

We affirm, and

Contention One is Multilateralism

[Chinese Ambassador to the EU Zhang Ming](#) explains that the goal of the Belt and Road is to build a global partnership based on connectivity and promote multilateralism through increased trade and infrastructure investment.

However, in the status quo, the BRI is failing.

[He Huifeng of the SCMP](#) quantifies that despite funding from many major financial institutions, there is still a funding gap of \$500 billion a year.

However, the EU has the power to revitalize the BRI and save multilateralism.

[Curtin 17](#) finds that developing the BRI requires no less than three trillion dollars, and that only the EU's cash investment is able to allow China to continue funding the BRI.

The impact is global prosperity. The benefits of Multilateralism are threefold.

First is economic growth: [The UN Deputy Secretary-General](#) corroborates that multilateral trading systems are essential to peace and prosperity, as trade is the fundamental building block of the modern economy, in that it creates jobs, promotes investment, spreads technological progress and lifts people from poverty.

Specifically, the [World Bank Group analyzes in 2019](#) that as a result of trade investment, globally 40 million people will be lifted out of poverty by the Belt and Road Initiative.

Second is world peace: [Professor of International Relations](#) D.C Copeland at the University of Virginia, finds that higher volumes of trade lowers likelihood of war. A key example of this occurring is Germany's entrance into WWI as a result of tariffs from other major nations.

[Bruce Russett of International Relations and Political Science at Yale](#), confirms this when he finds that economic interdependence via trade lessens the probability of a conflict by 43% on average.

Third is innovation: [Bill Gates](#), philanthropist and humanitarian, writes in 2018 that because countries can work together, multilateralism uniquely promotes global innovation.

This is critical, as according to the [National Bureau of Economic Research in 2013](#), Between 2000 and 2009, new therapies stemming from medical innovation accounted for 73 percent of the increased life expectancy in 30 developing and high-income countries.

Contention Two is EUnity

[Fred Kemp 19](#) finds that China is already consuming Europe one country at a time, in that Europe has lacked any unified policy of approach which allows China maximum leverage in negotiating with EU member countries, almost exclusively on a bilateral basis.

Unfortunately, This is causing the EU to splinter as [Ejik 19](#) finds that Italy recently joined the BRI, causing significant tensions within the EU.

This lack of coordination is shown in two ways:

First is politically: countries that join the BRI get swayed politically by China

[AP News 19](#) finds that Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, whose own government often has been criticized for anti-democratic policies, says Hungary's relations with China should be based on "mutual respect." Hungary last year did not sign an EU report criticizing China's human rights record and business policies.

They further that after Bosnia signed a loan from China to expand a 600 dollar coal plant, the EU warned that the move could prevent Bosnia from joining the EU because the agreement violates EU's environmental rules.

Second is Economically: Currently, China is slamming the EU on a per country basis as Kemp continues China comes to the table with the full weight of six times more GDP than that of Italy

However, the EU counters this, as the EU GDP alone of more than \$17.3 trillion eclipses the \$12.2 trillion of Beijing, acting as the perfect counterbalance.

When the EU functions as an entire bloc, China won't be able to force its way as [Eric Hyer](#) writes that China has historically been willing to compromise and establish legitimate boundaries through negotiations, often choosing strategic economic relationships over other ambitions.

The impact is two-pronged:

First, China would reduce carbon emissions:

[the European Commission](#) said in 2019 that they want to hold China accountable for their carbon output.

[Rapier of Forbes 18](#) finds that “should recent trends continue, China will be responsible for the most atmospheric carbon dioxide in less than 20 years.”

Therefore, it is crucial that the EU works to reduce China’s emissions

All reductions in climate change are necessary, as [Science Daily 18](#) reports that by increasing disasters and insect activity, every 1 degree rise in warming drops crop yields by up to 25 percent.

Thus, [UPI 18](#) concludes action against climate change can save 153 million lives.

Second is human rights:

[Kraus 19](#) says that “currently, upwards of 1 million people from the Uighur and Kazakh are being forcibly held in “reeducation” camps organized by the CCP.

[Enos 18](#) tells us “Chinese government authorities long have persecuted the more than 11 million Uighurs in the region, collectivizing them and bulldozing their residences.

The EU has also expressed that their willingness to work with China depends on whether or not they implement environmental and human rights reforms.

Thus, we affirm.

F2 Climate Change Inevitable

[Ambrose Pritchard of the Sydney Morning Herald](#) corroborates that last year, total BRI investments fell 40% as a result of a diminishing surplus funds coupled with stagnant international investment.