# Stacked Aff

## Cases

### Cut Version

### Contention 1 is Econ

#### Uncertainty is climbing

Maria Tadeo of Bloomberg, 11-23-2017 [Spain's Economy to Count the Cost If Catalan Crisis Continues, https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-11-23/spain-s-economy-to-count-the-cost-if-catalan-crisis-continues, 1-12-2018]

Spain’s economy is going to pay a price for Catalonia’s bid for independence. While Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy has stepped in to take over the region, upcoming Catalan elections could prove another flashpoint for the independence movement. For Oxford Economics, that means lingering uncertainty, posing a risk to sentiment, share prices and bonds. In their worst-case scenario, Spain’s expansion would be weaker and the economy would be 17 billion euros ($20 billion) smaller in 2019 than would otherwise have been the case. That “adverse” view – not Oxford’s central projection – assumes a permanent increase in bond yields of 50 basis points and a 10 percent decline in stocks in 2018 and 2019 compared with its baseline scenario. “The economic impact of the Catalan independence crisis is still unknown, but the increased political tensions have already caused uncertainty to surge to the highest levels in over a decade,” Senior Eurozone Economist Angel Talavera said. The Catalan crisis erupted on Oct. 1 when the former regional government held an illegal referendum on independence that it claimed as a mandate to declare independence from Spain. Rajoy responded by invoking constitutional powers to disband Catalonia’s government, dissolve its parliament and call regional elections for Dec. 21. As hundreds of companies, led by CaixaBank SA, move their legal headquarters out of the area, Economy Minister Luis de Guindos has warned that the crisis is taking its toll on both the Catalan and Spanish economies. Spain’s benchmark IBEX 35 stock index has dropped about 3.5 percent since the end of September while the spread on 10-year Spanish debt over German bonds is little changed. Oxford’s analysis also takes account of a so-called economic policy uncertainty index, which measures the number of news articles that contains the word “uncertainty” and related terms in Spain’s main newspapers as a gauge for political risk. It exceeded levels seen in 2016, when Spain was struggling to form a government, and household and business confidence will suffer if levels remain high, according to Talavera. Even so, his base case is still for the economic impact of the Catalan crisis to be limited, with growth of 2.6 percent next year and 2.4 percent in 2019. His adverse scenario of prolonged tensions in Catalonia would see a weaker expansion of 1.5 percent next year and then 2 percent.

#### Businesses are leaving

Amanda Erickson of Washington Post, 11-30-2017 [Since Catalonia’s independence vote, 2,700 businesses have moved their headquarters, https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2017/11/30/since-catalonias-independence-vote-2700-businesses-have-moved-their-headquarters/?utm\_term=.fdea4e6fca7f, 1-12-2018]

If Catalonia's bid for independence goes through, it'll change everything about how companies there do business. Catalonia won't be a member of the European Union. It might not even be in the euro zone. The region would need a currency, rules on immigration and newly negotiated trade deals. And those arrangements won't be easy to come by. Spain has already made it clear that it won't negotiate with Catalonia. The European Union has been leery to suggest a relationship as well. In theory, independence was supposed to make the region more prosperous. But the October referendum — and Spain's subsequent takeover — has left businesses nervous. Since the vote, more than 2,700 firms have moved their headquarters from the region, according to Spain's commercial registrar's office, the Agence France-Presse reported. That list includes major banks like Caixabank and Sabadell, along with small and medium firms. [Catalonia has always been distinct. Why is it part of Spain?] Many of these shifts are administrative. But they may be the first step to relocating staff and production. As AFP explains: “While tensions have eased somewhat since Spain's central government last month took direct control of the Northeast region and has scheduled regional elections in December, many businesses in Catalonia still feel the need to guard against uncertainty.” One businessman, who owns a small wine and spirits shop, explained that his sales have plunged 30 percent since Catalonia's referendum. In response, he's set up a duplicate distribution firm in Madrid. His products will still be produced in Catalonia, but they will have a Madrid address. “We won't sell anymore if we don't do this,” he said. “This is a decision you take when you have no other choice.” He, like other business executives, requested anonymity in the AFP report because of the sensitivity of the subject. Another drug distribution company is moving from Barcelona to Seville. “Patients say 'give me a product that is not Catalan.' This has never happened before,” the company's director told AFP. That shift is also designed to ensure the company remains within the European Union's legal framework. “We would go bankrupt because the medicines we import would be subject to customs duties,” he said. [Catalonia poses a real crisis for both Spain and Europe] Today's WorldView What's most important from where the world meets Washington Sign up Fear of boycott is a common theme among companies that have moved, Enric Rius, a tax expert who has helped several companies make the move, told the AFP. And that anger goes both ways. When Catalonia's big banks decided to leave Barcelona, Aleix Pons i Coll, vice president of mutual insurance firm Previsio, felt “anger and pain.” He said he'll look for other options to do business. “Even reluctantly we may decide to no longer work with [banks] that leave, and to focus on those that remain,” Pon i Coll told AFP. For now, Spain's Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy is urging businesses to stay in Catalonia. But it's a hard case to make. “There is a perception that this society will continue to ignore laws, and that is dangerous for business activity,” the head of the drug distribution company told the AFP.

#### This uncertainty could stunt economic growth

William Chislett of Royal Institute, 11-8-2017 [, http://www.realinstitutoelcano.org/wps/wcm/connect/01e82708-49a4-463c-a65a-a632517a2e80/Commentary-Chislett-Potential-impact-Catalan-crisis-Spanish-economy.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&amp;CACHEID=01e82708-49a4-463c-a65a-a632517a2e80, 1-12-2018]

The most notable impact since the Catalan parliament declared independence on 27 October, in a disputed vote declared illegal by Spain’s Constitutional Court, has been the exodus of companies from Catalonia, which quickly turned into a stampede. More than 2,200 companies have located their legal headquarters in other parts of Spain. Tourism (Catalonia received 18 million of Spain’s 75.3 million tourists last year) and consumption have also taken a hit. The Bank of Spain warned earlier this month that the economy could lose between 0.3 and 2.5 points of GDP in two years (2018-19), depending on how long the crisis lasts and its impact on consumption, investment, employment and financing. Under its benign scenario, the worst of the uncertainty would end after the snap election on 21 December, called by the central government under its activation of direct rule of Catalonia following the independence declaration. The accumulated cost to the economy would be 0.3 points of GDP or around €3 billion. The Bank of Spain does not say this, but this scenario assumes that the anti-secessionist parties –the conservative Popular Party, which governs Spain, the Socialists and the centrist Ciudadanos– could win more seats than the pro-independence parties, an unholy alliance of conservative nationalists (PDeCAT), the more rabidly secessionist Republic Left of Catalonia and the anti-capitalist far-left CUP. In the worst-case scenario, following a victory by the pro-independence bloc and a continued stand-off with Madrid, up to 60% of the projected growth for 2018 and 2019 could evaporate. A lot is riding on this election. The pro-independence parties won 72 of the 135 seats in the 2015 election on 47.8% of the vote. Recent polls show these parties narrowly gaining control of the parliament again, but Madrid is hoping that the anti-secessionist parties will galvanise the increasingly vociferous ‘silent majority’ against independence into voting on a larger scale than previously.

#### Unilateral secession is bad—no international recognition and Catalonia gets locked out of markets. Tena 16:

Alfons LóPez Tena and Elisenda Paluzie, Business Insider, 2-24-2016 [Here are the economics of a Catalan secession from Spain, http://www.businessinsider.com/economics-of-catalan-secession-from-spain-2016-2, 1-4-2018]//DW

**The independent Catalonia is recognized by Spain, becomes a full EU member- state, enters the UN** and all the international organizations, assumes its rights and obligations under the existing treaties, etc. **In this case few are the economic impacts on economics since almost everything goes on as usual. Catalonia would gain full control of its own taxes**, hence around €16 billion ($21 billion) wouldn’t be siphoned off by Spain every year; economic policies best suited to Catalan needs may be developed if voters choose wisely; and **both parts take their fair share of former Spain’s public assets and debt in application of the Vienna Convention of 1983**. Spain’s only loss should be the fore-mentioned Catalan taxes, around 2% of Spanish GDP every year: a big but not an overwhelming blow. **If Spain** fails to get Catalonia off the European single market and the euro, but **blocks its membership as an EU member-state** –that requires an unanimous decision–, its reprisals against the independent Catalonia would be similar to the Spanish policies on Gibraltar and China’s on Taiwan: to make Catalan life inside the European single market and the euro highly bleak and rueful, and doing its best to clog any Catalan endeavor to become international organizations' and treaties' member. Spain wouldn’t even recognize the existence of independent Catalonia, it wouldn’t agree to negotiate any partition of public assets, and it surely wouldn’t accept the former Spanish and now foreign pensioners’ entitlement to be paid their earned pensions. In this case **Catalonia should just take the Spanish public assets that dwell in its territory**, and pay its pensioners with its own raised taxes, as Spain nowadays does in a pay-as-you-go pension system. The main impact would be on debt: **Spain retains all its €1 trillion debt** ($1.3 trillion) **with a shrunk GDP after losing Catalonia’s GDP, that is 19% of the nowadays Spain’s GDP** –therefore its debt-to-GDP ratio would soar to 114% from the currently 100%. Catalonia’s debt is €64.5 billion ($85.8 billion), 30.9% of its GDP, and Spain owns 60% of it. This is a powerful tool in Catalan hands to retaliate against the Spanish reprisals –such as behind-the-curtains officially-sponsored commercial boycotts doomed to end quickly: not to pay the former Spanish Catalonia's debt owed to a rowdy Spain. Whence a not-agreed independence inside the euro and the European single market should be an acrimonious but manageable scenario, with huge but limited economic damage for both Catalonia and Spain.

#### Deficit goes away

**Al Jazeera**, No Publication, 9-30-**2017** [Can Spain's economy survive a Catalan secession?, http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/09/spain-economy-survive-catalan-secession-170930163702214.html, 12-7-2017]//RS

The issue is much debated among both camps, who generally present widely different figures, often based on different methodologies and hypotheses. If independence were to happen, Spain's economy ministry claims that Catalonia would leave the European Union, its GDP would fall 25 to 30 percent and unemployment would double. But some **economists believe that the newly formed republic would stay in the EU, predicting its GDP would remain stable in the short term and rise seven percent long term. Catalonia's government also says the region would no longer suffer from what it calls a "fiscal deficit", given that the region pays more in taxes to Madrid than it gets back.** The regional executive says this deficit is around 16 billion euro, or eight percent of Catalonia's GDP and the central government, with a different methodology, estimates it to be 10 billion euro, or five percent of regional GDP.

### Contention 2: Refugees

#### Spain has only accepted 1,000 refugees out of 17,000 it has promised to accept—160,000 protested this decision. This starkly contrasts other EU countries. Rosen 17:

Christian Science Monitor, 2-19-2017 [Why 160,000 protesters in Barcelona want Spain to welcome more refugees, https://www.csmonitor.com/World/Europe/2017/0219/Why-160-000-protesters-in-Barcelona-want-Spain-to-welcome-more-refugees, 12-27-2017]//DW

In 2015, **Spain’s government made a promise: welcome in** more than **17,000 refugees** within two years. On Saturday, **at least 160,000 protesters** at a march in Barcelona **said the conservative government is not living up to its pledge**. The marchers, who organizers said numbered 300,000, held banners and posters that read in the Catalan language: “Enough Excuses! Take Them in Now!” and “No More Deaths, Open the Borders!” **Spaniards and Catalans have a history of being more accepting of migrants than much of the rest of the European Union**, perhaps because of their geography, their own histories of emigration and asylum seeking, their experiences with Basque and Islamic-inspired terrorism, or all of the above. But Saturday’s protest, organized by a group that calls itself Casa Nostra Casa Vostra (Our Home is Your Home) offers a counter to anti-immigrant and nationalist attitudes that have bubbled to the surface in Europe and the United States. It’s true the borders of the Iberian Peninsula have not seen the same flow of migrants as the rest of the continent. But **Spaniards and** **Catalans have been overwhelmingly supportive of refugees and asylum seekers**, even if they accuse their government of dragging its feet. “**It is very important** that in a Europe of uncertainty where xenophobia is on the rise **for Barcelona to be a capital of hope,” said the city’s mayor,** Ada Colau, who joined the march on Saturday. The marchers, who police said numbered at least 160,000, but organizers said reached 300,000, demanded Madrid increase its efforts to take in refugees from war-torn countries like Syria. Protesters made their way from the city center to the Mediterranean coast, a stopping place symbolic of the 5,000 refugees who are estimated to have perished in the sea in 2016. So far, **the Spanish government has accepted only 1,100** of the 17,337 **refugees** it pledged to accept two years ago, 15,888 from camps in Italy and Greece and 1,449 from Turkey and Libya. Of the 1,100, 65 Syrians and 1 Iraqi arrived in Madrid on Thursday. **These numbers are far less than the 890,000 asylum seekers Germany brought in in 2015 and an additional 280,000 in 2016**. But behind Germany and France, Spain has agreed to accept the third most migrants relocated from Greece and Italy [of any EU member](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-34131911), according to the BBC.

#### Granting Catalonia independence allows them to take in refugees—they are willing but Spain says no. Catalonia Votes 17:

Two members of **the Catalan government urged the Spanish government to help Catalonia accept refugees** earlier today. **Minister of Foreign Affairs** Raül Romeva and Minister of Labor, Social Affairs, and Families Dolors Bassa **sent a letter** each to their Spanish counterparts **to “promote the reception and integration” of refugees in Catalonia**. Both members of the Catalan executive stressed **it is not the first time they have submitted this request to Madrid**. Bassa’s letter emphasized “the need to establish a stable and agile mechanism of collaboration” and pointed out that their “teams agreed to meet on May 25 with the aim of dealing with this issue in depth”. However, Bassa claimed the Spanish government “called off the meeting at the last moment” and Barcelona “is still waiting for a new date.” Meanwhile, minister Romeva told his Spanish counterpart, Alfonso Dastis, that **the Catalan government is “entirely willing” to provide a response to the migration crisis** “with the urgency that the circumstances require.” **Catalonia has no powers to host refugees without the Spanish government’s agreement**. The initiative by the Catalan ministers comes less than 100 days before the expiration of the two-year deadline set by the European Union for the relocation and resettlement of migrants in member states. Barcelona held a 160,000-strong demonstration, according to local police estimates, in favour of welcoming refugees on February 18. Last year, Catalan president, Carles Puigdemont, sent a letter to the EU Commissioner on Migration, Dimitris Avramopoulos, in which he claimed that the country was getting ready to admit up to 4,500 people.

#### They also totally have the capacity but Spain is blocking them from using vacant housing. Catalan Government 17:

Government of Catalonia, 9-30-2016 [‘Welcome refugees’, http://web.gencat.cat/en/actualitat/detall/20160930\_Persones-refugiades-persones-benvingudes, 12-27-2017]//DW

Today **the Government of Catalonia**’s Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Families **has presented the awareness campaign “Welcome refugees**”, which intends to appeal to the Catalan people’s support of asylum or international protection seekers. **The Generalitat currently has 1,216 accommodation vacancies for refugees distributed among 43 Catalan locations, of which only 419 are occupied through the state welcome and integration programme due to the Spanish state’s blockade**. Meanwhile, the Secretariat for Equality, Immigration and Citizenship has an inventory of 126 resources for asylum seekers, including volunteers, accommodation and facilities, training, interpreters, therapists and the like, made up of individuals or entities lending their services to the Generalitat or to local initiatives.

#### Catalonia also has programs to quickly integrate refugees—solves all of the short-term econ harms since those stem from lack of integration. Catalan News 17:

Helle Kettner, No Publication, 7-27-2017 [Catalan government works on program to help migrants integrate, http://www.catalannews.com/society-science/item/catalan-government-works-on-program-to-help-migrants-integrate, 12-27-2017]//DW

**The Catalan government is working on a program that aims to provide migrants with legal, labour and social information to help them integrate**. The executive’s idea is take advantage of the processes of family reunification and registering residency to communicate with the applicants and provide them with relevant information regarding legal or labour issues, for instance. The programme will be implemented in the coming months. Catalonia is hosting 877 refugees from the state program, with applications for international protection multiplying in recent years. While the EU has published a report showing that member states have only relocated 16% of the refugee numbers they committed to taking, in the first half of the year, the Ministry of Equality, Migration and Citizenship has processed 4.990 family reunification requests, some 13.25% over the same period last year. The new program wants the arrival of families to be “an opportunity”, stated Oriol Amorós, the head of the Ministry of Equality, Migration and Citizenship. Amorós pointed out that the “small but constant increase of family reunification requests” shows that “the great migratory movement of the first decade of the 20th century is being consolidated.” “When someone brings over their family, they are saying that their migratory project is long-sighted. That fact is changing the idea that many migrants come to work just for a short time,” said Amorós. The secretary also pointed out that requesting family reunification generates “elation” and “hope” because being apart from the family is very hard. “For instance, personal contact with women going through family reunification is very important,” said Amorós. The secretary stressed that “although Catalan society has not achieved gender equality,” it is something society is aiming for and it is important to tell them all. “The city registration process is a good moment to communicate a message of equality,” stated Amorós.

#### Refugees benefit local economies—spillover effect. Taylor 16:

J. Edward, PubMed Central (PMC), xx-xx-xxxx [Economic impact of refugees, https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4941434/, 12-30-2017]//DW

The simulations found that an additional refugee increases total real (inflation-adjusted) income within a 10-km radius around the two cash camps by US$205 (CI: 166, 260) and $253 (CI: 194, 320) annually (Fig. 2 and SI Appendix, Table S1). These are equivalent to 63% and 96% of the average host-country per-capita income around the camps, and they exceed the value of per-refugee WFP assistance ($126 and $120, respectively). Most of the difference ($70 and $126) consists of income spillovers resulting from market interactions between refugees and host-country businesses and households. Other transfers to refugees, including private remittances, account for the rest ($10 and $7). Economic spillovers result as refugee households and businesses inside the camps purchase goods and services from hostcountry businesses outside the camps. All agricultural, livestock, other production activities, and all retail businesses outside the camps are owned by host-country households. **Our surveys found that refugee households account for 5.5% of total income within a 10-km radius of the three camps; 17.3% of surveyed businesses outside the camps report that their main customers are refugees from the camps**. The increase in refugee demand raises host-country incomes and spending which, in turn, generate additional rounds of spending impacts in the local economy. The familiar identity of economics, where total expenditures, including savings, equal total income for all households and activities, ensures that changes in expenditures match changes in incomes for all agents in the local economy. **Host-country households** do not receive any WFP cash transfers, but their **real income increases by an estimated $41 per refugee** at Gihembe camp **and $69 per refugee at Nyabiheke camp** (the rest of the local spillovers, $28 and $56, accrue to refugee households). Some refugees supply labor to host-country farms and businesses, creating additional impacts. Approximately 6% of hired workers (7% of hired farm workers) outside the camps are refugees. Refugees also stimulate trade between the local economy and the rest of the country, by an amount equal to $55 and $49 per refugee per year.

#### Refugees have a massive positive impact in the long-run. There’s a 2-1 return ratio. Kingsley 16:

Patrick Kingsley, Guardian, xx-xx-xxxx [Refugees will repay EU spending almost twice over in five years, https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/may/18/refugees-will-repay-eu-spending-almost-twice-over-in-five-years-report, 12-30-2017]//DW

[**Refugees**](https://www.theguardian.com/world/refugees) **who arrived in Europe** last year **could repay spending on them almost twice over within just five years**, according to one of the first in-depth investigations into the impact incomers have on host communities. **Refugees will create more jobs, increase demand for services and products**, and fill gaps in European workforces – while their wages will help fund dwindling pensions pots and public finances, says Philippe Legrain, a former economic adviser to the president of the European commission. Simultaneously **refugees are unlikely to decrease wages or raise unemployment for native workers**, Legrain says, citing past studies by labour economists. Most significantly, Legrain calculates that while the absorption of so many refugees will increase public debt by almost €69bn (£54bn) between 2015 and 2020, during the same period **refugees will help GDP grow by €126.6bn – a ratio of almost two to one**. “**Investing one euro in welcoming refugees can yield nearly two euros in economic benefits within five years**,” concludes Refugees Work: A Humanitarian Investment That Yields Economic Dividends, [a report](http://www.tent.org/refugees-work/)released on Wednesday by the Tent Foundation, a non-government organisation that aims to help displaced people, and Open Political Economy Network, a new thinktank.

#### There’s also international spillover—trade pours into other countries. Ragoussis 16:

Deutsches Institut FüR Entwicklungspolitik, No Publication, 5-11-2016 [Refugees and international trade: are we ready to talk about the day after?, https://www.die-gdi.de/en/the-current-column/article/refugees-and-international-trade-are-we-ready-to-talk-about-the-day-after/, 1-4-2018]//DW

But what do we know about the relationship between migration (of refugees included), ethnic diversity and international trade? **Economic studies show us that ethnic minorities are good for trade: they have superior knowledge of foreign country markets, language, customs, business practices, thereby lowering transaction costs for exports**. Their networks also make sure contracts and business commitments are respected. And that is only part of the story. **Migrants have preferences for products that are not necessarily available in the host country, raising the demand for imports from back home** as well as a variety of other origins. Observations supporting this abound: Already in the 1990s researchers were reporting that the most frequent occupation of Korean immigrant entrepreneurs in the United States is import-export trading activities with Korea. The ‘Chinatown effect’ is an unconventional term used for trade between countries that host populous Chinese communities. Let’s take a closer look at the numbers. **The estimates coming from almost 50 related studies are telling: a 10 percent increase in the stock of immigrants can boost international trade on average by 1.5 percent**. And what does it mean to trade more across borders? In fact, a lot more than what we may first think. Public debates about the economic effects of migration have focused on the usual suspects: wages and employment; public finances; growth; demography. Expectations on all these fronts are often ambiguous: whether or not immigration hurts public finances, contribute to growth, generate employment, depends on an array of factors. Unsurprisingly, the internationalisation effect is more clear-cut and, as such, it stands a good chance of being the neglected factor that could make a difference. **Business across borders also brings about more jobs, income, and productivity through competition with multinational**s; in other words, better chances of fostering positive outcomes on all fronts. **What is true for migrants applies also to refugees. The presence of new populations, often highly skilled and involuntarily displaced, will strengthen Europe’s growth and economic ties with its adjacent regions**, bringing about what economists like to call a win-win situation. In fact, upon improvement of security in Middle East and North Africa and a likely return to growth in the medium-run, **Europe will not only enjoy the advantage of proximity, but also stronger cultural ties via the very pool of immigrants than now stands by its borders**. Investing in these linkages is hence more than a moral imperative; it is strategic one, given the global paucity of opportunities for economic expansion and fierce competition with rising powers over economic space in the decades ahead of us. Yet some immigrants may be triggering trade effects in host countries more than others: High-skilled or better-educated immigrants have been shown to contribute to a larger pro-trade impact. Also, the scarcer the better: populations culturally different and relatively rare in host countries bring about knowledge and skills that are more precious. These findings raise questions we cannot fully answer as of yet. We may know a lot about demographics, occupations and spatial concentrations of generations of immigrants over the 20th century. We know very little about incoming refugees in all these respects. All the more reason to find out. Politics and international law aside, there may be economic arguments about how Europe should respond to the current migration flow. Providing a shield to populations fleeing war, conflict and starvation is beyond question. The “what next” is not. There may be corners of Europe where some refugees stand to contribute more to local economies and share a larger part of the prosperity that comes with it. This is an issue we, regrettably, do not discuss at the moment. Our trouble is that, as Europeans, we haven't yet sorted out the fundamentals surrounding the presence of refugees in our lands. Xenophobia, settlement bills and political rivalry leave little space to talk about the day after, however valuable this discussion may be right now.

#### GDP growth is key to wage growth. Roemer 97:

Roemer, Michael, and Mary Kay Gugerty. “Does Economic Growth Reduce Poverty?” Harvard Institute for International Development, Apr. 1997, pdf.usaid.gov/pdf\_docs/Pnaca655.pdf.

This presentation paper reviews a longer paper, CAER I1 Discussion Paper Number 5, by Roemer and Gugerty that presents new study results and reviews previous evidence on the relationship between economic growth and poverty reduction. The study examines the question of whether economic growth tends to reduce poverty, where poverty is measured by the incomes of the poorest 20% and 40% of the population. The analysis shows that an **increase in the rate of per capita GDP growth translates into a one-for-one increase in the growth of average income** of the poorest 40%. GDP growth of ten percent a year is associated with income growth of ten percent for the poorest 40% of the population. **For the poorest 20% the elasticity of response is 0.921; GDP growth of 10% is associated with income growth of 9.21%.** These results give strong support to the proposition that growth in per capita GDP can be and usually is a powerful force in reducing poverty. In addition, the paper indicates that sound macroeconomic policies and openness to the world economy may be important in reducing poverty. These policies operate mainly through the effect on economic growth: countries with better macro policies grow faster, and this growth tends to alleviate poverty. The regressions reported in Table 1 show that an increase in the rate of per capita GDP growth translates into a one-for-one increase in average income of the poorest 40%. **GDP growth of 10% per year is associated with income growth of 10% for the poorest 40% of the population**. For the poorest 20% the elasticity of response is 0.921; GDP growth of 10% is associated with income growth of 9.21%. **These regressions indicate that on average the poor do benefit from economic growth**. Figures 1 and 2 below clearly show that there are very few exceptions to the observation that GDP growth is shared by the low-income population. Larger versions of these graphs are given in Appendix A. Figure 1 shows the data for the poorest 20% of the population. This diagram indicates that there is a clear relationship between growth of the incomes of the poorest 20% and growth in GDP per capita. All the data points in the upper right quadrant are examples of periods where economic growth increased the incomes of the poorest 20%. The cases where economic growth was accompanied by deterioration in incomes of the bottom 20% are found in the bottom right quadrant and are discussed below.

#### Wage growth and GDP growth are both key to reducing poverty and preventing mortality. OCED

<http://www.oecd.org/derec/unitedkingdom/40700982.pdf>

Research that compares the experiences of a wide range of developing countries finds consistently strong evidence that rapid and sustained growth is the single most important way to reduce poverty. **A typical estimate from these cross-country studies is that a 10 per cent increase in a country’s average income will reduce the poverty rate by** between 20 and **30 per cent**.1 The central role of growth in driving the speed at which poverty declines is confirmed by research on individual countries and groups of countries. For example, a flagship study of 14 countries in the 1990s found that over the course of the decade, poverty fell in the 11 countries that experienced significant growth and rose in the three countries with low or stagnant growth. **On average, a one per cent increase in per capita income reduced poverty by 1.7 per cent** (see Figure 1).2 Among these 14 countries, the reduction in poverty was particularly spectacular in Vietnam, where poverty fell by 7.8 per cent a year between 1993 and 2002, halving the poverty rate from 58 per cent to 29 per cent. Other countries with impressive reductions over this period include El Salvador, Ghana, India, Tunisia and Uganda, each with declines in the poverty rate of between three and six per cent a year. Driving these overall reductions in poverty was the rebound in growth that began for most of the countries in the mid-1990s. The median GDP growth rate for the 14 countries was 2.4 per cent a year between 1996 and 2003.

**Higher levels of income reduce infant mortality**.24 India demonstrates the strength of this relationship: **a 10 per cent increase in GDP is associated with a reduction in infant mortality of between five and seven per cent**.25

### Contention 3: Climate Change

**Subpoint A:**

**Badcock 16**

James Badcock “Spain anger over energy poverty deaths” BBC News. 11/20/16. [http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-38024374 //](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-38024374%20//) CCD

In 2013 **Catalonia's regional government passed a law under which families with low incomes could suspend payments on their energy bills** for a time. **Spain**'s conservative government under Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy **appealed against the law,** arguing that the Catalan administration had exceeded its authority, **leading to the** constitutional court **quashing the initiative in April 2016.**

**IST 17**

Ozan “Internationalists must support Catalonia’s Right to Decide” IST. 10/30/17. <http://internationalsocialists.org/wordpress/2017/09/internationalists-must-support-catalonias-right-to-decide/> // CCD

Some on the left argue that independence is a manoeuvre promoted by Catalan bosses and the right, but this is false. The Catalan bourgeoisie firmly opposes independence; they want stability, not the uncertainty of a break with the Spanish state. The independence movement includes some right wing sectors, but the general trend is progressive. As well taking steps towards breaking from Spain, **the current Catalan government has** also **introduced measures against** evictions and **energy poverty;** a ban on fracking; a tax on nuclear power; a law promoting women’s equality at work and against sexual harassment; a ban on bullfighting… **All of these measures have been overturned by the Spanish Constitutional Court,** following demands by the PP.

**The EU Poverty Network 13**

<http://www.sindic.cat/site/unitFiles/3534/Report%20on%20energy%20poverty%20in%20Catalonia%20def.pdf1>

Though **energy poverty** can be described as a relatively new phenomenon in this country, there are several elements that make it possible to detect the presence and extension of this problem across a broader scenario in which, according to the Idescat, the **rate** of poverty or exclusion risk (AROPE rate) **in Catalonia was 26.7%** in 2011.1

**Healy**

<http://jech.bmj.com/content/57/10/784>

The results show that, between 1988 and 1997, Portugal has the highest seasonal variation in mortality in Europe, with a winter increase of some 28% above the average mortality rate; this amounts to some 8800 premature winter deaths each year. Ireland also fares particularly poorly with an increase of some 21% (or 2000 excess winter deaths annually). **Spain also exhibits the same coefficient (21%, 19 000** deaths). England, Wales, Northern Ireland, and Scotland—both collectively (as the UK) and separately—all share very high seasonality coefficients. The highest level is found in England (19%, 31 000 excess deaths), followed by Wales (17%, 1800 deaths), Northern Ireland (also 17%, 800 deaths), and Scotland (16%, 3100 deaths). Overall, the UK exhibits an average seasonality rate of 18%, which represents about 37 000 annual **excess winter deaths**. Greece exhibits similarly high rates of relative excess winter mortality (18%), representing 5700 premature winter deaths annually.

**Torgal**

[https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007%2F978-3-319-27505-5\_1.pdf](https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-319-27505-5_1.pdf)

Between 30 and **50 % of excess winter mortality is attributed specifically to energy-inefficient housing conditions.** Besides, direct financial help to low-income households or the use of energy subsidies can only address this problem in a partial manner without solving it in a long term, while the funding of building energy efficiency refurbishment works is also able to generate value-added and economic growth (Atanasiou et al. 2014)

#### **Subpoint B:**

#### **Climate Change is already becoming a threat to Catalonia**

CREAF, 7-19-2017 [Climate change is already threatening the Mediterranean ecosystems of Catalonia, http://blog.creaf.cat/en/noticies-en/climate-change-is-already-threatening-the-mediterranean-ecosystems-of-catalonia/, 1-12-2018] // CCD

Climate change is causing droughts which are more numerous, severe, and longer than before, in addition to an increase in temperature –with Catalonia already experiencing an increase of 1.6 ºC since 1950— making this Mediterranean region even drier. Studies included in the review included field experiments and more than 20 years worth of data logs from three ecosystem types: holm oak forests in the Prades region; semiarid scrublands recently affected by fire at Garraf; and temperate, humid forests over a gradient from holm oak to beech forests at Montseny. “The results obtained in Catalonia can be extrapolated to other areas, because these are ecosystems which are characteristic of the Mediterranean Basin,” says Josep Peñuelas, researcher at CSIC and CREAF.

#### Kyle Brown of the Catalan News:

Kyle Brown “Avoiding Extreme Climate Change Demands Clean Energy, but Catalonia Has Limited Powers to Act” Catalan News. 09/04/15. [http://www.catalannews.com/society-science/item/avoiding-extreme-climate-change-demands-clean-energy-but-catalonia-has-limited-powers-to-act //](http://www.catalannews.com/society-science/item/avoiding-extreme-climate-change-demands-clean-energy-but-catalonia-has-limited-powers-to-act%20//) CCD

**The Catalan Government** **was** one of 14 regional executives to sign the 'Under 2 Memorandum of Understanding' in May 2015 as part of a pact **to reduce CO2emissions by 80-95% by 2050** among the signing territories. **This goal is an effort to mitigate the worst effects of climate change coming from greenhouse gas emissions.** In recent years, **the Catalan Government has been working toward** improving energy efficiency and **developing a greater supply of renewable energy** through various initiatives and action plans. **However, the biggest changes necessary for Catalonia to adopt the renewable,** low-emissions **energy model** it desires **cannot be implemented by the Catalan Government**, but would have to come from the Spanish Government instead. Overall, the biggest challenge facing the adoption of renewable energy is being able to produce it at prices competitive with conventional sources of power. The Catalan Strategy for the Energy Renovation of Buildings was elaborated in 2013 and has an aim of completion by 2020. Its main goal is to achieve a 14.4% reduction in energy consumption by buildings from 2012 levels and a 2.6 million-ton reduction of CO2emissions through the renovation of existing private and public buildings. In presenting this plan, the Catalan Government stressed the use of renewable energies, especially in private homes, and called for the energetic renovation of the 1.5 million buildings built in the territory before 1980 at an estimated cost of €8 billion. The reality of the situation, Martín-Vide pointed out, is that reaching **the aforementioned goals in terms of carbon emissions "will be difficult to reach, but it is not impossible.**" Despite the challenge, he said reaching it is \"absolutely necessary, along with the rest of the world.\"**The Spanish Government’s resistance is holding Catalonia back**. **The strategies employed by the Catalan Government** as motivation to reduce the country's carbon footprint **are the first step** toward reducing CO2 emissions. **The next step is to replace the energies that produce CO2 with green alternatives,** and the Catalan Government has stated that **its goal by 2050 is to have all of its energy come from renewable[s] sources.** As of 2012 – the latest data available – **Catalonia received 15.6% of its electricity from renewable sources, a figure that \"has not followed the pace it should have had, so it has not exploited the country's full potential in renewable energy**,\" Palacín said. The Catalan Government Director added that **Catalonia's focus [is] in renewables is in biomass, solar and wind energy, but regulations from the Spanish Government \"prevent the renewable energy industry from developing normally**.\" For instance, he said that even though solar power has \"great room for growth,\" especially since the start-up costs of photovoltaic power have recently decreased, **the Spanish Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism (MINETUR) has \"practically paralysed\" it**. Palacín added that **the Catalan Government has \"few [executive and legislative] powers in energy,**\" none of which encompass subsidies. So from an economic standpoint, in order for alternative energies to be adopted into the mainstream, they must meet market prices in order to be a viable option for energy companies and consumers. The company Red Eléctrica de España controls the electrical grid and establishes which electricity production centres contribute to the network. Although the company's administration has some leeway on which criteria fit the electrical network, the powers are ultimately in the hands of MINETUR. As far as the Spanish Government's interests go, the primary concern is choosing energies that eliminate the tariff deficit the Spanish State would have to pay to the electric companies from the regulated price. During the course of reforming the energy sector in Spain, Palacín said **Catalonia suggested a model where** price-fixing was more transparent and **energy was** considered **a sustainability factor** rather than an economic one, \"**but the Spanish Ministry** prioritised economic criteria and **rejected [it]** our contributions.\" **The discrepancy between Madrid's view of how the energy system should work and how Catalonia would like it to work brings into view**, as do so many other matters, **the question of Catalan independence.** One of the chief debates in the issue of self-determination is the way Catalonia has disproportionately fed tax money into Spanish Government's coffers, while it was getting back much less compared to other Autonomous Communities. The argument in the case of energy is, as Ramon Garriga (from the IREC) put it, \"**with another situation the Catalan Government will help much more than they can do now** for our industry and **to improve efficiency** in its processes. I am sure.\" **But** until **Catalonia** \"can decide on its money,\" it **must defer to the regulations of the Spanish State.**

#### **Renewables solve for energy poverty. Granoff 16**

Granoff, Ilmi “Scaling Up Clean Energy to Fight Global Poverty” 10/16 Overseas Developmental Institute. CCD. <https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/resource-documents/10964.pdf>

Now **the coal industry claims that expanding coal** use **is critical to** fighting extreme poverty and **improving energy access** for billions of people in developing countries. In fact, **the opposite is true. The** global **commitment to eradicate** extreme poverty and **energy poverty** by 2030 does not require such an expansion and it is incompatible with stabilising the earth’s climate. The evidence is clear: a lasting solution to poverty **requires the world’s wealthiest economies to renounce coal**, and we can and must end extreme poverty without the precipitous expansion of new coal power in developing ones.  Energy is needed not only for universal access, but also to lift people’s incomes by powering growth and employment. **Low-carbon, renewable options are competitive with coal.** In the US, the price of electricity from photovoltaics has fallen by over 80%, and wind power by over 60%, since 2009. There are also options to effectively manage the intermittency of some renewables. Coal is not one of them. **Renewables are also a more promising source of employment:** the sector employed 9.4 million people in 2015, compared to the 7 million employed by the coal industry according to the World Coal Association’s own 2012 estimate. **Coal’**s environmental and climate impacts **present[s]** **a clear threat to people living in poverty**. Air pollution from coal causes some 670,000 premature deaths a year in China and 100,000 in India. A one gigawatt plant in Indonesia could cause 26,000 premature deaths over its lifespan. **Building just a third of the planned coal-fired power plants**, mostly in developing Asia, would take the world past 2°C of warming, **pushing hundreds of millions into extreme poverty before the middle of the century.** To quote the World Bank President Jim Kim: ‘if the entire region implements the coal-based plans right now, I think we are finished … That would spell disaster for our planet.’

#### Lives are lost in Catalonia

Èrica Martínez of Institute of Catalan Studies, 10-xx-2016 [, http://cads.gencat.cat/web/.content/Documents/Publicacions/tercer-informe-sobre-canvi-climatic-catalunya/Sintesis/CC\_Sintesi\_ANGLES\_web.pdf, 1-12-2018] // CCD

One of the most widely studied health effects are heat waves, causing increases in the number of deaths and hospitalizations by more than 20 %, mostly among the elderly and in persons with previous chronic conditions. The results presented in this chapter show that the expected number of heat-related deaths in Catalonia may grow eightfold by 2050, resulting in over 2.500 deaths per year during the summer months.

### Paraphrased Version

#### We affirm the resolution Resolved: Spain should grant Catalonia its independence.

#### Contention 1 is boosting the economy which happens in 2 ways.

**First is solving uncertainty.**

Economist [**Angel Talavera**](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-11-23/spain-s-economy-to-count-the-cost-if-catalan-crisis-continues) in 2017 explains that increased political tensions have caused uncertainty to surge to the highest levels in over a decade.

Overall, [**Chislett**](http://www.realinstitutoelcano.org/wps/wcm/connect/01e82708-49a4-463c-a65a-a632517a2e80/Commentary-Chislett-Potential-impact-Catalan-crisis-Spanish-economy.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CACHEID=01e82708-49a4-463c-a65a-a632517a2e80) of the Royal Institute writes in 2017 that uncertainty in the standoff could reduce economic growth by 60% over the next 2 years.

Reuters continues in 2017 that due to the crisis investment in Catalonia has decreased by 75%.

**Second is splitting off.**

As the resolution indicates, by voting aff, Spain would allow Catalonia’s independence. [**Alfons Tena**](http://www.businessinsider.com/economics-of-catalan-secession-from-spain-2016-2) of Business Insider writes in 2016 that if Spain agrees to allow Catalonia independence, debt would be split proportionally, Catalonia would remain in the EU.

Overall, [**Al-Jazeera**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/09/spain-economy-survive-catalan-secession-170930163702214.html) finds in 2017 that economists predict that Catalonia’s GDP would remain stable in the short-term and rise by 7% in the long-term because they will no longer have a fiscal deficit.

This is key to decreasing poverty as Michael Roemer of Harvard writes that there is a 1 to 1 ratio between GDP and wages which in return the OCED writes that just a 1% increase in wages can decrease poverty by up to 4%.

#### Contention 2 is Refugees

[**Rosen**](https://www.csmonitor.com/World/Europe/2017/0219/Why-160-000-protesters-in-Barcelona-want-Spain-to-welcome-more-refugees) of the Christian Science Monitor writes in 2017 that Spain has only accepted 1,000 refugees out of the 17,000 it has promised to accept. However, 160,000 individuals protested the lack of refugees in Barcelona.

Granting Catalonia independence would allow them to take in more refugees as the [**Catalan government**](http://web.gencat.cat/en/actualitat/detall/20160930_Persones-refugiades-persones-benvingudes)reports in 2016 that they have over 1200 unoccupied centers to host refugees. However, Spain has rejected their want for more refugees.

The first impact is boosting the economy.

[**Edward Taylor**](http://cyber.sci-hub.tw/MTAuMTA3My9wbmFzLjE2MDQ1NjYxMTM%3D/10.1073%40pnas.1604566113.pdf) of the University of California quantifies in 2016 that a single refugee living near a local business increases incomes by 60 dollars.

Overall, [**Patrick Kingsley**](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/may/18/refugees-will-repay-eu-spending-almost-twice-over-in-five-years-report) of the Guardian reports in 2016 that refugees create long-term economic benefits they will repay the cost needed to host them by 2 times. To put this in simple terms, spending 1 dollar on a refugee will net a 2 dollar return within a few years.

Second is saving lives.

[**Amnesty International**](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/campaigns/2016/03/why-does-refugee-resettlement-change-lives/) writes that accepting refugees literally means the difference between life and death, avoiding trafficking, or being sold into the sex trafficking industry.

#### Contention 3 is Energy Policy

**Subpoint A is Energy Poverty**

[**Badcock**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-38024374) of BBC writes in 2016 that in 2013, Catalonia passed a law in which families with low-incomes could suspend payments on their energy bills for a time. However, the Spanish government repealed this law claiming that Catalonia exceeded their authority.

The [**IST**](http://internationalsocialists.org/wordpress/2017/09/internationalists-must-support-catalonias-right-to-decide/) continues in 2017 that the current Catalan government is still attempting to introduce measures to fight back against energy poverty; however, Spain’s supreme court keeps on ruling the law unconstitutional. This means that by affirming you solve for this as Catalonia is no longer under the authority of the Spanish supreme court.

The impact is saving lives.

The Barcelona City Council finds that 47% of people could not maintain livable temperatures in winter months which equates to more than 500,000 people. [**The EU poverty Network**](http://www.sindic.cat/site/unitFiles/3534/Report%20on%20energy%20poverty%20in%20Catalonia%20def.pdf) continues more than 25% of the Catalan population is at risk of being in energy poverty which is more than 1.5 million people.

[**Dr. Healey**](http://jech.bmj.com/content/57/10/784) of the University of Dublin writes that every year, Spain experiences 19,000 cold-related deaths. Pacheco Torgal writes in 2016 that 50% of cold weather-related deaths are attributed to energy poverty, meaning that over 9,000 of these deaths can be solved by reducing energy poverty. However, the impact could soon be much larger as over 1.5 million are at risk of being in energy poverty.

#### Subpoint B is Climate Change.

[Brown of Catalan News](http://www.catalannews.com/society-science/item/avoiding-extreme-climate-change-demands-clean-energy-but-catalonia-has-limited-powers-to-act) explains that Catalonia has passed a radical energy policy which sets the goal of shifting to 100% renewable energy by 2050. While they have the resources, the Spanish Government has placed strict regulations on the Catalan renewable field. Brown continues that Catalan independence would allow Catalonia to achieve their goal because their only inhibition to reaching it is the Spanish Ministry of Energy who won’t back down.

There are 2 impacts.

First is reducing energy poverty.

The Catalan shift to renewables also helps to solve back for the energy poverty. Granoff of the Overseas Development Institute conducted a meta-analysis of poverty fighting tactics and found that the best way to mitigate energy poverty is by investing in green technology, rather than coal.

Second is saving lives in Catalonia.

[The Climate Group](https://www.theclimategroup.org/news/new-report-climate-change-catalonia-lays-foundations-bold-new-policies) found that without green advancement, Catalonia’s rising temperatures are expected to increase the number of deaths to over 2500 deaths annually.

### Lay Version

#### We affirm the resolution Resolved: Spain should grant Catalonia its independence.

#### Contention 1 is boosting the economy which happens in 2 ways.

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**Second is splitting off.**

As the resolution indicates, by voting aff, Spain would allow Catalonia’s independence. [**Alfons Tena**](http://www.businessinsider.com/economics-of-catalan-secession-from-spain-2016-2) of Business Insider writes in 2016 that if Spain agrees to allow Catalonia independence, debt would be split proportionally, Catalonia would remain in the EU.

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#### Contention 2 is Refugees

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Second is saving lives.

[**Amnesty International**](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/campaigns/2016/03/why-does-refugee-resettlement-change-lives/) writes that accepting refugees literally means the difference between life and death, avoiding trafficking, or being sold into the sex trafficking industry. In context to Catalonia, this would impact 15,000 refugees.

#### Contention 3 is Energy Policy

**Subpoint A is Energy Poverty**

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## Extensions

### Energy Poverty Extensions

#### Catalonia wants to pass laws to combat energy poverty but Spain has struck it down consistently—that’s Badcock and IST.

#### Energy Poverty affects 500,000 people and 1.5 million are at risk within Catalonia—that’s the EU evidence.

#### The impact is devastating—19,000 people die from cold-weather each year. Over 9,000 are preventable—vote aff to achieve this—that’s the Healey and Torgal evidence.

## Weighing

### Refugee Weighing

#### Outweighs on magnitude—Spain has rejected 16,000 refugees. This is literally the difference between life and death for many of them—that’s the Amnesty International evidence.

#### Outweighs on time-frame. We can take in refugees immediately as spaces are available while your impacts will take years or even decades to full materialize.

### Number of Sex Trafficking Cases in Spain

#### There are 1,600 woman smuggled each year—19,000 deaths definitely outweighs

**EU statistics** firm Eurostat **says a total of 1,605 women were smuggled into the country and held hostage**, being forced to work as prostitutes against their will, **in 2010 – the most recent year for which official figures are known.**

### Econ I/L Co-opt: Sex Trafficking

#### If we win econ, we control the internal link into sex trafficking since many people turn to sex trafficking in poor economic situations. Babandede 09:

No Author, No Publication, 10-8-2009 [POVERTY, GREED AND LACK OF KNOWLEDGE : KEY FACTORS ACCELERATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING, http://www.finlandnigeria.org/Public/default.aspx?contentid=172551, 1-20-2018]//DW

According to Mr. Babandede, **poverty is the root cause of trafficking in human beings**. Further, greed and the lack of information worsen the situation. Nigeria, being a rich oil producing country, could provide food for the needs of all of West Africa but more than half of the Nigerian population live under the poverty line (1,25 dollar per day). **The poor economic situation** that people in developing countries find themselves in, **greatly contributes to the spread of trafficking**. "If the resources are not spread equally among population the poorest will end up with no social services. **If there are no possibilities for a better life, people will look for other alternatives**", Mr. Babandede explains. **People become victims of human trafficking mainly because they lack income**. In their search for a better life in Europe and their desperation for employment, they become vulnerable to trafficking.

### Energy Poverty Weighing

#### Outweighs on magnitude—over 9000 deaths occur in Spain annually. Prefer evidence specific to Spain because that’s the only metric that you can weigh impacts since the origins of their numbers could be from an entirely different continent.

#### Outweighs on scope—over 500,000 people are already in energy poverty within Catalonia. More than 1.5 million people are at risk.

#### Outweighs on probability—Catalonia wants to pass these policies and have done so in the past but Spain keeps on striking down the laws. Voting AFF means a 100% guarantee that these policies go into effect which outweighs your projections of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

#### Outweighs on time-frame. 19,000 people are dying each year from energy poverty. This comes first since your harms [insert harms] could take a decade to happen. We can first solve energy poverty and then focus on the econ or [insert other harms]

### Climate Change Weighing

#### Climate change outweighs on magnitude—2,500 people are dying from something preventable each year.

#### Outweighs on reversibility—absent action temperatures will increase at an exponential rate and eventually pass the point of no-return, leading to an increase in deaths

#### Outweighs on time-frame—impacts are long-term and sustained. There is no hope to bring down temperatures. The only thing that we can do is slow down the rise to prevent even more deaths each year.

## Frontlines

### E-Poverty O/W: Regular Poverty Impacts

#### Energy poverty is the worst form of poverty—ensures that you have no hope of upward mobilization whatsoever. Walsh 11:

Bryan Walsh, TIME, 10-11-2011 [Breaking News, Analysis, Politics, Blogs, News Photos, Video, Tech Reviews, http://content.time.com/time/health/article/0,8599,2096602,00.html, 1-13-2018]//DW

I want you to try to imagine what it's like to live **without electricity**. It's boring, for one thing — no television, no MP3 player, no video games. And it's lonely and disconnected as well — no computer, no Internet, no mobile phone. You can read books, of course — but at night **you won't have light, other than the flicker of firewood.** And about that firewood — you or someone in your family had to gather it during the day, taking you away from more productive work or schooling, and in some parts of the world, exposing you to danger. **That same firewood is used to cook dinner, throwing off smoke that can turn the air inside your home far more toxic than that breathed in an industrial city**. You may lack access to vaccines and modern drugs because the nearest hospital doesn't have regular power to keep the medicine refrigerated. **You're desperately poor — and the lack of electricity helps to ensure that you'll stay that way.**

**Waksh of Time writes that energy poverty outweighs regular poverty because energy poverty kills any chance of upward mobilization that you may have as you are completely cut off from the outside world but also means that primal heating systems produce much more deadlier air than that in a city.**

### AT: Catalonia/Barcelona Says No

#### Barcelona leans left and has programs designed for refugees. Davis 17:

Reuters Editorial, U.S., 6-20-2017 ['Refugee city' Barcelona puts work for young migrants on the menu, https://www.reuters.com/article/us-spain-refugees-employment/refugee-city-barcelona-puts-work-for-young-migrants-on-the-menu-idUSKBN19B159, 12-26-2017]//DW

In February, tens of thousands of people took to the streets of **Barcelona**, calling for the Spanish government to take in more refugees. The city’s **leftist mayor** Ada Colau has **criticized the government of Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy for failing to meet its pledge to house more refugees**. In 2015 she published a register of families in Catalonia, Spain’s wealthiest region, willing to open their homes to refugees, or simply to help in some way. **Barcelona is “a progressive city which is open and warm towards people coming from outside**”, Ignasi Calbó, coordinator of the “Refugee City” program at Barcelona City Hall, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. **The social inclusion program helps migrants settle in Barcelona**, he explained. **Its initiatives include Mescladís, a quirky bar and restaurant in the historic center run entirely by migrants. The scheme also helps refugees find work at the many cultural events that take place across the city** each year, including Sonar, a popular electronic music festival. Among those seeking asylum in the Catalan capital, the largest numbers are from Venezuela, Ukraine, Honduras and El Salvador.

### AT: Spain Took 21,000 Last Year

#### There is a distinction between refugees arriving since they arrived on their shores vs. actually being accepted by the host country.

#### Spain is housing their refugees in prisons—Catalonia has spaces to provide for refugees—the prison doesn’t have running water and refugees are trying to hurt themselves to go to hospitals so they can leave. Fotheringham 18:

Alasdair Fotheringham Archidona, Independent, 1-6-2018 [Outcry grows over use of Spanish prison to house migrants after death of Algerian man, http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/spain-refugee-prison-migrant-hold-crisis-algeria-death-investigation-a8145426.html, 1-24-2018]//DW

Meanwhile, the solution of using **the prison** in Archidona, which Spain’s Ministry of the Interior insists is “exceptional and temporary”, has now entered its third month. Some Spanish NGOs and opposition parties have pointed out that the use of a prison as a holding centre is illegal and – given it initially **lacked running water** – woefully inadequate, and the PSOE, Spain’s Socialist Party, has demanded the Minister of the Interior answer questions in parliament about the prison. Media reports say around 300 migrants remain there, just over half the original total, but after the death last week of one of them, 36-year-old Algerian Mohamed B, calls for their immediate rehousing have regained in strength. Citing unnamed sources inside the prison, local newspaper El Surclaimed the migrant died after being involved in a scuffle when various **migrants began harming themselves in a bid to be transferred to hospital**. A medical check-up at the time reported only slight injuries, but the next morning he was found dead in his cell.

#### Deportations are also happening—just because refugees come into a country doesn’t mean that they stay in the country.

### AT: Syrian Civil War Declining

#### Spain’s refugees don’t come from the Middle East. They usually come from Northern Africa. Globe Post 17:

Staff Writer, Globe Post, 1-25-2018 [Spain Sees Surge in Migrant Arrivals by Sea in 2017, http://www.theglobepost.com/2017/12/29/spain-migrants/, 1-25-2018]//DW

Migrant **arrivals** by sea to Spain **tripled in 2017 on the previous year, fuelled by a surge in the numbers of Algerians and Moroccans**, while over 200 died trying to make the crossing. “At the end of the year, the tally is devastating,” the Spanish Commission for Refugees (CEAR), which defends the right to asylum, said in a statement.

### AT: Refugees Hurt Economy

#### This argument doesn’t apply to Catalonia. Catalonia has a program to quickly integrate refuges—most studies conclude that the reason they hurt the economy in the short-term is because of lack of integration. We solve for that.

#### Turn: Refugees contribute more in taxes than they receive in government funds. Matsangou 15:

No Author, No Publication, 11-2-2015 [Refugees are an economic benefit, not burden, to Europe,//DW

While such measures are a costly enterprise, particularly when factoring in millions of people, doing so is economically advantageous for the host nation. Contrary to common presumptions, **refugees actually contribute more in taxes than they obtain in governmental support**. A study by the ZEW economic institute found that **on average** in 2012, **foreigners in Germany paid around €3,300 more in taxes than they received in state contributions – the total surplus amounted to €22bn**.

### AT: No Jobs in Spain/Catalonia

#### Having no job in a first-world country is still better than living in a war-torn country not knowing if you will live the next moment.

#### Status quo is recovering—Catalonia and Spain’s economies are growing higher and unemployment is decreasing. IESE 12/12/17:

No Author, No Publication, xx-xx-xxxx [Spain’s Economy Recovering But Major Reforms Pending, https://www.iese.edu/en/about-iese/news-media/news/2017/december/spains-economy-recovering-but-major-reforms-pending, 12-30-2017]//DW

The areas where most progress has been made in policy reform are the internationalization of the Spanish economy and stabilization of the financial system, the report noted. And **there have been some encouraging signs from the labor market**, where **employment is recovering** thanks to an expanding economy and to 2012 labor reforms. Data indicates that some **500,000 jobs have been created per year** since 2015. "There’s a before and an after the 2012 labor reforms," Carlos Ocaña, head of Funcas, said. "The goal was to recover lost competitiveness, which has been successfully achieved since jobs have been created, although with an adjustment in salaries and with considerable disparities among regions." There is still much work to be done, he noted, particularly in dealing with short-term contracts and in implementing more pro-active policies for job creation. There are approximately 2 million people who lost their jobs during the recent crisis and who have been unable to find work; long-term unemployment is one of the labor market’s main weaknesses.

#### 2018 Forecast is Bright—Economy is growing at a healthy rate. Spain’s Central Bank 12/27/17:

Ap, NEWSTAGE, 12-30-2017 [Spain's economy seen growing strongly despite Catalan crisis, https://newstage.com.ng/2017/12/27/spains-economy-seen-growing-strongly-despite-catalan-crisis/, 12-30-2017]//DW

**Spain’s central bank says** strong **exports are likely to help the economy grow by a quarterly rate of 0.8 percent** in the last three months of the year despite the negative effects of the Catalan political crisis. **Spain’s economy is set to expand by** 3.1 percent in 2017, but the government revised its estimate for 2018 from 2.6 percent to **2.3 percent** because of uncertainty created by the since-ousted Catalan regional government’s push for independence in October. The central bank said Wednesday buoyant exports overall made up for the economic fallout in prosperous Catalonia. Its figures are estimates and official data will be published by the National Statistics Institute next month.

### AT: Refugees Take Jobs

#### Refugees net good for the labor force. Kingsley 16:

Patrick Kingsley of Guardian, 5-18-2016 [Refugees will repay EU spending almost twice over in five years, https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/may/18/refugees-will-repay-eu-spending-almost-twice-over-in-five-years-report, 1-12-2018]//DW

Refugees who arrived in Europe last year could repay spending on them almost twice over within just five years, according to one of the first in-depth investigations into the impact incomers have on host communities. **Refugees will create more jobs, increase demand for services and products, and fill gaps in European workforces** – while their wages will help fund dwindling pensions pots and public finances, says Philippe Legrain, a former economic adviser to the president of the European commission. Refugee: an examination of the global migration crisis – in pictures View gallery Simultaneously refugees are unlikely to decrease wages or raise unemployment for native workers, Legrain says, citing past studies by labour economists.

#### Turn: Refugees take low-income jobs and push natives up the ladder. Matsangou 15:

No Author, No Publication, 11-2-2015 [Refugees are an economic benefit, not burden, to Europe,//DW

There are further examples that illustrate that **refugee workers actually increase wages for the local population.** When Yugoslav **refugees in Denmark began working in low-skilled jobs** during the 1990s and the 2000s, **rather than driving wages down** as many expected, their presence made the economy more complex. Instead of filling such jobs, **natives moved up the skills ladder to more specialised professions that were better paid** and more productive. Then there is the case when **Cuban refugees** settled **in Miami** in 1980, they **gave a major boost to the city’s economy by providing unskilled labour in numerous industries**, including hospitality, textile production and agriculture.

#### Past Refugees Influx Proves No Net Job Loss

Cali 15

[Recent research](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2015/08/24/090224b083091fbc/1_0/Rendered/PDF/The0impact0of00Turkish0labor0market.pdf) finds that while Syrian refugees in Turkey—the majority of whom have no formal work permits—have displaced unskilled informal and part-time workers, they have also generated more formal non-agricultural jobs and an increase in average wages for Turkish workers. In addition, many of the displaced [Turkish] workers have gone back to school and may well increase their wages once they return to the labor market. This picture is also consistent with the Jordanian case, where [unemployment has not increased](https://www.brookings.edu/blogs/future-development/posts/2015/02/25-syrian-refugees-jordan-karasapan) in areas where Syrians have resettled, as Syrian workers have tended to find employment in low-skill sectors that Jordanians typically avoid. And this evidence is consistent with that on the net impact of migrants on host countries’ labor markets, which is typically [small](http://www.cgdev.org/sites/default/files/archive/doc/full_text/CGDBriefs/3120183/time-bound-labor-access.html) and if anything [positive on average](http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/restud/prpaper.pdf).

### AT: Terrorism

#### Terrorism is incredibly rare—you’re more likely to be killed by a lightning strike lol. Nowrasteh [Cato Institute] 16:

Alex Nowrasteh, Cato Institute, 9-13-2016 [Terrorism and Immigration: A Risk Analysis, https://www.cato.org/publications/policy-analysis/terrorism-immigration-risk-analysis, 12-26-2017]//DW

These data sets identify 154 foreign-born terrorists in the United States from 1975 to the end of 2015. Ten of the subjects were illegal immigrants, 54 were lawful permanent residents (LPR), 19 were students, 1 entered on a K-1 fiancé(e) visa, 20 were refugees, 4 were asylum seekers, 34 were tourists on various visas, and 3 were from Visa Waiver Program (VWP) countries. The visas for 9 terrorists could not be determined. The number of murder victims per terrorist attack comes from government reports, the RDWTI, the GTD, and John Mueller’s research. From 1975 through 2015, those **154 foreign-born terrorists murdered 3,024 people, 98.6 percent of whom were killed on September 11**, 2001. **The other 1.4 percent of murder victims were dispersed over the 41- year period**, with two spikes in 1993 and 2015. The spikes were produced by the 1993 World Trade Center bombing that killed 6 people and the combination of two 2015 incidents — the Chattanooga shooting on July 16, 2015, that killed 5 people and the San Bernardino attack on December 2, 2015, that killed 14 people. (The 2013 Boston Marathon bombing killed 3 people.) From 1975 through 2015, **the annual chance that an American would be murdered in a terrorist attack carried out by a foreign-born terrorist was 1 in 3,609,709. Foreigners on the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) killed zero Americans in terrorist attacks, whereas those on other tourist visas killed 1 in 3.9 million a year. The chance that an American would be killed in a terrorist attack committed by a refugee was 1 in 3.64 *billion* a year**. Of the roughly 768,000 total murders committed in the United States from 1975 to the end of 2015, 3,024 (or 0.39 percent) were committed by foreign-born terrorists in an attack.[24](https://www.cato.org/publications/policy-analysis/terrorism-immigration-risk-analysis#cite-24) Those risk statistics are summarized in Table 1. The annual chance of being murdered was 252.9 times as great as dying in an attack committed by a foreign-born terrorist on U.S. soil. The U.S. murder rate declined from a high of 10.17 per 100,000 in 1980 to a low of 4.45 per 100,000 in 2015 (see Figure 1). The 1975-2015 rate of murder committed by foreign-born terrorists was 0.026 per 100,000 per year, spiking to 1.047 in 2001. Zero Americans were killed in a domestic attack committed by foreign-born terrorists in 30 of the 41 examined years. In the 14 years after 9/11, only 3 years were marred by successful foreign-born terrorist attacks. Figure 1 shows a single perceptible blip for terrorism on the 9/11 attacks and a flat line otherwise.

#### Methodology

This analysis focuses on the **41-year period** from January 1, 1975, to December 31, 2015, because it includes large waves of Cuban and Vietnamese refugees that posed a terrorism risk at the beginning of the time period and bookends with the San Bernardino terrorist attack. It identifies foreign-born terrorists who were convicted of planning or committing a terrorist attack on U.S. soil and links them with the specific visa they were first issued as well as the number of people they individually murdered, if any, in their attacks.[10](https://www.cato.org/publications/policy-analysis/terrorism-immigration-risk-analysis#cite-10) This report counts terrorists who were discovered trying to enter the United States on a forged passport or visa as illegal immigrants. Asylum seekers usually arrive with a different visa with the intent of applying for asylum once they arrive, so they are counted under the asylum category. For instance, the Tsarnaev brothers, who carried out the Boston Marathon bombing on April 15, 2013, traveled here with a tourist visa but their family immediately applied for asylum, so they are included in that category. Next, information on the individual terrorists, their visa types, and number of victims is compared with the estimated costs per victim and the total number of visas issued in each category. Where conflicting numerical estimates exist, the highest plausible figures are used with the intent to maximize the risks and costs of terrorism in terms of human life. The appendix lists all of the terrorists identified. Finally, other costs of terrorism, such as property damage, losses to businesses, and reduced economic growth, are considered. Only three terrorist attacks committed by foreigners on U.S. soil have created significant property, business, and wider economic damage: the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, the 9/11 attacks, and the Boston Marathon bombing. The costs of the government’s responses to terrorism are excluded. his analysis is concerned primarily with the cost of human lives taken in terrorist attacks.

#### Your claim is way overblown—more European citizens commit terrorist attacks than refugees. Crone 17:

Manni Crone, DIIS, xx-xx-xxxx [European citizens, not refugees, behind most terrorist attacks in Europe, https://www.diis.dk/en/research/european-citizens-not-refugees-behind-most-terrorist-attacks-in-europe, 1-1-2018]//DW

In the period **between January 2016 and April 2017, four asylum-seekers were involved in terrorist incidents, but no actual refugees**. Moreover, in the second half of 2015, **European foreign fighters who had joined Islamic State in Syria managed to travel along migration routes to reenter Europe undetected**, sometimes posing as refugees. Exploring these incidents in a policy-oriented context, this report suggests that engaging with the vulnerabilities of the EU’s Schengen border policies and management will be central in addressing the challenges arising from the intersection of migration with terrorism. The report identifies vulnerabilities in EU border management and proposes ways forward for the EU and its member states. The aim of the report is not to produce a reliable threat assessment, but to inform and qualify policy debates on the links between migration and terrorism, as well as to point out possible solutions.

#### Turn-restricting migration breeds terrorism while there is virtually no threat to accepting them. Dearden 16:

Lizzie Dearden, Independent, 10-24-2016 [Anti-refugee laws increase terror risk, UN report finds, http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/refugee-crisis-terrorism-link-migration-un-expert-report-no-evidence-isis-uses-route-human-rights-a7377961.html, 1-1-2018]//DW

**A United Nations investigator** has **warned that moves to crackdown on migration may worsen the risk of more attacks** in Europe while breaching [refugees](http://www.independent.co.uk/topic/Refugees)’ fundamental rights. Ben **Emmerson, the Special Rapporteur on counter-terrorism** and human rights, **found “little evidence” that Isis and other terror groups** [**use refugee flows**](http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/paris-attacks-some-jihadists-took-advantage-of-refugee-crisis-to-slip-into-europe-french-prime-a6741466.html) **or that asylum seekers are prone to radicalisation**. Delivering a [report](https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N16/285/61/PDF/N1628561.pdf?OpenElement) to the UN General Assembly in New York, he said: “While **there is no evidence that migration leads to increased terrorist activity, migration policies that are restrictive or that violate human rights may in fact create conditions conducive to terrorism**. “Overly-restrictive migration policies introduced because of terrorism concerns are not justified and may in fact be damaging to state security.”

### AT: 18% NYU Study

#### The study is utter cheese. It says

The results indicate that **a 1% increase in the size of a country’s** 2005 **refugee** 22 **population creates a corresponding 18% increase in terrorist attacks committed by *groups based in that country***; these results are significant at the .01 level

**The refugees are not the ones committing terrorism. It is the groups in the country. The study studies war-torn countries such as Syria so obviously more terrorism increases the refugee population, meaning that it’s reverse casual. Moreover, Spain doesn’t have terrorist groups who will increase terrorism so that study doesn’t apply.**

#### The study CONCLUDES that countries should take in more refugees to help alleviate their sufferings.

### AT: Veto EU Membership Regardless

#### Only unilateral secession causes Spain or other countries to veto—other countries won’t mess around if split is negotiated. Pinnington 17:

Rebecca Pinnington, Express.co.uk, 10-11-2017 [Catalonia referendum SABOTAGE: Spain 'would VETO independent region joining the EU', https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/865244/catalonia-catalan-independence-referendum-spain-veto-eu-membership, 1-5-2018]//DW

Yesterday, Catalan president Carles Puigdemont [told the regional parliament](https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/864679/catalonia-independence-spain-catalan-leader-carles-puigdemont-announcement-live-updates): “Spain made us small, but Catalonia is a European affair.” However Catalan separatists hoping to remain a member of the EU will be disappointed, as they will have to go through a long application process that would most likely be blocked by the Spanish parliament. Any EU27 state has the right veto a new member joining the bloc - and experts say Spain would “certainly” exercise its power over [Catalonia](https://www.express.co.uk/latest/catalonia). Ian Bond, the Director of Foreign Policy at the Centre for European Reform, told Express.co.uk “**Spain would certainly veto” Catalan membership if Mr Puigdemont unilaterally declared independence.** Mr Puigdemont has not yet unilaterally declared independence, and has instead [suspended his declaration](https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/864880/Catalonia-independence-declaration-on-hold-crisis-ensues) pending talks with the Spanish authorities. However Spanish prime minister Mariano Rajoy shows no sign of willingness to negotiate with Catalonia, and continues to insist the referendum was not legitimate, as calling the vote did not follow processes laid out in Spain’s constitution. This makes it all the more likely Mr Puigdemont will unilaterally declare in the coming weeks - which would make a Spanish veto inevitable if it tried to join the EU as an independent state. Mr Bond added: “I suppose **the picture might change if there were a negotiated solution**, but that seems a remote possibility at present.” In any case, he said: “Even if Catalonia got Madrid to agree to a legal referendum on independence, voted in favour of leaving Spain and got Madrid to grant independence, it would still have to get the unanimous agreement of member-states to give it the status of a candidate for membership. “It would then have to show in negotiations with the Commission that it could meet all the requirements of an EU state, and get its membership ratified by the European Parliament and by all the other member-states – likely to be a lengthy process.” Spain is not the only EU27 country that could veto Catalan accession to the block, either. Other member states with concerns about separatism, like Belgium, France, or Denmark, where there are independence movements in border regions, could also have an interest in making life difficult for a newly-independent state. Mr Bond said: “**I think Spain’s view would carry a lot of weight - if they had done a deal with Catalonia, others might hesitate to cause problems**.” But if Spain and Catalonia fail to come to an agreement, the newborn country will experience a lot of setbacks in its quest to be part of the EU.

### AT: Barcelona Stat

#### 193,000 households in poverty. SGC 13:

http://www.sindic.cat/site/unitFiles/3530/Report%20on%20energy%20poverty%20in%20Catalonia%20def.pdf

The Idescat also offers information and data on the population with severe material deprivation in Catalonia, which includes those persons whose living conditions are restricted due to the lack of resources who cannot afford, among other items, their utility bills or to keep their homes properly heated. **According to the Living Conditions Survey for 2011, in Catalonia there were 193,000 households**—6.9% of the total—**that could not afford the expense of keeping their homes at an appropriate temperature**. Furthermore, in the EU-27 this percentage was 9.8% for the same year.

#### The evidence above refers to households—there are more than 2-3 people per household typically so 500,000 makes sense.

### AT: No Solvency—Short Time Frame

#### Even a few months is better than none because that gives individuals time to find a job or work to be able to pay their bills or recover from something instead of immediately locking them into a cycle of poverty and cutting them off from contact with the outside world and preventing upward mobility.

#### Empirics prove our argument true—majority of people who are unemployed find a job within 3 months. White 15:

The February jobs report is the latest in a series that demonstrates that the job market in the U.S. is slowly but surely improving. According the Bureau of Labor Statistics, **someone who is currently unemployed would need, on average, just over three months** (about [13.1 weeks](http://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.nr0.htm)) **to find work again**. In 2010, it would’ve around 25.2 weeks, or almost half a year for the average American to get back into the job market, according to [Pew Research](http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/02/06/four-signs-of-the-improving-u-s-jobs-situation/#more-267072).

### AT: Spain 25% Policy

#### Spain’s 25% law is an absolute joke—even individuals with almost no income are denied. Badcock 16:

James Badcock, BBC News, 11-20-2016 [Spain anger over 'energy poverty' deaths, http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-38024374, 1-13-2018]//DW

**Spain allows a 25% discount on energy bills only for especially large families**, households **where all members are unemployed or pensioners are on the minimum state pension. Any income**, however little, **can make a family ineligible** - as Matias Gonzalez from Barcelona found out, **when his son started bringing home** €136 (£116; $**144) a month** for occasional shifts in a bar, as a supplement to €426 entering the household in the form of benefits.

### AT: China Coal Policy Works

#### **Alt Causes—Coal Reform was not the reason. Roberts 17:**

Roberts, Daniel “Energy Poverty is a Real Problem. Coal is a Bogus Solution” Vox News. 07/27/17 CCD. <https://www.vox.com/2016/10/25/13309076/energy-poverty-coal>

**The most impactful anti-poverty tool in China was agricultural reform, which broke up collective farms and gave smallholders an economic stake** in their farms. The second was a huge push toward export-led manufacturing. The wave of **coal-driven industrialization came along when two-thirds of the work was already done.**

### AT: Coal is the Solution

#### Charcoal kills 4 million people a year from indoor breathing. Roberts 17:

David Roberts@Drvoxdavid@Vox, Vox, 7-27-2017 [Energy poverty is a real problem. Coal is a bogus solution., https://www.vox.com/2016/10/25/13309076/energy-poverty-coal, 1-13-2018]//DW

Some [1.2 billion people](http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/energy/publication/Global-Tracking-Framework-Report) around the world lack access to electricity. **2.8 billion burn charcoal, wood, or other biomass to cook and heat their homes**. Lack of access to clean, reliable energy services, or "**energy poverty," is a terrible problem for those who face it, leading to hours of drudgery gathering fuels and high mortality from indoor pollution (which kills around**[**4 million people a year**](http://www.vox.com/2014/9/15/6150713/the-deadliest-environmental-problem-today-is-indoor-air-pollution)).

#### Turn: Coal causes climate change which disproportionately hurts the poor. Roberts 17:

David Roberts@Drvoxdavid@Vox, Vox, 7-27-2017 [Energy poverty is a real problem. Coal is a bogus solution., https://www.vox.com/2016/10/25/13309076/energy-poverty-coal, 1-13-2018]//DW

There are some interesting, and not so obvious, reasons why this is true, but the most important reason is also the most self-evident: **Coal causes climate change**. Coal is the single biggest contributor to global carbon pollution. **It provides about** [30 percent](http://www.c2es.org/energy/source/coal) of global energy and produces about **44 percent of global carbon emissions. Climate change** is going to be very, very bad for the global poor, for a wide variety of reasons. It **threatens to set back decades of development work**. As Jim Yong Kim, president of the World Bank, [puts it](http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/opinion/2013/07/10/op-ed-ending-poverty-includes-tackling-climate-change), "if we don’t confront climate change, we won’t end poverty." [This separate report](http://cafod.org.uk/content/download/20298/142968/file/PUSHING%20PEOPLE%20OVER%20THE%20EDGE%20high%20res.pdf) from the Catholic Agency For Overseas Development (CAFOD) puts the threat into perspective. "Of the 30 countries most vulnerable to changes in weather patterns and hazards including climate change," it says, "26 are among the world’s poorest — that is, ‘least developed’ countries." **Of the populations most vulnerable, four in ten — over 400 million people — already survive at the edge of subsistence, on $1.25 a day**. (See also [this grim report](http://www.cgdev.org/blog/climate-change-regressive) from the Center for Global Development.) **Pushing global average temperatures past 2 degrees above preindustrial levels threatens the welfare of hundreds of millions of people** who are already close to the edge. And all it will take to push temperatures that high (and higher) is one-third of the coal plants [already planned](http://www.vox.com/2016/4/5/11361390/coal-plant-pipeline-china-india) in the world.

#### Putting coal in centralized plants will not help those in energy poverty—many live in rural areas away from central grids. Roberts 17:

David Roberts@Drvoxdavid@Vox, Vox, 7-27-2017 [Energy poverty is a real problem. Coal is a bogus solution., https://www.vox.com/2016/10/25/13309076/energy-poverty-coal, 1-13-2018]//DW

The energy poor fall in two basic categories. Around **15 percent of them live in urban areas,** in close physical proximity to power grids, but they aren’t reliably hooked up to those grids. Both technical and political barriers prevent connection. Those households tend to be dispersed and consume very little energy, which means connecting them is a money loser for utilities. And in many poor countries, utilities are not under social pressure to provide universal access; indeed, they are often centers of patronage and corruption. Building more coal plants and hooking them to those grids won’t help these households at all. Indeed, in countries like India where this is a serious problem, there is already excess coal capacity on the grid, so new plants are likely to sit idle. Hooking these households to the grid requires better governance, better financing for the upfront costs of connection, and reform of electricity subsidies and tariffs. **The other 85 percent of energy-poor households are rural, distant from any centralized grid**, mostly in Africa, India, and the rest of developing Asia. Putting more coal power on those centralized grids is obviously not going to help them. EAS Sharma, former Indian minster of power, [notes](https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/aug/07/coal-is-not-the-answer-to-indias-energy-poverty-whatever-tony-abbott-says) that some 6 million urban and 75 million rural Indian households lack electricity access. "These figures have not changed appreciably since 2001," he writes, "though around 95,000 MW of new largely coal-based electricity generation capacity was added during the intervening decade." **New coal plants are not targeted to areas with poor electricity access**. Why would they be? Those households are poor! There’s no money there. **Instead, coal gets built where there’s large-scale commercial or industrial demand**. There’s no correlation between coal and energy-access needs, either within a country or, as this chart shows, across countries: **The best, fastest solution to bringing energy access to areas where it is now lacking is distributed energy — solar, biodigesters, batteries**, microgrids, and the like. These micro-energy solutions will not offer a level of energy access equal to what’s available on a strong centralized grid, but **they are more than enough for energy-poor communities to take the first few steps up the energy-access ladder**, which are huge in terms of welfare and health. **Eventually, those microgrids can be linked up and connected to larger (low-carbon) power plants, so these rural areas can have real, industrialized economies**. But in the meantime, distributed energy can reach them a hell of a lot faster than larger power plants and central grids.

#### Turn: Coal condemns people to poverty—renewables are the only solution. Kammen 16:

Coal has been found out. Even its advocates acknowledge the devastation it causes to health and the destruction it wreaks on the environment. Yet **they still pretend that coal lifts “entire populations from poverty”. It doesn’t**. They argue that it’s a sustainable solution to the problem of energy poverty. It isn’t. The problem is that out of date, simplistic, thinking still makes a case for coal. Instead, let’s take a quick history lesson. Change is slow, and sadly even today coal has been cited as a magic fuel which has powered poverty reduction in China over recent decades. The reality is that **two-thirds of the people who escaped extreme poverty over recent decades in China did so through reforms to agriculture and the wider economy that took place between 1981 and 1987 – before industrialization** and the large-scale growth of coal. Even accounting for the expansion of coal in the 1990s, it wasn’t until after the millennium – when most of the poverty eradication in China had already occurred – that the real explosion of coal consumption took place. The same is true in southeast Asia, in the Balkans and in East Africa – all locations where my laboratory, [RAEL](https://rael.berkeley.edu/) is active in partnership with local organizations -- but where the same economic and health fundamentals apply. The work my laboratory has done documents clear evidence of the superiority of distributed clean energy in each region. Coal’s role in lifting people out of poverty continues to be exaggerated. But to access energy, people have to be able to reach it. Some 84% of those living in energy poverty reside in rural areas. Extending grids to these communities in the near term is a pipedream punctured by price and political will (or lack thereof). The ‘fortunate’ few who live closer to infrastructure can rarely afford connection costs or are thwarted from accessing power by sector mismanagement. **Coal does not fix these problems, it more often exacerbates and extends them**. By contrast, an integrated strategy that extends grids where cost-effective and invests in mini-grids and individual family “pay-as-you-go” energy solutions has proven to be socially progressive, equitable, and environmentally sustainable. The health implications of coal are enormous. Indoor pollution from unventilated cooking with fuelwood and charcoal is the fourth-largest cause of mortality worldwide and has a disproportionate impact on women and girls. **The coal industry’s consumption and pollution of water resources devastates communities and smallholder agriculture. And coal contributes to that elephant in the room: climate change**. Scientists worldwide and experts in international development from organizations such as CAFOD, Christian Aid and the Overseas Development Institute and in my laboratory have detailed how the changing climate is pushing people further into poverty in a new report, [Beyond Coal](https://www.odi.org/publications/10589-beyond-coal-scaling-clean-energy-fight-global-poverty). Only one-third of planned coal-fired power stations would surpass the 2 degree C warming limit established by the Paris Climate Accord. **The world can’t burn coal without frying the planet**. Today there simply are better options for lifting people out of poverty than coal. **The explosive growth in mini-grids, and off-grid renewable energy solutions such as solar power, wind, and micro-hydropower. The cost of renewable energy has plummeted – by 80% since 2009** for solar power – making it much cheaper than fuels, such as kerosene, relied on by people who lack more reliable energy. These costs continue to fall as investment and capacity increase. It has been acknowledged from South Africa to India that, besides the price of pollution, renewable energy is cheaper than importing coal or building new plants. It’s also quicker to set up off-grid or mini-grid systems powered by the sun or the wind than to construct coal power stations. Once in place, the operating costs of renewable energy are almost non-existent. When the sun isn’t shining or the winding blowing, power sources such as hydropower, geothermal or natural gas provide a better back-up than the inefficiency of ramping up and down of coal plants. This alleged Achilles’ heel is diminishing with smarter management of grids and improvements in energy storage capacity and competitiveness. Coal lobbyists’ last trump card is jobs. The sector has been a significant employer since industrialization and is embedded into the culture of many communities. This should not be dismissed. Indeed, **this is why support must be given to the renewable energy industry, which already employs more people worldwide than coal** (9.4 million people compared to 7 million). My laboratory has documented the jobs benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy in our [clean jobs project](https://rael.berkeley.edu/project/green-jobs/) where we find that clean energy and efficiency investments outpace jobs from coal dramatically. The question is whether we work towards a just transition in the workforce or await the inevitable market-induced catastrophe for communities as coal becomes consigned to history. This is why governments must stop bailing coal out with taxpayers’ money. **Renewable energy offers the road out of poverty. Coal condemns people to it.**

#### **Turn: Coal causes mass poverty—history proves. Also renewables can take the place of coal. Granoff 16**

Granoff, Ilmi “Scaling Up Clean Energy to Fight Global Poverty” 10/16 Overseas Developmental Institute. CCD. <https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/resource-documents/10964.pdf>

Now **the coal industry claims that expanding coal** use **is critical to** fighting extreme poverty and **improving energy access** for billions of people in developing countries. In fact, **the opposite is true. The** global **commitment to eradicate** extreme poverty and **energy poverty** by 2030 does not require such an expansion and it is incompatible with stabilising the earth’s climate. The evidence is clear: a lasting solution to poverty **requires the world’s wealthiest economies to renounce coal**, and we can and must end extreme poverty without the precipitous expansion of new coal power in developing ones.  Energy is needed not only for universal access, but also to lift people’s incomes by powering growth and employment. **Low-carbon, renewable options are competitive with coal.** In the US, the price of electricity from photovoltaics has fallen by over 80%, and wind power by over 60%, since 2009. There are also options to effectively manage the intermittency of some renewables. Coal is not one of them. **Renewables are also a more promising source of employment:** the sector employed 9.4 million people in 2015, compared to the 7 million employed by the coal industry according to the World Coal Association’s own 2012 estimate. **Coal’**s environmental and climate impacts **present[s]** **a clear threat to people living in poverty**. Air pollution from coal causes some 670,000 premature deaths a year in China and 100,000 in India. A one gigawatt plant in Indonesia could cause 26,000 premature deaths over its lifespan. **Building just a third of the planned coal-fired power plants**, mostly in developing Asia, would take the world past 2°C of warming, **pushing hundreds of millions into extreme poverty before the middle of the century.** To quote the World Bank President Jim Kim: ‘if the entire region implements the coal-based plans right now, I think we are finished … That would spell disaster for our planet.’

### AT: Renewables are Causing Energy Poverty

#### Renewables are actually the solution—they are becoming cheaper than coal plants. Nuccitelli 16:

Dana Nuccitelli, Guardian, 10-31-2016 [Coal doesn’t help the poor; it makes them poorer, https://www.theguardian.com/environment/climate-consensus-97-per-cent/2016/oct/31/coal-doesnt-help-the-poor-it-makes-them-poorer, 1-13-2018]//DW

South Africa, for example, is the cheapest place in Africa to generate coal-fired power, yet electricity from its new 4.7 gigawatt Medupi advanced coal plant will cost ... 17% more than the electricity generated from South Africa’s 2 gigawatt of new onshore wind power. In India, the minister responsible for power development recently stated: ‘I think **a new coal plant would give you costlier power than a solar plant’** (Climate Home, 2016). The statement is supported by the extremely low bid prices for recent solar procurements in India (Kenning, 2015). Renewable energy investment in the emerging world now outpaces that in developed countries (McGrath, 2016). **Renewable energy also has low operating cost and zero fuel cost, while fossil fuel costs are variable and susceptible to price spikes. And renewable energy creates more** (and safer) **jobs** than coal.

### AT: Veto EU Membership Regardless

#### Only unilateral secession causes Spain or other countries to veto—other countries won’t mess around if split is negotiated. Pinnington 17:

Rebecca Pinnington, Express.co.uk, 10-11-2017 [Catalonia referendum SABOTAGE: Spain 'would VETO independent region joining the EU', https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/865244/catalonia-catalan-independence-referendum-spain-veto-eu-membership, 1-5-2018]//DW

Yesterday, Catalan president Carles Puigdemont [told the regional parliament](https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/864679/catalonia-independence-spain-catalan-leader-carles-puigdemont-announcement-live-updates): “Spain made us small, but Catalonia is a European affair.” However Catalan separatists hoping to remain a member of the EU will be disappointed, as they will have to go through a long application process that would most likely be blocked by the Spanish parliament. Any EU27 state has the right veto a new member joining the bloc - and experts say Spain would “certainly” exercise its power over [Catalonia](https://www.express.co.uk/latest/catalonia). Ian Bond, the Director of Foreign Policy at the Centre for European Reform, told Express.co.uk “**Spain would certainly veto” Catalan membership if Mr Puigdemont unilaterally declared independence.** Mr Puigdemont has not yet unilaterally declared independence, and has instead [suspended his declaration](https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/864880/Catalonia-independence-declaration-on-hold-crisis-ensues) pending talks with the Spanish authorities. However Spanish prime minister Mariano Rajoy shows no sign of willingness to negotiate with Catalonia, and continues to insist the referendum was not legitimate, as calling the vote did not follow processes laid out in Spain’s constitution. This makes it all the more likely Mr Puigdemont will unilaterally declare in the coming weeks - which would make a Spanish veto inevitable if it tried to join the EU as an independent state. Mr Bond added: “I suppose **the picture might change if there were a negotiated solution**, but that seems a remote possibility at present.” In any case, he said: “Even if Catalonia got Madrid to agree to a legal referendum on independence, voted in favour of leaving Spain and got Madrid to grant independence, it would still have to get the unanimous agreement of member-states to give it the status of a candidate for membership. “It would then have to show in negotiations with the Commission that it could meet all the requirements of an EU state, and get its membership ratified by the European Parliament and by all the other member-states – likely to be a lengthy process.” Spain is not the only EU27 country that could veto Catalan accession to the block, either. Other member states with concerns about separatism, like Belgium, France, or Denmark, where there are independence movements in border regions, could also have an interest in making life difficult for a newly-independent state. Mr Bond said: “**I think Spain’s view would carry a lot of weight - if they had done a deal with Catalonia, others might hesitate to cause problems**.” But if Spain and Catalonia fail to come to an agreement, the newborn country will experience a lot of setbacks in its quest to be part of the EU.

#### EFTA Solves 100% of the EU harms—Catalonia would join. The board wants them. Even if they don’t get access to the EEA, they still get access to other trillion dollar trade markets such as Canada, Mexico, Korea, Saudi Arabia, and many northern African countries which is more than enough to supplement their economy.

### AT: Spain Shifting in Squo

#### Empirically untrue—in 2017, 67% of Spain’s energy came from non-renewable energy source. Renewables Now 17:

Published, Renewablesnow, xx-xx-xxxx [Renewables produce 33.7% of Spain's power in 2017, https://renewablesnow.com/news/renewables-produce-337-of-spains-power-in-2017-596136/, 1-26-2018]//DW

**About 33.7% of the power generated in Spain in 2017 came from renewable energy sources**, mainly wind turbines, according to provisional figures released today.

### AT: Spain Solves

#### This definitely isn’t true as the CREAF evidence indicates that over the past 50 years, Catalonia has already has a 2 degree C increase in temperatures which is unprecedented.

#### Spain’s economy is in shambles right now and they can’t afford to give green tech funds to Catalonia.

### AT: China Can Lead

#### China is a poor leader—authoritarian regime hurts legitimacy of Paris deal.

Overall, Europe needs the climate regime as much as the climate regime needs Europe. Indeed, the EU is currently suffering from internal divisions with the rise of populist Eurosceptic movements. Climate change represents a salient issue with the potential to enhance European unity, since most member states agree that action should be taken. Moreover, if the EU succeeds in enacting ambitious environmental legislation, this will attract green investments and international entrepreneurs, helping to consolidate the economic recovery. Likewise, climate diplomacy has also provided EU external relations with a palpable success. Regardless of weaknesses in other areas, climate negotiations represent an opportunity for the EU to bolster its presence on the global stage. Conversely, **the climate regime needs the EU because** otherwise, following US disengagement, **China risks filling in the vacuum on its own and becoming the main power. If an authoritarian government comes to dominate the global climate regime, this might impact its legitimacy in the long run**. Thus, **EU leadership is necessary to balance China's power and infuse democratic values** into the climate regime. This is especially true since the EU, due to its very nature, is ideally positioned to contribute. Climate negotiations do not require any sort of hard military power, but rather subtle diplomatic skills and 'soft power'. As an archetypical normative power, the EU can successfully rely on tools such as multilateral diplomacy to shape the international climate agenda and become the guardian of the Paris Agreement.

### AT: EU Can’t Solve

#### EU has the skills necessary—diplomacy and soft power means it can succeed

Overall, Europe needs the climate regime as much as the climate regime needs Europe. Indeed, the EU is currently suffering from internal divisions with the rise of populist Eurosceptic movements. Climate change represents a salient issue with the potential to enhance European unity, since most member states agree that action should be taken. Moreover, if the EU succeeds in enacting ambitious environmental legislation, this will attract green investments and international entrepreneurs, helping to consolidate the economic recovery. Likewise, climate diplomacy has also provided EU external relations with a palpable success. Regardless of weaknesses in other areas, climate negotiations represent an opportunity for the EU to bolster its presence on the global stage. Conversely, the climate regime needs the EU because otherwise, following US disengagement, **China risks filling in the vacuum on its own** and becoming the main power. **If an authoritarian government comes to dominate the global climate regime, this might impact its legitimacy in the long run**. Thus, **EU leadership is necessary to balance China's power and infuse democratic values into the climate regime**. This is especially true since the EU, due to its very nature, is ideally positioned to contribute. **Climate negotiations** do not **require** any sort of hard military power, but rather **subtle diplomatic skills and 'soft power'. As an archetypical normative power, the EU can successfully rely on tools such as multilateral diplomacy to shape the international climate agenda and become the guardian of the Paris Agreement**.

#### Historical precedent proves that countries model the EU in regards to climate policy.

### AT: Poor Econ=No Funds for Green Tech

#### Paris climate accord funds are binding—countries have to use them on green tech.

### AT: Green Energy = Job Loss

#### Turn: Renewable energy creates more jobs than fossil fuels—much more labor intensive. Kats 16:

Greg Kats, GreenBiz, 12-5-2016 [How many jobs does clean energy create?, <https://www.greenbiz.com/article/how-many-jobs-does-clean-energy-create>, 1-10-2018]//DW

International studies also find large differences in labor intensity of clean energy relative to fossil fuels. For example, a 2014 U.K. Energy Research Center report, ["Low Carbon Jobs,"](http://www.ukerc.ac.uk/publications/low-carbon-jobs-the-evidence-for-net-job-creation-from-policy-support-for-energy-efficiency-and-renewable-energy.html) found that the average **employment creation for fossil fuels is 0.14 jobs per Gigawatthour** (coal 0.15, gas 0.12), that **the average across all renewable energy is 0.65 jobs/GWh, and that the average across both renewable energy and energy efficiency is 0.80 jobs/GWh**. This [broad government study](http://www.edie.net/downloads/Low-carbon-jobs-Net-job-creation-for-energy-efficiency-and-renewable-energy/63) finds that **renewable energy creates 4.3 times as many jobs as coal and 5.4 times as many as natural gas. It also finds that job creation from clean energy generally (renewables plus energy efficiency) is 5.3 times greater than from coal and 6.7 times greater than from natural gas. Renewable energy and energy efficiency clearly are several times more labor-intensive than fossil fuels. Clean energy jobs also generally are more distributed and are largely higher quality jobs**. For these reasons, the ongoing shift to clean energy is very good news for employment and workers, and any politician interested in creating jobs should embrace and support the clean energy transition.

#### Turn: Europe also proves that renewable energy creates more jobs. Patel 17:

Prachi Patel, IEEE Spectrum: Technology, Engineering, and Science News, 1-26-2017 [For U.S. Jobs Creation, Renewables Are a Better Bet Than Coal, https://spectrum.ieee.org/energywise/energy/renewables/for-us-jobs-creation-renewables-are-a-better-bet-than-coal, 1-10-2018]//DW

For jobs creation, the new Trump administration would do well to take a fresh look at clean energy rather than focusing only on fossil fuels. The solar power sector employed twice as many workers in 2016 than power generation from coal, gas and oil combined, according to a [U.S. Department of Energy report](https://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2017/01/f34/2017%20US%20Energy%20and%20Jobs%20Report_0.pdf)on employment in energy and energy efficiency. The solar workforce was about 374,000-strong, making up around 43% of the total employees in the power generation field. Wind power employed 101,738 workers, an increase of 25%. Coal, gas and oil-fired generation together accounted for just over 187,000 jobs, or 22% of the workforce. A majority of fossil fuel energy jobs are in mining and extraction rather than power generation, but these jobs are declining. Coal mining reached its peak employment in 2012, and now employs around 53,000. Oil and gas extraction jobs reached a peak in 2014 with 541,000 jobs, and in mid-2016 had 388,000 workers. According to a [report from the Environmental Defense Fund](http://edfclimatecorps.org/nowhiringreport) (EDF) **solar jobs are growing at a** [**rate 12 times faster**](http://www.forbes.com/sites/edfenergyexchange/2017/01/24/as-trump-signals-rollback-on-environmental-regulations-new-jobs-report-indicates-thats-a-bad-idea/#7e1520256161) **than the rest of the U.S. economy.** Plus **they are “generating more jobs per dollar invested**–more than double the jobs created from investing in fossil fuels.” What’s more, many of these renewable energy and energy efficiency jobs are local, pay well, and can be found in any state, says Liz Delaney, a program director at EDF. Jobs in renewables and energy efficiency are also growing, unlike those in fossil fuels. The DOE report says that wind and solar jobs increased by 32% and 25% respectively between 2015–2016. **The energy efficiency sector is projected to have the highest growth this year at 9%, with employers expecting to hire 198,000 more people in 2017**. “The main factor behind this growth is the economic drivers,” Delaney says. She points to dropping wind and solar prices, and the fact that businesses are recognizing that energy-efficiency measures are a cost-effective way to save money. “Whether or not you’re an environmentalist this just makes good business ense,” she says. President Trump’s plans to roll back environmental regulations, advance oil pipelines, and open up federal land for drilling and mining might add jobs in the energy industry. But in the end, market forces will play a big role in whether he can deliver on the promise of bringing back fossil fuel energy jobs. Reviving coal sector jobs will be especially hard. The DOE report says that most of the 26 GW of utility-scale power generation capacity that will be added in the next few years will be solar (9.5GW), natural gas (8GW), and wind (6.8GW). Coal-fired power generation in the U.S. has declined by 53% between 2006 and 2016, the DOE report says. That’s mainly because of cheap and cleaner natural gas, the share of which grew by 33% in that decade (solar generation grew 5000%). Fracking and newer drilling techniques have led to a big enough surge in natural gas production that supply now exceeds demand. The costs of solar and wind also continue to plummet. Even if President Trump can delay coal power plant retirement, the job payoff will be small, according to the [Christian Science Monitor](http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/Inhabit/2017/0124/Behind-Trump-pipeline-orders-a-pledge-to-deliver-energy-jobs). The coal industry might have better long-term success if it was made cleaner using [carbon capture and storage](https://spectrum.ieee.org/energywise/green-tech/clean-coal/carbon-capture-is-not-dead-but-will-it-blossom) technologies. From that CSM article: “Any attempt to bring coal back that doesn’t recognize the concerns that others have isn’t going to work,” says Richard Reavey, vice president of public affairs for Cloud Peak Energy, a Wyoming-based coal company. **Germany’s switch to renewables** as part of the country’s bold plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2020 **is expected**, in the long run, **to** [**save the country 149 billion euros**](https://spectrum.ieee.org/energywise/energy/renewables/germany-aggressive-switch-to-renewables-will-save-us-149-billion) **while creating 430,000 additional jobs.**

#### Empirically proven false—green energy generates jobs 12x as fast. Samuelson 17:

Kate Samuelson January 27, 2017, Fortune, 1-27-2017 [Renewable Energy Industry Creates Jobs 12 Times Faster Than Rest of U.S., http://fortune.com/2017/01/27/solar-wind-renewable-jobs/, 1-8-2018]//DW

**The** [**solar and wind industries**](http://fortune.com/2016/11/28/clean-green-renewable-solar-wind-energy-industry-donald-trump/) **are each creating jobs at a rate 12 times faster** **than that of the rest of the U.S. economy**, according to a [new report](http://edfclimatecorps.org/sites/edfclimatecorps.org/files/the_growth_of_americas_clean_energy_and_sustainability_jobs.pdf). The study, published by the Environmental Defense Fund’s (EDF) Climate Corps program, says that **solar and wind jobs have grown at rates of about 20% annually in recent years, and sustainability now collectively represents four to four and a half million jobs in the U.S., up from 3.4 million in 2011**. The renewable energy sector has seen rapid growth over recent years, driven largely by significant reductions in manufacturing and installation costs. Building developers and owners have been fueled by state and local building efficiency policies and incentives, the report explains. But, these gains are in contrast to Trump’s support for fossil fuel production, his climate change denial and his belief that renewable energy is a “bad investment”. “Trump’s current approach is basically ignoring an entire industry that has grown up over the last 10 years or so and is quite robust,” Liz Delaney, program director at EDF Climate Corps, told [Business Insider](http://uk.businessinsider.com/solar-energy-job-growth-2017-1?utm_content=buffer6c57c&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=buffer&r=US&IR=T).

#### Green energy empirically creates more jobs—China proves.

Natasha Geiling, No Publication, 3-27-2017 [Clean energy employs more people than fossil fuels in nearly every U.S. state, https://thinkprogress.org/clean-energy-more-jobs-than-fossil-fuels-32f615915399/, 1-10-2018]//DW

Nationally, **clean energy jobs outnumber fossil fuel jobs by more than 2.5 to 1**, according to a [new Sierra Club analysis](https://www.docdroid.net/G6njmYC/sierra-club-clean-energy-jobs-report-final-1.pdf.html) of Department of Energy jobs data. And when it comes to coal and gas — two sectors President Donald Trump has promised to bolster through his [upcoming executive order](https://www.bloomberg.com/politics/articles/2017-03-26/trump-said-to-issue-far-reaching-reversal-of-obama-climate-push) on energy regulation — clean energy jobs outnumber jobs dealing with those two fossil fuels by 5 to 1. “Right now, **clean energy jobs already overwhelm dirty fuels in nearly every state across America**, and that growth is only going to continue as clean energy keeps getting more affordable and accessible by the day,” Sierra Club executive director Michael Brune said in a statement. “These facts make it clear that Donald Trump is attacking clean energy jobs purely in order to boost the profits of fossil fuel billionaires.” According to the Sierra Club’s analysis, nearly every state in the country has more jobs in clean energy than fossil fuels — just nine states have more jobs in fossil fuels than in clean energy. Some of largest discrepancies between clean energy jobs and fossil fuel jobs were in states like Florida, Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and Indiana, where jobs in renewable energy “vastly exceeded jobs in the fossil fuel industry,” according to Sierra Club’s analysis. Many of these places also happen to be states that helped Trump win the presidential election in November. Clean energy jobs have seen incredible growth in recent years, with solar and wind jobs growing at a rate [12 times faster](http://www.businessinsider.com/solar-energy-job-growth-2017-1) than the rest of the U.S. economy. According to a 2015 report from the Environmental Defense Fund, renewable energy jobs in the United States enjoyed a 6 percent compound annual growth rate between 2012 and 2015. **Fossil fuel jobs**, by contrast, **had a negative 4.5 percent compound annual growth rate** over the same time period. And, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the nation’s fastest growing profession over the next decade is likely to be a [wind turbine technician](https://www.bls.gov/ooh/installation-maintenance-and-repair/wind-turbine-technicians.htm). Despite strong national growth, however, the United States still lags behind both China and Brazil when it comes to the total share of renewable jobs globally. **Renewable energy employs** [**8.1 million people worldwide**](http://www.irena.org/News/Description.aspx?NType=A&mnu=cat&PriMenuID=16&CatID=84&News_ID=1450), according to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) — and 3.5 million of those jobs are located in China. **The Chinese government has already announced plans to invest heavily in the renewable energy sector in the next three years, aiming to create 13 million more renewable energy jobs by 2020.**

#### There are ways of solving lost jobs – EU uniquely good at this. Bowen 15

Alex Bowen and Karlygash Kuralbayeva of Grantham Research Institute, 3-xx-2015 [, http://www.lse.ac.uk/GranthamInstitute/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Looking-for-green-jobs\_the-impact-of-green-growth-on-employment.pdf, 1-10-2018]//CD

One potential benefit of a transition to green growth is the creation of jobs. The generation of green jobs has been one of the more popular promises of climate change and other environmental policies. However, there are different ways of assessing the employment consequences of such policies. One approach is to focus on categorising existing jobs that help provide environmental and resource management services. European Union members in particular are making progress on this front. There is some evidence that such jobs are growing in number – a bit faster than employment as a whole – but from a low base. But with climate change mitigation measures strengthening around the world, it is important for national statistical agencies to get a better grasp on what is happening to employment (and GDP) in these industry sectors, so that they can alert policy-makers to the extent of structural change that such policies are inducing.

### AT: Warming Doesn’t Exist

#### There is a unanimous consensus that warming is real. Powell 15:

Powell, 15 – [James Lawrence, Ph.D. in Geochemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and is executive director of the National Physical Science Consortium, Special Inquirer, “The Consensus on Anthropogenic Global Warming”, vol. 39.6, November/December 2015, <http://www.csicop.org/si/show/the_consensus_on_anthropogenic_global_warming>, 7/18/16]//DW

If scientists do not endorse the ruling paradigm, can we still quantify the extent of a scientific consensus? Yes, we can. The articles that turned up in the Cook et al. search were not drawn at random but appeared because they answered the search topics “global warming” or “global climate change.” The authors in the Cook et al. database were writing about AGW. Would they have written about a theory that they believe is false yet never say so? We can get a further clue using the research category classification that Cook et al. provided. Of the 7,970 “no position” articles, 56.8 percent were on the impacts of global warming, 18.4 percent on mitigation, 17.1 percent on measurements and modeling methods, and 7.7 percent on paleoclimatology. Would authors write about those aspects of global warming if they believed that AGW is false yet never say so? What would be the point? We know from the history of science that the most important advances come when stubborn facts overthrow the ruling paradigm. This is how scientific reputations are made. It is why we remember Alfred Wegener and not his opponents. A scientist who has evidence that AGW is false will be eager to say so and to present that evidence. Who among us would not love to be that scientist! Putting all this together, I argue that we can judge the extent of the consensus by the number of articles that explicitly reject AGW. Cook et al. found seventy-eight, 0.7 percent, that did so. From that one can infer that **the authors of 99.3 percent of the articles in the Cook et al. database accept AGW**. This would be the average over the twenty years of their survey. More recently, the percentage of acceptance has grown even higher. I used the Web of Science to review the titles and abstracts of peer-reviewed articles from 2013 and 2014, adding the search topic “climate change” to “global climate change” and “global warming.” Of 24,210 abstracts, only five—one in 4,842 or 0.021 percent—in my judgment explicitly rejected AGW. Two of the articles had the same author, so **four authors of 69,406 rejected AGW. That is one in 17,352, or 0.0058 percent. This result would allow the claim that 99.99 percent of scientists publishing today accept AGW**. To be conservative, I prefer to say above 99.9 percent. Excluding self-citations, only one of the five rejecting articles has been cited and that article only once. Remember that the 99.9 percent figure does not represent what we usually mean by consensus: agreement of opinion. Rather it is derived from the peer-reviewed literature and thus reflects the evidence therein. It tells us that there is virtually no publishable evidence against AGW. That is why scientists accept the theory. The consensus on anthropogenic global warming is not 97 percent. Instead, **publishing scientists are close to unanimous that “global warming is real, man-made, and dangerous,**” as President Obama put it.

### AT: Ice Age

#### No, an Ice Age is not coming. Budamir 16:

Budamir 15 [Ivan Budamir, Newswire, July 19, 2015, "No, an Ice Age is Not Coming, Expert Says", <http://newswire.net/newsroom/news/00089576-no-winter-is-not-coming-experts-said.html>]//DW

British solar scientists created a model of Sun’s activity that showed 60 percent decrease. However, experts warn that if this is to be true, not only that the River Thames could freeze, but it would be the end of mankind.¶ “A decrease in solar output of 1 percent would be a very big deal for the climate system. A 60 percent decrease would end all life on Earth, forever probably,” James Renwick, a professor at the Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand and an expert in atmospheric physics, told Newsweek.¶ “I am rather surprised no one has commented on this yet or pointed out how unlikely it is,” Professor Renwick added.¶ The decrease noted in the original report was a reference to solar flares or sunspots, not the sun's total output.¶ Professor Renwick explained that findings of Professor Valentina Zharkova, who analyzed three solar activity cycles that cover a period from 1976 to 2008, are valid. However, the data were misinterpreted, as **there will be no decrease in solar activity**. The data only showed solar cycle may decline by 60 percent during this period, and that is not the same.¶ According to Professor Zharkova, who researched convex fluids deep within the Sun’s layers, magnetic wave components appear in pairs, originating in two different layers in the Sun's interior. Both cycles have an 11-year frequency, but are "slightly different, and offset in time."¶ The thing is, the Zharkova’s team was analyzing the sun’s 11-year cycles from a purely astronomical perspective, and the press release said nothing about its effect on Earth.¶ Professor Renwick explained that during an 11-year period in the 2030s, the two magnetic waves that produce sunspots will almost cancel each other out. The material ejected from the sun could drop by 60 percent compared with the previous cycle.¶ According to Professor Renwick, **this 60 percent decrease in sunspots will lower the Sun’s output roughly 0.1 percent. That figure is not worrying**, especially giving the effects of heating the Earth’s surface by CO2 pollution. ¶ “**The levels of CO2 and other greenhouse gases are so much higher now that temperatures would not drop much below where they are today**, according to Professor Renwick.¶ “**That drop would last only until 2050 or so**. Then we'd have a bounce upwards again,” he concluded.¶ In the 1900s, when the river Thames froze, the event was not a wide-ranging or worldwide event. Even the 'Little Ice Age', which lasted from 1300 to the mid-1600s, was more the result of a persistent 'polar express' than world climate change.

#### We’ve already emitted enough to stop an ice age. Cook 11:

(John Cook, Climate Communication Fellow for the Global Change Institute at the University of Queensland, citing a variety of peer reviewed papers, “ Are we heading into a new Ice Age?” 9/1/11 <http://www.skepticalscience.com/heading-into-new-little-ice-age-intermediate.htm>)//DW

However, our climate has experienced much more dramatic change than the Little Ice Age. Over the past 400,000 years, the planet has experienced ice age conditions, punctuated every 100,000 years or so by brief warm intervals. These warm periods, called interglacials, typically last around 10,000 years. Our current interglacial began around 11,000 years ago. Could we be on the brink of the end of our interglacial? Figure 3: Temperature change at Vostok, Antarctica (Petit 2000). Interglacial periods are marked in green. How do ice ages begin? Changes in the earth's orbit cause less sunlight (insolation) to fall on the northern hemisphere during summer. Northern ice sheets melt less during summer and gradually grow over thousands of years. This increases the Earth's albedo which amplifies the cooling, spreading the ice sheets farther. This process lasts around 10,000 to 20,000 years, bringing the planet into an ice age. What effect do our CO2 emissions have on any future ice ages? This question is examined in one study that examines the glaciation "trigger" - the required drop in summer northern insolation to begin the process of growing ice sheets (Archer 2005). **The more CO2 there is in the atmosphere, the lower insolation needs to drop to trigger glaciation**. Figure 3 examines the climate response to various CO2 emission scenarios. The green line is the natural response without CO2 emissions. Blue represents an anthropogenic release of 300 gigatonnes of carbon - we have already passed this mark. **Release of 1000 gigatonnes of carbon (orange line) would prevent an ice age for 130,000 years. If anthropogenic carbon release were 5000 gigatonnes or more, glaciation will be avoided for at least half a million years**. As things stand now, the combination of relatively weak orbital forcing and the long atmospheric lifetime of carbon dioxide is likely to generate a longer interglacial period than has been seen in the last 2.6 million years. Figure 4. Effect of fossil fuel CO2 on the future evolution of global mean temperature. Green represents natural evolution, blue represents the results of anthropogenic release of 300 Gton C, orange is 1000 Gton C, and red is 5000 Gton C (Archer 2005). So **we can rest assured, there is no ice age around the corner**. To those with lingering doubts that an ice age might be imminent, turn your eyes towards the northern ice sheets. If they're growing, then yes, the 10,000 year process of glaciation may have begun. However, **currently the Arctic permafrost is degrading, Arctic sea ice is melting and the Greenland ice sheet is losing mass at an accelerating rate. These are hardly good conditions for an imminent ice age.**

#### An ice age isn’t coming – the temperature change would be minimal – prioritize the negative effects of warming which happen first. Bailey 15:

Bailey 15 – [Daniel, science degrees in Earth Science, Cartography and Remote Sensing at Central Michigan University and staff writer at Skeptical Science, Skeptical Science, “Are we heading into a new Ice Age?”, 7/6/15, <https://www.skepticalscience.com/heading-into-new-little-ice-age-intermediate.htm>, 7/25/16]//DW

Just a few centuries ago, the planet experienced a mild ice age, quaintly dubbed the Little Ice Age. Part of the Little Ice Age coincided with a period of low solar activity termed the Maunder Minimum (named after astronomer Edward Maunder). It's believed that a combination of lower solar output and high volcanic activity were major contributors (Free 1999, Crowley 2001), with changes in ocean circulation also having an effect on European temperatures (Mann 2002). Could we be heading into another Maunder Minimum? Solar activity is currently showing a long-term cooling trend. 2009 saw solar output at its lowest level in over a century. However, **predicting future solar activity is problematic. The transition** from a period of 'grand maxima' (the situation in the latter 20th century) to a 'grand minima' (Maunder Minimum conditions) **is a chaotic process and difficult to predict** (Usoskin 2007). Let's say for the sake of argument that the sun does enter another Maunder Minimum over the 21st century. **What effect would this have** on Earth's climate? Simulations of the climate response if the sun did fall to Maunder Minimum levels find that **the decrease in temperature from the sun is minimal** compared to the warming from man-made greenhouse gases (Feulner 2010). **Cooling from the lowered solar output is estimated at around 0.1°C (with a maximum possible value of 0.3°C**) while the greenhouse gas warming will be around 3.7°C to 4.5°C, depending on how much CO2 we emit throughout the 21st century (more on this study...). However, **our climate has experienced much more dramatic change than the Little Ice Age. Over the past 400,000 years, the planet has experienced ice age conditions, punctuated every 100,000 years or so by brief warm intervals**. These warm periods, called interglacials, typically last around 10,000 years. Our current interglacial began around 11,000 years ago. Could we be on the brink of the end of our interglacial? How do ice ages begin? Changes in the earth's orbit cause less sunlight (insolation) to fall on the northern hemisphere during summer. Northern **ice sheets melt less during summer and gradually grow over thousands of years. This increases the Earth's albedo which amplifies the cooling, spreading the ice sheets farther**. This process lasts around 10,000 to 20,000 years, bringing the planet into an ice age. What effect do our CO2 emissions have on any future ice ages? This question is examined in one study that examines the glaciation "trigger" - the required drop in summer northern insolation to begin the process of growing ice sheets (Archer 2005). **The more CO2 there is in the atmosphere, the lower insolation needs to drop to trigger glaciation.** Figure 4 examines the climate response to various CO2 emission scenarios. The green line is the natural response without CO2 emissions. Blue represents an anthropogenic release of 300 gigatonnes of carbon - we have already passed this mark. Release of 1000 gigatonnes of carbon (orange line) would prevent an ice age for 130,000 years. If anthropogenic carbon release were 5000 gigatonnes or more, glaciation will be avoided for at least half a million years. **As things stand now, the combination of relatively weak orbital forcing and the long atmospheric lifetime of carbon dioxide is likely to generate a longer interglacial period than has been seen in the last 2.6 million years**. So we can rest assured, **there is no ice age around the corner. To those with lingering doubts that an ice age might be imminent, turn your eyes towards the northern ice sheets. If they're growing, then yes, the 10,000 year process of glaciation may have begun. However, currently the Arctic permafrost is degrading, Arctic sea ice is melting and the Greenland ice sheet is losing mass at an accelerating rate. These are hardly good conditions for an imminent ice age.**

### AT: CO2 Good

#### The benefits from CO2 are short lived and don’t outweigh the negative effects of climate. Ellison 16:

Ellison, 2016 - [Jake, News Producer at SeattlePi, SeattlePi, “CO2 is making Earth greener; too bad about the rising seas”, 4/26/16, <http://www.seattlepi.com/local/science/article/CO2-is-making-Earth-greener-too-bad-about-the-7376684.php>, 7/24/16]//DW

The beneficial aspect of CO2 fertilization in promoting plant growth has been used by contrarians, notably Lord Ridley (hereditary peer in the UK House of Lords) and Mr. Rupert Murdoch (owner of several news outlets), to argue against cuts in carbon emissions to mitigate climate change, similar to those agreed at the 21st Conference of Parties (COP) meeting in Paris last year under the UN Framework on Climate Change (UNFCCC). "The fallacy of the contrarian argument is two-fold. First, **the many negative aspects of climate change, namely global warming, rising sea levels, melting glaciers and sea ice, more severe tropical storms, etc. are not acknowledged**. Second, **studies have shown that plants acclimatize, or adjust, to rising CO2 concentration and the fertilization effect diminishes over time**," says co-author Dr. Philippe Ciais, Associate Director of the Laboratory of Climate and Environmental Sciences, Gif-suvYvette, France and Contributing Lead Author of the Carbon Chapter for the recent IPCC Assessment Report 5.g

#### All plant CO2 studies are done in artificial conditions—real-world tests prove this argument false. Mittelstaedt 09:

Mittelstaedt 9 (Martin, The Globe and Mail’s environment reporter, The Globe and Mail, 3-31, <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/archives/article743395.ece>, 7-3-11)//DW

Scientists have made another worrisome discovery, this time about carbon dioxide itself, the main greenhouse gas, which is vital for plant development. It had been assumed in the 1980s, based on greenhouse experiments, that an atmosphere richer in carbon dioxide would stimulate plant growth, raising some crop yields by as much as 30 per cent. That is part of the reason why, up until now, few people worried much about agriculture and global warming. It was thought that, while climate change might wreak havoc on ice-dependent polar bears and low-lying coastal cities, it held a verdant lining for farmers. But **new research** published last year **based on experiments in the U.S., Japan, Switzerland and New Zealand found the beneficial effects of carbon dioxide were** vastly **overrated when crops were grown in the more realistic setting of open farm fields, rather than in greenhouses. Corn yields didn't rise at all, and the rise in wheat and rice yields was less than half previous estimates**.

### AT: SO2 Turns

#### Turn: Fossil fuels produce large amounts of SO2 causes warming. Ward 09:

Ward 09 [Peter Ward, Teton Tectonics, March 2009, "Sulfur dioxide initiates global climate change in four ways", <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/222512220_Sulfur_dioxide_initiates_global_climate_change_in_four_ways>]//DW

Global climate change, prior to the 20th century, appears to have been initiated primarily by major changes in volcanic activity. Sulfur dioxide (SO2) is the most voluminous chemically active gas emitted by volcanoes and is readily oxidized to sulfuric acid normally within weeks. But **trace amounts of SO2 exert significant influence on climate.** All major historic volcanic eruptions have formed sulfuric acid aerosols in the lower stratosphere that cooled the earth's surface ~ 0.5 °C for typically three years. While such events are currently happening once every 80 years, there are times in geologic history when they occurred every few to a dozen years. These were times when the earth was cooled incrementally into major ice ages. There have also been two dozen times during the past 46,000 years when major volcanic eruptions occurred every year or two or even several times per year for decades. Each of these times was contemporaneous with very rapid global warming. **Large volumes of SO2 erupted frequently appear to overdrive the oxidizing capacity of the atmosphere resulting in very rapid warming**. Such warming and associated acid rain becomes extreme when millions of cubic kilometers of basalt are erupted in much less than one million years. These are the times of the greatest mass extinctions. When major volcanic eruptions do not occur for decades to hundreds of years, the atmosphere can oxidize all pollutants, leading to a very thin atmosphere, global cooling and decadal drought. Prior to the 20th century, increases in atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO2) followed increases in temperature initiated by changes in SO2.By 1962, **man burning fossil fuels was adding SO2 to the atmosphere at a rate equivalent to one “large” volcanic eruption** each 1.7 years. Global temperatures increased slowly from 1890 to 1950 as anthropogenic sulfur increased slowly.Global temperatures increased more rapidly after 1950 as the rate of anthropogenic sulfur emissions increased. By 1980 anthropogenic sulfur emissions peaked and began to decrease because of major efforts especially in Japan, Europe, and the United States to reduce acid rain. Atmospheric concentrations of methane began decreasing in 1990 and have remained nearly constant since 2000, demonstrating an increase in oxidizing capacity. Global temperatures became roughly constant around 2000 and even decreased beginning in late 2007. Meanwhile atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide have continued to increase at the same rate that they have increased since 1970. Thus **SO2 is playing a far more active role in initiating** and controlling **global warming** than recognized by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. **Massive reduction of SO2 should be a top priority in order to reduce both global warming and acid rain**.

#### CO2 Causes Warming even with Aerosols—CO2 just lasts so much longer. Crutzen 07:

(Fred, and Paul Crutzen, Max Planck Institute for Chemistry, Mainz, Germany. An atmospheric chemist who won the Nobel Prize in 1995 for his work predicting the destruction of the ozone layer, Crutzen pioneered thinking about stratospheric chemistry, the role of man-made aerosols in shading the planet, and "nuclear winter," and coined the term "Anthropocene." John Mercer, formerly of Ohio State University, Columbus., Mercer also pioneered research on tropical glaciers. Drew Shindell, NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, New York. An ozone-layer expert and climate modeler, Shindell is doing groundbreaking research on unexpected links between the upper and the lower atmosphere, revealing how the stratosphere can amplify small changes in surface temperature, “With speed and violence: why scientists fear tipping points in climate change,” pg online @ http://www.gci.org.uk/Documents/wsav.pdf //DW

Still the world didn't take much notice. I asked Andreae about this strange indifference. "It's always amazing," he e-mailed me, "how many people don't see how important this issue is for the future development of the climate system." The discussion at the Dahlem meeting had rather changed his worldview, he said. "Before the Dahlem meeting, I was becoming kind of climate complacent, in the sense that I was convinced of coming global warming, but felt that it was going to be a couple of degrees and we could deal with that. Also, I felt that the aerosols were doing us a favor in slowing and reducing warming. But after it, I came to realize that the aerosols brake will come off global warming, and also that the aerosol cooling introduces a great uncertainty about climate sensitivity. I'm now in a situation where, as a human being, I hope that I'm wrong as a scientist. If we are right with our current assessment, there are really dire times ahead." Models are only models, of course. But **whatever the precise scale of the current aerosol effect, it would be quite wrong to imagine that it can carry on protecting us from the worst as global warming gathers momentum**. That is because aerosols and greenhouse gases have very different life spans in the atmosphere. **Aerosols stay for only a few days before they are washed to the ground in rain**. By contrast, **carbon dioxide has a life span of a century or more. If,** for the sake of argument, **we stuck with current emission levels of both aerosols and carbon dioxide**, the aerosol levels in the air would stay the same. **There would be no accumulation and no increase in the cooling effect.** But **carbon dioxide levels would carry on rising and produce ever greater warming**.

### AT: Germany Not a Good Example

#### Germany is fake—can’t meet targets. Hockenos 17:

Paul Hockenos, Foreign Policy, 11-14-2017 [Germany Is a Coal-Burning, Gas-Guzzling Climate Change Hypocrite, http://foreignpolicy.com/2017/11/13/germany-is-a-coal-burning-gas-guzzling-climate-change-hypocrite/, 1-12-2018]//DW

**Germany’s image as** selfless **defender of the climate**, which was once largely deserved, **is now a transparent fiction**. G**ermany has fallen badly behind on its pledges to sink** its own greenhouse gas **pollutants. In fact, Germany’s carbon emissions haven’t declined for nearly a decade** and **the German Environment Agency calculated** that **Germany emitted** 906 million tons of CO2 in 2016 — **the highest in Europe** — compared to 902 million in 2015. And 2017’s interim [numbers](https://www.cleanenergywire.org/news/germanys-energy-use-and-emissions-likely-rise-yet-again-2017) suggest emissions are going to tick up again this year. Germany is now in serious danger of hitting neither its 2020 nor its 2030 emissions targets, the very benchmarks that it browbeat other nations into adopting at previous climate conferences. **Germany is now in serious danger of hitting neither its 2020 nor its 2030 emissions targets, the very benchmarks that it browbeat other nations into adopting at previous climate conferences.** Leading German think tanks agree that Germany can’t, at its current rate, slash emissions enough in the next two years to reduce its carbon output by 40 percent (compared to its 1990 levels) or 55 percent by