# Topicality

## 1NC T

### Assistance requires material transfer of funds – There is a principled distinction between support and assistance

Lappin, University of Leuven (Belgium) Centre for Peace Research and Strategic Studies PhD candidate, 2010 [Richard, participant in democracy assistance missions with the UN, EU, OSCE, and Carter Center, University of Belgrade political sciences visiting scholar, Central European Journal of International & Security Studies, Volume 4 Issue 1, ―What we talk about when we talk about democracy assistance: the problem of definition in post-conflict approaches to democratization‖ http://soc.kuleuven.be/iieb/docs/2010/CEJISS-lappin.pdf]

By the end of the 1990s, the

AND

(De Zeeuw and Kumar 2006: 20)

### It must be explicit and positive

Huber ‘8

Daniela Huber, Department of International Relations, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. “Democracy Assistance in the Middle East and North Africa: A Comparison of US and EU Policies”. Mediterranean Politics, Vol. 13, No. 1, 43–62, March 2008. EbscoHost.

Democracy assistance is the type of foreign policy

AND

implies that DA is more than electoral assistance.

### Mediation implies neutrality

American Heritage 9

http://www.thefreedictionary.com/mediation

me·di·a·tion (md-shn)

n.

1. The act of

party.

### Democracy assistance is not, or conditioned.

Lappin ‘10

Richard Lappin, a PhD candidate at the Centre for Peace Research and Strategic Studies at the University of Leuven in Belgium, He has participated in over a dozen democracy assistance missions with the UN, EU, OSCE and Carter Center, visiting Scholar at the Faculty of Political Sciences at the University of Belgrade under the JoinEU-SEE programme. “What We Talk About When We Talk About Democracy Assistance: The Problem of Definition in Post-Conflict Approaches to Democratisation”. Central European Journal of International and Security Studies. Vol.4, No.1, May (2010). http://www.cejiss.org/sites/default/files/8.pdf

Finally, on the positive side, there

AND

precise instrument within a broader democracy promotion paradigm.

### There are distinct mechanisms of democracy promotion—dialogue and negotiation is part of the diplomacy mechanism which is distinct from democracy assistance—and it is clear in a table you can examine after the round

Stahn & Ullen 07

Andreas Stahn and Vera van Hüllen Free University Berlin Paper prepared for the European Union Studies Association (EUSA) Tenth Biennial International Conference, May 17-19, 2007 Different actors, different tools? Approaching EU and US democracy promotion in the Mediterranean and the Newly Independent States http://aei.pitt.edu/7911/1/hullen-v-03e.pdf

In our view, the crucial step is

AND

design of the tools (see Table 1).

*Table 1:* **Democracy Promotion Tool Box**

**Instruments Influence Mechanisms Actor**

**Diplomacy** State

- Political Dialogue & Negotiations Social Learning & External Incentives

(Bargaining)

-Unilateral Declarations Naming & Shaming

-Positive & Negative Conditionality External Incentives

(on diplomatic relations and aid) (Reducing or Imposing Costs)

**Foreign Aid** State and

non-state

Democracy Assistance (TA/FA) Capacity Building and Socialization

## EU NED 1NC

The European Union should provide all necessary financial and technical support for the National Endowment for Democracy to offer to mediate a dialogue among Syrian democratic opposition groups and Syrian minority groups for the purpose of negotiating a democratic transition.

### Captures US signal and they’ll say yes – they take earmarked funding from international donors.

Axworthy et al ‘5

Thomas S. Axworthy, David Donova, Leslie Campbell. Institute For Research on Public Policy. May 2005. http://www.irpp.org/wp/archive/wp2005-02d.pdf

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) Overview

AND

labour, and private sector development in Iraq.

## Jackson-Vanik 1NC Shell

### Jackson Vanik will be repealed despite GOP opposition – key to Russian economic modernization

Sanati 3-19

[Cyrus, The biggest winners of a new Russia trade deal, http://finance.fortune.cnn.com/2012/03/19/russia-trade/?section=money\_topstories&utm\_source=feedburner&utm\_medium=feed&utm\_campaign=Feed%3A+rss%2Fmoney\_topstories+%28Top+Stories%29]

FORTUNE -- On Capitol Hill last week,

AND

the WTO rules. Only time will tell.

### The plan generates a massive controversy

Richter, LAT, ‘11

(Correspondent, LA Times. “Debt worries stymieing U.S. financial aid to help Arab nations in transition,” http://articles.latimes.com/print/2011/apr/12/world/la-fg-mideast-aid-20110413, accessed 9-28-11, CMM)

Reporting from Washington — The Obama administration's efforts

AND

administration has been blocked at almost every turn.

### PC key to passage of Jackson-Vanik

The Hill 3-18

Tensions over Syria could slow efforts to normalize Russia, U.S. trade relations. 3-18-12. <http://thehill.com/blogs/on-the-money/1005-trade/216549-tensions-over-syria-could-slow-legislation-to-normalize-russia-us-trade-relations>.

"In the context of considering extending PNTR

AND

to get the trade bill through by summer.

### Failure to repeal undermines US-Russia relations

Miller 11

Jacqueline, senior associate, “The WTO and the Reset” EastWest Institute -- April 8 --http://www.ewi.info/wto-and-reset

It took Barack Obama several months and some

AND

and the U.S.-Russia relationship.

### Relations solve nuclear war and turn the case

Allison and Blackwill 11

[Graham Allison, Director, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs; Douglas Dillon Professor of Government; Faculty Chair, Dubai Initiative, Harvard Kennedy School, Robert D. Blackwill, International Council Member, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs 10-30, "10 Reasons Why Russia Still Matters"http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/21469/10\_reasons\_why\_russia\_still\_matters.html]

That central point is that Russia matters a

AND

or failure, in advancing our national interests.

### Russian economic deterioration causes global war

David 99

(Steven, professor of political science at johns hopkins, foreign affairs, jan/feb)

If internal war does strike Russia, economic

AND

chaos that would follow a Russian civil war.

## Solvency

### Assad won’t collapse

--few high level defections

--security apparatus withstanding crisis

--controlling the borders to keep Turkey and Jordan out

--Damascus and Aleppo (largest, most powerful cities) under control

---Russia perceives the regime as stable, still supporting

--top US security officials agree

Dahhan 3/24

Ghassan, political scientist and analyst, "Analysis: Why Russia won't let go of Assad," Your Middle East 3/24/12www.yourmiddleeast.com/features/analysis-why-russia-wont-let-go-of-assad\_5655, AD 3/26/12

To start with the prospect of the Syrian

AND

to Assad in line with the latter’s performance.

### There must be major international and local shifts for negotiations to work – including more economic sanctions, referral to the ICC, etc. – none of which the aff does.

Lynch 2/21 – 1AC author

Dr. Marc Lynch is a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security and Associate Professor of Political Science and the Director of the Institute for Middle East Studies at the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University. “Pressure Not War A Pragmatic and Principled Policy Towards Syria”. February 21, 2012. http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/CNAS\_PressureNotWar\_Lynch.pdf

The shortcomings of military options do not mean

AND

groups and seek international justice for regime officials.

### Lynch concludes new sanctions and signals to the business community are critical to get them off board – the plan doesn’t do that.

Lynch 2/21 – 1AC author

Dr. Marc Lynch is a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security and Associate Professor of Political Science and the Director of the Institute for Middle East Studies at the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University. “Pressure Not War A Pragmatic and Principled Policy Towards Syria”. February 21, 2012. http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/CNAS\_PressureNotWar\_Lynch.pdf

These international efforts should also include tightening and

AND

their lives and economic prospects would materially improve.

## Civil war

### No way to prevent civil war and violence in Syria – U.N. vote undermined the SNC.

Lynch 2/21

Dr. Marc Lynch is a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security and Associate Professor of Political Science and the Director of the Institute for Middle East Studies at the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University. “Pressure Not War A Pragmatic and Principled Policy Towards Syria”. February 21, 2012. http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/CNAS\_PressureNotWar\_Lynch.pdf

There is no obvious way to prevent Syria

AND

the regime enjoys an overwhelming military advantage.3

### Iran-Syria-Hezbollah-Hamas axis is not coordinated or strong – Syria is in turmoil which reduces its ability to help exert influence, Hezbollah is staying out of the limelight, Hamas is trying to preserve its populist movement, and Iraq proves nonstate actors have limited ability to be influential and it will cause backlash.

Kaye and Wehrey ’11 – Senior Political Analysts for RandCorp

Dalia Dassa Kaye, Senior Political Scientist at the RAND Corporation, and Frederic Wehrey, Senior Policy Analyst at the RANDCorporation. Foreign Affairs. New York: Jul/Aug 2011. Vol. 90, Iss. 4; pg. 183. ProQuest.

Second, the "resistance bloc" that

AND

provoked a widespread backlash within Iraq against Iran.

### Despite the alleged assassination attempt, proxy conflict between Saudi-Iran will not escalate to a full-blown military conflict.

Fleishman and McDonnell 10/13

Jeffrey Fleishman and Patrick J. McDonnell. “Alleged assassination plot heightens Iran-Saudi tension”. October 13, 2011. Las Angeles Times. http://articles.latimes.com/2011/oct/13/world/la-fg-saudi-iran-tensions-20111013

The animosity between the Sunni Muslim monarchy in

AND

killed 19 U.S. service members.

### No risk of Middle East war.

Maloney and Takeyh ‘7

Susan Maloney and Ray Takeyh. Senior fellow for Middle East Policy at the Saban Center for Middle East Studies at the Brookings Institution and senior fellow for Middle East Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. 6/28/2007. “Why the Iraq War Won’t Engulf the Mideast,” International Herald Tribune, http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2007/0628iraq\_maloney.aspx.

Yet, the Saudis, Iranians, Jordanians

AND

local conflicts from enveloping the entire Middle East.

### Superpowers won’t go to war over the Middle East.

Gelb ’10 – President Emeritus of the Council on Foreign Relations

Leslie, President Emeritus of the Council on Foreign Relations. He was a senior official in the U.S. Defense Department from 1967 to 1969 and in the State Department from 1977 to 1979, November/December Foreign Affairs, Proquest

Also reducing the likelihood of conflict today is

AND

they rarely oppose one another in explosive situations.

## Transitions

### Regional power dynamics will prevent Iran regional hegemony.

Gause 12/21

F. Gregory Gause III is professor of political science at the University of Vermont. “Don't Just Do Something, Stand There!”. December 21, 2011. Foreign Policy. http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2011/12/21/america\_arab\_spring\_do\_nothing?page=0,0

If we back away from the domestic politics

AND

, can achieve a position of regional hegemony.

### MAD prevents war between India and Pakistan.

**Khan ‘11**

A.Q. Khan, Doctor of Science, “Indo-Pak nuclear war unlikely”, 5/17/11, http://www.kashmirawareness.org/Article/View/6464 7/7/11

Khan has said that despite sabre-rattling

AND

Germany and France live today," he added.

### Indo-Pak conflict would not escalate – U.S. diplomacy and history prove.

Kirk ‘8 – Professor of International Studies and PoliSci @ VMI

Jason A. Kirk, Department of International Studies &Political Science @ Virginia Military Institute. “From “Tilt” to “Pivot”?: U.S. Intervention in India-Pakistan Nuclear Crises and Implications for Deterrence Theory”. Present at the ISA 49th Annual Convention,: Bridging Multiple Divides. March 26, 2008.

The United States, in other words,

AND

responded to recent violence with relative moderation.51

### U.S. hegemony will decline inevitable, but decline will be peaceful.

– asymmetrical warfare, BRIC rise, deficits

– gradual military reduction in Asia through mutual agreements and economic links, normal decline in history

Kennedy,10-- director of International Security Studies @ Yale

Paul, professor of history and director of international security studies at Yale University. “Back to Normalcy: Is America really in decline?”. The New Republic, Vol. 241, Issue 20. 12/30/2010.

America's military strengths are, by contrast,

AND

bad thing. It will be more normal.

### Decline will be peaceful and solves all their offense—only a risk of chain ganging

MacDonald and Parent 11—Profs of Political Science @ Williams and Miami

Paul K. and Joseph M., Graceful Decline?, International Security, Spring 2k11, Volume 35, Number 4, Muse

In short, the United States should be

AND

grand strategic problems and risk unnecessary clashes.[101](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/international_security/v035/35.4.macdonald.html%22%20%5Cl%20%22f101)

### The Heg debate is OVER- U.S. decline is not only inevitable, it has arrived. The U.S. must accept China’s ascendancy.

Christopher Layne 2012 (is Robert M. Gates Chair in Intelligence and National Security at the George Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University; ISQ\* peer reviewed: ISI Journal Citation Reports® Ranking: 2010: International Relations: 10 / 73; Political Science: 18 / 139 Impact Factor: 1.523) “This Time It's Real: The End of Unipolarity and the Pax Americana” *International Studies Quarterly, 1-11*

The Cold War's end stifled the burgeoning late

AND

preoccupation during the next ten to fifteen years.

# 2NC

## \*\*\*NED

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### NED sends a signal of US involvement

Giraldi ‘11

Philip Giraldi, former CIA counter-terrorism specialist and military intelligence officer who served for 18 years, executive director of the Council for National Interest. 3/3/2011. “Uncle NED Comes Calling.” http://original.antiwar.com/giraldi/2011/03/02/uncle-ned-comes-calling/)

Neoconservative Ken Timmerman has identified the core NED

AND

not say, nor does the NED site.

### The CP solves U.S. signal – perceived as most important visible signal of U.S. commitment.

Melia ‘5

Thomas, Institute for the Study of Diplomacy Walsh School of Foreign Service Georgetown University, “The Democracy Bureaucracy: The Infrastructure of American Democracy Promotion” A discussion paper prepared for the Princeton Project on National Security Working Group on Global Institutions and Foreign Policy Infrastructure, September, http://www.princeton.edu/~ppns/papers/democracy\_bureaucracy.pdf

Arguably the most important and visible facet of

AND

initiatives to promote political democracy around the world.

## \*\*\*Solvency

### Neither the opposition, nor Assad will accept dialogue.

Dozier 3/10

Kimberly Dozier, AP Intelligence Reporter. “US officials: Syria’s Assad under stress, but can count on still loyal inner circle, army”. March 10, 2012. Associated Press. http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/us-officials-syrian-regime-under-stress-but-assads-inner-circle-and-army-still-loyal/2012/03/10/gIQADXSk2R\_story.html

But a diplomatic mission by U.N

AND

impossible to talk to Assad after his crackdown.

## \*\*\*Civil War

### Sectarian conflict and civil war is inevitable – the opposition is radicalizing and their base won’t support compromise.

Robertson 1/24

Nic Robertson and crew recently returned from a rare look inside Syria, where the government has been placing restrictions on international journalists and refusing many of them entry at all. While there, Robertson followed Arab League monitors already in the country and talked to the residents. “In Syria, many caught 'in the middle'”. January 24, 2012. http://edition.cnn.com/2012/01/24/world/meast/robertson-syria/?hpt=hp\_t1

Just one day of covering pro- and anti-government rallies convinced me of how polarized the country has become. People are metaphorically retreating to their confessional bunkers.

Al-Assad's rallying cry is that only

AND

radicals will impose their backwards views on us."

### War in Lebanon won’t escalate.

Ferguson ‘6 – professor of history at Harvard.

Niall Ferguson, professor of history @ Harvard. “WWIII? No, but still deadly and dangerous”. Los Angeles Times. July 24, 2006. Lexis.

Could today's quarrel between Israelis and Hezbollah over

AND

the Bush administration seems to have in mind.

## Transition

### Decline will be peaceful and solves all their offense

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In short, the United States should be

AND

grand strategic problems and risk unnecessary clashes.[101](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/international_security/v035/35.4.macdonald.html#f101)

# 1NR

## 2NC Impact Overview

### Only existential risk – even 1% is enough to vote neg.

Bostrom 02

[Nick Bostrom, Professor of philosophy at Oxford University, 2002, http://www.nickbostrom.com/existential/risks.html]

A much greater existential risk emerged with the

AND

that we will encounter in the 21st century.

### Turns case – only way to stabilize the Middle East

Suslov 5

Dmitry V. Suslov, 2/28/2005. Deputy Director on Research at the Council on Foreign and Defense Policy, Moscow. “US-Russia Relations Saved for Now,” YaleGlobal, <http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/display.article?id=5348>.

Russia's modernization is impossible without the United States

AND

of one single problem: degradation of this region

## Relations !--Terror

### Relations are critical to secure loose stockpiles – solves the root cause of terror

Graham Allison and Robert D. Blackwill October 2011 Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs Harvard University Russia and U.S. National Interests: Why Should Americans Care? A Report of the Task Force on Russia and U.S. National Interest Graham Allison Director of Harvard Kennedy School’s Belfer Assistant Secretary of Defense in the first Clinton Administration Robert D. Blackwill is the Henry A. Kissinger senior fellow for U.S. foreign policy at the Council on Foreign Relations. Deputy national security adviser for strategic planning under President George W. Bush, presidential envoy to Iraq and was the administration’s coordinator for U.S. policies regarding Afghanistan and Iran.

In assisting Russia to secure its own arsenal

AND

but also addresses equivalent challenges in other countries.

## Relations MPX – Kashmir

### US-Russian relations are key to prevent conflict escalation in Kashmir

Levgold 3

Robert, professor of political science at Colombia

AND

increasingly important to both Asian and European consumers.

## 2NC Will Pass

### Top priority and will pass--momentum

Verona 3-29

Ed. The True Cost of Jackson-Vanik. 3-29-12. <http://nationalinterest.org/commentary/the-true-cost-jackson-vanik-6702?page=1>.

In January, the Obama administration publicly stated

AND

for lifting Jackson-Vanik and extending PNTR.

### Will pass – consensus for repeal

EWR Online 3-23

[Estonian Worker, “Cold war tools to be discarded to boost US-Russia trade relations,” http://www.eesti.ca/?op=article&articleid=35744]

The US president, the secretary of state

AND

-Putin pre-election campaign in Moscow.

### IPR reform will get Senators on board

Inside US Trade 3-23

[U.S.-RUSSIA IPR 'ACTION PLAN' LIKELY MEANT TO BUILD SUPPORT FOR WTO VOTE, Lexis]

The United States and Russia are developing an

AND

owners before Russia joins the WTO this summer."

## 2NC TOA thumpers

### Obama pushing and PC is key

Frolov 3-23

Vladimir. Russia Profile Weekly Experts Panel: Will Russia Graduate From the Jackson-Vanik Amendment?. 3-23-12. <http://russiaprofile.org/experts_panel/56357/print_edition/>.

During the post-Soviet period, all

AND

States that would benefit more from Russia's graduation.

## Healthcare

### Healthcare Won’t threaten Obama’s PC—wont be taken up in the Senate

Reuters 3/22

U.S. House votes to abolish Medicare cost panel, Factiva

A new Medicare cost-control panel that

AND

polling data shows is unpopular with the public.

## AT Aid Now

### Overall budget has been decreasing—their evidence is talking about budget reallocations—less money for non war effort

Peterson 12/20--Program and Research Intern with the SISGI Group focused on theories of development, globalization, and political ramifications of development work

Katherine, Looking Forward to Next Year’s Foreign Aid Budget http://notenoughgood.com/category/band-aid/

On Friday of last week, the House

AND

projects the Pentagon will be undertaking as well.

## XL Pipeline

### Obama is avoiding a fight on the pipeline

Salt Lake Tribune 3/22

Obama defends handling of Keystone pipeline http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/world/53774211-68/obama-oil-pipeline-project.html.csp

Facing fresh criticism from Republicans who blame him

AND

project. Obama delayed the project in January.

## 2NC AT: Winners Win

### Winners win is not true for Obama – it must be a large, domestic, and economic victory.

Kuttner ‘11

Robert Kuttner, co-founder and co-editor of The American Prospect, as well as a distinguished senior fellow of the think tank Demos. “Barack Obama’s Theory of Power”. The American Prospect. May 16, 2011. <http://prospect.org/cs/articles?article=barack_obamas_theory_of_power>

Obama won more legislative trophies during his first

AND

See this month’s special report on page A1.)

### Obama Legislative success depletes capital – victories cement opposition

Purdum 10 – Award winning journalist who spent 23 years with the NY Times

(12/20/10, Todd S., Vanity Affair, “Obama Is Suffering Because of His Achievements, Not Despite Them,” <http://www.vanityfair.com/online/daily/2010/12/obama-is-suffering-because-of-his-achievements-not-despite-them.html>)

With this weekend’s decisive Senate repeal of the

AND

business as usual by both parties in Washington).

## 2NC AT: Dickinson

### Political capital theory is true – newest data proves that presidents have significant legislative influence

-conventional wisdom underestimates political capital theory

Beckman 10 – Professor of Political Science

Matthew N. Beckman, Professor of Political Science @ UC-Irvine, 2010, “Pushing the Agenda: Presidential Leadership in U.S. Lawmaking, 1953-2004,” pg. 2-3

Developing presidential coalition building as a generalizable class

AND

, and, to date, greatly underestimated.

## XO Links

### Controversial policies cost capital even if done through an XO

Krause and Cohen 97

George and David, University of South Carolina, PRESIDENTIAL USE OF EXECUTIVE ORDERS, 1953-1994.

AMERICAN POLITICS QUARTERLY, Vol 25 No 4, October 1997 458-481. <http://apr.sagepub.com/content/25/4/458.full.pdf>.

4. Controversial executive orders can also deplete

AND

used for issues that are deemed extremely controversial.