark as the White House contends.

Asked whether the result would prove calamitous for the U.S. economy, Pawlenty said: "Well, there are some serious voices challenging that very premise. And the answer is nobody really knows, because we've not been at this point before."

If opponents hold their ground and keep the ceiling intact, the U.S. could still manage by prioritizing payments, using the remaining cash to pay outside creditors first, Pawlenty said.

The Obama administration has dismissed that approach as "unworkable." In a blog post this year, Deputy Treasury Secretary Neal Wolin wrote that giving certain creditors privileged status was "default by another name."

"Such a policy would also be unacceptable to American servicemen and women, retirees and all other Americans who would rightly reject the notion that their payment has been deemed a lower priority by their government," Wolin wrote.

But a compromise might be in the offing. McConnell, in his appearance on "Meet the Press," left open the possibility of a deal.

Obama has said he is amenable to additional spending cuts as a condition of lifting the debt ceiling.



## Uniqueness Extensions - NASA Faces More Cuts

### **NASA Budget is low now and likely to be cut more**

**RHIAN 1 – 17 – 11** Universe Today Staff Writer [Jason Rhian, NASA Says it Cannot Produce Heavy-Lift Rocket on Time, Budget, <http://www.universetoday.com/82535/nasa-says-it-cannot-produce-heavy-lift-rocket-on-time-budget/>]

NASA has sent Congress a report stating that it cannot meet the requirements that it produce a heavy-lift rocket by the current 2016 deadline – or under the current allocated budget. In the NASA Authorization Act of 2010, NASA was directed to develop a heavy-lift rocket in preparation to flights to an asteroid and possibly Mars. NASA said it cannot produce this new rocket despite the fact that the agency would be using so-called “legacy” hardware – components that have been employed in the shuttle program for the past 30 years. NASA would also utilize modern versions of engines used on the massive Saturn V rocket. Now, approximately three months after the act was signed into law, NASA is telling Congress that they can’t build the vehicles that will succeed the shuttle. At least, NASA said, not in the time allotted or for the amount allocated to them. The agency expressed these inadequacies in a 22-page report that was submitted to Congress.

In the report, NASA said it “recognizes it has a responsibility to be clear with the Congress and the American taxpayers about our true estimated costs and schedules for developing the SLS and MPCV, and we intend to do so.”

“Currently, our SLS (Space Launch System) studies have shown that while cost is not a major discriminator among the design options studied, none of the design options studied thus far appeared to be affordable in our present fiscal condition.” Senators Bill Nelson (D-FL) and Kay Bailey Hutchinson (R-Texas) who helped to draft and pass the NASA Authorization Act said that none of the rationale posted within the report provided justification for NASA not to meet its requirements.

Congress has been hoping to shore up any potential failings of the emerging commercial space market by having NASA design, in parallel, a heavy-lift rocket. That way, if these firms don’t produce, the nation has a ‘backup’ in place. NASA has essentially admitted that it cannot accomplish the task set in front of it. Congress might decide to take funds from other areas of the space agency’s budget to fill in the projected shortfall. There have been some suggestions that these funds may come from those intended for Kennedy Space Center (KSC).

KSC has already been sent reeling from massive layoffs which are set to continue until the end of the shuttle program. There is no established program set to follow the space shuttle program. Many have tried to compare the gap between shuttle and whatever is to follow to the gap between Apollo and shuttle. But this is a false analogy. At the end of Apollo the next program was established (the space shuttle was approved during the Apollo 16 mission). As the twilight of the shuttle era nears – there no longer is any established program. Under the Vision for Space Exploration, the succeeding program was called Constellation and consisted of a Apollo-like capsule, man-rated rocket the Ares-I (based off a single shuttle solid rocket booster) and a unmanned heavy-lift booster – the Ares-V.

While Congress may have signed the directive to produce the new heavy-lift booster into law – they haven’t done as much to pay for it. NASA was supposed to receive \$11 billion over the course of the next three years to build both the rocket as well as the Orion spacecraft. Congress is now working to find ways to cut federal spending and NASA could find itself receiving far less than promised.



## Link Extensions- Space is expensive

### Space costs too much

**KAKU 09** professor of theoretical physics at the City University of New York [Michio Kaku, "The Cost of Space Exploration," July 16, 2009, <http://www.forbes.com/2009/07/16/apollo-moon-landing-anniversary-opinions-contributors-cost-money.html>]

But after 1969, the Soviets dropped out of the race to the moon and, like a cancer, the land war in Asia began to devour the budget. The wind gradually came out of the sails of the space program; the Nielsen ratings for each moon landing began to fall. The last manned mission to the moon was Apollo 17, in 1972.

As Isaac Asimov once commented, we scored a touchdown, then took our football and went home.

After all is said and done about what went wrong, the bottom line is simple: money. It's about \$10,000 to put a pound of anything into a near-earth orbit. (Imagine John Glenn, the first American to orbit the earth, made of solid gold, and you can appreciate the enormous cost of space travel.) It costs \$500 to \$700 million every time the shuttle flies. Billionaire space tourists have flown to the space station at a reputed price of \$20 million per head.

And to put a pound of anything on the moon costs about 10 times as much. (To reach Mars, imagine your body made of diamonds.) We are 50 years into the space age, and yet space travel is just as expensive as it always was.

We can debate endlessly over what went wrong; there is probably no one correct answer. But a few observations can be made.

The space shuttle, the workhorse of the space program, proved to be somewhat of a disappointment, with large cost overruns and long delays. It was bloated and probably did not need to have seven astronauts on board. (The Soviet copy of the space shuttle, a near-clone called the Buran, actually flew into outer space fully automated, without any astronauts whatsoever.)

An alternative to the space shuttle was the original space plane of the Eisenhower era. It was to be small and compact, but provide easy access to space on a moment's notice, instead of the long months to prepare each shuttle launch. It was to take off and land like a plane, but soar into outer space like a rocket. President Ronald Reagan called one version of it the "Orient Express." (Ironically, now there will be a hiatus as the space shuttle is mothballed next year. Instead of fast and cheap access to space, for five years we will have no access to space at all. We'll have to beg the Europeans and Russians to piggy-back off their rockets.)

One of the primary missions of NASA should have been to drive down the cost of space travel. Instead of spending half a billion dollars on each shuttle mission, it should have diverted some of the funds to make research and development a primary focus. New materials, new fuels and innovative concepts, which would make space exploration less expensive, should have been prioritized. (Today, some of that entrepreneurial spirit still lives in the commercial sector, as it tries to nourish a fledgling space tourism industry.)

The space station costs upward of \$100 billion, yet its critics call it a "station to nowhere." It has no clearly defined scientific purpose. Once, President George H.W. Bush's science adviser was asked about the benefits of doing experiments in weightlessness and microgravity. His response was, "Microgravity is of microimportance." Its supporters have justified the space station as a terminal for the space shuttle. But the space shuttle has been justified as a vehicle to reach the space station, which is a completely circular and illogical argument.

**And, cross-apply the Laubscher evidence from solvency. He says that the cost is high and understated.**



**Link Extensions New Spending Causes More Spending**

### **The plan is new spending which Congress approves as a supplemental spending bill**

**Fox News 5/24** (Chad Pergram, 5/24/11, "Natural Disasters Could Challenge Campaign Spending Promises", <http://politics.blogs.foxnews.com/2011/05/25/natural-disasters-could-challenge-campaign-spending-promises>)

#### It often starts like this.

There's a series of natural disasters. Or 9-11. Or war. And Congress decides it needs to approve an additional spending bill to fund a critical area of the federal government in mid-year.

Lawmakers fillet the federal budget into 12 sections, each one receiving an annual spending measure.

But over the past 11 years, Congress has approved 16 extra spending bills, known as "supplementals," totaling nearly \$1 trillion.

### **Supplemental spending bills always have more spending added to the bill. This is sure to happen with the plan.**

**Fox News 5/24** (Chad Pergram, 5/24/11, "Natural Disasters Could Challenge Campaign Spending Promises", <http://politics.blogs.foxnews.com/2011/05/25/natural-disasters-could-challenge-campaign-spending-promises>)

When it's a challenge to cobble together votes for a supplemental spending bill, lawmakers often turn to a time-honored tradition on Capitol Hill. They begin to decorate the supplemental with all sorts of baubles and ornaments to attract the support of reluctant lawmakers. But times have changed in Washington. And most conservatives are unwilling to go that route.

"These bills become Christmas trees," said Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA). "You end up having a bunch of items that having nothing to do with the bill."



**Link Extensions- New Spending Destroys Budget Restraints**

## **New Spending destroys fiscal discipline**

**Hurt 2-14-11** [Robert Hurt, Virginia Congressman, "Charting A New Course Of Fiscal Discipline And Restraint," February 14, 2011, <http://virginiafifthwatchdog.com/2011/02/charting-a-new-course-of-fiscal-discipline-and-restraint/>]

Unfortunately, the Administration's initial suggestions to freeze spending at current levels, combined with its continued commitment to more failed stimulus-style spending, eludes the real kind of change that needs to take place in Washington.

With our national debt soaring past \$14 trillion and our deficit reaching nearly \$1.5 trillion, freezing spending at an artificially high and accelerated level is not enough.

And with unemployment continuing to remain at an unacceptable rate, the last thing we need is more government spending, more taxing, and more borrowing.

To truly turn our economy around, we need a renewed commitment to the kinds of policies that will inject a level of certainty into our economy that will give our job creators the confidence necessary to hire and expand once again.

Reining in government spending and returning to pre-stimulus, pre-bailout levels, reducing unnecessary regulations, and forcing our government to live within its means by passing a balanced budget amendment are all steps in the right direction.

The actions next week in the House will seek to continue to move our economy forward as we chart a new course of fiscal discipline and restraint.

For the first time in years, the House will debate cutting government spending rather than increasing it as we initiate the consideration of a budget proposal for the remaining seven months of this fiscal year.

This historic bill stands in direct contrast to last year's Congress, which failed to propose or even pass a budget, allowing government spending to go unchecked and putting us on an unsustainable path that threatens the economic outlook of our country.



**Link Extensions – New Spending is the Key Sustaining the  
Economy**

### **Lack of discipline against new spending could destroy confidence in the US economy scaring investors**

**LAURENTI 3 – 31 – 11**, Recovery Risks, <http://www.mesirowfinancial.com/blog/economics/2011/03/31/alaurenti/recovery-risks/>

Alan Blinder, a former vice chairman of the Federal Reserve and an economics professor at Princeton University, is a highly regarded economist, so it is always worth paying close attention to his ideas. In today's op-ed in the Wall Street Journal, he suggests that, as far as the U.S. recovery is concerned, we have little to fear from the aftermath of the catastrophe in Japan, the European sovereign debt crisis or the run-up in oil prices. On the other hand, he warns about our budget situation, which carries a variety of risks including 1), cutting too deeply into spending, too soon, or 2), allowing global investors to lose confidence in U.S. debt because of the lack of fiscal discipline.

### **Continued spending insures economic collapse**

**ATR 5 – 16 – 11** Americans for Tax Reform <http://atr.org/seven-actions-obama-administration-instead-raising-a6149>

End the spending spree. If spending continues on its current trajectory, debt is expected to consume the entire economy in the next two decades. Congress must use the debt limit debate to refocus on the government's overspending problem, and make meaningful institutional reforms to establish fiscal restraint in federal budgeting. These reforms should look at constitutional spending limits, reforming budget rules and federal bookkeeping and statutory spending caps.

### **Controlling spending is important right now**

**MAULDIN 5 – 3 – 11** Millennium Wave Investments

John Mauldin, Restoring Fiscal Sanity in the United States: A Way Forward, <http://www.fxstreet.com/fundamental/analysis-reports/outside-the-box2/2011/05/03/>

In summary, the truth is that the government has grown too big, promised too much and waited too long to restructure. Our fiscal clock is ticking and time is not working in our favor. The Moment of Truth is rapidly approaching. As it does, let us hope that our elected officials must keep the words of Theodore Roosevelt in mind: "In any moment of decision the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing." And "We the People" must do our part by insisting on action and by making the price of doing nothing greater than the price of doing something. We must insist that our legislators offer specific solutions to defuse our ticking debt bomb in a manner that is economically sensible, socially equitable, culturally acceptable, and politically feasible. We need to recognize that improving our fiscal health, just like our physical health, will require some short-term pain for greater long-term gain. The same is true for state and local governments.

We'll soon know whether Washington policymakers are up to the challenge and whether they will start focusing more of doing their job than keeping their job. They need to focus first on their country rather than their party. And yes, the President and Congressional leaders from both political parties need to be at the table and everything must be on the table in order to achieve sustainable success. Let's hope they make the right choice this time!



**Internal Link Extension - US Economy is the Key to the Global  
Economy**

## **A U.S. economic collapse will destroy the global economy**

**Mead 04** , Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations (Walter Russell, Foreign Policy, April 1, pg. Lexis)

Similarly, in the last 60 years, as foreigners have acquired a greater value in the United States--government and private bonds, direct and portfolio private investments--more and more of them have acquired an interest in maintaining the strength of the U.S.-led system. A collapse of the U.S. economy and the ruin of the dollar would do more than dent the prosperity of the United States. Without their best customer, countries including China and Japan would fall into depressions. The financial strength of every country would be severely shaken should the United States collapse. Under those circumstances, debt becomes a strength, not a weakness, and other countries fear to break with the United States because they need its market and own its securities. Of course, pressed too far, a large national debt can turn from a source of strength to a crippling liability, and the United States must continue to justify other countries' faith by maintaining its long-term record of meeting its financial obligations. But, like Samson in the temple of the Philistines, a collapsing U.S. economy would inflict enormous, unacceptable damage on the rest of the world. That is sticky power with a vengeance. THE SUM OF ALL POWERS? The United States' global economic might is therefore not simply, to use Nye's formulations, hard power that compels others or soft power that attracts the rest of the world. Certainly, the U.S. economic system provides the United States with the prosperity needed to underwrite its security strategy, but it also encourages other countries to accept U.S. leadership. U.S. economic might is sticky power.

## **Economic Decline risks global wars**

**MEAD 09** Senior Fellow in US Foreign Policy Studies @ Council on Foreign Relations

Walter Russell, Only Makes You Stronger, The New Republic, 2-4-09, <http://www.tnr.com/politics/story.html?id=571cbbb9-2887-4d81-8542-92e83915f5f8&p=1>

As a result, developing countries and countries where capitalism has relatively recent and shallow roots tend to suffer greater economic and political damage when crisis strikes--as, inevitably, it does. And, consequently, financial crises often reinforce rather than challenge the global distribution of power and wealth. This may be happening yet again.

None of which means that we can just sit back and enjoy the recession. History may suggest that financial crises actually help capitalist great powers maintain their leads--but it has other, less reassuring messages as well. If financial crises have been a normal part of life during the 300-year rise of the liberal capitalist system under the Anglophone powers, so has war. The wars of the League of Augsburg and the Spanish Succession; the Seven Years War; the American Revolution; the Napoleonic Wars; the two World Wars; the cold war: The list of wars is almost as long as the list of financial crises.

Bad economic times can breed wars. Europe was a pretty peaceful place in 1928, but the Depression poisoned German public opinion and helped bring Adolf Hitler to power. If the current crisis turns into a depression, what rough beasts might start slouching toward Moscow, Karachi, Beijing, or New Delhi to be born? The United States may not, yet, decline, but, if we can't get the world economy back on track, we may still have to fight.



