

Corona **affirms**, Resolved: The United States federal government should increase its quota of H-1B visas.

### **Our first contention is Dreaming Small**

Increasing the H-1B quota would empower small businesses in four ways

#### **First, educational empowerment.**

[Stratford](#) of Inside Higher Ed writes in 2013 that financial aid is limited, forcing students to take loans. Fortunately, the [Murthy Law Firm](#) explains that corporations pay visa fees for H-1B workers to address labor shortages, funding \$2.3 billion in college scholarships in the past decade. Increasing the quota enhances these education grants. [Ambrose](#) of PSU impacts that a 2.7% decrease in student loans increases small business formation by 12% because loans prevent individuals from ever having the foundational capital for a business.

#### **Second, spurring innovation.**

The [National Foundation for American Policy](#) writes in 2008 that H-1B workers are incredibly innovative because they are highly skilled, creating and expanding small businesses. [Bhattacharyya](#) of the Hindustan Times writes in 2010 that this continues after they get a green card because they often create their own startups, creating 450,000 jobs and \$52 billion in sales.

#### **Third, evening the lottery.**

[CNBC](#) writes in 2015 that 44% of small businesses reported having few or no qualified applicants for job openings.. Problematically, [Preston](#) of the New York Times writes in 2015 that outsourcing companies flood the lottery system with thousands of applications, severely reducing chances for small businesses to get an H-1B. All proposals to increase H-1B visas would allow almost every applicant to get a visa, including small businesses.

#### **Fourth, counterbalancing L-1 visas.**

[Costa](#) of the Economic Policy Institute writes in 2010 that employers use L-1 visas to circumvent the H-1B visa limits, allowing them to bring in the same skilled labor. The [SGM Law Group](#) clarifies that L-1 visas are only available to transnational companies. Ultimately, [Bier](#) of Forbes concludes that the low H-1b quota gives an unfair advantage to transnational companies because they can access L-1s while small businesses can't.

For these four warrants, [Schafer](#) of INC explains that the **only** barrier preventing small businesses from competing with these large businesses is skilled workers, because technology has evened the playing field everywhere else.

#### **The impact is America Works.**

[Stacey](#) of BBVA Research quantifies in 2016 that small businesses hire at a rate 2.5 times greater than large businesses. Thus, [Nell](#) of the Heritage Foundation quantifies in 2008 that every H-1B

worker creates 4 new American jobs. [Karnani](#) of the University of Michigan explains in 2011 that employment opportunities provide for the means to escape the cycle of poverty.

### **Our second contention is Ensuring American Primacy.**

Raising the H-1B quota entrenches American Primacy in two ways.

#### **First, preventing outsourcing of innovation.**

[Ghosh](#) of Mashable writes in 2018 that when companies can't attract needed labor with H-1Bs, they shift skilled employment opportunities overseas. Thus, [Privett](#) of Duke University confirms in 2011 that the **primary** reason for offshoring jobs is no longer cost-cutting for high-skilled labor, but a shortage of skilled workers. Indeed, the [NFAP](#) quantifies that when faced with a lack of H-1Bs, 65% of companies outsource the jobs overseas. [Pisano](#) of the Harvard Business Review impacts in 2009 that this offshoring undermines domestic labor markets, blunting American innovation and international competitiveness in the high-skilled economic sectors that preserve American economic primacy, like the development of intellectual property.

#### **Second, attracting top talent.**

[Alden](#) of the World Politics Review writes in 2010 that our low H-1B quota kills American competitiveness as more high-skilled immigrants stay abroad because of the lack of visas in America. Should the status quo continue, he furthers that China and India will surpass American primacy not just in science but across the political sphere, concluding that our current immigration quota is a policy of "national suicide". Thus, by increasing the quota, America ensures it can bring in the ideas of the brightest minds all over the world, preserving its fragile status as the leader in science and entrepreneurship.

#### **The impact is a path forward.**

[Rose](#) of the Council on Foreign Relations writes in 2013 that American primacy facilitates cooperation by creating the framework for communication and preventing diverging national interests from shattering multilateral efforts. Ultimately, [Jeffrey Sachs](#) of Columbia University writes that the largest issues like global poverty are too broad to be handled without cooperation. **He** furthers that the world has the requisite resources and technology, but needs the political will to come together and forge a solution. However, [Graebner](#) of the Virginia Quarterly Review impacts that every economic, multilateral agreement like the IMF and the WTO were spearheaded and are enforced by US efforts containing other countries. Critically, [Powell](#) of the New York Times writes that international efforts like the IMF are able to disperse economic prosperity globally.

**Thus, we affirm.**



## Case Cards:

Stratford. "Colleges slow tuition growth, but financial aid is not keeping pace, report shows." Insidehighered.com. 23 Oct. 2013. Web. 26 Apr. 2018.

<<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2013/10/23/colleges-slow-tuition-growth-financial-aid-not-keeping-pace-report-shows>>

Even though colleges have slowed the rate at which they raise tuition, the **total grant aid available** to students **has not been able to keep pace with tuition growth**, according to [two reports](#) released Wednesday by the College Board. Public four-year institutions, after years of sharp increases, raised in-state tuition by only 2.9 percent this year, the smallest one-year increase in more than 30 years. Private, nonprofit four-year colleges increased their sticker price tag by 3.8 percent, which is slightly lower than recent tuition hikes.

Murthy Law Firm. "Report on \$3 Billion in H1B Employer Fees - Murthy Law Firm | U.S Immigration Law." Murthy Law Firm | U.S Immigration Law. 8 Apr. 2011. Web. 26 Apr. 2018.

<<https://www.murthy.com/2011/04/08/report-on-3-billion-in-h1b-employer-fees/>>

The American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act (ACWIA) established what is commonly referred to as the "training fee." **This fee is currently set at a level of \$1500 for companies with more than 25 employees; the fee is reduced to \$750 for companies with 25 employees or fewer.** **This payment must accompany most H1B petitions. The amount collected, totaling more than \$2.3 billion between fiscal years 2000 and 2011, is used for funding training and scholarships for U.S. workers.** The report cites a statistic from the National Science Foundation (NSF) that a portion of **these funds has been used for 58,000 college scholarships for U.S. students in the fields of science and math.**

Ambrose, Brent W.. "The Impact of Student Loan Debt on Small Business Formation." Pennsylvania State University. 1 Jul. 2015. Web. 26 Apr. 2018.

<[https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=2633951](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2633951)>

Table 5 also reports the marginal effect of an increase of one standard deviation in the relative use of student debt for the counties segmented by whether relative rank for student debt usage increased, remained constant, or decreased.<sup>8</sup> Counties that moved up in the ranking of student debt usage saw student debt as a percentage of total debt increase 6.7% (from 2% in 1999 to 8.7% in 2009, on average) with a standard deviation of 2.7%. Thus, for the small firm category, we see that the marginal impact of an increase of one standard deviation in the growth in relative student debt (from a 6.7% increase to a 9.4% increase) in these counties results in a decrease of about 17% in the number of new small businesses (from 284 to 235). In contrast, counties that declined in the rankings of student debt usage, on average, experienced an increase in relative student debt use of 2.5% (from 3.4% in 1999 to 5.9% in 2009) with a standard deviation of 2.7%. Thus, **the marginal effect of an increase of one standard deviation in the relative student debt use (from 2.5% to 5.2%) results in a decrease of 12% in the number of net firms (from 737 to 649).** Thus, the comparisons in predicted net firms contained in Table 5 clearly show that relatively small differences in student debt use across counties can have a large impact on small business formation, affirming our central hypothesis that the growth in student debt has curtailed access to personal debt, which is a critical source of capital necessary to the formation of new small businesses.

National Foundation for American Policy. "H-1B Visas and Job Creation." NFAP. Mar. 2008. Web. 26 Apr. 2018. <<http://www.nfap.com/pdf/080311h1b.pdf>>

While no technology company in the 2005 S&P 500 can properly be called small, not all were large in 2001, and even in 2005 total employment ranged from less than 1,000 to 366,000 workers. Over this sample, H-1B certifications are most strongly associated with employment increases for smaller companies (see figure on next page). For firms with fewer than 5,000 employees, **each H-1B position requested in labor condition applications was associated with an increase of employment of 7.5 workers** compared to 4.7 additional workers at firms employing between 5,000 and 10,000 workers.<sup>5</sup> Looking just at the most recent year in the data, 2005, an H-1B certification was associated with 10.7 more workers for firms with less than 10,000 employees, with 5.4 additional workers for firms with between 5,000 and 10,000 workers, and 4.0 additional workers for firms with greater than 10,000 workers. **If smaller firms are more likely to be involved in job-**

**creating innovation, then that may explain why H-1Bs are more important to employment growth in such firms.**

This study looked only at S&P 500 companies, so it is not possible to say whether H-1Bs have an even stronger association with growth at startups and smaller technology companies.

Anirudh Bhattacharyya. "US needs best and brightest migrants." <https://www.hindustantimes.com/>. 3 Jul. 2010. Web. 26 Apr. 2018. <<https://www.hindustantimes.com/world/us-needs-best-and-brightest-migrants/story-Wm5pUXh1wL2eaSoWHkQZuN.html>>

H1Bs is main pipeline by which technology workers get green cards, **many** of whom in turn **become entrepreneurs.**

According to research by Vivek Wadhwa, a former tech entrepreneur himself, and AnnaLee Saxenian, a Professor at the University of California — Berkeley, in 2005 **start-ups founded by immigrants produced \$52 billion in sales and employed nearly 450,000 workers.** Of these, 26 per cent of the key founders of engineering and technology startups were born in India. That translates to Indian immigrants creating more than 100,000 jobs within one decade. Obama's speech came in the wake of tougher anti-illegal immigrant laws in states like Arizona. While Indians comprise just two per cent of illegals in the country, at around 200,000, their numbers have increased by nearly two-third within the last decade, according to a recent Department of Homeland Security report.

CNBC. "Survey shows growing US shortage of skilled labor." CNBC. 20 Jul. 2015. Web. 27 Apr. 2018. <<https://www.cnbc.com/2015/07/20/survey-shows-growing-us-shortage-of-skilled-labor.html>>

"The panel reports markedly increased shortages in the July survey, especially of skilled labor," said survey Chairman Jim Duffley, who is also a senior director at IHS Economics.

The NABE survey is the latest to suggest a tightening labor market. Early in July, the National Federation of Independent Business said that **44 percent of small businesses looking to hire** that month **reported few or no qualified applicants** for positions they were trying to fill.

American Immigration Council. "The H-1B Visa Program" American Immigration Council. Apr. 2018. Web. 26 Apr. 2018. <[https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/sites/default/files/research/the\\_h-1b\\_visa\\_program\\_a\\_primer\\_on\\_the\\_program\\_and\\_its\\_impact\\_on\\_jobs\\_wages\\_and\\_the\\_economy.pdf](https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/sites/default/files/research/the_h-1b_visa_program_a_primer_on_the_program_and_its_impact_on_jobs_wages_and_the_economy.pdf)>

What is the annual H-1B visa "lottery"?

Over the past several years, USCIS has received a greater number of petitions than there are visa numbers

available because the annual cap for H-1B visas does not meet the current demand for high-skilled workers. **If the cap is hit** during the first five business days, **USCIS conducts a lottery to determine which employers' petitions for H-1B workers will be processed.**<sup>7</sup>

Julia Preston. "Large Companies Game H-1B Visa Program, Costing the U.S. Jobs." New York Times. 11 Nov. 2015. Web. 27 Apr. 2018. <<https://www.nytimes.com/2015/11/11/us/large-companies-game-h-1b-visa-program-leaving-smaller-ones-in-the-cold.html>>

The answer was simple: Many of **the visas are given out through a lottery**, and a small number of giant global **outsourcing companies** had **flooded the system with applications, significantly increasing their chances of success.** While he had one application in last year's lottery and lost, one of the outsourcing companies applied for at least 14,000. The companies were squeezing out American employers like his boss.

Costa. Economic Policy Institute. "Abuses in the L-Visa Program: Undermining the U.S. Labor Market." Economic Policy Institute. n.d. Web. 26 Apr. 2018. <[https://www.epi.org/publication/abuses\\_in\\_the\\_l-visa\\_program\\_undermining\\_the\\_us\\_labor\\_market/](https://www.epi.org/publication/abuses_in_the_l-visa_program_undermining_the_us_labor_market/)>

These questions have not been adequately addressed in any forum. This paper explores some of the issues surrounding these questions, by surveying the publicly available data, news articles, laws and regulations, congressional testimony, governmental reports, and investigations regarding the L-visa program. The paper finds that there is a clear lack of data available to both the public and the United States government that could facilitate an assessment of the program's impact on the U.S. labor market. Also, various reports and congressional testimony have cited the program's susceptibility to abuse, often due to overly broad definitions of key statutory and regulatory terms. Finally, **the lack of a labor market test, minimum wage requirements, or any numerical cap on L-1 and L-2 visas allows multi-national companies to circumvent the numerical restrictions and labor certification and attestation required by the H-1B class of temporary work visa, which in turn can lead to the displacement and replacement of workers already in the United States, while also placing downward pressure on wages for all workers.** In conclusion, the paper assesses current legislative proposals for reforming the L-visa program and offers a series of policy recommendations for its improvement.

SGM Immigration Law Group. "L1 vs H1B Visa Comparison | Differences & Advantages." SGM Immigration Law Group. 10 Nov. 2014. Web. 27 Apr. 2018. <<http://www.immi-usa.com/l1-versus-h1b-visas/>>

The petition process varies significantly between the H1B visa and L1 visa.

**Only multinational companies qualify for L1 visas.** This status is for individuals who have a prior work history with the company but live in a foreign country. An L1 visa must be filed by an intra-company transferee which means that the individual was employed for an entire year (within the past three years before filing the L1 visa petition). **If this consideration is not met, or the enterprise is not multinational, an L1 visa is no longer a viable option.**

Bier. "H1-B Visa Quotas Greatly Restrain Small Business Expansion." Forbes. 17 Jun. 2012. Web. 27 Apr. 2018. <<https://www.forbes.com/sites/realspin/2012/06/17/h1-b-visa-quotas-greatly-restrain-small-business-expansion/>>

**Multinational firms** do not always need to leave the U.S. to hire the workers they want—they can also **use an L-1 visa to bring workers** from their foreign offices **to a U.S. site for up to seven years**, or they can use a B-1 visa to conduct short-term activities like holding business conferences. While **these options are unavailable to most small firms and start-ups, the best response** to such inequality isn't to restrain multinationals, but **to open competition for all American businesses by eliminating H-1B restrictions.**

Sarah Schafer. "How Information Technology Is Leveling the Playing Field." INC. n.d. Web. 27 Apr. 2018. <<https://www.inc.com/magazine/19951215/2660.html>>

Competing with big business is easier than ever now that IT is so affordable. Ten years ago, purchasing a high-powered computer system could set a small company back half a year's revenues. Today, \$2,000 for a PC is a small — perhaps minuscule — investment, even for a one-person operation. Marketing dollars, too, go much further with technology. With a \$2,600 laser printer, a two-store grocery chain can create ads that rival those of Kmart Corp., and for just a few hundred dollars, a storefront company can throw up a home page on the World Wide Web.

With the odds evening out, it's lack of brains, not brawn, that poses the real threat for small businesses. As U.S. Secretary of Labor Robert Reich tells us, **the biggest handicap for small businesses that are trying to compete is not revenues or global reach but a shortage of people trained in IT.**

Herewith the thoughts of five entrepreneurs on how IT helps them mind the store, keep up on the latest news, stay on top of a busy household, and live in the boonies while conducting business halfway around the world.

Boyd Nash-Stacey 16, Economist at BBVA Compass, MA in Economics from the University of Houston, 6/22/2016, Running on fumes: remaining gap in Beveridge Curve a matter of structural forces, [https://www.bbva-research.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/160622\\_US\\_EW\\_RunningOnFumes.pdf](https://www.bbva-research.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/160622_US_EW_RunningOnFumes.pdf)

This finding has substantial implication for the health of the broader economy given the fact that **small and new firms are the dominant force in net job creation in the U.S.; whereas, larger (500+ employees) and older (11+ years) firms are historically net job destroyers.** Moreover, startups and **small businesses hire at a rate** between 1 to **2.5 times higher than older and larger firms.** Labor-intensive service sectors such as retail also have persistently higher levels of hiring, in some cases 50-75% higher than other sectors. More specifically, **startup hiring rates in industries such as finance and insurance, manufacturing and information are 380%, 330% and 270% higher,** respectively, than their industry peers. Small and young firms in arts and entertainment, agriculture and accommodation hire at rates 200%-400% higher than the national average. Research has also shown that only 3% of businesses can be classified as "high growth businesses," but they are responsible for a disproportionate share of growth. **Moreover, small businesses are essential parts of U.S. supply chains given that can lower logistical costs, are nimble problem solvers and are better equipped to partner on joint innovations.**

Nell, Guinevere. "More H-1B Visas, More American Jobs, A Better Economy | The Heritage Foundation." The Heritage Foundation. 26 Apr. 2018. Web. 27 Apr. 2018.  
<<https://www.heritage.org/immigration/report/more-h-1b-visas-more-american-jobs-better-economy>>

This is not just a theoretical problem. Research shows that technology companies hire five new workers for each H-1B visa for which they apply.[7] **On average, the skills of each highly skilled H-1B worker support the jobs four Americans. Keeping the H-1B cap at 65,000 comes at the expense of hundreds of thousands of American jobs.**

Karnani. "Reducing Poverty through Employment" MIT Press. 18 Jul. 2011. Web. 27 Apr. 2018.  
<[https://www.mitpressjournals.org/doi/pdf/10.1162/INOV\\_a\\_00071](https://www.mitpressjournals.org/doi/pdf/10.1162/INOV_a_00071)>

Widespread poverty is an urgent challenge for the world. The starting point for addressing this challenge is the simple and obvious observation that the primary problem of the poor is that they have a low income. As the above parable indicates, **the best way to alleviate poverty is to increase the income of the poor by providing productive employment. It is necessary to view the poor as producers and emphasize buying from them.** Many of the current approaches to poverty alleviation miss this simple point.

Ghosh, Sayari. "If You Really Want to Put 'America First,' Support Tech Industry Immigrants." Mashable. Mashable, 21 February 2018. Web. Accessed 21 April 2018.  
<<https://mashable.com/2018/02/21/immigrants-tech-industry-h1b-visas/#5DA2The1A5q1>>

At many tech employers — and countless other companies where tech provides infrastructure behind a non-technical product — in Silicon Valley, **up to half of employees** could disappear. More than 40,000 companies submitted H-1B visa applications in fiscal year 2016. How would companies like Microsoft, Google, Amazon, and Apple continue to thrive? How would firms like Accenture, Deloitte, Ernst & Young, and JP Morgan Chase continue to excel? (All of these companies are among the **top employers of H-1B visa holders.**)

Who would backfill these 750,000 vacant jobs? We already know there is a **huge gap** between tech jobs and available employees. If you care about the number of women in STEM jobs, brace yourself for those numbers to plummet: South Asian or East Asian women are **overrepresented in the software industry** relative to their white peers. **Without enough qualified domestic employees, employers will send projects sent overseas. If we send 750,000 tech workers home, it's far more likely that the jobs will follow them back to India and China via outsourcing; the dollars will simply flow beyond U.S. borders altogether. International graduate**

students — who provide an important pillar of higher education as teaching assistants and research associates — would think twice about heading for U.S. universities, given such a hostile job market. So much for "making American great again."

Chris Privett. "Primary reason for offshoring jobs is shortage of skilled workers." Duke University. 21 Jan. 2011. Web. 27 Apr. 2018. <<https://phys.org/news/2011-01-primary-offshoring-jobs-shortage-skilled.html>>

### **Most American companies engaged in offshoring say a shortage of skilled domestic employees -- not cost cutting -- is the primary reason why they move some job functions overseas.**

Also, manufacturers and high-tech/telecommunication companies are less likely to establish offshore operations and are moving increasingly toward the use of third-party providers of offshore labor.

These are among the findings of the sixth annual study on corporations' offshoring trends by the Center for International Business Education and Research's Offshoring Research Network (ORN) at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business and The Conference Board, an independent research association. The study is part of ongoing research into the effects of offshoring trends on American competitiveness and reflects the sentiments of business managers.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR AMERICAN POLICY "H-1B VISAS AND JOB CREATION." NFAP. Mar. 2008. Web. 27 Apr. 2018. <<http://www.nfap.com/pdf/080311h1b.pdf>>

Among the results of the survey: Outsourcing and Hiring More Individuals Outside the United States. Preventing companies from hiring foreign nationals by maintaining the current low limit on H-1B visas is likely to produce the unintended consequence of pushing more work to other countries. **When asked, "Which of the following your company has done in response to the lack of H-1B visas to fill positions in the U.S.?" 65 percent of the companies said they "Hired more people (or outsourced work) outside the United States."** This is significant in that even if those companies responding to the survey are heavier users of H-1B visas it means that these are the companies most likely to hire outside the United States in response to an insufficient supply of skilled visas for foreign nationals. Delaying or Changing Plans for Projects. Forty-six percent of companies said they "delayed or changed plans for projects" in response to the lack of H-1B visas. Thirty-eight percent responded that they "needed to alter the plans, location or growth of a product or service" due to the lack of H-1Bs. Inability to Fill Positions Affecting Competitiveness. Seventy-four percent of company respondents said an inability to fill positions because of the lack of H-1B visas has potentially affected their "company's competitiveness against foreign competitors or in international markets."

Edward Alden [Alden is a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, and was co-director of the CFR Independent Task Force on U.S. Trade and Investment Policy.], 7-27-2010, <https://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/articles/6142/u-s-losing-ground-in-competitive-immigration//JY>

"**There's no question** in my mind that over the past decade **the U.S. has become a less attractive place for highly educated immigrants to settle,**" AnnaLee Saxenian, dean of the School of Information at Berkeley and an expert on immigration into Silicon Valley, recently told the Fiscal Times. "My foreign graduate students used to assume that they would stay here after graduation. . . . Now they say, 'I can go home and live like a king in India.'" **The implications of such trends for the United States are worrisome.** As Jacob Funk Kirkegaard has highlighted, the United States **faces a real decline in the number of highly educated workers** -- those holding master's, professional and doctoral degrees -- as the baby boom generation moves into retirement, and the U.S. education system has failed to respond. Educated foreigners have helped to fill the gap, but **the growing international competition for such immigrants will make it harder for the U.S. to plug that hole.** *The worst-case scenario would be a debilitating loss of America's edge in scientific and technological innovation, with consequences* not only for the economy but *for U.S. military dominance as well.* Numerous reports generated by the country's scientific establishment have warned of that danger, and some in the military are paying serious attention. Gordon England, the former deputy defense secretary during the Bush administration, warned, "The greatest long-term threat to U.S. national security is not terrorists wielding a nuclear or biological weapon, but the erosion of America's place as a world leader in science and technology."

Rose, Gideon. "Masters of International Relations." Google Books. n.d. Web. 27 Apr. 2018. <[https://books.google.com/books/about/Masters\\_of\\_International\\_Relations.html?id=5cJIAQAAQBAJ](https://books.google.com/books/about/Masters_of_International_Relations.html?id=5cJIAQAAQBAJ)>



## **CREATING COOPERATION**

What goes for the global economy goes for other forms of international cooperation. Here, too, American leadership benefits many countries but disproportionately helps the United States. In order to counter transnational threats, such as terrorism, piracy, organized crime, climate change, and pandemics, states have to work together and take collective action. But cooperation does not come about effortlessly, especially when national interests diverge. The United States' military efforts to promote stability and its broader leadership make it easier for Washington to launch joint initiatives and shape them in ways that reflect U.S. interests. After all, cooperation is hard to come by in regions where chaos reigns, and it flourishes where leaders can anticipate

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lasting stability.

U.S. alliances are about security first, but they also provide the political framework and channels of communication for cooperation on nonmilitary issues. NATO, for example, has spawned new institutions, such as the Atlantic Council, a think tank, that make it easier for Americans and Europeans to talk to one another and do business. Likewise, consultations with allies in East Asia spill over into other policy issues; for example, when American diplomats travel to Seoul to manage the military alliance, they also end up discussing the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Thanks to conduits such as this, the United States can use bargaining chips in one issue area to make progress in others.

The benefits of these communication channels are especially pronounced when it comes to fighting the kinds of threats that require new forms of cooperation, such as terrorism and pandemics. With its alliance system in place, the United States is in a stronger position than it would otherwise be to advance cooperation and share burdens. For example, the intelligence-sharing network within NATO, which was originally designed to gather information on the Soviet Union, has been adapted to deal with terrorism. Similarly, after a tsunami in the Indian Ocean devastated surrounding countries in 2004, Washington had a much easier time orchestrating a fast humanitarian response with Australia, India, and Japan, since their militaries were already comfortable working with one another. The operation did wonders for the United States' image in the region.

Norman Graebner. "Defining America's Role In A Unipolar World." Virginia Quarterly Review. 2001. Web. 27 Apr. 2018. <<https://www.vqronline.org/essay/defining-america%E2%80%99s-role-unipolar-world>>

Whatever its limited role in eliminating the 20th century's Nazi and Communist assaults on Western civilization, the United States, between 1945 and 1989, provided most of the military power that stabilized the Cold War confrontation across Europe, even as its economic power underwrote an era of unprecedented prosperity. In the process, the United States set an admirable standard of international leadership. Such **creations as the Marshall plan, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and the West German State**—all fundamental to the remarkable stabilization of continental Europe—**were the product of months of imaginative diplomacy among the United States, Great Britain, and the powers of Europe. What underwrote much of the postwar American-led international order were such multilateral institutions as the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.** Together, **these institutions, with the restraints they imposed, created a stable,**

**agreeable environment which promoted the interests of all.** At the same time, the rule-based structure of international cooperation minimized the possibilities of American hegemonic dictation. Historian Geir Lundestad aptly defined the American-led postwar order as "an empire of consent." At least in its early years, it comprised the greatest diplomatic triumph in U.S. history.

Colin Powell. "The IMF, the World Bank and the WTO Are Helping." New York Times. 2 May 2001. Web. 27 Apr. 2018. <<https://www.nytimes.com/2001/05/02/opinion/the-imf-the-world-bank-and-the-wto-are-helping.html>>

The IMF and the World Bank and now the WTO are not just about exchange rates, financing infrastructure projects, eliminating trade barriers and structural reform. No. Fundamentally, these instruments are about securing the blessings of liberty and prosperity for more and more ordinary human beings on this planet who wonder if society is there for them.

Of course, 57 years ago at Bretton Woods, no one was talking about globalization. But that is what they were discussing in reality, globalization in its basic sense, an interconnected world in which national identity and sovereignty are preserved but in which all countries work together to meet challenges and harvest opportunities, from which no country working alone can derive full advantage.

Globalization, free trade, open markets, the technology revolution, economic and political reforms — the potential they hold for humankind is incredible, and the Bretton Woods institutions and the WTO can help the world's people realize it.

## **First, evening the lottery.**

[CNBC](#) writes in 2015 that 44% of small businesses reported having few or no qualified applicants for a position they were trying to fill. Moreover, the [American Immigration Council](#) writes in 2018 that when the quota is filled, the government uses a lottery system for H-1B visas. This is problematic as [O'Brien](#) of CNN explains in 2017 that small businesses are dissuaded from applying for H-1B visas, despite necessity, because they don't want to pay the visa fee given that they have a very small probability of actually getting the worker. Thankfully, [Wong](#) of NASDAQ explains in 2013 that expanding the H-1B quota would even this playing field.

Fortunately, [Rosenberg](#) of the Associated Press writes in 2015 that raising the quota increases the chances of a small business getting the employee they need.

## **BIG FRONTLINE:**

### **A2 Big companies always crowd out**

Sarah Schafer. "How Information Technology Is Leveling the Playing Field." Inc.com. n.d. Web. 9 Apr. 2018. <<https://www.inc.com/magazine/19951215/2660.html>>

**Competing with big business is easier than ever now that IT is so affordable.** Ten years ago, purchasing a high-powered computer system could set a small company back half a year's revenues. Today, \$2,000 for a PC is a small -- perhaps minuscule -- investment, even for a one-person operation. Marketing dollars, too, go much further with technology. With a \$2,600 laser printer, a two-store grocery chain can create ads that rival those of Kmart Corp., and for just a few hundred dollars, a storefront company can throw up a home page on the World Wide Web.

**With the odds evening out, it's lack of brains, not brawn, that poses the real threat for small businesses.** As U.S. Secretary of Labor Robert Reich tells us, **the biggest handicap for small businesses that are trying to compete is not revenues or global reach but a shortage of people trained in IT.**

### **disincentivizing acquisitions.**

[Nager](#) of the ITIF writes in 2015 that there are 2 technology jobs available for every qualified worker, creating a massive shortage. [Wiseman](#) of USA Today writes in 2014 that this shortage forces large businesses towards acquiring smaller businesses to obtain skilled employees. When the large companies buy up small businesses, it inherently kills the small business. Simultaneously, [Conyon](#) of the CRG quantifies that acquisitions decrease employment by 19%.