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# AC

## Interps

1. Presume aff- environmental protection is presumed intrinsically valuable because it’s a good accessible to everyone, whereas resource extraction benefits the few. This provides a substantive reason to presume, which precedes theoretical reasons because there’s a degree of offense left in the round.

**2. A.** Interpretation: The negative must accepts the aff’s choice of paradigm that refers to the role of the ballot, ability to fiat and implement a plan, and choose paradigm issues on theory provided they are bidirectional. **B.** Violation: This is preemptive.

**C**. Standards:AFC preserves 100% of the 1AC because I'm forced to speak first and define a starting point for debate, so changing the framework moots 6 minutes of AC offense. Framework contestation makes the 1AC meaningless because the question is now what we should be debating about. Moreover, switch side debate solves and link turns his offense- afc creates a permanent space for framework exploration and inculcates multiple perspectives by forcing debaters to debate under different frameworks. It increases depth and clash by bracketing discussion to issues under a framework, as opposed to between frameworks. Ground is key to fairness because equal access to offense determines access to the ballot. There are multiple legitimate interpretations of the topic and the aff goes into the round blind. I had to choose between mutually exclusive interps and the neg can always read T so don’t punish me for having to set grounds. I can’t read T on the neg and the NC is reactive, so he can always pick a strategy that adapts to meet my AC and give him a shot at winning the round. Giving me paradigm choice ensures the neg will only read theory or T when comfortable winning their interp, regardless of the framework for evaluating T or its impact. Bidirectionality solves since I’m reciprocally constrained- I can’t explode it in the 1AR. Side bias impact turns neg fairness arguments- I should be compensated for a built in skew.

3. LOC[[1]](#footnote-1) defines a developing country:

This Collection Policy Statement is based on the third of the Library’s three “canons of Selection”: “the Library should possess in some useful form, the records of other societies, past and present, and should accumulate, in original or in copy, full and representative collections of the written records of those societies and peoples whose experience is of most immediate concern to the people of the United States.” **The World Bank and** the **U**nited **N**ations **use different** **terminology to define “developing countries**,” also known as “less-developed countries.” The latter organization also uses “least developed countries,” “small island developing states,” and “landlocked developing countries.” The World Bank’s main criteria for classifying economies is gross national income (GNI) per capita, previously referred to as

gross national product, or GNP. **The U**nited **N**ations **has stated** that: “**There is no** commonly **agreed definition of developing countrie**s.” In the United Nations and World Bank lists, **the number** of developing **countries ranges from 104 to 152**. The 2008 List of Developing Countries compiled by the World Bank has 152 countries. The World Bank

 also includes five high-income developing economies - because of their economic structure or the official opinion of their governments, as well as several countries with transition economies - based on their low or middle levels of per capital income. For this Collections Policy Statement, **the Library considers a developing country** **one in which:The majority of population makes** far **less income, and has** significantly **weaker social indicators, than** the **population in high-income countrie**s**...[and] lives on far less money**–**and** often **lacks** basic **public services**–**than** the population **in highly-industrialized countries.**

This also means the judge should use reasonability on evaluating the topicality of the aff actor, with a brightline of inclusion in a defined list, even if that isn’t the best. Lists change and are constantly updated, so competing interps needlessly excludes affs on the fringe[[2]](#footnote-2).

## FW

**I value morality. The standard is maximizing life!!!!**

1. Actor Specificity. The text of the resolution questions government action, for which there is no act-omission distinction Sunstein[[3]](#footnote-3):

In our view, any effort to distinguish between acts and omissions goes wrong by overlooking the distinctive features of government as a moral agent. If correct, this point has broad implications for criminal and civil law. Whatever the general status of the act/omission distinction as a matter of moral philosophy,the distinction is least impressive when applied to government, because the most plausible underlying considerations do not apply to official actors.  The most fundamental point is that **unlike individuals, governments always** and necessarily **face a choice** between or **among possible policies for regulating third parties.** **The distinction between acts and omissions** may not be intelligible in this context, and even if it is, the distinction **does not make a morally relevant difference.** Most generally, government is in the business of creating permissions and prohibitions. **When it explicitly or implicitly authorizes private action, it is not omitting to do anything** or refusing to act. **Moreover, the distinction** between authorized and unauthorized private action – for example, private killing – **becomes obscure when government formally forbids private action but chooses a set of policy** instruments **that do not adequately** or fully **discourage it.** If there is no act-omission distinction, then government is fully complicit with any harm it allows, so decisions are moral if they minimize harm. All means based and side constraint theories collapse because two violations require aggregation.

This means some side constraint will always be violated, so the government should minimize violations. Life comes first because its instrumental to pursuing all other aims, so policies that effect life come first. This:

**A.** No links indicts of the standard- policymakers act in cases of uncertainty without full knowledge of every consequence or implication in the universe but are always obligated to act. Desirability and pain and pleasure are irrelevant since life comes first. **B.** Preempts is/ought fallacy and empirical constraints- generally speaking countries should and do act to promote overall wellbeing- constraints only exist because a pattern of consistency maximizes well being overall- defense proves my framework is more probable. **C.** Pure reason generates broad stroke guidelines that fail to account for complexities in public policies and experience based factors that alter normative conclusions. **D**. Coopt constitutivist appeals to the nature of agency- I change the focus from individuals to the collective body of rational willers- to be a state just is to maximize life**. E.** Morality by very nature is a guide to action, it has to provide a normative structure that generates prohibitions or obligations on action for individual agents or else it would be meaningless. Generic deflationary arguments have no impact, since the government always has to act, so on a substantive level, skepticism, permissibility, or the inability to prioritize are excluded.

2. Epistemology- Non-natural theories are epistemically inaccessible. Papineau[[4]](#footnote-4)

Moore took this argument to show that moral facts comprise a distinct species of non-natural fact. However, **any** such **non-naturalist view of morality faces immediate difficulties,** deriving ultimately from the kind of causal closure thesis discussed above. **If all physical effects are due to a limited range of natural causes, and if moral facts lie outside this range, then it follow that moral facts can never make any difference to what happens in the physical world** (Harman, 1986). At first sight this may seem tolerable (perhaps moral facts indeed don't have any physical effects). But it has very awkward epistemological consequences. For beings like us, **knowledge of the spatiotemporal world is mediated by physical processes involving our sense organs and cognitive systems. If moral facts cannot influence the physical world, then it is hard to see how we can have any knowledge of them.**

That commits us to maximizing expected well being. Naturalism says goodness judgements are relative to the life form, because the life form explains the standard of evaluation for a good object and explains why objects satisfy the standard. It’s no accident that objects who are subject to the form satisfy the form, just like it’s no accident for a dog to have four legs. This is only true if the life form perpetuates it self, since that ensures it’s no accident the form satisfies the standard to be of the form. Species must act in a accordance with it’s perpetuation, so we should maximize life.

## Inherency

2009 law is insufficient—stricter environmental legislation is key to protect Chile’s glaciers. Estrada**[[5]](#footnote-5)** ‘09

A new government policy on glaciers adopted by Chile “is a step forward, but it doesn’t resolve all of the problems,” German geographer Alexander Brenning, who blames mining companies for threats to this South American country’s rock glaciers, told IPS.¶ An assistant professor of geography at the University of Waterloo in Canada, Brenning spoke with IPS after giving a lecture this week on the little-known rock glaciers to geology students at the University of Chile, who had specially invited him.¶ The expert drew attention in Chile last year after the results of studies he carried out were reported locally. His research in this country found that three large mining companies were affecting several square kilometres of rock glaciers by building roads and other infrastructure and piling sterile material on them.¶ Brenning specifically pointed his finger at the Andean Division of the state-run National Copper Corporation (CODELCO), the Los Bronces mine operated by the London-based Anglo American mining giant, and Los Pelambres, a Chilean mining company.¶ In his lecture Wednesday, Brenning explained that rock glaciers are important natural sources of frozen water that contribute to the availability of water supplies during the southern hemisphere summer. And they are threatened not only by mining operations, but by climate change as well, he said.¶ Under the top layer of rock, these glaciers are 40 to 60 percent ice, he said.¶ Because it takes thousands of years for rock glaciers to regenerate, and since they are unstable, moving several centimetres a year, building infrastructure on top of them is not recommendable, said Brenning.¶ Rock glaciers “are very difficult to study because they are not as easily identifiable as typical glaciers, which are white,” he told IPS. “They are hard to detect and it is difficult to monitor their movement. This is a technological challenge for geomatics,” the discipline of gathering, storing, analysing, interpreting, distributing and using geographic information.¶ Brenning, who combines analysis of satellite images with aerial photos and field work, believes rock glaciers are found mainly in central Chile, and that their total surface area is approximately 500 square kilometres.¶ According to his research, the three mining companies have affected 3.2 square kilometres of rock glacier, encompassing between 23 and 35 million cubic metres of water, over the last decade, he said, pointing out that part of that area was literally removed.¶ His research found that CODELCO removed 1.3 square kilometres by 2005, while Anglo American removed some 20 hectares.¶ Last year, the two companies responded to such reports by repeating once more that they had the necessary environmental permits to operate their mines – an argument that is questioned by Brenning.¶ Los Pelambres, in the meantime, denied that rock glaciers even existed.¶ As a result of global warming, South America’s glaciers, which are an important source of meltwater, are in fast retreat.¶ A new awareness of the need to protect glaciers in Chile has emerged since 2006, when the government of Ricardo Lagos (2000-2006) approved the environmental impact study of the Pascua Lama mine, owned by Canada’s Barrick Gold Corporation, which has been fought tooth and nail by environmentalists and local residents.¶ Construction of the mine, which straddles the border between Chile and Argentina in the Andes mountains, remains on hold.¶ The company initially planned to remove three glaciers on the Chilean side, in order to get to the minerals underneath them. But that plan was vetoed by Chilean authorities.¶ However, the glaciers have already been affected by the prospecting, according to different sources.¶ This and similar conflicts over mining projects, added to the retreat of glaciers around the world due to climate change, prompted the government to draft a policy for the protection and conservation of glaciers, which was finally approved on Apr. 14.¶ But some environmental organizations are demanding passage of a stricter law for the protection of glaciers, which remains stalled in parliament.¶ Although the administration of socialist President Michelle Bachelet argues that the government policy is easier and faster to implement than a law, environmentalists say it was the lobbying carried out by the mining corporations that tipped the balance of political support towards the first option.¶ While Brenning sees the new policy as “a step forward,” he takes issue with several aspects. For example, it fails to specifically define what a rock glacier is, **he said.¶ He also complains that** it leaves the approval of projects that affect the glaciers in the hands of the environmental impact assessment system, which in his view has shown itself to be inefficient and ineffective in such cases.¶ He also questions the invocation of the so-called “higher interests of the nation.”¶ The policy approved by the government this month says that “Although the policy states the need to preserve the glaciers, their appropriate management must be considered when the specific needs of the watershed so require, just as eventual interventions will be considered when required by the higher interests of the nation.”¶ “Perhaps what should be considered is the creation of a policy on land use, to help concentrate these projects in certain areas and keep other areas free of mining,” Brenning suggested.¶ “It worries me to see projects that in the future could affect areas high up in the mountains where glaciers and rock glaciers are found,” he said.¶ He also said Chile should focus on awareness-raising and education among geologists, geographers, government officials and the general public, especially regarding rock glaciers, about which there is very little understanding.¶ “Rock glaciers are a hidden, little-known phenomenon. Even in the scientific world, there is very little literature on them. The Alps have been more closely studied,” said Brenning.¶ The government policy on glaciers states that so far more than 3,100 glaciers have been identified in Chile, with a total estimated surface area of 20,188 square kilometres. Of that total, more than 15,000 square kilometres are made up of the North and South Patagonian Ice Fields.¶ The surface area that has not yet been mapped is estimated at 4,700 square kilometres of ice.¶ The policy also states that the majority of Chilean glaciers are retreating and have experienced losses in surface area and thickness in response to climate change.¶ “The retreat and thinning detected in Chile in the last 30 years have accelerated, to up to twice as fast in the last 10 years,” it says

## Advantage 1: Biodiversity

Environmental negligence in copper and gold mining operations in Chile create massive ecological harms. Baissi 1

The suspension is a response to criticism from indigenous groups and government agencies in Chile about Barrick Gold’s environmental handling of the Pascua Lama project, the world’s largest bi-national gold mining project and one of Barrick’s most important operations. The grounds for suspension are as follows: “imminent environmental danger”, failure to comply with the due diligence to address impacts, failure to comply with any of the measures demanded by environmental authorities, and failure to follow instructions on to monitoring requirements. ¶ The court sustains the opinion of the plaintiff indigenous communities that there is “overwhelming evidence” and “aggravating circumstances” demonstrating that Barrick is degrading the environment, including glaciers and water basins, due to: ¶ Faulty and unauthorized drainage systems;¶ Contamination of highland wetland (vegas) systems;¶ Failure to construct the necessary oxygenation and evaporation plant and system;¶ Discharge of acidic water into the Estrecho River **(just before the Estrecho Glacier);¶**Discovery of illegal amounts of heavy metals including arsenic, aluminum, copper and sulfates in local waterways.

This damages the integrity of the high mountain wetlands and kills multiple species. Baissi 2

The Argentine National Park Service (ANPS) condemns the Pascua Lama and Veladero projects due to the environmental risks they pose to the hydrological system of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. At the Veladero mine, Barrick constructed a massive lixiviation valley to hold arsenic and other contaminants. The ANPS protested because Barrick Gold chose to situate the contaminated pools on critical and environmentally sensitive vegas (high mountain wetlands). Despite the official opposition to the decision, Barrick was allowed by the local provincial government to destroy several acres of vegas (wetland) systems. Today, a Barrick employee is sent with large garbage bags to dispose of birds that die from the consumption of arsenic laden water. **The ANPS calls Veladero, “Argentina’s sacrifice to Barrick.”**

The Chilean glaciers are a key hub of biodiversity. Carrasquel[[6]](#footnote-6) ‘12

Patagonia is a vast, immensely rich, sparsely populated area of South America, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.¶ Shared by Argentina and Chile, recently more than 12,000 hectares of forest were affected first by volcanic ash and second, by wildfires.¶ The Patagonia Argentina can be divided into two regions: Northern Patagonia and Southern Patagonia, both separated by the parallel 42 ° S. Another division of the Patagonia Argentina is mainly based on ecological considerations: the Andean Patagonia (wet, covered with forests and dotted with large lakes of glacial origin) and Extra-Andean Patagonia, or steppe (arid and largely covered by shrubs, and even desertic).¶ The Chilean Patagonia is a land shaped mainly by glaciers. In it lies a narrow coastal plain, large glaciers, mountains, fjords, islands and islets, glaciers, volcanoes, waterfalls and plenty of fresh water flowing into the sea, and finally, the Magellanic tundra lands up to Cape Horn.¶ One part declared Biosphere Reserve by the UNESCO, is home to Patagonian native tree species such as beech and ñirre and animal species as the huemul, an endemic deer and many other species not found anywhere else in the planet.

Biodiversity impact turns aren’t responsive since the plan solves total pollution of the ecosystem, not just loss of a few species. Loss of biodiversity will lead to extinction – global ecosystems are reliant on each other. Tonn[[7]](#footnote-7) ‘07

The first principle is the most important because earth-life is needed to support earth-life. Ecosystems are composed of countless species that are mutually dependent upon each other for nutrients directly as food or as by-products of earth-life (e.g., as carbon dioxide and oxygen). If the biodiversity of an ecosystem is substantially compromised, then the entire system could collapse due to destructive negative nutrient cycle feedback effects. If enough ecosystems collapse worldwide, then the cascading impact on global nutrient cycles could lead(s) to catastrophic species extinction. Thus, to ensure the survival of earth-life into the distant future the earth's biodiversity must be protected.

## Advantage 2: Water

Explosions from Chilean mining operations contaminate and destroy glaciers. Baissi 3

Barrick’s operations exploiting Veladero and preparing for exploitation at Pascua Lama have already had extensive impacts on glaciers. Barrick has been systematically destroying ice as it carries out exploratory activity and introduces access roads. Dust from explosions and mass earth removal have also taken their toll on the glaciers, soil(ed)ing their surface and chang(ed)ing their albedo, thereby accelerating glacial melt. The contamination has been so serious that Barrick halted its activities in late October, 2012 in response to increased dust levels caused by high winds. Barrick claims on its website that there are only seven glaciers affected by operations at Pascua Lama. However, this contrasts sharply with reports from civil society groups, who have already started inventorying glaciers in anticipation of the official glacier inventory, which still may take considerable time to carry out. The Center for Human Rights and Environment (CEDHA), which studies mining impacts to glaciers, has inventoried nearly 300 glaciers in Barrick’s impact zone (these can be downloaded and viewed in Google Earth: click the link for a Glacier Inventory in Chile / Argentina). CEDHA is due to publish a new report entitled “Barrick’s Glaciers” on the mining company’s extensive impacts on the region’s ice reserves, later this month.

Glaciers are vanishing quickly—threatens the water supply for all of Chile. Jamasmie**[[8]](#footnote-8)** ‘13

The revival of legislation to protect glaciers by banning mining activities close to them has reached Chile, where the Congress is in the midst of a long-dragged debate about whether the definition of glacier should or not include the frozen areas around them.¶ In most places, glaciers are easy to spot: pristine bluish and white surfaces, such as the famous Patagonian ice caps. But in the high Andes Mountains of central and northern Chile **and Argentina, many of the glaciers don’t fit such description.¶** The area is rich in so-called rock glaciers, quite scarce in other points of the globe**, which have dusty and rock-like exteriors that contain a core of ice**. Their main importance lays on being natural water reservoirs, an element Chile has been lacking of lately.¶ Almost 75% of the Chilean population relies on water supplied by melted ice. For the northern half of the country, glaciers are particularly vital — yet they are now retreating quicker than ever.¶ According to environmentalists, the unfortunate combination of climate change, drought and an expanding mining industry, have Chile’s northern icebergs in danger of disappearing completely.¶ One of the best-documented examples is the 18,000-year-old Chacaltaya glacier in the Bolivian Andes, which disappeared in 2009. Experts had forecasted it would survive until 2015, but it melted faster than expected**,** leaving what used to be the world’s highest ski run — 17,000 feet above sea level — as a boulder-strewn slope with a few patches of ice near the top.

Chile is key to the world’s water supply—glacial water is needed to avert conflict. Smith**[[9]](#footnote-9)** ‘13

South America has more water than any other region on earth, with 29 percent of the world’s reserves, **according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. The rub is that the water isn’t always where the best mineral or agricultural resources are located.¶ Huge Amounts¶** Mines consume huge amounts of water to separate minerals from rock. It takes 28 liters (7.4 gallons) of water to make 0.5 kilogram (1 pound) of copper in Chile. After processing, the water at some mines is so toxic that it can’t be reused. Peru’s biggest mines, such as Conga, are high in the Andes, where there’s almost no rain from May to October.¶ In Chile, the world’s largest copper producer, vast deposits of copper, gold and silver lie under the Atacama Desert, which is so dry that rainfall has never been recorded in some places. And higher demand means there’s less water to go around.¶ Growing populations have pushed the amount of usable water per person down by more than one-fifth since 1992 in Brazil, Chile and Peru, according to the UN group.¶ Deadly Consequences¶ National leaders in Latin America are weighing short-term economic growth against the public’s future needs for water, and the consequences can be deadly. In Chile, the nation’s drinking supply is threatened by past policies of allotting too much water to companies to spur the economy, Public Works Minister Loreto Silva says.¶ Water is already running out in places like Copiapo, a city of 158,438 people in the Atacama Desert, 800 kilometers north of Santiago, because of mining and agricultural expansion, she says.¶ “In some areas of the country, like Copiapo, we have a reduction or an exhaustion of the resource,” Silva says. “If we don’t make decisions today, we’ll be short of water in about a decade. That forces us to take a long-term, strategic view in terms of water.”¶ Peru faces similar long-term needs because water is in short supply in areas where mines are expanding, says Hugo Jara, head of the country’s National Water Authority. The government needs to build $394 million of reservoirs and canals by 2016 for annual water shortages in the dry season in the Andes, he says.¶ ‘First Priority’¶ “The government has declared water its first priority,” Jara says. “These protests helped to spur our attention.”¶ Governments are making the right decision in providing water to industries that benefit the majority of their populations, even if that means displacing some people, says John Briscoe, a Harvard University professor who specializes in water policy.¶ “It’s of transcendental importance to the economy,” says Briscoe, a former senior water adviser at the World Bank. **“**The value of the water in the mining industry is very, very high.”¶ Drought is making water even scarcer. In Chile, precipitation was 75 percent below the historical average in 2012 in the mineral-rich Coquimbo region, while rainfall decreased 70 percent in the Atacama Desert, home to the world’s biggest copper mines, according to Chile’s General Water Agency.¶ In Peru, the government says rain has been below average for two years in the highland mining regions because of El Nino weather phenomena. Global warming has likely increased and prolonged droughts in some regions of the world, according to a March 2012 study by the 62-nation Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.¶ Global Struggle¶ The conflicts in South America are part of an intensifying global struggle for water. Two of the mightiest rivers on earth -- the Yellow River in China and the Colorado in the U.S. and Mexico -- have been so depleted by cities, factories and farms that they rarely reach the sea, as they had for eons.¶ Increased mining in Chile has already cost families, farms and villages the water they need to survive. Near Caimanes, a town in a semiarid valley 250 kilometers north of Santiago, farmhand Daniel Tapia walks through a stand of withered almond trees, passing a bone-dry irrigation ditch.¶ He rests at a rock-strewn stretch of flat ground where the Pupio Creek once flowed. It emptied in 2008, he says, after the nation’s richest family, the Luksics, built a 500-meter-wide (1,640-foot-wide) waste dump, known as a tailings dam, for the Los Pelambres copper mine.

Goes nuclear—causes extinction. NASCA[[10]](#footnote-10) ‘06

**Water is one of the prime essentials for life as we know it.** The plain fact is - no water, no life! **This becomes all the more worrying when we realise that** the worlds supply of drinkable water will soon diminish quite rapidly. In fact a recent report commissionehas emphasised that by the year 2025 at least 66% of the worlds population will be without an adequate water supply. As a disaster in the making water shortage ranks in the top category. Without water we are finished, and it is thus imperative that we protect the mechanism through which we derive our supply of this life giving fluid. Unfortunately the exact opposite is the case. We are doing incalculable damage to the planets capacity to generate water and this will have far ranging consequences for the not too distant future. The United Nations has warned that burning of fossil fuels is the prime cause of water shortage. While there may be other reasons such as increased solar activity it is clear that this is a situation over which we can exert a great deal of control. If not then the future will be very bleak indeed! Already the warning signs are there. The last year has seen devastating heatwaves in many parts of the world including the USA where the state of Texas experienced its worst drought on record. Elsewhere in the United States forest fires raged out of control, while other regions of the globe experienced drought conditions that were even more severe. Parts of Iran, Afgahnistan, China and other neighbouring countries experienced their worst droughts on record. These conditions also extended throughout many parts of Africa and it is clear that if circumstances remain unchanged we are facing a disaster of epic proportions. Moreover it will be one for which there is no easy answer. The spectre of a world water shortage evokes a truly frightening scenario. **In fact the United Nations warns that** disputes over water will become the prime source of conflict in the not too distant future. Where these shortages become ever more acute it could forseeably lead to the brink of nuclear conflict. On a lesser scale water, and the price of it, will acquire an importance somewhat like the current value placed on oil. The difference of course is that while oil is not vital for life, water most certainly is! It seems clear then that in future years countries rich in water will enjoy an importance that perhaps they do not have today. In these circumstances power shifts are inevitable, and this will undoubtedly create its own strife and tension. In the long term the implications do not look encouraging. It is a two edged sword. First the shortage of water, and then the increased stresses this will impose upon an already stressed world of politics. It means that answers need to be found immediately. Answers that will both ameliorate the damage to the environment, and also find new sources of water for future consumption. If not, and the problem is left unresolved there will eventually come the day when we shall find ourselves with a nightmare situation for which there will be no obvious answer.

## Advantage 3: Stability

Mining causes crippling instability. Smith[[11]](#footnote-11) 2

People streamed into the central square in Celendin, a small city in the Peruvian Andes, the morning of July 3, 2012. They were protesting the government’s support for[Newmont Mining Corp. (NEM)](http://www.bloomberg.com/quote/NEM%3AUS)’s plan to take control of four lakes to make way for a new gold and copper mine. By midday, there were 3,000. Some hurled rocks at police and brandished clubs. Then assailants shot two officers and an Army soldier in the leg Blocks away, construction worker Paulino Garcia left home on foot to buy groceries. As he approached the central square, he encountered chaos. People ran for cover as federal troops fired their weapons, Bloomberg Markets magazine will report in its March issue More from the March 2013 issue of[Bloomberg Markets](https://bloombergmarkets.bloomberg.com/pubs/MK/BMK/BMK_Subscribe_2012.jsp?cds_page_id=114279&cds_mag_code=BMK&id=1359585928754&lsid=30301645287037024&vid=1): One bullet struck Garcia as he watched the mayhem. It ripped open his chest and exited through his back. The 43-year-old father of two fell to the ground and died. Another three people were shot and killed, and more than 20 were wounded. It was the deadliest clash in 18 months of protests in[Peru](http://topics.bloomberg.com/peru/)’s Cajamarca region, where many residents say Newmont’s $5 billion Conga mine will take water their villages and farms need to survive. “He died in a pool of blood,” says Adelaida Tabaco, Garcia’s widow, 38, sobbing inside her half-built adobe house in Celendin. “The only thing the people want is water for families, but the mining companies want to take it. And soldiers will kill if you get in the way.”**Conflict VictimsThe** injured and **dead** in Celendin, 800 kilometers (500 miles) north of Lima, **are victims** **in a continent-wide conflict that pits South American governments and** big, often **foreign**-based **companies** **against** **people** who stand to lose their homes as water is diverted to industrial uses.Leaders across the region, elected on promises to fuel economic growth and lift their populations out of poverty, are fast tracking water-use approvals for projects like the Conga mine. Helped by mining and agriculture exports,[Brazil](http://topics.bloomberg.com/brazil/)’s gross domestic product[increased 43 percent](http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2012/02/weodata/weorept.aspx?pr.x=54&pr.y=4&sy=2002&ey=2017&scsm=1&ssd=1&sort=country&ds=.&br=1&c=223&s=NGDP&grp=0&a)from 2002 to 2012, after adjusting forinflation, while[Chile](http://topics.bloomberg.com/chile/)’s economy grew 58 percent.Peru is on target to expand 6 percent in 2013, the fastest pace in[South America](http://topics.bloomberg.com/south-america/), driven by investments in gold, silver and copper mines. South America has more water than any other region on earth, with[29 percent of the world’s reserves](http://www.fao.org/nr/water/aquastat/globalmaps/AquastatWorldDataEng_20121214_IRWR.pdf), according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. The rub is that the water isn’t always where the best mineral or agricultural resources are located. **Huge Amounts** Mines consume huge amounts of water to separate minerals from rock. It takes 28 liters (7.4 gallons) of water to make 0.5 kilogram (1 pound) of copper in Chile. After processing, the water at some mines is so toxic that it can’t be reused. Peru’s biggest mines, such as Conga, are high in the Andes, where there’s almost no rain from May to October. In Chile, the world’s largest copper producer, vast deposits of copper, gold and silver lie under the Atacama Desert, which is so dry that rainfall has never been recorded in some places. And higher demand means there’s less water to go around. Growing populations have pushed the amount of usable water per person down by more than one-fifth since 1992 in Brazil, Chile and Peru, according to the UN group. **Deadly Consequences** National leaders in[Latin America](http://topics.bloomberg.com/latin-america/)are weighing short-term economic growth against the public’s future needs for water, and the consequences can be deadly. **In Chile, the nation’s drinking supply is threatened** by past policies of allotting too much water to companies to spur the economy, Public Works Minister Loreto Silva says.**Water is** already **running out** in places like Copiapo, a city of 158,438 people in the Atacama Desert, 800 kilometers north of Santiago, **because of mining** and agricultural expansion, she says.“In some areas of the country, like Copiapo, we have a reduction or an exhaustion of the resource,” Silva says. “If we don’t make decisions today, we’ll be short of water in about a decade. That forces us to take a long-term, strategic view in terms of water.”

Peru faces similar long-term needs because water is in short supply in areas where mines are expanding, says Hugo Jara, head of the country’s[National Water Authority](http://www.ana.gob.pe/). The government needs to build $394 million of reservoirs and canals by 2016 for annual water shortages in the dry season in the Andes, he says. **‘First Priority’** “The government has declared water its first priority,” Jara says. “These protests helped to spur our attention.”Governments are making the right decision in providing water to industries that benefit the majority of their populations, even I that means displacing some people, says John Briscoe, a Harvard University professor who specializes in water policy. “It’s of transcendental importance to the economy,” says Briscoe, a former senior water adviser at the[World Bank](http://topics.bloomberg.com/world-bank/). “The value of the water in the[mining industry](http://topics.bloomberg.com/mining-industry/)is very, very high.”**Drought is making water even scarcer**. In Chile, precipitation was[75 percent below](http://pronostico.dga.cl/detalle4Region.html#precipitaciones)the historical average in 2012 in the mineral-rich Coquimbo region, while rainfall decreased 70 percent in the Atacama Desert, home to the world’s biggest copper mines, according to Chile’s General Water Agency. In Peru, the government says rain has been below average for two years in the highland mining regions because of El Nino weather phenomena. Global warming has likely increased and prolonged droughts in some regions of the world, according to a March 2012 study by the 62-nation Intergovernmental Panel on[Climate Change](http://topics.bloomberg.com/climate-change/). **Global Struggle**The **conflicts in South America are part of an intensifying global struggle for water**. Two of the mightiest rivers on earth -- the Yellow River in China and the Colorado in the U.S. and Mexico -- have been so depleted by cities, factories and farms that they rarely reach the sea, as they had for eons.**Increased mining** **in Chile has** already **cost families**, farms and villages **the water they need to survive**. Near Caimanes, a town in a semiarid valley 250 kilometers north of Santiago, farmhand Daniel Tapia walks through a stand of withered almond trees, passing a bone-dry irrigation ditch. He rests at a rock-strewn stretch of flat ground where the Pupio Creek once flowed. It emptied in 2008, he says, after the nation’s richest family, the Luksics, built a 500-meter-wide (1,640-foot-wide) waste dump, known as a tailings dam, for the Los Pelambres copper mine.**Iris Fontbona**London-based[Antofagasta Plc (ANTO)](http://www.bloomberg.com/quote/ANTO%3ALN)constructed the dam atop springs that supplied water for the town. The company is 65 percent held by the Luksics, a family with a net worth of $20.7 billion, according to the[Bloomberg Billionaires Index](http://topics.bloomberg.com/bloomberg-billionaires-index/).[Iris Fontbona](http://topics.bloomberg.com/iris-fontbona/), heir to the fortune, is the 39th-richest person in the world. Tapia, 40, says there’s not enough water for him, his wife and three kids to wash, drink and cook. They survive on about 180 liters a day, delivered by truck to their small home by the almond grove. That’s one-eighth of what the[average U.S. family uses](http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/pubs/indoor.html). “We used that river to irrigate, but nothing is ever going to grow here again,” Tapia says. “There’s no future for us. We’re going to have to leave.” The[Los Pelambres](http://www.pelambres.cl/)mine ran out of space to store the ground-up, chemical-laden rock created from extracting copper ore, says Sergio Valdebenito, who runs the tailings dam. The Luksics won government approval for a second dam in 2004 and defeated legal challenges by area residents during the next four years. Valdebenito says drought, not the mining, is drying up the valley. “The fact that we built this doesn’t mean we took the water from the creek,” says Valdebenito, 52, pointing to water backed up behind the tailings dam. Juan Villalobos, a construction worker who has lived in Caimanes since he was born, says that the drought explanation isn’t true as he takes a casual walk through the area with a reporter. The water that fed the creek didn’t disappear; it’s being held behind the tailings dam and pumped back to the mine, Villalobos, 38, says. He and 10 others went on an 81-day hunger strike in 2011 to protest construction of the tailing dam. On a late-November day, a turquoise-colored lake stretches 2 kilometers up the canyon behind the tailings dam, tapped by huge pipes pumping water to the mine’s processing plants.

In the valley below, rocks and dust cover irrigation ditches that crisscross what were once fields of alfalfa, corn, wheat and potatoes. In Caimanes, a town of 1,800 people 7 kilometers from the dam, water is rationed.

Mining companies are planning to spend $100 billion in Chile by 2025 to increase production. President Sebastian Pinera says investment in mines will drive economic growth in his nation of 16.6 million people, helping it to gain developed-nation status. “Mining in Chile is booming, and I think it will continue growing at a very fast pace,” says Pinera, 63, who became a billionaire before entering politics by buying and selling stakes in companies. It’s not only mining companies that need water. More than 300 corporations, including some of the biggest in the world, have converged on[Paraguay](http://topics.bloomberg.com/paraguay/), a country in the center of South America that sits above one of the world’s largest underground freshwater reserves. They’ve registered with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce to draw water from underground aquifers. One aquifer is the Guarani, which covers an area larger than[France](http://topics.bloomberg.com/france/), Germany and the U.K. combined. It sits beneath[Argentina](http://topics.bloomberg.com/argentina/), Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, supplying 15 million people with water. Many of the companies -- such as[Royal Dutch Shell Plc (RDSA)](http://www.bloomberg.com/quote/RDSA%3ALN), Europe’s biggest oil producer;[Exxon Mobil Corp. (XOM)](http://www.bloomberg.com/quote/XOM%3AUS), the biggest U.S. oil company; and London-based drugmaker[GlaxoSmithKline Plc (GSK)](http://www.bloomberg.com/quote/GSK%3ALN)-- have no major operations in Paraguay. After registering, these firms just have to buy enough land to drill a well and remove water, says Silvia Spinzi, director of the water resources division of the Paraguayan Environmental Ministry. In Peru, **the conflict over water has turned deadly**. Fifteen people have been killed since 2010 in protests against government decisions allowing mining companies to expand and use more water. Those firms are planning to invest $53 billion in the next decade for mines that will require water. **Water Disappeared** In San Antonio de Pachachaca, 54 kilometers south of Celendin, the lake the village depends on started to disappear four years ago. That’s when Newmont expanded its Yanacocha gold mine, says Claudio Garcia, president of the local irrigation authority.At Little Totoracocha Lake near the town, set on a plateau 4,000 meters up in the Andes, water levels have dropped since 2009, leaving a wasteland of cracked black lake bed where there used to be frigid, azure waters. Crops have withered, 200 farm animals have died and taps at homes are running dry by early afternoon, Garcia, 32, says. About 100 meters from the lake’s edge, on the other side of a rocky ridge, is[Yanacocha](http://www.yanacocha.com.pe/la-compania/quienes-somos/), a mine that produces 1.2 million ounces (34,000 kilograms) of gold a year. Garcia, a stocky man with thickly calloused hands from a life of farming, parcels out the lake water that remains to the families living in adobe shacks scattered across the windy plateau. He says he has restricted water flowing into a network of irrigation canals to less than 1 liter a second, a third the amount in 2010. That’s not enough for subsistence farming. **Destroyed Community** His wife and four children run out of drinking water by midday, he says.“This has destroyed our community because everyone is fighting over water,” Garcia says. Luis Cabrera, Newmont’s environmental specialist at Yanacocha, says the weather, not the mine, caused the lake to lose water. About 40 percent of the lake’s water naturally evaporates during the dry season, he says. “When it rains, it will fill back up,” he says. Peru’s environmental ministry disputed that explanation. From Jan. 31 to Feb. 2, 2011, ministry inspectors examined the lake and part of the Yanacocha mine. After the inspection, they concluded in a report that water levels in the lake had plummeted because explosions to open access to the minerals at the mine had diverted a major spring that feeds the lake. **‘Increased Fracturing’** “The increased fracturing of the surface rock due to the explosive activities is affecting the direction of underground water, causing the reduction and absence of flow,” the report says. Cabrera says Newmont disagrees with the report’s findings.The protests in Peru began in April 2010, against Phoenix-based[Southern Copper Corp. (SCCO)](http://www.bloomberg.com/quote/SCCO%3AUS)’s Tia Maria mine near Arequipa, a city of 836,000 people close to Peru’s border with Chile. A year later, two people died in protests against water use by Zug, Switzerland-based Xstrata Plc’s Tintaya mine, 240 kilometers south. In October 2011, the anger sprang up around Cajamarca, a northern Peruvian city with 362,000 people. Crowds opposing Newmont’s Conga mine gathered in the city’s central square, where Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro executed Incan ruler Atahualpa in 1533 after taking a roomful of his gold. To build[Conga](http://www.yanacocha.com.pe/la-compania/quienes-somos/), Newmont will dig up two lakes to get at gold and copper ore. The other two lakes will be filled with waste from separating valuable metals from ore Conga will produce 680,000 ounces of gold and 106,000 tons of copper a year, Newmont estimates. **Reservoirs, Canals** Newmont’s Cabrera says Conga won’t deprive people in Celendin or anywhere of water. He says the company is building a $65 million system of reservoirs and canals for public use, which will supply ample and cleaner water for villagers.“We believe they will have more water than they have now,” says Cabrera, sitting in an office at the Yanacocha mine. During a tour of the Conga mine site in late October, it’s the dry season, and the four lakes Newmont plans to divert are full of fresh water. The lack of rain hasn’t depleted the lakes. One of the four, Blue Lake, sparkles as the sun breaks through thick cloud cover. “Those lakes are full of water all year,” says Milton Sanchez, an unemployed accountant from Celendin who has helped organize protests against the Conga mine. “We don’t believe Newmont’s reservoirs will replace the lakes.” **Conflict Intensified The** Conga **conflict intensified** in November 2011, **when farmers blocked roads and stormed mine depots. They were led by** Gregorio Santos, **the province’s governor**, who said Newmont would deplete the community of water.

A self-described environmentalist, Santos, 46, was elected governor in 2010 after more than a decade of advocating that the government shouldn’t allow towns to run dry because of mining. Last April, Peruvian President Ollanta Humala gave a televised speech about the Conga protests. Mining expansion was critical to Peru’s economic future, and Newmont’s Conga mine should move forward, he said. “Our government is conscious of the importance of mining investment to reach the desired goal of growth with inclusion,” Humala said.

**In Celendin**, starting in late May, **Sanchez** -- who had already been criminally charged with inciting violent protests - - **helped organize a month-long round of** strikes and **street protests.** Sanchez, 31, says he’s never done anything violent or illegal. He says he has just exercised his democratic right to protest.

Chilean stability is the lynchpin of every other impact in South America- ensures regional stability, checks narco states, bolsters international law and participation, and solves drug trafficking. Meyer[[12]](#footnote-12) ‘14

Since its return to democracy, Chile’s foreign policy has been based on respect for international law, equality among states, peaceful dispute resolution, and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries.76 Although the country’s initiatives in the international arena have often focused on forging trade and investment linkages, **Chile** also **has been an active participant in multilateral efforts to advance** peace and **stability** **in the Western Hemisphere.** For example, **the** Chilean **government** **has** **engaged** in diplomatic **efforts** **to resolve** a number of **political crises in the region** in recent years, **and** **is** currently one of four countries **assisting** with **peace talks between the Colombian government and** the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (Fuerzas rmadas Revolucionarias de Colombia, **FAR**C)—a leftist guerilla group.77 In October 2013, Chile was elected to a two-year term on the U.N. Security Council.**Chile** **has** also **promoted regional cooperation** on peacekeeping and humanitarian relief efforts. The country quickly responded to the U.N. Security Council’s March 2004 request for peacekeepers in Haiti following the collapse of Jean-Bertrand Aristide’s government. This **early commitment** **encouraged** a number of **other Latin American** countries **to contribute troops to** **the** U.N. **Stabilization Mission** in Haiti (MINUSTAH), **establishing** an opportunity for **regional political and military cooperation** and integration. Chile has committed more human and material resources to MINUSTAH than it has to any previous peacekeeping mission,78 and still has 462 soldiers and 14 police on the ground as Haiti continues to recover from the massive earthquake that struck the country in January 2010.79 In October 2012, Chile sponsored a disaster response initiative at the 10th Conference of the Defense Ministers of the Americas. The initiative, which was backed by the United States and adopted at the conference, creates a coordination mechanism to improve the region’s collective response to humanitarian emergencies.80Additionally, **Chile is working** **with the U**nited **S**tates **on** c**i**tizen security and **antidrug efforts** **in Central America**—a region struggling with high levels of crime and violence.81 Both countries are part of the Group of Friends of Central America, which has worked with Central American governments to design and implement a regional security strategy. Among other initiatives, **Chile is supporting police reform in Honduras and** providing **military training in Guatemala**.82 **Chile is also** participating **in** Operation Martillo**, a** multinational and interagency **drug interdiction** effort designed **to cut off** illicit **trafficking** **routes** along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of Central America.83

## Plan Text

Thus the plan**:** The National Congress of Chile and Argentina will decide topass legislation banning mining operations in glacial and periglacial areas. The plan is modeled on Argentina’s National Glacier Law that expands the definition of glaciers to include rock glaciers and surrounding ice fields. **I r**eserve the right to clarify.

## Solvency

The law has worked in Argentina. Baissi**[[13]](#footnote-13)** ‘4

On the Argentine side of the border**, Barrick has had to confront** new environmental laws banning mining in glacial and periglacial areas**, creating serious legal obstacles for the important Lama portion of the project to go forward (Pascua, the principal gold reserves, are in Chile, while Lama, where the gold will be processed and waste deposited, is in Argentina). Barrick Gold presented studies in the mid 2000s revealing that Lama operations are located squarely in a periglacial environment.** The new National Glacier Law, approved in 2010, directly prohibits mining in periglacial areas and also applies retroactively to existing projects, rendering Lama operations illegal in Argentina. Just days after the law came into effect in Argentina, Barrick Gold filed legal action attempting to get the law revoked, but a Supreme Court ruling rejected the request. Today, the Glacier Law still stands.

Effectively shuts down mining operations- and independent solvency advocate. Maxwell**[[14]](#footnote-14)** ‘13

Chile could be the next country to pass a glacier protection law. Parliament has been exploring the idea since 2006, but has not been able to reach consensus yet. At issue is how the law would define a “glacier,” since a broader definition, like the one Argentina uses, could impact Chile’s existing and future mining activities. For example, the Pascua Lama mine, I mentioned above could be shut down for good if Chile opts for a stricter law, since the part of the operation in Chile is virtually surrounded by glaciers and peri-glacial habitat.¶ Laws such as these may certainly be helpful in protecting the region’s glaciers from industrial threats, and they should certainly be passed and—crucially—implemented to the fullest extent possible.

Expanding the definition of glaciers is key. AP**[[15]](#footnote-15)** ‘13

Jorge Daniel Taillant, director of the Center for Human Rights and the Environment, called glaciers a vulnerable resource that's in jeopardy because of mining.¶ Taillant tracks environmental compliance by mining companies and has focused on the impact of dozens of mining projects in Argentina and in Chile on glaciers.¶ *"*A broad definition of glaciers in the law helps capture the large variety of glaciers that exist in the Andes*,"* Taillant said. *"*Protecting only the most well-known uncovered white glaciers is not enough*.* Melting glaciers are one of the telltale signs of climate change, and as suchwe need laws to protect climate-vulnerable glaciers."¶ If passed, the bill could halt mining operations such as Barrick's $8 billion Pascua-Lama or state mining company Codelco's $6.8 billion Andina 244 expansion project, which are both surrounded by glaciers and permafrost areas. To move forward, the projects would need further environmental safeguards to ensure they're not hurting ice.¶ The resurfacing of the bill comes at a time when the Andina project is being widely questioned. Codelco wants to turn Andina into its star mine to produce more than 600,000 metric tons of copper a year, up from 250,000 now.¶ Codelco said in a statement it believes the glacier bill is not needed because Chile has developed norms to protect glaciers since the legislation was first discussed in 2006.¶ "Depending on how this glacier law turns out it could be very complicated. In reality, this project might not even be able to be developed because we're near glaciers," said Juan Carlos Jofre, sustainability chief for the Andina 244 project.¶ Environmentalists say the impact on nearby glaciers would be devastating, particularly for subsurface rock glaciers with colossal amounts of ice.¶ Before the Argentine law passed, analysts had warned that it would mean an end to Pascua-Lama, the world's highest-altitude mine, which straddles the Chile-Argentina border. While mining has continued there, Barrick's project has been temporarily suspended in Chile after the company was cited for "very serious" violations of its environmental permit, requiring it to build infrastructure to prevent water pollution as it mines for gold and silver.¶ Critics sayconstructionat Pascua-Lamahas spread dust on the nearby Toro 1, Toro 2 and Esperanza glaciers, hastening their retreat by capturing heat on their surfaces. Meltwater from those glaciers feeds the Estrecho river, which supplies water to the Diaguita indigenous community living downstream.¶ Barrick has said it will work "to address environmental and other regulatory requirements" on the Pascua side of the project in Chile.¶ Conservationists have been conducting their own inventory of mining projects and say dozens are in glacier areas. They have filed international complaints, pointing mining company shareholders to potential troubles for large-scale mineral investments.¶ Chile's Congress is expected to take on the glacier protection bill by mid-October.¶ *"*Any change that means that projects have to be evaluated would affect them significantly. It would mean a whole new legal framework on glaciers," said Winston Alburquenque, a professor of natural resources law at the Universidad Catolica. "Clearly there's a change —there's a greater environmental awareness and respect for natural resources."

Prioritizing environmental protection solves the root causes of resource conflicts. UNEP[[16]](#footnote-16) ‘09

Since 1990 at least eighteen violent conflicts have been fuelled by the exploitation of natural resources. In fact, recent research suggests that over the last sixty years at least forty percent of all intrastate conflicts have a link to natural resources. Civil wars such as those in Liberia, Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo have centred on “high-value” resources like timber, diamonds, gold, minerals and oil. Other conflicts, including those in Darfur and the Middle East, have involved control of scarce resources such as fertile land and water. As the global population continues to rise, and the demand for resources continues to grow, there is significant potential for conflicts over natural resources to intensify in the coming decades. In addition, the potential consequences of climate change for water availability, food security, prevalence of disease, coastal boundaries, and population distribution may aggravate existing tensions and generate new conflicts.Environmental factors are rarely, if ever, the sole cause of violent conflict. Ethnicity, adverse economic conditions, low levels of international trade and conflict in neighbouring countries are all significant drivers of violence. However, the exploitation of natural resources and related environmental stresses can be implicated in all phases of the conflict cycle, from contributing to the outbreak and perpetuation of violence to undermining prospects for peace. In addition, the environment can itself fall victim to conflict, as direct and indirect environmental damage, coupled with the collapse of institutions, can lead to environmental risks that threaten people’s health, livelihoods and security.Because the way that natural resources and the environment are governed has a determining influence on peace and security, these issues can also contribute to a relapse into conflict if they are not properly managed in post-conflict situations. Indeed, preliminary findings from a retrospective analysis of intrastate conflicts over the past sixty years indicate that conflicts associated with natural resources are twice as likely to relapse into conflict in the first five years. Nevertheless, fewer than a quarter of peace negotiations aiming to resolve conflicts linked to natural resources have addressed resource management mechanisms.The recognition that environmental issues can contribute to violent conflict underscores their potential significance as pathways for cooperation, transformation and the con- solidation of peace in war-torn societies. Natural resources and **the environment can contribute to peacebuilding through economic development and** the **generation of employment, while cooperation over** the management of **shared** natural **resources** **provides new** **opportunities** **for peacebuilding**. These factors, however, must be taken into consideration from the outset. Indeed, deferred action or poor choices made early on are easily “locked in,” establishing unsustainable trajectories of recovery that can undermine the fragile foundations of peace.**Integrating environment** and natural resources **into peacebuilding is** no longer an option – it is **a security imperative**. The establishment of the UN Peacebuilding Commission provides an important chance to address environmental risks and capitalize on potential opportunities in a more consistent and coherent way.In this context, UNEP recommends that the UN Peace- building Commission and the wider international community consider the following key recommendations for integrating environment and natural resource issues into peacebuilding interventions and conflict prevention:1. Further develop UN capacities for early warning and early action: The UN system needs to strengthen its capacity to deliver early warning and early action in countries that are vulnerable to conflicts over natural resources and environmental issues. At the same time, the effective governance of natural resources and the environment should be viewed as an investment in conflict prevention.2. Improve oversight and protection of natural resources during conflicts: **The** international **community needs to increase oversight of “high-value” resources** in international trade in order **to minimize** the **potential** for these resources **to finance conflict**. International sanctions should be the primary instrument dedicated to stopping the trade in conflict resources and the UN should require Member States to act against sanctions violators. At the same time, new legal instruments are required to protect natural resources and environmental services during violent conflict.3. Address natural resources and the environment as part of the peacemaking and peacekeeping process: During peace mediation processes, wealth-sharing is one of the fundamental issues that can “make or break” a peace agreement. In most cases, this includes **the sharing of natural resources**, including minerals, timber, land and water. It **is** therefore **critical** that parties **to** a **peace** **mediation** process are given sufficient technical information and training to make informed decisions on the sustainable use of natural resources. Subsequent peacekeeping operations need to be aligned with national efforts to improve natural resource and environmental governance.4. Include natural resources and environmental issues into integrated peacebuilding strategies: The UN often undertakes post-conflict operations with little or no prior knowledge of what natural resources exist in the affected country, or of what role they may have played in fuelling conflict. In many cases it is years into an intervention before the management of natural resources receives sufficient attention. **A failure to respond to** the **environmental** and natural resource **needs** of the population **can** complicate the task of fostering peace and even **contribute to conflict relapse**.5. Carefully harness natural resources for economic recovery: Natural resources can only help strengthen the post-war economy and contribute to economic recovery if they are managed well. The international community should be prepared to help national authorities manage the extraction process and revenues in ways that do not increase risk of further conflict, or are unsustainable in the longer term. This must go hand in hand with ensuring accountability, transparency, and environmental sustainability in their management.6. Capitalize on the potential for environmental co- operation to contribute to peacebuilding: Every state needs to use and protect vital natural resources such as forests, water, fertile land, energy and biodiversity. **Environmental issues** can thus **serve** **as** an effective platform or **catalyst** **for enhancing dialogue, building confidence, exploiting shared interests and broadening cooperation** between divided groups, as well as between states.Executive summary

## Underview

Ethical agnosticism should lead us to default towards maximzing life. Since we presently lack definitive grounds for believing any particular moral theory, we should maximize our ability to find demonstrable moral truths. Bostrom:[[17]](#footnote-17)

These reflections on moral uncertainty suggest[s] an alternative, complementary way of looking at existential risk. Let me elaborate. Our [that] present understanding of axiology might well be confused. We may not nowknow—at least not in concrete detail**—**what outcomes would count as a big win for humanity**;** we might not even yet be able to imagine the best ends of our journey**.** If we are indeed profoundly uncertain about our ultimate aims, then we should recognize that there is a great option value in preserving—and ideally improving—our ability to recognize value and to steer the future accordingly. Ensuring that there will be a future version of humanity with great powers and a propensity to use them wisely is plausibly the best way available to us to increase the probability that the future will contain a lot of value.

That’s an additional warrant for the standard, which functions like any other metaethic.

Adopt a policymaking view of the resolution. Joyner[[18]](#footnote-18)

Use of the debate can be an effective pedagogical tool for education in the social sciences. **Debates**, like other **role-playing**simulations, **help students understand different perspectives on a policy issue by adopting [one]** **a perspective as their own.** But, unlike other simulation games, debates do not require that a student participate directly in order to realize the benefit of the game. Instead of developing policy alternatives and experiencing the consequences of different choices in a traditional role-playing game, **debates** **[and] present[ing] the alternatives and consequences in a formal**, rhetorical **fashion** before a judgmental audience. Having the class audience serve as jury helps each student develop a well-thought-out opinion on the issue by providing contrasting facts and views and enabling audience members to pose challenges to each debating team. These debates ask undergraduate students to examine the international legal implications of various United States foreign policy actions. Their chief tasks are to assess the aims of the policy in question, determine their relevance to United States national interests, ascertain what legal principles are involved, and conclude how the United States policy in question squares with relevant principles of international law. Debate questions are formulated as resolutions, along the lines of: "Resolved: The United States should deny most-favored-nation status to China on human rights grounds;" or "Resolved: The United States should resort to military force to ensure inspection of Iraq's possible nuclear, chemical and biological weapons facilities;" or "Resolved: The United States' invasion of Grenada in 1983 was a lawful use of force;" or "Resolved: The United States should kill Saddam Hussein." **In addressing both sides** **of** these legal**propositions, the student** **debaters must consult the vast literature** of international law, especially the nearly 100 professional law-school-sponsored international law journals now being published in the United States. This literature furnishes an incredibly rich body of legal analysis that often treats topics affecting United States foreign policy, as well as other more esoteric international legal subjects. Although most of these journals are accessible in good law schools, they are largely unknown to the political science community specializing in international relations, much less to the average undergraduate. By assessing the role of international law in United States foreign policy- making, students realize that United States actions do not always measure up to international legal expectations; that at times, international legal strictures get compromised for the sake of perceived national interests, and that concepts and principles of international law, like domestic law, can be interpreted and twisted in order to justify United States policy in various international circumstances. In this way, **the debate format gives students the benefits ascribed to simulations and other action learning techniques**, in that it makes them become **actively engaged with their subjects**, **and not be mere passive consumers**. **Rather than spectators, students become legal advocates**, observing, reacting to, and structuring political and legal perceptions to fit the merits of their case. The debate exercises carry several specific educational objectives. First, students on each team must work together to refine a cogent argument that compellingly asserts their legal position on a foreign policy issue confronting the United States. In this way, they gain greater insight into the real-world legal dilemmas faced by policy makers. Second, as they work with other members of their team, they realize the complexities of applying and implementing international law, and the difficulty of bridging the gaps between United States policy and international legal principles, either by reworking the former or creatively reinterpreting the latter. Finally, research for the debates forces students to become familiarized with contemporary issues on the United States foreign policy agenda and the role that international law plays in formulating and executing these policies. 8 The **debate** thus **becomes an excellent** **vehicle for** **pushing students beyond stale arguments over principles** into the **real world** of **policy analysis**, political critique, and legal defense.

Real world is key because it’s the longest lasting impact of debate in our real lives.

# Frontlines

## BioD

Biodiversity is critical in a changing environment – insurance hypothesis fails. Loreau[[19]](#footnote-19) ‘2k

These experiments have tested the short-term effects of species diversity on ecosystem processes. But biodiversity might also be important, perhaps even more important, in the long term. Even when high species richness is not critical for maintaining ecosystem processes under constant or benign environmental conditions, it might nevertheless be important for maintaining them under changing environmental conditions. Species that are functionally redundant (i.e., that perform the same function, and thus whose diversity is not critical for maintaining the function) for an ecosystem process at a given time may no longer be redundant with respect to future environmental fluctuations. This idea is the basis for the ‘insurance hypothesis’ (Walker 1992, Lawton and Brown 1993, Yachi and Loreau 1999). Several recent experiments have also partially explored this issue (Tilman and Downing 1994, Tilman 1996, McGrady-Steed et al. 1997, Naeem and Li 1997, Petchey et al. 1999). In a way, this is the old stability–complexity debate resurfacing in a new form. The classical view that the complexity and diversity of ecological systems make for their stability (Odum 1953, MacArthur 1955, Elton 1958) seemed to be almost dead and buried after the mathematical demonstrations of May (1972, 1973) and others (though never completely: Patten 1975, McNaughton 1977, 1993). It is essentially this view that is coming back to life following the recent work, but with new arguments and a new rigour.

Biodiversity loss breeds infectious diseases. Henderson[[20]](#footnote-20) ‘06

The world is enduring a crisis of biodiversity. The rate at which species are disappearing is such that some scientists describe it as a mass extinction, comparable in scale to the event that wiped out the dinosaurs. The potential loss of so many animals and plants -more than 16,000 species are threatened alarms nature lovers, but some cynics ask why humanity should be concerned. The extinction of the thick-lipped pebble snail is bad news for that species, but what does it matter to us? One answer was set out this week in the journal Public Library of Science Medicine. A research team, led by Andy Dobson of Princeton University, has shown how declining biodiversity can have a direct impact on human health. **Lyme disease in the US is a case in point. Caused by spirochaete bacteria, this can cause arthritis, headaches, facial paralysis and heart problems. It is transmitted by tick bites and the danger it poses to humans is heavily influenced by local ecology.** Some animal hosts of Lyme disease are much better at passing the disease to ticks, and thence to people, than others. White-footed mice transmit it 90 per cent of the time, compared with 15 per cent for grey squirrels. The mice tend to thrive in small wooded areas where there are few predators or competitors. In these habitats, which tend to be close to towns where pressure on wildlife is greatest, the ticks have to bite something. The reduced biodiversity means they bite more mice and pick up the disease. Human infection rates rise as a result. Thus reduced biodiversity makes more people ill. The same is true of West Nile disease, a virus that has recently spread to the US. This is carried by birds and is spread to humans by mosquito bites, and some species are more dangerous reservoirs of infection than others. The birds that are most likely to pass it on to the insect vectors -including sparrows and robins - are those that flourish in urban habitats, just where humans have the greatest chance of being bitten. In wilder habitats, bird diversity is higher, the potential source of infection is diluted and people are better protected**. Like Lyme disease and West Nile disease**, most emerging human infections have their origins in animals. Their spread is almost always abetted when nature's variety narrows. The existence of large numbers of species**, some of which can harbour deadly pathogens without transmitting them to people,** acts as a protective buffer. **Healthy biodiversity lengthens the odds of a close encounter that puts humans in danger. This is most obvious with vector-borne illnesses but not confined to them: at last year's inaugural International Conference on Health and Biodiversity,** scientists suggested that species loss may have "facilitated" the advance of H5N1 bird flu**. The benefits of biodiversity do not end here. Many drugs originate from plants. There are millions more species yet to be investigated by science that constitute a vast** unexploited pharmacoepia, which will be lost to medicine if allowed to die out.

## Water Wars

Outweighs on probability. Barlow[[21]](#footnote-21) ‘08

The three **water crises** – dwindling freshwater supplies, inequitable access to water and the corporate control of water – **pose the greatest threat** of our time to the planet and **to our survival**. Together with impending climate change from fossil fuel emissions, the water crises impose some life-or-death decisions on us all. **Unless we** collectively **change** our **behavior**, **we are heading toward a world of** deepening **conflict and** potential **wars** **over** the dwindling supplies of **freshwater** – between nations, between rich and poor, between the public and the private interest, between rural and urban populations, and between the competing needs of the natural world and industrialized humans. Water Is Becoming a Growing Source of Conflict Between Countries Around the world, **more** **that 215 major** **rivers** and 300 groundwater basins and aquifers are **shared by two or more countries**, **creating tensions** over ownership and use of the precious waters they contain. **Growing** **shortages** and unequal distribution of water **are causing disagreements**, sometimes violent, and becoming a security risk in many regions. **Britain’s** former **defense secretary**, John Reid, warns of coming “water wars.” In a public statement on the eve of a 2006 summit on climate change, Reid predicted that violence and political conflict would become more likely as watersheds turn to deserts, glaciers melt and water supplies are poisoned. He went so far as to say that the global water crisis was becoming a global security issue and that Britain’s armed forces should be prepared to tackle conflicts, including warfare, over dwindling water sources. “**Such changes make the emergence of violent conflict more, rather than less, likely**,” former British prime minister Tony Blair told The Independent. “The blunt truth is that the lack of water and agricultural land is a significant contributory factor to the tragic conflict we see unfolding in Darfur. We should see this as a warning sign.” The Independent gave several other examples of regions of potential conflict. These include Israel, Jordan and Palestine, who all rely on the Jordan River, which is controlled by Israel; Turkey and Syria, where Turkish plans to build dams on the Euphrates River brought the country to the brink of war with Syria in 1998, and where Syria now accuses Turkey of deliberately meddling with its water supply; China and India, where the Brahmaputra River has caused tension between the two countries in the past, and where China’s proposal to divert the river is re-igniting the divisions; Angola, Botswana and Namibia, where disputes over the Okavango water basin that have flared in the past are now threatening to re-ignite as Namibia is proposing to build a threehundred- kilometer pipeline that will drain the delta; Ethiopia and Egypt, where population growth is threatening conflict along the Nile; and Bangladesh and India, where flooding in the Ganges caused by melting glaciers in the Himalayas is wreaking havoc in Bangladesh, leading to a rise in illegal, and unpopular, migration to India.

Water shortages controls the link to food, disease, oil, and conflict. Amdetsion[[22]](#footnote-22) ‘12

This deleterious decline in water levels can have debilitating effects across a wide spectrum of human activities. The **diminution of water** avail-able **for agriculture can lead to** increased **food insecurity**, while **less wa- ter for sanitation** **can accelerate** the spread of **diseases**. **Less water may** even **affect oil produc- tion** negatively, **since** large quantities of **water** are used **to lift oil out of wells**. In the region’s highly combustible en- vironment, intense **com- petition for water** resources **raises the specter of conflict** in the absence of basin-wide agreements. It also heightens the risk of prematurely depleting water resources.

## T

Plan meets definition outlined by the LOC. Meyer[[23]](#footnote-23) ‘14

Despite these advances, several challenges remain. **High levels of inequality have** **persisted** over the past 20 years. **The Gini coefficient**,51 which is used to measure income concentration, **has** barely moved since the mid-1990s, **declining from 0.54 to 0.53**. Although the Gini coefficient falls to 0.50 when taxes and government transfers are taken into account, it is well above the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) average of 0.31.52 Moreover, inter-generational **social mobility is low** by OECD standards, as the education system tends to replicate existing class disparities.53 **The OECD** maintains that “as the economy advances further, the **well-being of Chileans would benefit from** expanding access to high-quality education, health care, and efficient **social protection programmes**.”54 As noted above, President Piñera has implemented several incremental policy reforms designed to increase social mobility, and President-elect Bachelet has proposed a series of more far-reaching initiatives designed to reduce inequality and improve public services (see “Political Situation”).

Also consistent with the reasonability paradigm in the 1AC it’s included in the IMF Advanced Economiest List as developing, the World Bank’s Country Classifications as developing, and the World Economic Situatation and Prospects 2014 list[[24]](#footnote-24). I’m not going to read the list, but I shall enter this screencapture as evidence for the judge’s decision. I can also provide PDFs and online links.



## A2 Clean Tech CP

1. Perm do both- The National Congress of Chile and Argentina will *decide to* pass legislation banning mining operations in glacial and periglacial areas and will ensure a right to mine in areas external to those affected by the plan- solves because clean tech will still develop and spillover

2. Entire of the aff is solvency deficit

A. Timeframe. Company regulations and meaningful enforcement mechanisms are beyond the scope of CP fiat, so the counterplan takes far too long to solve. The aff is distinct because a national ban is enacted immediately by a legislative body.

B. Harms of the AC turn back the CP. Companies already pollute and violate current weak environmental law, so the CP makes the problem worse by allowing companies to continue operation. There’s no rational incentive for them to change since they are driven by the bottom line, whereas the aff uniquely solves because enforcement is included in normal means.

3. No UQ on the net benefit- already happens in the squo, plan does nothing to change that which proves permuation solves. Meyer[[25]](#footnote-25) ‘14

**The U**nited **S**tates **is** currently **working with Chile to overcome** the financial and technical **barriers that** have **prevent**ed **the country from taking advantage of its** vast wind, solar, tidal, and geothermal **energy potential**. In June 2009, under the umbrella of President Obama’s “Energy and Climate Partnership for the Americas,” **the U**nited **S**tates **and Chile** **signed a memorandum** of understanding **on cooperation in clean energy tech**nologies. As a result of the agreement, **the U.S. D**epartment **o**f **E**nergy **has provided support to** Chile’s Renewable Energy Center and two solar plant **pilot projects** in the Atacama Desert. **Future bilateral collaboration is likely** to involve biofuels, biomass, wind, and geothermal energy projects.87 In addition to supporting energy development in Chile, these technical cooperation initiatives provide those involved with information and best practices that can be applied in the United States.

## A2 Econ DA

Mining operations around Chilean glaciers have an especially high chance of cyanide spills. Fields[[26]](#footnote-26)

But according to a U.S. government mining expert who is familiar with the Pascua-Lama site and who asked not to be identified, the **altitude and terrain of the site present unique challenges. In more hospitable locales, even the most up-to-date acid mine drainage** prevention technologies, tailings holdings facilities, **and cyanide handling schemes have failed**, he says. In the past three decades, **several** tailings **dams** around the world **have collapsed, and many** more have **leaked leftover cyanide** and trace heavy metals leached from the ore. In some cases, even when enclosures have worked well, acid mine drainage has appeared from unanticipated spots outside the enclosures. For the Pascua-Lama operation, the source says, the company would need “great engineering” to prevent the environmental damage that hard-rock mines often inflict. Once the mine closes, he says, restoring the site will be especially difficult because ecosystems at such high altitudes are fragile and slow-growing. Besides dam failure, **there is the possibility of cyanide tanker trucks crashing into or near waterways, dumping hundreds of gallons of cyanide into bodies of water**. It is the prospect of just this kind of spill that most worries local residents, especially farmers, says Antonia Fortt, an environmental engineer at the Santiago office of Oceana, a Washington, DC–based environmental group. “On the Chilean side they are going to build their roads for the trucks of the mine just next to the river. These trucks will carry not just explosives and other materials, but also cyanide. We have had accidents with cyanide before, here in Chile,” she says. **“If we have a spill of cyanide, it would be** just a **disaster.”** Fortt also notes that the trip will be precarious **because of the mine’s extreme elevation; trucks will be pummeled by seasonal high winds near the summit.** Further, she says, the company’s plan to dump waste rock at the headwaters of the Estrecho River could be equally, albeit more gradually, damaging if the rocks start generating acid.

Cyanide spills cut off drinking water and devastate local economies by shutting down multiple industries. Popov et al[[27]](#footnote-27)

In mining, sodium cyanide is used to separate gold/silver from crushed ore. Problems occur during the transport of the cyanide when trucks have accidents on bad and winding roads, or when there are breaks in the walls of tailings ponds, such that cyanide enters watercourses. **Mine accidents involving cyanide spills result in devastating ecological effects**. Typically, **cyanide kills all life in the streams it enters for a considerable distance.** For example, **an accident** at a gold processing plant at Baia Mare **in Romania** in 2000 resulted in a major cyanide spill. Heavy snow followed by rain caused a tailings dam to break and large volumes of mine‐waste slurry and cyanide **entered** the river system. The contamination continued into the Danube, **a major river** in Eastern Europe flowing through many countries to the Black Sea. **Extensive fish kills** from the cyanide **were reported, not only from Romania but also from other countries downstream of the spill. Four weeks after the accident the cyanide** plume **was still measurable** in the Danube Delta, some **2,000km from the spill source.** Although an emergency response team worked constantly to repair the dam, enough cyanide was released during the spill to cause a major ecological catastrophe along the Tisza and Danube rivers. The spill killed over 1,200 tonnes of fish and hence endangered birds feeding on fish within a national park.6 In Hungary, **the spill** was reported to have caused a five kilometer carpet of dead fish and **left a quarter of the population without drinking water. There were also adverse impacts on local communities, economies and also tourism**, all **because of the lack of a fishing industry.**

Resource rich countries are plagued by economic and politic instability- multiple warrants. Beevers[[28]](#footnote-28)

As the Mozambican economy becomes increasingly dominated by the extractive resource sector, it is likely to have effects on the country’s economic structure. What I mean by this is that **developing countries that are heavily dependent on** exports of oil or other mineral **resources tend to** (paradoxically) **suffer from economic decline and political dysfunction. There is a fairly robust literature that suggests resource-dependent economies grow**th **more slowly than resource poor ones** partially **because [First] developing countries with global commodities tend to suffer from poor terms of trade, which undermines the local currency** (Sachs and Warner 2001; Easterly et al. 1993). Likewise, **[Second] once countries become dependent on resource revenues they become more sensitive to** the inevitable **“boom and bust” cycles that destabilize economies** in ways that can create political problems (Ross 1999). **Finally** evidence suggests that in resource dependent economies – to which Mozambique aspires — **[Third] economic growth often slows to a halt because profits are gradually captured by foreign companies and political elites with little of the revenue actually accruing to the government for investment in basic services** (health and education), state institutions, infrastructure and/or human capital (Ross 2003). For this reason, it is common for developing countries with natural resource-based economies to maintain high rates of poverty and infant mortality.

Turns and outweighs- I isolate long term conditions that makes economic collapse inevitable- his link evidence at best describes short term fluctuations which happen constantly- plan creates creating a mechanism for growth that overcomes a short shock from loss of extraction.

## A2 Artic Tradeoff DA

1. Uniqueness overwhelms the link. The aff’s Toomey evidence indicates regulations all over the world and the actions of state owned drilling companies are already driving private companies into the arctic. The aff plan adds one additional environmental regulation in Chile, which has a negligible marginal effect on incentives to explore the arctic.

2. No Link – Toomey talks about companies pursuing energy like oil. The plan only prevents access to resources like copper and gold. No evidence in the DA that companies will search for these minerals in the arctic.

3. No Internal Link – Toomey talks about incentives facing private drilling companies but the Rolgate and Ferrara card is about states fighting for resource claims.

4. No Internal Link – the Rogate-Ferrara evidence doesn’t say arctic military conflict will occur. It uses the term conflict to refer to competing interests over resource claims. No actual mention of a war breaking out in the card.

5. Nonunique – States are already militarizing the arctic and are committed to resource extraction in the region. Rogate and Ferrara 12 from the same article.

**Russia** is, without a doubt, the nation that **has most aggressively pursued** and defended its **interests in the Arctic**. In 2001 it became the first nation to submit a petition to the UN for the extension of its continental shelf. The request is still undergoing review from the UN Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, which is not an international court, but rather a body of technical experts tasked with arbitrating one of the most politically contentious issues in the field of modern international law. The commission initially stalled, asking Russia to provide additional evidence to support its claim. This enabled Russia to make headlines in 2007 by planting a steel flag on the seabed below the North Pole as part of a scientific fact-finding expedition, triggering protests from Canadian officials.33 Though the issue is still pending a final decision, it is evident that if the Russian claims were to be accepted, there would be a profound impact not just on Arctic politics, but also on global energy equilibriums. **Expanded Russian energy resources** progressively **would decrease the influence and power of the OPEC** cartel,34 and thus augment Russia’s position in the market. Moscow would then become the key player in the energy industry, thereby enhancing its global status. **This is part of Russia’s strategy for the Arctic,** published in 2008, **stressing the** paramount **importance of the region** in the effort to safeguard its long-run national interests.35 As one might expect, Russian ambitions are not without contest. **Canada also has sent several expeditions – some in collaboration with Denmark and the U.S.A**.36 – to the Arctic Circle over the last five years in the hope of establishing a claim over the underwater polar shelves. Canada is expected to submit its claim for extension of its continental shelf by 2013, as the Convention gives member nations a ten-year window from the moment of ratification to send their claims to the Commission, and Canada’s entry into the Convention took effect in 2003. Furthermore, the Harper government has reinforced the military presence in the ‘High North’ by employing new patrol vessels as well as inaugurating two training and logistics bases in an effort to better protect Canadian interests.37 **NATO** has proposed itself as the natural forum for the resolution of controversies involving the Arctic – four of the Arctic powers are NATO member states and a permanent dialogue with Russia was established in 2002 with the NATO-Russia Council – having defined the region as a political and security priority. The alliance **is also increasing its military activities in the region, leading to heightened militarization**. For example, NATO military exercises, with the contribution of Great Britain, Denmark, Canada, Netherlands, Norway, France, Sweden and the U.S. took place from the 12th to the 21st of March 2012.38 According to official reports, the focus is on practicing actions combining diplomatic overtures with military responses in relation to possible scenarios carrying a high risk for potential conflict. Such a flurry of activity being undertaken by NATO is not a coincidence, appearing to be in response to Russia’s increasing presence in the region. **The Russian government recently authorized the construction of new warships developed for the Arctic theater**, constituting the first steps in the overhaul of its aging Northern Fleet.39

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