## 1

#### The post-Covid world economy is in a recession, but it is slowly recovering.

Industry Week 20 IW Staff. “COVID-19 Recession Will Be Worse Than Expected, Predicts IMF.” *Industry Week*, 24 June 2020, www.industryweek.com/the-economy/article/21135122/covid19-recession-will-be-worse-than-expected-predicts-imf. SJEP

The International Monetary Fund updated its predictions for the COVID-19 recession June 24, saying its April prediction was not severe enough. The IMF now anticipates the global economy to contract by 4.9% in 2020, or 1.9 points more than it expected in April. The GDP of advanced economies, including the United States, are expected to shrink by a crushing 8.0%. Depending on how the pandemic evolves, the updated forecast anticipates persistent social distancing in the first half of 2020, more lasting damage to suppliers from the first two quarters of 2020, and suppressed productivity in businesses incorporating extensive workplace safety procedures. But it also lacks information on a host of pandemic-related unknowns: the long-term effect of COVID-19 related layoffs and furloughs, the length of voluntary social distancing, the impact of doing business with costly safety practices, and how effectively companies reconfigure their international supply chains. The new report builds on and updates the Fund’s April 2020 World Economic Outlook forecast. Data available for the April forecast indicated an “unprecedented decline” due to the pandemic, but according to the IMF, “data releases since then suggest even deeper downturns than previously projected for several economies.” The IMF stood by its prediction of a slow, steady recovery in 2021, except in the case of a “second wave” of COVID-19 infections. The updated report was released a day after IHS Markit’s Flash U.S. Composite PMI report, which found signs for optimism in the near-term. Their composite U.S. PMI found the softest month-over-month decrease yet in June as the index rose to 46.8% from 37.0 in May. In manufacturing, the PMI added more than ten points to land at 49.6 after reaching 39.8 in May, a four-month high for the figure. IHS Markit attributed the gain to easing lockdowns. “The second quarter started with an alarming rate of collapse but output and jobs are now falling at far more modest rates in both the manufacturing and service sectors,” said Chris Williamson, Chief Business Economist at IHS Markit. But his group’s measure of the long-term prospects lined up with that produced by the IMF of an unprecedentedly sharp downturn followed by a very slow return to pre-pandemic levels. “Although brief, the downturn has been fiercer than anything seen previously, leaving a deep scar which will take a long time to heal," said Williamson.

#### Strikes are detrimental to the economy and ensure a depression. Post-Covid South Africa proves.

APSS 19“The Effects of Strikes on Businesses and Employees.” *Affirmative Portfolios Staffing Solutions*, 9 Dec. 2019, www.affirmativeportfolios.co.za/the-affects-of-strikes-on-businesses-and-employees/. SJEP

Strikes in South Africa are becoming more and more common and this affects not only the local economy but, businesses and employees alike. Employment relationships between both parties could become strained and this could affect teamwork and profitability. Businesses suffer production and financial losses and consumer confidence is adversely affected. EFFECTS ON EMPLOYERS Whether a strike is legal or Illegal, the business is affected and it is imperative for employers to know their rights and to keep up to date with current labour laws and legislation. Some businesses may opt to hire workers to replace the striking employees and perhaps increase shifts if the strike continues for a long period of time. It is very important that part time/temporary workers have a contract by law. The employer does not have to remunerate striking workers for days not worked. If the strike is illegal this could constitute as a fair dismissal. EFFECTS ON EMPLOYEES Striking Employees that belong to a union are under obligation to strike when the union determines. They could be at risk of losing not only wages but benefits such as medical aid insurance, sick and holiday pay if the strike drags on for an extended period of time. If an employee is a union member and does not want to partake in the strike, he/she could be at risk of intimidated by members of the union. Members belonging to a union in a legal strike are generally protected from dismissal. EFFECTS ON THE ECONOMY The effects of striking will be felt in the immediate and long term future as strikes are appearing to re-occur in some sectors and in some cases have become violent. The South African economy is vulnerable at this point in time and striking season could harm the country’s investment reputation internationally. Economists agree that the affect of strikes on the economy are difficult to calculate but, is detrimental to the country and its workers. GDP growth will be affected and the consequences of higher wages in certain sectors would inevitably lead to higher inflation.

#### A COVID depression ensures great power war

Michael Tkacik 20, professor of government and director of the School of Honors at Stephen F Austin State University in Texas, “Ingredients in place for new great power war,” Asia Times, 4-21-2020, <https://asiatimes.com/2020/04/ingredients-in-place-for-new-great-power-war/> SJEP

The events leading to war in 1939 included a sharp division between the wealthy and everyone else, economic catastrophe in the Great Depression, sharp reductions in global trade, a breakdown in international cooperation, and the end of liberal governance in much of the world. Once again, these variables are present. Even before the Covid-19 pandemic, trade was decreasing and beggar-thy-neighbor economic policies had become the norm. It might be tempting to place this blame on Trump, but he was elected by people in his country who have suffered 40 years of criminal economic competition from China. It is no wonder they elected Trump and it is no wonder he undermined a global trade system that has failed America’s working class. Similarly, evidence of the breakdown of international cooperation and liberalism are everywhere. The world is unable to deal with the existential threat of climate change. Authoritarian regimes have seats on the UN Human Rights Council. There is a great and increasing gap between the wealthy and everyone else, a new Gilded Age. Liberalism, unable to cope, is in retreat everywhere, from the US and the UK to fledgling democracies in Eastern Europe and Latin America. Our world is gravely ill. Pandemic Into this morass we stir a global pandemic, with its origin in a corrupt, authoritarian state that is hostile to openness, human dignity and truth. That China denied and then exported the pandemic was as predictable as it is lamentable. The pandemic will bring a global economic depression, the only variable from World War II not present today. We should expect more governments to fall, we should expect liberalism to retreat further, and we should expect increased nationalism and violence upon our own species. In short, we are in for dark days. Dictators attempt to divert the attention of their people from corruption and injustice by seeking external enemies. Wars will therefore increase, and status quo powers such as the United States may attempt to defend a crumbling system. The chance of war between China and the United States has increased dramatically because almost all of the structural variables today point toward war. Both World War I and II were avoidable because different variables were present. Consequently, had skilled leadership been present, each war might have been avoided by correctly diagnosing the causes of the impending crises. That the wars were not avoided does not mean they could not have been; it simply means leadership was not up to the task. But today the causes of both of those wars have been combined in a single cauldron. So it is reasonable to ask, even with good leadership (of which there is no doubt we are lacking), can great-power war be avoided?

#### Great power war causes extinction

Binnendijk 16 Hans Binnendijk, Senior Fellow at the Center for Transatlantic Relations at the Johns Hopkins University Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, January 2016, “Friends, Foes, and Future Directions: U.S. Partnerships in a Turbulent World,” <http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_reports/RR1200/RR1210/RAND_RR1210.pdf>

Today, the most important external challenge faced by the United States is the **reemergence of potential confrontation between great powers** and with rogue states. The United States now faces a risk of conflict with several potential adversaries: Four are nation-states with **nuclear weapons** or nuclear ambitions (Russia, China, North Korea, and Iran) and one is a diverse group of Salafi jihadists. Currently, the United States is engaged in military action against a wannabe state, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).1 Most of these potential adversaries also cooperate with at least one other hostile nation, compounding the challenge for the United States. This is a fundamental change from the previous decade, when the focus of U.S. national security policy was on two stability operations in the greater Middle East, nonstate actors, and transnational threats. Those threats still exist, but a new set of challenges from nuclear states and nuclear aspirants is of **greater concern**. There are dramatic differences among these potential adversaries in terms of their ability to threaten vital U.S. interests and the extent to which their goals overlap with Washington’s. As a result, the United States must design a set of flexible and differentiated policies to deal with each potential foe. The overall goal should be to reduce these threats and the prospect of close cooperation among adversaries to challenge U.S. interests. To do this, the United States needs to quickly defeat ISIS, deter North Korea, dissuade Russia, constrain Iran, and engage China. These potential adversaries have created situations in which a large number of U.S. allies and partner nations are more vulnerable today than they were a decade ago. Many U.S. friends are in more danger than the United States is itself, and if the United States should be drawn into conflict with any of these adversaries (as it has already been drawn into conflict with ISIS), it will probably be to defend its partners more than itself. The **principal risk** to the United States is that conflicts with any of these adversaries could escalate. Involvement by the three nuclear powers (Russia, China, or—to a lesser degree— North Korea) could **pose existential risks**.

## 2

#### Interpretation: “workers” is a generic bare plural. The aff may not defend that a just government recognizes a specific group of workers unconditional right to strike

Nebel 19. [Jake Nebel is an assistant professor of philosophy at the University of Southern California and executive director of Victory Briefs. He writes a lot of this stuff lol – duh.] “Genericity on the Standardized Tests Resolution.” Vbriefly. August 12, 2019. <https://www.vbriefly.com/2019/08/12/genericity-on-the-standardized-tests-resolution/?fbclid=IwAR0hUkKdDzHWrNeqEVI7m59pwsnmqLl490n4uRLQTe7bWmWDO_avWCNzi14> TG

Both distinctions are important. Generic resolutions can’t be affirmed by specifying particular instances. But, since generics tolerate exceptions, plan-inclusive counterplans (PICs) do not negate generic resolutions.

Bare plurals are typically used to express generic generalizations. But there are two important things to keep in mind. First, generic generalizations are also often expressed via other means (e.g., definite singulars, indefinite singulars, and bare singulars). Second, and more importantly for present purposes, bare plurals can also be used to express existential generalizations. For example, “Birds are singing outside my window” is true just in case there are some birds singing outside my window; it doesn’t require birds in general to be singing outside my window.

So, what about “colleges and universities,” “standardized tests,” and “undergraduate admissions decisions”? Are they generic or existential bare plurals? On other topics I have taken great pains to point out that their bare plurals are generic—because, well, they are. On this topic, though, I think the answer is a bit more nuanced. Let’s see why.

“Colleges and universities” is a generic bare plural. I don’t think this claim should require any argument, when you think about it, but here are a few reasons.

First, ask yourself, honestly, whether the following speech sounds good to you: “Eight colleges and universities—namely, those in the Ivy League—ought not consider standardized tests in undergraduate admissions decisions. Maybe other colleges and universities ought to consider them, but not the Ivies. Therefore, in the United States, colleges and universities ought not consider standardized tests in undergraduate admissions decisions.” That is obviously not a valid argument: the conclusion does not follow. Anyone who sincerely believes that it is valid argument is, to be charitable, deeply confused. But the inference above would be good if “colleges and universities” in the resolution were existential. By way of contrast: “Eight birds are singing outside my window. Maybe lots of birds aren’t singing outside my window, but eight birds are. Therefore, birds are singing outside my window.” Since the bare plural “birds” in the conclusion gets an existential reading, the conclusion follows from the premise that eight birds are singing outside my window: “eight” entails “some.” If the resolution were existential with respect to “colleges and universities,” then the Ivy League argument above would be a valid inference. Since it’s not a valid inference, “colleges and universities” must be a generic bare plural.

Second, “colleges and universities” fails the [upward-entailment test](https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/generics/#IsolGeneInte) for existential uses of bare plurals. Consider the sentence, “Lima beans are on my plate.” This sentence expresses an existential statement that is true just in case there are some lima beans on my plate. One test of this is that it entails the more general sentence, “Beans are on my plate.” Now consider the sentence, “Colleges and universities ought not consider the SAT.” (To isolate “colleges and universities,” I’ve eliminated the other bare plurals in the resolution; it cannot plausibly be generic in the isolated case but existential in the resolution.) This sentence does not entail the more general statement that educational institutions ought not consider the SAT. This shows that “colleges and universities” is generic, because it fails the upward-entailment test for existential bare plurals.

Third, “colleges and universities” fails the adverb of quantification test for existential bare plurals. Consider the sentence, “Dogs are barking outside my window.” This sentence expresses an existential statement that is true just in case there are some dogs barking outside my window. One test of this appeals to the drastic change of meaning caused by inserting any adverb of quantification (e.g., always, sometimes, generally, often, seldom, never, ever). You cannot add any such adverb into the sentence without drastically changing its meaning. To apply this test to the resolution, let’s again isolate the bare plural subject: “Colleges and universities ought not consider the SAT.” Adding generally (“Colleges and universitiesz generally ought not consider the SAT”) or ever (“Colleges and universities ought not ever consider the SAT”) result in comparatively minor changes of meaning. (Note that this test doesn’t require there to be no change of meaning and doesn’t have to work for every adverb of quantification.) This strongly suggests what we already know: that “colleges and universities” is generic rather than existential in the resolution.

#### It applies to “workers” – 1] upward entailment test – “a just government ought to recognize workers unconditional right to strike” doesn’t entail that a just government ought to recognize peoples unconditional right to strike because it doesn’t prove that all people should strike, 2] adverb test – adding “always” to the res doesn’t substantially change its meaning because recognition is unconditional.

#### Violation: They spec \_\_\_\_\_\_

#### Standards:

#### [1] precision – the counter-interp justifies them arbitrarily doing away with random words in the resolution which decks negative ground and preparation because the aff is no longer bounded by the resolution. Independent voter for jurisdiction – the judge doesn’t have the jurisdiction to vote aff if there wasn’t a legitimate aff.

#### [2] Limits and ground – their model allows affs to defend anything from teachers to doctors to the police— there's no universal DA since each has different functions and political implications — that explodes neg prep and leads to random worker of the week affs which makes cutting stable neg links impossible — limits key to reciprocal engagement since they create a caselist for neg prep and it takes out ground like DAs to certain occupations which are some of the few neg generics when affs spec occupations.

#### [3] TVA solves – you could’ve read your plan as an advantage under a whole res advocacy.

#### Fairness – debate is a competitive activity that requires fairness for objective evaluation. Outweighs because it’s the only intrinsic part of debate – all other rules can be debated over but rely on some conception of fairness to be justified.

#### Drop the debater – a] deter future abuse and b] set better norms for debate.

#### Competing interps – [a] reasonability is arbitrary and encourages judge intervention since there’s no clear norm, [b] it creates a race to the top where we create the best possible norms for debate.

#### No RVIs – a] illogical, you don’t win for proving that you meet the burden of being fair, logic outweighs since it’s a prerequisite for evaluating any other argument, b] RVIs incentivize baiting theory and prepping it out which leads to maximally abusive practices