# NC

### T

#### The WTO comprises over 100 member nations. A topical affirmative must defend a collective action taken by those nations.

WTO 96

World Trade Organization (it’s that thing in the resolution). “FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM.” 13 September 1996. JDN. <https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/minist_e/min96_e/chrono.htm>

Once a system involving 23 countries primarily concerned with cutting tariffs, the multilateral trading system now encompasses **128 member nations** dealing with virtually all manner of global commerce, including trade in services, textiles, agriculture and the international rule for the protection of patents, trademarks and copyrights.

#### The subject of the resolution is a non-bare plural quantified by the definite article “the.” That means it refers to the “member nations” as a definite singular unit. Otherwise it would use the indefinite article “a member nation.”

Breckenridge 9

Wylie Breckenridg-e (lecturer in philosophy at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, Australia; PhD, Oxford). “On Russell's Theory of Definite Descriptions.” 9 December 2009. JDN. <http://wylieb.com/Philosophy/DipArts/Russell.pdf>

Second, he appeals to the similarity of definite descriptions with indefinite descriptions - phrases like 'a man', 'some man', 'all men', etc. It is intuitively acceptable to say that in 'Some man is my father' the indefinite description 'Some man' does not purport to refer to any particular thing, and that the statement can be interpreted as 'There is least one man that is my father'. Russell claims that 'The man is my father' is just like 'Some man is my father', except that it also asserts uniqueness. So it should be interpreted in a similar vein as 'There is at least one man that is my father, and there is at most one man that is my father', or as 'There is **exactly one** man that is my father'. In general, he claims that it is natural to move from interpreting 'Some Φ is Ψ' as 'At least one Φ is Ψ' to interpreting 'The Φ is Ψ' as 'At least one thing is Φ, at most one thing is Φ, and whatever is Φ is Ψ'. Third, he shows how **his theory can solve** three **'puzzles' about definite descriptions.** The first is the problem about 'The evening star' and 'The morning star'. (The example that Russell uses is actually about 'Scott' and 'The author of Waverley', but I'll stick to the morning and evening stars.) The problem is that the truth of 'The evening star is the morning star' is interesting, and yet when we replace 'the morning star' by 'the evening star' (which denotes the same thing) we get the uninterestingly true statement 'The evening star is the evening star'. Russell's solution is that the apparently co-referring definite descriptions do not refer at all. The original statement is not about a thing called 'the morning star'; it just **includes a claim about the unique existence of a thing** with certain properties. So we cannot make the substitution in the way suggested. The second puzzle is that some statements involving definite descriptions seem to defy the law of the excluded middle. According to it, the King of England is either bald or not bald and so at least one of 'The King of England is bald' and 'The King of England is not bald' must be true. But if we listed all of the things which are bald and all of the things which are not bald we would not find the King of England on either list (because there is no King of England). So it seems that neither is true. Russell's solution is to point out that the law of the excluded middle says that the King of England is either on the first list or not on the first list. But not being on the first list is not the same as being on the second list - this is the important distinction between the two interpretations of 'The King of England is not bald' that we noted above. For the law of the excluded middle to hold, it only has to be the case that the King of England is either on the first list or not on the first list (and that is the case). It does not have to be the case that the King of England is either on the first list or on the second list (just as well - because this is not the case). The third puzzle came up in part I as well - how can we talk about things that do not exist in order to (truthfully) deny their existence? If we can talk about them then mustn't they, in some sense, exist? (Meinong thought yes.) Russell thinks no. His solution we have already seen - to deny that in the statement 'The greatest prime number does not exist' the word 'exists' is used as a predicate. Rather, the statement should be interpreted as saying 'It is not the case that there is exactly one greatest prime number'.

#### Independently, “Resolved” implies a general principle—atypical examples don’t affirm

Coburn-Palo and Luong 96

Nicholas Coburn-Palo (Assistant Debate Coach and Instructor in the Department of Communication at Weber State University, formerly a fulltime speech instructor and Director of Debate at The Pinewood College Preparatory School, and formerly an active member of the National Tournament of Champions Advisory Committee) and Minh Luong (Assistant Professor in the Ethics, Politics, & Economics Program at Yale University and International Affairs Fellow at the Yale Center for International and Area Studies), “Resolutional focus in policy argumentation: theory and application.” NFL Rostrum, January, 1996. JDN. https://debate.uvm.edu/NFL/rostrumlib/cxluong0196.pdf

Another reason why it would be logically correct to consider the resolution as the focus of the debate is the presence of alternative phrasing possibilities.9 The term "resolved" has appeared in all contemporary policy debate resolutions and a **review of the literature** indicates that the term implies a firmness or determination in reference to the claim which is being upheld.10 This interpretation **would** seem to **render atypical examples irrelevant** because no firmness or determination could be demonstrated in reference to the statement to which "resolved" applies. At an absolute minimum, there is **no linguistic reason** to believe that the resolution is meant as a boundary from which the affirmative is free to pick any example. Indeed, the authority of the topic selection committee to phrase the topic any way it wishes would seem to indicate that they at least have the option to permit the possibility of resolutionally-focused debate. The committee could have phrased the resolution as: Resolved: That a plan of the affirmative's choosing should be adopted by the United States government which would substantially change its foreign policy toward the People's Republic of China.

#### The aff really couldn’t violate harder if it tried. It’s literally one country. That’s not even “nations” plural, let alone as a whole.

#### First is limits—The WTO literally includes a majority of all countries on the planet. The aff could break a new country in every single round of every single tournament on this topic and not get through a quarter of them. That unlimits neg prep which kills in-depth case debate and forces a fallback to non-topic generics like T, stock Ks, or Politics.

#### Second is precision—this is just flagrantly not what the topic means. You don’t need to make any specific assumptions about correct dialects or proper English because no human on this planet would hear “the member nations of the WTO” and think it means “just Jordan.” Allowing the aff to just straight up ignore certain constraints on the topic destroys the function of topicality as a stasis point entirely because there’s no guarantee that tomorrow they don’t decide that “reduce” actually means “increase” or “medicines” means “software.”

#### Third—they’ll whine about how being aff is hard and they just need plans so badly, but the TVA actually solves on this topic. The “reduce” portion of the topic is incredibly flexible and gives the aff incredibly broad leeway to find clever mechanisms like compulsory licensing provisions, one-and-done limitations to secondary patenting, or even reading their same data exclusivity mechanism with the WTO as the agent. Those debates allow aff flex while preserving neg ground because they at least center all aff plans around the same body of law, i.e. the WTO TRIPS agreement, rather than opening up over 100 different legal systems to debate.

#### Reject reasonability because it’s arbitrary and invites judge intervention. Drop the debater—the abuse already occurred and the 2NR is too late to restart with brand new offense.

### CP – Patent Tolling (0:45)

#### CP: The member nations of the WTO should extend the patent period for new drugs such that the 20-year period of exclusivity begins only when the drug is brought to market.

Andreassen 14

TOM ANDREASSEN PATENT FUNDED ACCESS TO MEDICINES Tom Andreassen is Ph.D-candidate at the Programme for Applied Ethics at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim. The paper was for a large part written during a one-year period as Visiting Assistant in Research at Yale University’s Global Justice Program, New Haven Developing World Bioethics ISSN 1471-8731 (print); 1471-8847 (online) doi:10.1111/dewb.12058 Volume 15 Number 3 2015 pp 152–161 <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/dewb.12058> -CAT

As noted above, the recuperation of the investments in a new medicine is largely realized in high cost markets. It is estimated that between 80 and 90 per cent of the sales of patented medicine occur in the OECD countries.45 This is where the recovery of costs in research and development takes place, and not in the developing countries. Jean O. Lanjouw and William Jack have pointed out that the developed countries already offered patents on pharmaceuticals before TRIPS, and that ‘the main result of the harmonization of standards required by TRIPS is to strengthen pharmaceutical patent rights in a group of poorer countries.’46 Lanjouw and Jack comments on the effect of extending the patent period: ‘Lengthening patent protection for a couple of weeks in rich countries, for example, could provide returns equivalent to the introduction of 20-year patents in the developing world.’47 This concerns then the compensation for lost sales in developing countries. Another matter is the cost of producing the needed drugs for free supply. Here it is significant that the patent holder will already have its own, or they have out-licensed, ongoing production. The cost of R&D, marketing and testing for approval, as well as setting up production, will be covered by the ordinary patent period and should therefore be kept outside the calculation of cost for the added production. Details need to be worked out regarding the calculation of the cost and the length of the extended patent period, and the companies will most likely need to accept an authorized auditing instrument verifying the data necessary for the calculations. The average effective sales protection is, as shown above, ten years. It is safe to assume that the extension needed for added production is a small fraction of that. Indeed it has been said by Harvey Bale, then the director general of the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations, that ‘Companies are able, through sales they make in developed countries, to offset the cost of donating drugs to poor countries.’48 Here we see a strong reason to keep the patent institute in place instead of weakening it. If surplus values generated by extended patent protection could be used to make the donations programs comprehensive, then the patent system, instead of cutting people off from access to essential medicines, actually would be the arrangement that made them accessible to people that could not even afford generic medicines. Lanjouw and Jack in fact concludes that certain medicines should be made available to the very poorest countries free of charge.49 An extended patent period would imply that the introduction of generic drugs and the price competition that follows from it would be slightly postponed. The cost for this, in that the price reduction is delayed in wealthier countries, would come as a result of expanded market protection through TRIPS and not from any new demands from patients in developing countries.

#### No perms - timeframe exclusivity o/ws every other aspect of IP, even a few weeks can be worth billions of dollars – we’re greatly increasing IP protections.

#### And it solves the 1AC because the incentive for drug monopolization comes from the fact that more than half the exclusivity period lapses before the drug comes to market

Song and Han 16

Chie Hoon Song and Jeung‑Whan Han\* Research Center for Epigenome Regulation, School of Pharmacy, Sungkyunkwan University, Suwon, Republic of Korea Patent cliff and strategic switch: exploring strategic design possibilities in the pharmaceutical industry Song and Han SpringerPlus (2016) 5:692 DOI 10.1186/s40064-016-2323-1 <https://springerplus.springeropen.com/track/pdf/10.1186/s40064-016-2323-1.pdf> -CAT

The pharma industry: an interesting avenue for designing strategies The pharmaceutical industry has a unique approach to its research and development compared to other industry segment. The sector is strongly R&D driven, highly regulated and is characterized by an increasing level of product complexity and quality requirements (Grabowski 2004). It generally takes up more than 10 years and at least $1 billion to successfully develop and achieve a market approval of a new blockbuster drug (efpia 2014). The long development and testing cycles together with uncertain prospects for commercial success make it demanding to delay planning and decision making processes within an organization. Over the years, the pharmaceutical industry has constantly adapted its business model towards the development of a single drug that targets a broader population. This approach has contributed to important advances in pharmacology to treat a wide spectrum of diseases while ignoring the patient’s individual biology. However, as many **companies** are conducting researches in similar indication areas and working on influencing the same enzyme activity or the interaction with receptors, it seems opportune to **file a patent application as early as possible** for the discovered drug candidate. This approach has the disadvantage that the patent expiration is expected to occur much earlier than usual and **the effective market life of drugs is significantly reduced** (Hemphill and Sampat 2012). It takes an average of 12–13 years to complete the research and development activities, from the initial patent filing to the regulatory approval of new drug, thereby **reducing** the **effective** time of **market exclusivity to 7**–8 **years** (efpia 2014). Grabowski and Moe (2008) emphasized that the shortened exclusivity period offers “**insufficient** time for most new drugs **to recoup the up-front R&D costs** and earn a **positive return on** this **investment**”. Subsequently, reducing the time necessary to develop and commercialize the product is one of the key success parameters. However, as the innovator-companies generally have a comparatively limited portfolio of innovative products in their pipeline, they can “no longer simply allow post-patent profits to be eroded and rely on new, patented products to replace their lost revenues” (Bruce 2003). In this context, strategic behavior can be expected in a legal framework to promote lifecycle extension strategies. A steady communication between the health care providers and representative of the pharmaceutical industry is seen as an essential element in making the health care more affordable for the payers and profitable for the industry. Thus, the patent cliff might provide a unique opportunity for the participant in the current healthcare system to collaborate and reinvent the current model of drug discovery and drug marketing for the sustainable development of the whole industry sector.

#### They’ve got the wrong internal link – data exclusivity in general is not the problem, it’s lack of sufficient economic investment from BOTH Jordan AND exporting countries, which means the CP solves what the card ACTUALLY describes as the precise internal link.

1AC Armouti and Nsour 16 – RECUT; CATONSVILLE IN YELLOW “Data Exclusivity for Pharmaceuticals: Was It the Best Choice for Jordan Under the U.S.- Jordan Free Trade Agreement?” WAEL ARMOUTI [LL.M in intellectual property law, Faculty of Law, the University of Jordan (Amman, Jordan), Legal Affairs Director at Jordan Food and Drug Administration (JFDA).] AND MOHAMMAD F.A. NSOUR [Lawyer and associate law professor at the University of Jordan.] OREGON REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL LAW [Vol. 17, 259 2016] <https://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1794/20019/Nsour.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y> SM

The Jordanian pharmaceutical industry is considered to be a generic industry, one which does not involve innovation products. Few Jordanian companies have patents in this field, and the existing patents are mostly related to new techniques of old chemical entities, rather than to a new chemical entity. This lack of patents issued on the basis of innovation is due to insufficient financial resources for conducting the clinical trials that are required for new chemical entities, and also due to there being no foreign investment to support the local research and development or to strengthen the companies’ infrastructure.274

Additionally, the local pharmaceutical industry faces many obstacles in their bid to export to countries such as Saudi Arabia, Algeria, and Egypt; these countries tend to protect their own local industry.275 Additionally, as per the Secretary General of the JAPM, the enforcement of the data exclusivity approach has compounded the problem faced by Jordan’s pharmaceutical industry. Delaying the registration of the local generic product in Jordan, the country of origin, to around six years after the registration of the originator product consequently delays the generic product’s registration in export countries as well. Some countries request the marketing of the product in its country of origin for at least one year before submission of its registration file like Saudi Arabia. Additionally, other countries like Saudi Arabia price the generic products in descending order, so delaying the registration file submission will lead to a lower price, a price which might be untenable. Adding to this conundrum, a late market entry also has the effect of decreasing market share.

### Cap K

#### [Younes RECUT 1] The link is the 1AC’s explicit call for economic “reforms” in Jordan that are the same old neoliberal approaches that entrench capitalism – “economic development” and tax cuts

1AC Younes RECUT, CATONSVILLE READS GREEN

“Jordan’s economic crisis threatens political stability” Ali Younes, 14 Feb 2018 <https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2018/2/14/jordans-economic-crisis-threatens-political-stability> SM

Jordan’s economic crisis threatens political stability Anger simmers after the government hiked taxes between 50-100 percent on key food staples such as bread. Angry at the decision to increase food prices last month, restive Jordanians are demanding the government’s resignation and the dissolution of parliament. Last month, the government implemented a tax rise of between 50-100 percent on key food staples such as bread, in order to decrease its $700m budget deficit. Jordan’s debt has now reached $40bn and its debt-to-gross-domestic-product ratio has reached a record 95 percent, up from 71 percent in 2011. The economic crunch that squeezes the country will be particularly acute this year, after Jordan’s Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) allies – Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Kuwait – did not renew a five-year financial assistance programme with Amman worth $3.6bn that ended in 2017. The United States is now the only donor that has committed itself to support Jordan. On Wednesday, US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson signed a five-year $6.375bn ($1.275bn a year) aid deal with Foreign Minister Ayman al-Safadi. This surpassed the previous agreement of about $1bn a year, signed with the previous US administration, by about 27 percent, and increased in length from three years to five. A US State Department statement said $750m was earmarked annually for economic support funds and $350m for the military. It was unclear what the remaining $175m would be used for. “As part of this bilateral understanding, Jordan has committed to prioritise economic and security sector reforms that aim to support Jordanian self-reliance,” it said. During a joint press conference in Amman, Tillerson said the increase would support Jordan’s security roles in fighting terrorism and the conflict in Syria. However, even with the increased flow of US aid that has funded budgets and projects since the 1950s, it remains to be seen if Jordan’s economy will stabilise, according to analysts. Hussam Abdallat, a political activist and former government official, told Al Jazeera the American assistance won’t benefit ordinary Jordanians. “American aid to Jordan is useless to the average Jordanian; most of it goes to support the Jordanian military – which serves American interests, not Jordan’s – and the rest goes back to the US through US companies working in Jordan,” Abdallat said. Any US aid that is not directly budgeted for economic development is “meaningless”, he added. Regional stability Journalist Salameh Aldarawi, editor of Maqar online newspaper, told Al Jazeera that Jordan’s economic problems are directly related to political stability in the region. Aldarawi, who writes on the Jordanian economy, said devastating wars in neighbouring Syria and Iraq – the country’s biggest trading partners – have curtailed economic growth. The harsh measures taken by the government will not improve economic stability and will only hurt the most vulnerable people in Jordanian society, he said. “Prices and tax hikes are only hurting the poor and the middle class, especially in the absence of wage increases or social safety nets,” Aldarawi said. “These measures will only provide temporary quick fixes, not a long-term, strategic solution.” He said tackling corruption was imperative, along with fixing the “collapsed education and healthcare systems. “The government must start with fighting entrenched and endemic corruption within its ranks, recover billions of dollars of embezzled public funds, [and] create equality among the different segments of the population, especially towards those who pay more taxes but get fewer services and privileges,” said Aldarawi. ‘Economic disaster’ Abdallat, who leads several activist groups demanding political and economic reform, said Jordan’s political elite must be held accountable for their actions that have driven the country to the edge of financial ruin. “People are protesting in several areas in the country and demanding the resignation of the government and the parliament, who are responsible for the economic disaster we are in now,” he said. In Amman, where nearly half of Jordan’s 9.9 million population resides, criticism of government policies has spread over social media, but, so far, not significantly to the streets. Analysts say that, unlike residents of the capital, people in the southern and northern provinces are more dependent on government largesse and employment and will suffer greater hardship when the government is no longer able to meet their needs. “At this rate, I am afraid that we will end up with a revolt of the hungry,” said Abdallat. Hussein Mahadeen, a professor of social development at Mutah University in Kerak, south of Amman, said Jordan has a foreign aid dependency problem because of its political and social structure. Mahadeen said Jordan is still transitioning from its tribal society roots into a semi-modern state. “Lacking solid legal and civic institutions, to safeguard the rights and liberties of citizens and their ability to contest government decisions, is a major impediment towards its political and economic development,” he told Al Jazeera. “The Jordanian society, for several reasons, is not mature enough socially and politically to be able to mount a serious challenge to the state’s ability to impose strict economic measures.” ‘Violent revolt’? For many decades, foreign aid and remittances from expatriate Jordanians in the Gulf region were the mainstays of the Jordanian economy that kept the country afloat. This, however, created dependency, and a succession of Jordanian governments failed to take measures to wean the country off foreign assistance and become self-reliant, according to Mahadeen. Jordan’s main problem is it hasn’t progressed and developed beyond its “functional state” roots,that is a state created to perform certain functions on behalf of others, after its creation by the British, after defeating the Ottoman Empire in World War I, he said Abdallat – who has been imprisoned several times for his criticism of the government – said he was concerned the economic situation facing Jordan could result in an uprising. “If the current economic crisis persists, it might lead to a revolt, and I am afraid it will be a violent one,” he said.

#### [ROB & McLaren] We call for a rejection – private property causes massive global dehumanization that must be engaged with

McLaren 4

Distinguished Fellow – Critical Studies @ Chapman U and UCLA urban schooling prof, and Scatamburlo-D’Annibale, associate professor of Communication – U Windsor, ‘4 (Peter and Valerie, “Class Dismissed? Historical materialism and the politics of ‘difference’,” Educational Philosophy and Theory Vol. 36, Issue 2, p. 183-199)

The grosteque conditions that inspired Marx to pen his original critique of capitalism are present and flourishing. The inequalities of wealth and the gross imbalances of power that exist today are leading to abuses that exceed those encountered in Marx’s day (Greider, 1998, p. 39). Global capitalism has paved the way for the obscene concentration of wealth in fewer and fewer hands and created a world increasingly divided between those who enjoy opulent affluence and those who languish in dehumanizing conditions and economic misery. In every corner of the globe, we are witnessing social disintegration as revealed by a rise in abject poverty and inequality. At the current historical juncture, the combined assets of the 225 richest people is roughly equal to the annual income of the poorest 47 percent of the world’s population, while the combined assets of the three richest people exceed the combined GDP of the 48 poorest nations (CCPA, 2002, p. 3). Approximately 2.8 billion people—almost half of the world’s population—struggle in desperation to live on less than two dollars a day (McQuaig, 2001, p. 27). As many as 250 million children are wage slaves and there are over a billion workers who are either un- or under-employed. These are the concrete realities of our time—realities that require a vigorous class analysis, an unrelenting critique of capitalism and an oppositional politics capable of confronting what Ahmad (1998, p. 2) refers to as ‘capitalist universality.’ They are realities that require something more than that which is offered by the prophets of ‘difference’ and post-Marxists who would have us relegate socialism to the scrapheap of history and mummify Marxism along with Lenin’s corpse. Never before has a Marxian analysis of capitalism and class rule been so desperately needed. That is not to say that everything Marx said or anticipated has come true, for that is clearly not the case. Many critiques of Marx focus on his strategy for moving toward socialism, and with ample justification; nonetheless Marx did provide us with fundamental insights into class society that have held true to this day. Marx’s enduring relevance lies in his indictment of capitalism which continues to wreak havoc in the lives of most. While capitalism’s cheerleaders have attempted to hide its sordid underbelly, Marx’s description of capitalism as the sorcerer’s dark power is even more apt in light of contemporary historical and economic conditions. Rather than jettisoning Marx, decentering the role of capitalism, and discrediting class analysis, radical educators must continue to engage Marx’s oeuvre and extrapolate from it that which is useful pedagogically, theoretically, and, most importantly, politically in light of the challenges that confront us. The urgency which animates Amin’s call for a collective socialist vision necessitates, as we have argued, moving beyond the particularism and liberal pluralism that informs the ‘politics of difference.’ It also requires challenging the questionable assumptions that have come to constitute the core of contemporary ‘radical’ theory, pedagogy and politics. In terms of effecting change, what is needed is a cogent understanding of the systemic nature of exploitation and oppression based on the precepts of a radical political economy approach (outlined above) and one that incorporates Marx’s notion of ‘unity in difference’ in which people share widely common material interests. Such an understanding extends far beyond the realm of theory, for the manner in which we choose to interpret and explore the social world, the concepts and frameworks we use to express our sociopolitical understandings, are more than just abstract categories. They imply intentions, organizational practices, and political agendas. Identifying class analysis as the basis for our understandings and class struggle as the basis for political transformation implies something quite different than constructing a sense of political agency around issues of race, ethnicity, gender, etc. Contrary to ‘Shakespeare’s assertion that a rose by any other name would smell as sweet,’ it should be clear that this is not the case in political matters. Rather, in politics ‘the essence of the flower lies in the name by which it is called’ (Bannerji, 2000, p. 41).

#### Thus, the ROB - vote for the debater who has the better liberatory strategy to free us from neoliberalism.

#### [Medea & Davies] The alt is to overcome demoralization through a philosophical rejection of consumerism – yes this K is so good it has a solvency advocate

Medea and Davies 21 (10/20/21)

[Medea Benjamin](https://www.commondreams.org/author/medea-benjamin), co-founder of [Global Exchange](http://www.globalexchange.org/) and [CODEPINK: Women for Peace](http://www.codepinkalert.org/), is the author of the 2018 book, "[Inside Iran: The Real History and Politics of the Islamic Republic of Iran](https://www.amazon.com/Inside-Iran-History-Politics-Republic/dp/1944869654)." Her previous books include: "[Kingdom of the Unjust: Behind the U.S.-Saudi Connection](https://www.amazon.com/Kingdom-Unjust-Behind-U-S-Saudi-Connection/dp/1944869026)" (2016); "[Drone Warfare: Killing by Remote Control](https://bookshop.org/a/16708/9781781680773)" (2013); "[Don’t Be Afraid Gringo: A Honduran Woman Speaks from the Heart](https://bookshop.org/a/16708/9780060972059)" (1989), and (with Jodie Evans) "[Stop the Next War Now (Inner Ocean Action Guide)](http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B004D4Y3A2?ie=UTF8&tag=commondreams-20&linkCode=xm2&camp=1789&creativeASIN=B004D4Y3A2)" (2005). [Nicolas J. S. Davies](https://www.commondreams.org/author/nicolas-js-davies) is an independent journalist, a researcher with CODEPINK and the author of [Blood On Our Hands: the American Invasion and Destruction of Iraq.](https://bookshop.org/a/16708/9781934840986) “Our Future vs. Neoliberalism” Common Dreams. October 20, 2021. <https://www.commondreams.org/views/2021/10/20/our-future-vs-neoliberalism?fbclid=IwAR3Wb3UHFCPxvh-QbPSXrPYct2qVNq5Va1WLfTpik1Eh6msAwLas1a1Ky1U> Accessed October 28, 2021 -CAT

In country after country around the world, people are rising up to challenge entrenched, failing [neoliberal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neoliberalism) political and economic systems, with mixed but sometimes promising results. [Progressive leaders](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/oct/09/progressive-democrats-congress-strength-infrastructure-reconciliation) in the U.S. Congress are refusing to back down on the Democrats' promises to American voters to reduce poverty, expand rights to healthcare, education, and clean energy, and repair a shredded social safety net. After decades of tax cuts for the rich, they are also committed to raising taxes on wealthy Americans and corporations to pay for this popular agenda. Americans should likewise demand that our government stop wasting trillions of dollars to militarize the world and destroy countries like Afghanistan and Iraq, and start solving our real problems, here and abroad. Germany has elected a [ruling coalition](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-58924480) of Social Democrats, Greens and Free Democrats that excludes the conservative Christian Democrats for the first time since 2000. The new government promises a $14 minimum wage, solar panels on all suitable roof space, 2% of land for wind farms and the closure of Germany's last coal-fired power plants by 2030. Iraqis voted in an election that was called in response to a popular [protest movement](https://www.juancole.com/2019/12/iraqis-against-corruption.html) launched in October 2019 to challenge the [endemic corruption](https://english.alaraby.co.uk/news/iraq-150bn-stolen-oil-cash-smuggled-out-2003) of the post-2003 political class and its subservience to U.S. and Iranian interests. The protest movement was split between taking part in the election and boycotting it, but its candidates still won about 35 seats and will [have a voice](https://www.middleeasteye.net/opinion/iraq-elections-how-change-political-landscape) in parliament. The party of long-time Iraqi nationalist leader Muqtada al-Sadr won 73 seats, the largest of any single party, while Iranian-backed parties whose armed militias killed hundreds of protesters in 2019 lost popular support and many of their seats. Chile's billionaire president, Sebastian Piñera, is being [impeached](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/oct/13/chile-sebastian-pinera-impeachment-proceedings-pandora-papers) after the Pandora Papers revealed details of bribery and tax evasion in his sale of a mining company, and he could face up to 5 years in prison. Mass street protests in 2019 forced Piñera to agree to a new constitution to replace the one written under the Pinochet military dictatorship, and [a convention](https://publicseminar.org/essays/chile-tries-to-write-a-new-constitution/) that includes representatives of indigenous and other marginalized communities has been elected to draft the constitution. Progressive parties and candidates are expected to do well in the general election in November. Maybe the greatest success of people power has come in Bolivia. In 2020, only a year after a U.S.-backed right-wing [military coup](https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/sep/18/silence-us-backed-coup-evo-morales-bolivia-american-states), a [mass mobilization](https://peoplesdispatch.org/2020/08/07/national-strike-continues-across-bolivia-demands-grow-for-anez-to-step-down/) of mostly indigenous working people forced a new election, and the socialist MAS Party of Evo Morales was returned to power. [Since then](https://portside.org/2021-10-16/bolivia-shows-us-what-possible) it has already introduced a new wealth tax and welfare payments to four million people to help eliminate hunger in Bolivia. The Ideological Context Since the 1970s, Western political and corporate leaders have peddled a quasi-religious belief in the power of "free" markets and unbridled capitalism to solve all the world's problems. This new ["neoliberal"](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neoliberalism) orthodoxy is a thinly disguised reversion to the systematic injustice of 19th century laissez-faire capitalism, which led to gross inequality and poverty even in wealthy countries, famines that killed [tens of millions](https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/books/01/02/18/reviews/010218.18senlt.html) of people in India and China, and horrific exploitation of the poor and vulnerable worldwide. For most of the 20th century, Western countries gradually responded to the excesses and injustices of capitalism by using the power of government to redistribute wealth through [progressive taxation](https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-soi/02inpetr.pdf) and a growing public sector, and ensure broad access to public goods like education and healthcare. This led to a gradual expansion of broadly shared prosperity in the United States and Western Europe through a strong public sector that balanced the power of private corporations and their owners. The steadily growing shared prosperity of the post-WWII years in the West was derailed by a combination of factors, including the 1973 OPEC oil embargo, Nixon's freeze on prices and wages, runaway inflation caused by dropping the gold standard, and then a second oil crisis after the 1979 Iranian Revolution. Right-wing politicians led by Ronald Reagan in the United States and Margaret Thatcher in the U.K. blamed the power of organized labor and the public sector for the economic crisis. They launched a "neoliberal" counter-revolution to bust unions, shrink and privatize the public sector, cut taxes, deregulate industries and supposedly unleash "the magic of the market." Then they took credit for a return to economic growth that really owed more to the end of the [oil crises](https://www.motherjones.com/kevin-drum/2011/10/ronald-reagans-legacy/). The United States and United Kingdom used their economic, military and media power to spread their neoliberal gospel across the world. [Chile's experiment](https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/nov/13/why-is-inequality-booming-in-chile-blame-the-chicago-boys) in neoliberalism under Pinochet's military dictatorship became a model for U.S. efforts to roll back the "pink tide" in Latin America. When the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe opened to the West at the end of the Cold War, it was the extreme, neoliberal brand of capitalism that Western economists imposed as "[shock therapy](https://newint.org/features/2004/04/01/facts/)" to privatize state-owned enterprises and open countries to Western corporations. In the United States, the mass media shy away from the word "neoliberalism" to describe the changes in society since the 1980s. They describe its effects in less systemic terms, as globalization, privatization, deregulation, consumerism and so on, without calling attention to their common ideological roots. This allows them to treat its impacts as separate, unconnected problems: poverty and inequality, [mass incarceration](https://books.google.com/books?id=fFJh8wZlDIAC&pg=PA411#v=onepage&q&f=false), environmental degradation, ballooning debt, money in politics, disinvestment in public services, declines in public health, permanent war, and record military spending. After a generation of systematic neoliberal control, it is now obvious to people all over the world that neoliberalism has utterly failed to solve the world's problems. As many predicted all along, it has just enabled the rich to get [much, much richer](https://inequality.org/research/growing-apart-political-history-american-inequality/), while structural and even existential problems remain unsolved. Even once people have grasped the self-serving, predatory nature of this system that has overtaken their political and economic life, many still fall victim to the demoralization and powerlessness that are among its most insidious products, as they are brainwashed to see themselves only as individuals and consumers, instead of as active and collectively powerful citizens. In effect, confronting neoliberalism—whether as individuals, groups, communities or countries—requires a two-step process. First, we must understand the nature of the beast that has us and the world in its grip, whatever we choose to call it. Second, we must overcome our own demoralization and powerlessness, and rekindle our collective power as political and economic actors to build the better world we know is possible. We will see that collective power in the streets and the suites at COP26 in Glasgow, when the world's leaders will gather to confront the reality that neoliberalism has allowed corporate profits to trump a rational response to the devastating impact of fossil fuels on the Earth's climate. Extinction Rebellion and other groups will be [in the streets](https://rebellion.global/blog/2020/08/31/act-now-extinction-rebellion-demands/) in Glasgow, demanding the long-delayed action that is required to solve the problem, including an end to net carbon emissions by 2025. While scientists warned us for decades what the result would be, political and business leaders have peddled their [neoliberal snake oil](https://www.bushcenter.org/catalyst/environment/stefanik-market-solutions.html) to keep filling their coffers at the expense of the future of life on Earth. If we fail to stop them now, living conditions will keep deteriorating for people everywhere, as the natural world our lives depend on is washed out from under our feet, goes up in smoke and, species by species, dies and disappears forever. The Covid pandemic is another real world case study on the impact of neoliberalism. As the official death toll reaches [5 million](https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/world/covid-cases.html) and many more deaths go unreported, rich countries are still [hoarding vaccines](https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/what-we-do/news-stories/news/us-must-stop-hoarding-excess-covid-19-vaccine-doses), drug companies are reaping a [bonanza of profits](https://www.commondreams.org/newswire/2021/09/15/pharmaceutical-companies-reaping-immoral-profits-covid-vaccines-yet-paying-low) from vaccines and new drugs, and the lethal, devastating injustice of the entire neoliberal "market" system is laid bare for the whole world to see. Calls for a "[people's vaccine](https://www.citizen.org/article/a-plan-for-the-peoples-vaccine/)" and "vaccine justice" have been challenging what has now been termed "vaccine apartheid." Conclusion In the 1980s, U.K. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher often [told the world](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/There_is_no_alternative), "There is no alternative" to the neoliberal order she and President Reagan were unleashing. After only one or two generations, the self-serving insanity they prescribed and the crises it has caused have made it a question of survival for humanity to find alternatives. Around the world, ordinary people are rising up to demand real change. The people of Iraq, Chile and Bolivia have overcome the incredible traumas inflicted on them to take to the streets in the thousands and demand better government. Americans should likewise demand that our government stop wasting trillions of dollars to militarize the world and destroy countries like Afghanistan and Iraq, and start solving our real problems, here and abroad. People around the world understand the nature of the problems we face better than we did a generation or even a decade ago. Now we must overcome demoralization and powerlessness in order to act. It helps to understand that the demoralization and powerlessness we may feel are themselves products of this neoliberal system, and that simply overcoming them is a victory in itself. As we reject the inevitability of neoliberalism and Thatcher's lie that there is no alternative, we must also reject the lie that we are just passive, powerless consumers. As human beings, we have the same collective power that human beings have always had to build a better world for ourselves and our children—and now is the time to harness that power.

#### [Ahmed] And, dismantling capitalism o/ws under under any framework -- it’s the greatest existential threat and the biggest affront to human rights and structural inequalities. The consensus of recent studies prove that transition is possible but that requires radical rejection of current neoliberal politics

Ahmed 20

Nafeez Ahmed -- Visiting Research Fellow at the Global Sustainability Institute at Anglia Ruskin University's Faculty of Science & Technology + M.A. in contemporary war & peace studies + DPhil (April 2009) in international relations from the School of Global Studies @ Sussex University, “Capitalism is Destroying ‘Safe Operating Space’ for Humanity, Warn Scientists”, https://www.resilience.org/stories/2020-06-24/capitalism-is-destroying-safe-operating-space-for-humanity-warn-scientists/, 24 June 2020, EmmieeM) -recut CAT

* The last paragraph shows that rapid peaceful transition is possible so put away that garbage Harris 02 transition wars card

The COVID19 pandemic has exposed a strange anomaly in the global economy. If it doesn’t keep growing endlessly, it just breaks. Grow, or die. But there’s a deeper problem. New scientific research confirms that capitalism’s structural obsession with endless growth is destroying the very conditions for human survival on planet Earth. A landmark study in the journal Nature Communications, “Scientists’ warning on affluence” — by scientists in Australia, Switzerland and the UK — concludes that the most fundamental driver of environmental destruction is the overconsumption of the super-rich. This factor lies over and above other factors like fossil fuel consumption, industrial agriculture and deforestation: because it is overconsumption by the super-rich which is the chief driver of these other factors breaching key planetary boundaries. The paper notes that the richest 10 percent of people are responsible for up to 43 percent of destructive global environmental impacts. In contrast, the poorest 10 percent in the world are responsible just around 5 percent of these environmental impacts: The new paper is authored by Thomas Wiedmann of UNSW Sydney’s School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Manfred Lenzen of the University of Sydney’s School of Physics, Lorenz T. Keysser of ETH Zürich’s Department of Environmental Systems Science, and Julia K. Steinberger of Leeds University’s School of Earth and Environment. It confirms that global structural inequalities in the distribution of wealth are intimately related to an escalating environmental crisis threatening the very existence of human societies. Synthesising knowledge from across the scientific community, the paper identifies capitalism as the main cause behind “alarming trends of environmental degradation” which now pose “existential threats to natural systems, economies and societies.” The paper concludes: “It is clear that prevailing capitalist, growth-driven economic systems have not only increased affluence since World War II, but have led to enormous increases in inequality, financial instability, resource consumption and environmental pressures on vital earth support systems.” Capitalism and the pandemic Thanks to the way capitalism works, the paper shows, the super-rich are incentivised to keep getting richer — at the expense of the health of our societies and the planet overall. The research provides an important scientific context for how we can understand many earlier scientific studies revealing that industrial expansion has hugely increased the risks of new disease outbreaks. Just last April, a paper in Landscape Ecology found that deforestation driven by increased demand for consumption of agricultural commodities or beef have increased the probability of ‘zoonotic’ diseases (exotic diseases circulating amongst animals) jumping to humans. This is because industrial expansion, driven by capitalist pressures, has intensified the encroachment of human activities on wildlife and natural ecosystems. Two years ago, another study in Frontiers of Microbiology concluded presciently that accelerating deforestation due to “demographic growth” and the associated expansion of “farming, logging, and hunting”, is dangerously transforming rural environments. More bat species carrying exotic viruses have ended up next to human dwellings, the study said. This is increasing “the risk of transmission of viruses through direct contact, domestic animal infection, or contamination by urine or faeces.” It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the COVID19 pandemic thus emerged directly from these rapidly growing impacts of human activities. As the new paper in Nature Communications confirms, these impacts have accelerated in the context of the fundamental operations of industrial capitalism. Eroding the ‘safe operating space’ The result is that capitalism is causing human societies to increasingly breach key planetary boundaries, such as land-use change, biosphere integrity and climate change. Remaining within these boundaries is essential to maintain what scientists describe as a “safe operating space” for human civilization. If those key ecosystems are disrupted, that “safe operating space” will begin to erode. The global impacts of the COVID19 pandemic are yet another clear indication that this process of erosion has already begun. “The evidence is clear,” write Weidmann and his co-authors. “Long-term and concurrent human and planetary wellbeing will not be achieved in the Anthropocene if affluent overconsumption continues, spurred by economic systems that exploit nature and humans. We find that, to a large extent, the affluent lifestyles of the world’s rich determine and drive global environmental and social impact. Moreover, international trade mechanisms allow the rich world to displace its impact to the global poor.” The new scientific research thus confirms that the normal functioning of capitalism is eroding the ‘safe space’ by which human civilisation is able to survive. The structures The paper also sets out how this is happening in some detail. The super-rich basically end up driving this destructive system forward in three key ways. Firstly, they are directly responsible for “biophysical resource use… through high consumption.” Secondly, they are “members of powerful factions of the capitalist class.” Thirdly, due to that positioning, they end up “driving consumption norms across the population.” But perhaps the most important insight of the paper is not that this is purely because the super-rich are especially evil or terrible compared to the rest of the population — but because of the systemic pressures produced by capitalist structures. The authors point out that: “Growth imperatives are active at multiple levels, making the pursuit of economic growth (net investment, i.e. investment above depreciation) a necessity for different actors and leading to social and economic instability in the absence of it.” At the core of capitalism, the paper observes, is a fundamental social relationship defining the way working people are systemically marginalised from access to the productive resources of the earth, along with the mechanisms used to extract these resources and produce goods and services. This means that to survive economically in this system, certain behavioural patterns become not just normalised, but seemingly entirely rational — at least from a limited perspective that ignores wider societal and environmental consequences. In the words of the authors: “In capitalism, workers are separated from the means of production, implying that they must compete in labour markets to sell their labour power to capitalists in order to earn a living.” Meanwhile, firms which own and control these means of production “need to compete in the market, leading to a necessity to reinvest profits into more efficient production processes to minimise costs (e.g. through replacing human labour power with machines and positive returns to scale), innovation of new products and/or advertising to convince consumers to buy more.” If a firm fails to remain competitive through such behaviours, “it either goes bankrupt or is taken over by a more successful business. Under normal economic conditions, this capitalist competition is expected to lead to aggregate growth dynamics.” The irony is that, as the paper also shows, the “affluence” accumulated by the super-rich isn’t correlated with happiness or well-being. Restructure The “hegemonic” dominance of global capitalism, then, is the principal obstacle to the systemic transformation needed to reduce overconsumption. So it’s not enough to simply try to “green” current consumption through technologies like renewable energy — we need to actually reduce our environmental impacts by changing our behaviours with a focus on cutting back our use of planetary resources: “Not only can a sufficient decoupling of environmental and detrimental social impacts from economic growth not be achieved by technological innovation alone, but also the profit-driven mechanism of prevailing economic systems prevents the necessary reduction of impacts and resource utilisation per se.” The good news is that it doesn’t have to be this way. The paper reviews a range of “bottom-up studies” showing that dramatic reductions in our material footprint are perfectly possible while still maintaining good material living standards. In India, Brazil and South Africa, “decent living standards” can be supported “with around 90 percent less per-capita energy use than currently consumed in affluent countries.” Similar possible reductions are feasible for modern industrial economies such as Australia and the US. By becoming aware of how the wider economic system incentivises behaviour that is destructive of human societies and planetary ecosystems critical for human survival, both ordinary workers and more wealthy sectors — including the super-rich — can work toward rewriting the global economic operating system. This can be done by restructuring ownership in firms, equalising relations with workers, and intentionally reorganising the way decisions are made about investment priorities. The paper points out that citizens and communities have a crucial role to play in getting organised, upgrading efforts for public education about these key issues, and experimenting with new ways to work together in bringing about “social tipping points” — points at which social action can catalyse mass change. While a sense of doom and apathy about the prospects for such change is understandable, mounting evidence based on systems science suggests that global capitalism as we know it is in a state of protracted crisis and collapse that began some decades ago. This research strongly supports the view that as industrial civilization reaches the last stages of its systemic life-cycle, there is unprecedented and increasing opportunity for small-scale actions and efforts to have large system-wide impacts. The new paper shows that the need for joined-up action is paramount: structural racism, environmental crisis, global inequalities are not really separate crises — but different facets of human civilization’s broken relationship with nature. Yet, of course, the biggest takeaway is that those who bear most responsibility for environmental destruction — those who hold the most wealth in our societies — urgently need to wake up to how their narrow models of life are, quite literally, destroying the foundations for human survival over the coming decades.

#### [Younes RECUT 1] That solves the 1AC – their evidence agrees the problem is inequality

1AC Younes RECUT, CATONSVILLE READS GREEN

“Jordan’s economic crisis threatens political stability” Ali Younes, 14 Feb 2018 <https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2018/2/14/jordans-economic-crisis-threatens-political-stability> SM

Jordan’s economic crisis threatens political stability Anger simmers after the government hiked taxes between 50-100 percent on key food staples such as bread. Angry at the decision to increase food prices last month, restive Jordanians are demanding the government’s resignation and the dissolution of parliament. Last month, the government implemented a tax rise of between 50-100 percent on key food staples such as bread, in order to decrease its $700m budget deficit. Jordan’s debt has now reached $40bn and its debt-to-gross-domestic-product ratio has reached a record 95 percent, up from 71 percent in 2011. The economic crunch that squeezes the country will be particularly acute this year, after Jordan’s Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) allies – Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Kuwait – did not renew a five-year financial assistance programme with Amman worth $3.6bn that ended in 2017. The United States is now the only donor that has committed itself to support Jordan. On Wednesday, US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson signed a five-year $6.375bn ($1.275bn a year) aid deal with Foreign Minister Ayman al-Safadi. This surpassed the previous agreement of about $1bn a year, signed with the previous US administration, by about 27 percent, and increased in length from three years to five. A US State Department statement said $750m was earmarked annually for economic support funds and $350m for the military. It was unclear what the remaining $175m would be used for. “As part of this bilateral understanding, Jordan has committed to prioritise economic and security sector reforms that aim to support Jordanian self-reliance,” it said. During a joint press conference in Amman, Tillerson said the increase would support Jordan’s security roles in fighting terrorism and the conflict in Syria. However, even with the increased flow of US aid that has funded budgets and projects since the 1950s, it remains to be seen if Jordan’s economy will stabilise, according to analysts. Hussam Abdallat, a political activist and former government official, told Al Jazeera the American assistance won’t benefit ordinary Jordanians. “American aid to Jordan is useless to the average Jordanian; most of it goes to support the Jordanian military – which serves American interests, not Jordan’s – and the rest goes back to the US through US companies working in Jordan,” Abdallat said. Any US aid that is not directly budgeted for economic development is “meaningless”, he added. Regional stability Journalist Salameh Aldarawi, editor of Maqar online newspaper, told Al Jazeera that Jordan’s economic problems are directly related to political stability in the region. Aldarawi, who writes on the Jordanian economy, said devastating wars in neighbouring Syria and Iraq – the country’s biggest trading partners – have curtailed economic growth. The harsh measures taken by the government will not improve economic stability and will only hurt the most vulnerable people in Jordanian society, he said. “Prices and tax hikes are only hurting the poor and the middle class, especially in the absence of wage increases or social safety nets,” Aldarawi said. “These measures will only provide temporary quick fixes, not a long-term, strategic solution.” He said tackling corruption was imperative, along with fixing the “collapsed education and healthcare systems. “The government must start with fighting entrenched and endemic corruption within its ranks, recover billions of dollars of embezzled public funds, [and] create equality among the different segments of the population, especially towards those who pay more taxes but get fewer services and privileges,” said Aldarawi. ‘Economic disaster’ Abdallat, who leads several activist groups demanding political and economic reform, said Jordan’s political elite must be held accountable for their actions that have driven the country to the edge of financial ruin. “People are protesting in several areas in the country and demanding the resignation of the government and the parliament, who are responsible for the economic disaster we are in now,” he said. In Amman, where nearly half of Jordan’s 9.9 million population resides, criticism of government policies has spread over social media, but, so far, not significantly to the streets. Analysts say that, unlike residents of the capital, people in the southern and northern provinces are more dependent on government largesse and employment and will suffer greater hardship when the government is no longer able to meet their needs. “At this rate, I am afraid that we will end up with a revolt of the hungry,” said Abdallat. Hussein Mahadeen, a professor of social development at Mutah University in Kerak, south of Amman, said Jordan has a foreign aid dependency problem because of its political and social structure. Mahadeen said Jordan is still transitioning from its tribal society roots into a semi-modern state. “Lacking solid legal and civic institutions, to safeguard the rights and liberties of citizens and their ability to contest government decisions, is a major impediment towards its political and economic development,” he told Al Jazeera. “The Jordanian society, for several reasons, is not mature enough socially and politically to be able to mount a serious challenge to the state’s ability to impose strict economic measures.” ‘Violent revolt’? For many decades, foreign aid and remittances from expatriate Jordanians in the Gulf region were the mainstays of the Jordanian economy that kept the country afloat. This, however, created dependency, and a succession of Jordanian governments failed to take measures to wean the country off foreign assistance and become self-reliant, according to Mahadeen. Jordan’s main problem is it hasn’t progressed and developed beyond its “functional state” roots,that is a state created to perform certain functions on behalf of others, after its creation by the British, after defeating the Ottoman Empire in World War I, he said Abdallat – who has been imprisoned several times for his criticism of the government – said he was concerned the economic situation facing Jordan could result in an uprising. “If the current economic crisis persists, it might lead to a revolt, and I am afraid it will be a violent one,” he said.

#### Perms are severance – the 1AC authors explicitly condemn tax hikes – socialism is the biggest tax hike of all

# Case

## Advantage

### AT: M/E War

#### Middle East instability is inevitable under the current economic system—it’s try or die for the alt

Slavoj Zizek, 2008, "Violence," published by Macmillan p.87-88

The big mystery of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is why it has persisted for so long when everybody knows the only viable solution: the withdrawal of the Israelis from the West Bank and Gaza, the establishment of a Palestinian state, as well as some kind of a compromise concerning Jerusalem. Whenever agreement has seemed at hand, it has inexplicably disappeared. How often has it happened that just when peace seems a simple matter of finding a proper formulation for some minor statements, everything suddenly falls apart, displaying the frailty of the negotiated compromise? The Middle East conflict has taken on the cast of a neurotic symptom-everyone sees the way to get rid of the obstacle, and yet no one wants to remove it, as if there is some kind of pathological libidinal profit gained by persisting in the dead-lock. This is why the Middle East crisis is such a sensitive point for pragmatic politics, which aim at resolving problems step by step in a realistic way. In this case, what is Utopian is the very notion that such a "realistic" approach will work, while the only "realistic" solution here is the big one, to solve the problem at its roots. The old motto from 1968 applies: Soyons realistes, demandons Vimpossible! Only a radical gesture that appears "impossible" within the existing coordinates will realistically do the job. Perhaps the solution "everybody knows" as the only viable one-the withdrawal of the Israelis from the West Bank and Gaza, the establishment of a Palestinian state-will not do, and one has to change the entire frame, shift the picture with the one-state solution at the horizon.

#### They say it’s about allies with the U.S. which means the plan kills that internal cooperation that only the CP solves.

### Data exclusivity good

#### Turn—lack of data exclusivity jack up drug prices long term

Boustany 18

Charles Boustany (physician and former congressman). “Americans Fund Most of the World’s Drug Research. Here’s How Trump Can End That.” Fortune. 9 August 2018. JDN. https://fortune.com/2018/08/09/trump-drugs-prices-pharmaceutical-research/

Complicating the situation, many nations have relatively weak intellectual property protections, which enable generic drug makers to copy and sell innovators’ drug designs just a few years after those designs have been released.

Consider biologics, a cutting-edge class of drugs made from living organisms. These treatments hold great promise for treating diseases like **cancer**, multiple sclerosis, and **Alzheimer’s.** But they’re **extremely difficult, time-consuming, and expensive** to make. To encourage researchers to develop these treatments, the U.S. grants innovators 12 years of biologic data protection. During this period, rival firms are forbidden to use the innovator’s clinical trial data to create knockoff products. The protection period effectively gives innovators time to recoup their development costs and earn a profit.

In contrast, Canada only provides eight years of biologic data protection. Mexico provides no data protection at all unless innovators undergo a substantial legal process. That means Mexican drug firms can immediately start using innovators’ data to test the effectiveness of knockoff “biosimilars,” so long as the original biologic is sold in Mexico.

If U.S. companies earned more revenue from foreign nations, then the American companies could spend more on R&D. This ultimately would result in new treatments and inject more competition into the U.S. drug market, **leading to lower prices** for American patients.

Bing 21

Dr. Han Bing (senior research fellow at the Institute of World Economics and Politics of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences). “TRIPS-plus Rules in International Trade Agreements and Access to Medicines: Chinese Perspectives and Practices.” Global Development Policy Center, Global Economic Governance Iniative. GEGI Working Paper 049, April 2021. JDN. https://www.bu.edu/gdp/files/2021/04/GEGI\_WP\_\_Bing\_FIN.pdf

Undisclosed test or other data refer to the data obtained in the entire medicine development process to demonstrate the medicine’s safety, efficacy and quality. The medicines and healthcare products regulatory agencies in various countries analyze and evaluate whether to approve the marketing of a new medicine based on such data. Since it is obtained from scientific studies, undisclosed test or other data are unable to satisfy the requirements of patent grant and cannot be protected by patent rights. However, the cost of obtaining marketing approval is expensive and the first registrant needs to be significant to overcome the negative price effects of competition from pharmaceutical manufacturers that free ride on the initial registrant’s marketing approval. Therefore, it is argued that, without a period of monopoly, the new drug developers will have no incentive to “conduct the costly clinical research and trials necessary to obtain marketing approval” (Chow and Lee 2018). Given its importance to the pharmaceutical industry, the United States is a strong proponent of adding such a provision in the TRIPS Agreement (Chow and Lee 2018). However, since the TRIPS Agreement was formally implemented 25 years ago, WTO members had not yet unified their opinions on the application of this provision. The United States, the European Union, and some members argue that, taking into account the considerable amount of efforts and costs for generating the necessary data, unless permitted by the originator, undisclosed test or other data should be granted exclusive rights against disclosure for a specific period of time (UNCTAD & ICTSD 2013, 613-615). During the period, government agencies shall not only protect such data against disclosure, but also prevent generic drug manufacturers from relying upon the data to obtain marketing approval. Developing countries such as Argentina, Brazil, India, and Thailand provide a non-exclusive protection on undisclosed test or other data, that is, such data are protected against unfair commercial use, but not granted exclusive rights, which allows government agencies to rely on such data to approve the marketing of generic medicines (UNCTAD & ICTSD 2013, 615-616). Developing countries believe that if the US and European practices were adopted, the marketing of generic medicines would be delayed, thereby unreasonably restricting the public access to medicines (UNCTAD & ICTSD 2013, 621). Prior to accession to the WTO in 2001, there were no data exclusivity provisions in China. After joining the WTO, China has assumed the obligation to protect such data in compliance with the TRIPS Agreement. Unlike most WTO members, as a condition for accession to the WTO, China agreed to provide data exclusivity protection for a period of six years (Feng 2010). Included in the Part V “Trade-Related Intellectual Property System” of the Report of the Working Party on the Accession of China (World Trade Organization 2001), China reiterated the content of and added what is not stipulated in Article 39(3) of the TRIPS Agreement. That is, during the period of six years, China does not allow approval of marketing for generic medicines, in order to provide exclusive protection for undisclosed test or other data of new chemical entities (World Trade Organization 2001, 284). Moreover, such protection is **independent of patent protection**, which means such data are protected whether a medicine is granted patent or not. The period of six years exclusive protection for undisclosed test or other data is longer than the period of 5 years of protection in the US and a number of bilateral free trade agreements.

### Double bind

#### They either don’t defend the plan planks in the card and it’s a vacuum plan not based in the ev or they do at which point their link chain is nonspecific -err heavily neg

#### We don’t know what the Aff does or even what rules will govern; that legal uncertainty turns all the Aff’s impacts because it incentivizes heavier reliance on IP. Independently, it also creates an IP “thicket” that makes actually accomplishing anything impossible.

Van Overwalle 16

Geertrui Van Overwalle Patent pools and clearinghouses in the life sciences: back to the future Geertrui Van Overwalle Geertrui Van Overwalle (°1958) studied law at the Katholieke Universiteit Brussel (K.U.Brussel, now H.U.B) and the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (K.U.Leuven). She received her law degree (Master of Laws) in 1985 magna cum laude at the K.U.Leuven. In addition, she took a course of biotechnology at the Belgian Royal Society of Engineers in 1990. Geertrui Van Overwalle is president of the European Policy for Intellectual Property (EPIP) research network. She is a member of the European Commission’s Expert Group on Biotechnological Inventions. She is also a member of the Economic and Scientific Advisory Board of the European Patent Office and of theScientific Advisory Board (Fachbeirat) of the Max-Planck-Institute for Intellectual Property and Competition Law. Paper submitted in February 2016 for publication in: Research Handbook on IP and the Life Sciences, D. Matthews & H. Zech (eds.), Edward Elgar, 2016 <file:///C:/Users/andre/Downloads/VanOverwalle-IP%20Pools%20Clearinghouses%20Life%20Sciences-2016-ssrn.pdf> -CAT

Patent growth and patent thickets 2.1. Increase of patents One of the most striking aspects of the intellectual property (IP) system in recent years is the ongoing worldwide increase of intellectual property rights (IPRs) in general,17 and of patents and patent applications in particular.18 At first sight, life sciences is a field with a very high volume of patents and patent applications. On closer inspection, a more nuanced picture arises: in Europe biotechnology grew the fastest in 2014, taking the 8th place in the top ten of technical fields,19 while applications in pharmaceuticals dropped significantly for the second year in a row, but still taking the 10th place in the top ten of technical fields.20 The overall growth of patents has been attributed to several factors. First and foremost, the increase of patents has been said to be caused by technological complexity.21 Complex technology sectors are characterized by the need to assemble multiple elements to develop a final product.22 These sectors are therefore more sensitive to this trend.23 A second cause is the growing importance of sequential technologies. Innovation across the economy is becoming more cumulative in nature, building on previous inventions and innovations.24 A third factor is the explosive growth in innovation in sectors like the ICT and biotechnology industry. Dissenting voices suggest, however, that the rise of patents does not correspond to a dramatic increase in the overall levels of innovation at all.25 A fourth factor is said to be uncertainty in the legal system. Uncertainty in the patent system has a counter-intuitive effect: instead of using it less, firms are choosing to file for more patents, either to fend off perceived threats or to take advantage of the weakness in the system.26 2.2. Patent thickets. Concept The burning question following from the brief statistical overview is, whether the increasing use of patent leads to patent thickets in the life sciences. Before embarking on this issue, let us first (re-)address the notion of IP thickets in general, and patent thickets in particular. With the ICT sector in mind, Merges cautioned for a possible IP thicket, defining such an IP thicket as “a tangled, twisted mass of intellectual property rights, which criss-cross the established walkways of commerce” and where progress requires “numerous contracts with multiple, independent right holders”.27 In the same sense, Shapiro spoke of “a dense web of overlapping intellectual property rights that a company must hack its way through in order to actually commercialize new technology”.28 Ullrich resonated this approach where he argued that a patent thicket may be present when “the field is crowded by a large number of patents, with ownership being dispersed among many patentees, so that it becomes impossible for anyone to work naturally coherent pieces of the technology without first obtaining consent by many other patentees”.29 Carefully reading the various definitions suggests that a patent thicket is likely to emerge when a multitude of IP rights is held by multiple IP owners.30