

2016 CSS MUN V Conference Background Guide



Intermediate Future Council

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A Note to Representatives: As a future council, we decided to leave most of the history blank, so that the delegates can be as creative with the past twenty years as possible, with a few conditions that will be outlined upon arrival in the council. Please wait until arriving to the council to write history, as intriguing as it may be to write it yourself, there must be a common history that must be decided on by all of the delegates. Also, please note that all “invented” history needs to be cleared by the Presiding Officers.

There will be an added requirement at the beginning of this council: a 1-minute long speech presented to the council at the beginning of the session. This statement is to summarize your country’s position and arguments on the oil crisis. It is important to establish a sense of urgency and relevance pertaining to your nation’s current state of emergency. Please prepare accordingly and recognize that, as a future council, your position *must still be based on reality*. After opening statements, the council will begin to establish “Common History”. The Presiding Officer will oversee the discussion, following a parliamentary procedure for all major historical events. Only a maximum of ten minutes will be set aside to determine what shared history the nations will face. If, at any point in the council, there is a need for a historic event/fact to be established, a note may be sent in to the PO. If approved, the historic event will be added to the “Common History” and read aloud to the council.

Each country’s delegation consists of that nation's head political leader (president, chancellor, prime minister, etc.), and by the leader of the military. If you are acting in a double delegation, each member will act as either the political or military leader. If you are only a single delegation, you will be representing both.

General Overview of the last 25 years

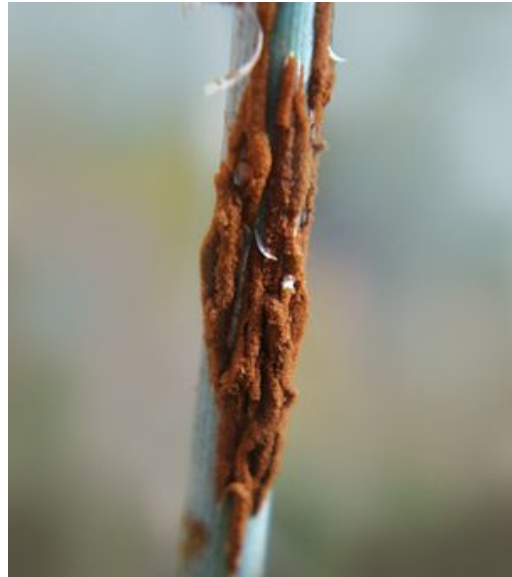
Under the direction of Putin, Russia continued to expand into ethnically Russian former Soviet territories, such as Belarus, but they soon stepped over the lines of ethnicity and language. In 2018 Russia began a 5-year annexation of Lithuania and Belarus. Although the reason is still unknown, it is generally believed that they were annexed so that Russia could begin a full reclamation of all former Soviet states. In addition, there are small, yet important resources present which could be necessary for Russia to control some small parts of the world economy. The Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia, and especially Lithuania immediately took to the international community to appeal to NATO for aid and defense in their time of need while the Ukraine appealed for Belarus in the UN. Unfortunately the response in the UN was halted by Russia’s presence, and many other countries’ silence, in particular former Soviet bloc countries. NATO was a different story.

There was quick action on the part of almost all member states, as NATO troops advanced into Lithuania to stop the Russian advance. Russia was pushed out of Lithuania, but Belarus was more controversial. There was no unified response from the UN, and NATO was far less unified than they were with Lithuania. Many of the Western European states advocated for action while Eastern Europe was more tepid, and the United States and United Kingdom remained generally stoic. Old rivalries rose, and the continued rise of xenophobia created undercurrents of distrust within NATO. Russia took advantage of the muddled international response, and took complete control of Belarus. Through multiple following events, both minor

and major, France became the first-ever state to withdraw from NATO. France's isolationism took hold, and their withdrawal initiated the effective collapse of NATO. More and more countries withdrew their membership over the Russian crisis, and eventually only a few small states in Southeastern Europe, the US, the UK, and Iceland were left in NATO.

Due to increasing amounts of international conflict and distrust between states, more and more nations were unable to borrow money from other nations in order to keep their governments afloat. In 2024, Japan defaulted on most of their loans, becoming the first major country to collapse into the largest and most pervasive depression in world history. The next regions to fall into economic depression was North America and Europe shortly after. Russia soon followed, but South-East Asia, China, and Africa were the least hard hit.

In 2025, a variety of fungus related to the famous Panamá disease and Ergot began destroying wheat crops in central Europe. However the distrust that was brought on by the dissolution of NATO, and increasing waves of xenophobia and isolationism in the world caused international cooperation and initiative to be scattered at best, and harmful at worst. There was no widespread solution to this new fungus, and it continued to spread. By 2028, 60% of the world's wheat crop had been infected, and by 2030 that number had risen to 95%. Coinciding with the disease was a massive economic downturn as trust in agriculture fell, food prices rose, and all major-wheat producing countries began importing huge quantities of food even as their economies were in complete free-fall. Due to the effects of the fungus it was nicknamed, 'Stemrot' after the area of the wheat crop that it affected.

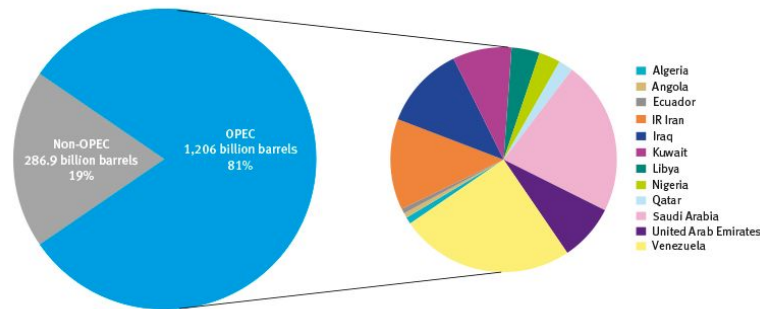


By 2032, many new extremist groups were starting to rise. In Europe various new fascist organizations were springing up, in the middle east Islamic Extremism was on the rise, mirroring the form that Daesh had taken before their destruction in 2019. Over the next three years more and more threats were made by these new extremist groups, until small attacks started taking place. The threat of violence was ever increasing until 2035, when a dirty bomb was set off in New York City, killing 97 with the initial blast, wounding over 500, and spreading a radioactive cloud over the eastern seaboard. Fearing additional attacks the US military moved their seat of power to Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Base, and all US government installations were put under heavy guard.

In 2036, an international investigation into the incident took place, and it was determined that the bombing was planned and executed by a terrorist splinter group in the United States, and that they were partially funded by other outside extremist groups. The United States, fearing further attacks, passed multiple laws which effectively removed the United States from most world politics, in order to purge itself of terrorism, and rise anew when they were ready.

In the midst of this great international crisis, oil was one of the great driving forces. However, with the increasing hostilities and the retraction of most US foreign aid in 2024 due to the sudden depression, oil shipments out of the Middle East were no longer protected by the US taskforce. As a result, more and more attacks were being held on oil tankers coming out of the Middle East, and Saudi Arabia, after suffering huge diplomatic and financial losses, began to cut out the oil-producing portion of their economy as it had begun to become less productive, and it

OPEC share of world crude oil reserves, 2014



OPEC proven crude oil reserves, at end of 2014 (billion barrels, OPEC share)

Venezuela	299.95	24.9%	Iraq	143.07	11.9%	Libya	48.36	4.0%	Algeria	12.20	1.0%
Saudi Arabia	266.58	22.1%	Kuwait	101.50	8.4%	Nigeria	37.07	3.1%	Angola	8.42	0.7%
IR Iran	157.53	13.1%	UAE	97.80	8.1%	Qatar	25.24	2.1%	Ecuador	8.27	0.7%

Source: OPEC Annual Statistical Bulletin 2015.

had fallen under large amounts of international scrutiny and sanctions following an oil spill in 2021. Finally, in 2025, Saudi Arabia officially removed themselves from OPEC. It is worth remembering that OPEC had been falling in importance for 2 decades now as the world had started the transition to renewable energy, ergo, Saudi Arabia's abandonment of OPEC sparked the beginning of the end. In early 2026, OPEC completely dissolved, and many of

the former member states are in dire straights.

The worldwide demand for oil is still great, however, there have been no international agreements surrounding oil since the dissolution of OPEC in 2026. Both Europe and the United States have been crippled by economic depression, loss of food sources, and isolationism. South America has moved three steps forward but two steps back; the Middle East is in the grips of depression, and is still suffering the aftershocks of terrorism in the early 21st century. However, Africa has continued to grow in population and economic power, and are now in a position to both improve their own oil infrastructure, and improve the worldwide economy. Meanwhile the ASEAN (plus six) nations are in a prime position to influence trade and future energy solutions in the Pacific.

ASEAN plus six:

ASEAN grew in both power and influence throughout the past 25 years due to ever-increasing economic development, democratization, and technological success. It has become a very powerful regional confederation that is an economic, political, and military alliance. The poster child for ASEAN's success has been the Democratic Republic of Myanmar, whose great political and economic advances have only mirrored those of ASEAN as a whole. They remained mostly unaffected during the decline of NATO and the invasion of Belarus, but when the global financial crisis hit in 2024 most states were able to buoy above the economic tremors rocking the rest of the world, with the exceptions of Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore, due to increased agricultural exports in 2025 through 2035. This sustained period of agricultural

growth was the catalyst which helped push ASEAN to the foreground of economic development in the post-depression world.

However, the plus six countries didn't fare as well. Japan was the very first country to sink into depression, and their economy has still not fully recovered, (their economy only reached pre-depression GDP growth levels in 2038). In 2021 the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) collapsed due to both internal and external pressures, prompting immediate efforts for reunification. In 2023, the reunification of Korea was successful, and the Republic of Korea was reborn. The lack of infrastructure in the former DPRK and South Korea's dependence on food imports put the two sides of the country against each other as the South struggled to bring the North back up to speed in the world. As of 2040, South Korea is growing, but is focused internally on improving the infrastructure and economic output of the former DPRK.

Both Australia and New Zealand have become less relevant on the world stage due to large internal economic depressions, and the loss of one of their greatest allies and trading partners: the United States. As a result they are far more interested in bringing the rest of the developed world back together than they are in making decisions for the developing world. India has faced a widespread famine due to the loss of their second largest crop- wheat. Many studies and estimates now rank the Indian famine among the worst in history with up to 30 million dead, and more than 100 million more Indians are currently under risk of malnutrition than they were before the famine. India's economy has not improved significantly either, but has rather degraded.

In 2023 the Chinese government enacted the Shanghai reforms, a series of acts and mandates which were meant to bolster the Chinese economy in case of future economic disaster. As a result China became less involved in foreign affairs and more receptive to the needs of its people. China was thus able to partially prepare and reinforce their economy and infrastructure before the depression in 2024. It is because of these reforms that the Chinese economy was able to stay afloat during the depression, but they finally entered into the depression with the destruction caused by the wheat fungus. Another famine was known to have taken place in China, but the government tightened their grasp on the flow of information in and out of China, so no studies or estimates have been able to be conducted. China today is a powerful trading partner, but their motives remain more murky than ever.



African Union:

For the most part the African Union stayed out of world politics, quietly increased their economic power, and invested in technology. As a whole Africa is better poised to respond to

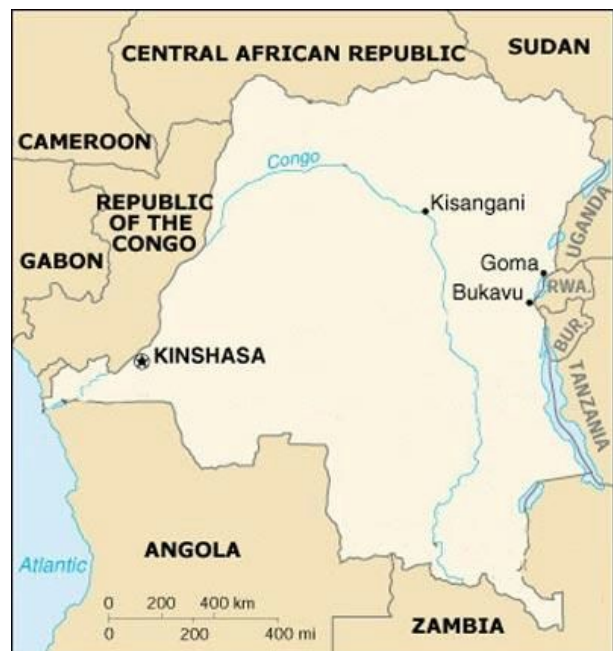
international crises and internal conflicts. In addition over the last 25 years Africa's total economic output grew by 150%, far outpacing the rest of the world. This growth is mostly attributable to Chinese foreign investment, high levels of economic liberalization in the last 25 years, and the steady growth of the African population. The current population of Africa is 1.864 billion people.

Politically the last 25 years have been a time of great change: many countries have become either hybrid regimes or full-fledged democracies. The two current power players in African politics are Nigeria and South Africa, with the former being an African-style democracy and the latter not moving in its political system since 2015. Many other African countries have begun the process to transitioning to full-fledged democracies, with parties being determined along tribal and historical lines. Though the political situation in Africa has generally improved, many Central African countries remain bogged down in corruption, inefficiency, and violence. South Sudan, Central African Republic, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Zambia form the main remaining roadblocks in the road to African prosperity.

There are, however, secondary concerns and issues which had plagued the African Union, but are either solved or are no longer of concern. Many of the old extremist groups have been either scattered or eradicated completely with the two most notable ones being Al-Shabaab and Boko Haram. Systemic and widespread malnutrition has been dramatically reduced following strong economic growth in the early 2030s. For example in 2012 in Nigeria 1 in 7 children died before the age of 5^[4]. Today that number is down to 1 in 30. The average GDP per capita at PPP in Africa rose from \$2,043 in 2017 to \$5,139 today, and the average African is less likely to die from disease, war, or poverty than ever before.

But there are still serious problems that all African countries must deal with: how to enter into the world market, how to become a major voice on the world scale, and whether or not oil is the future of African energy.

There is one large conflict remaining: will Nigeria or South Africa become the reigning African superpower? Although the two have generally cooperated on international conflicts, their willingness to work together on intra-continental issues has been shaky at best. South Africa tried flooding the international oil market in 2018 in order to bring down Nigerian oil prices, and potentially gain South Africa a larger stake in the global market. In 2022 South Africa and Nigeria were both in the running for \$2 billion in international aid with the purpose to build



infrastructure. Through various means and some hostile meetings with South Africa Nigeria eventually won the money, but the conflict remains. Will either country intentionally block each other in their combined interest to extract Congolese oil? Or will international cooperation reign supreme?

Alternative Solutions to the International Energy Crisis:

Oil, coal, and gas have been the world's primary sources of power for almost 2 centuries, but the collapse of OPEC and the decline of the world's petroleum reserves make oil an increasingly costly and outdated energy source. As of 2039 the price of oil per barrel had risen to \$400 per barrel, more than at any other time in history. Gas prices have skyrocketed, and there is a pressing need for clean, renewable, and, most importantly, cheap energy.

Many countries have led the charge in investment into renewable energy, but among the leaders have been the United States. America has gradually increased research into all forms of renewable energy, and are currently leading the world with the most amount of energy produced by renewable means: 1,000 trillion btus. However the United States is not powered entirely by renewable energy, on the contrary only 30% of their power needs are met by renewable sources, the rest is generated from coal, oil, and gas. On the other hand many smaller nations, such as Singapore, Germany, and Iceland are 100% renewable, although the specific energy sources may vary.

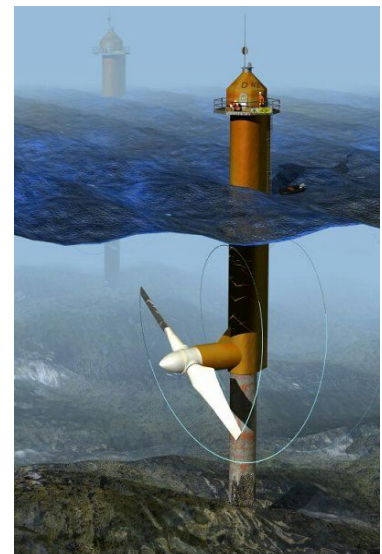
There are many different types of renewable energy that may be of interest to this council, however there are a few which are either the most cost effective, easiest to produce, or energy efficient. These technologies are:

Solar/Photovoltaic: Solar/PV cells have existed in one form or another for over 60 years, but only in the last 20 have they become more cost-effective than coal or oil. Solar is particularly adept at powering rural homes and villages which may not be close enough to a city to draw power from the main grid. Solar power was essential in the economic growth of Africa. The current world leaders in solar technology are Myanmar, Japan, Morocco.

Hydroelectric: This form of power generation was already 50 years old by the time any other renewable energy source entered onto the market, and it has been growing ever since.

Hydroelectricity can be generated by dams on rivers, turbines in the sea, or long buoys which harness the power of waves. Oceanic hydroelectric power is notable because of its reliability, relatively low cost, and easy implementation for coastal cities. The current world leaders in hydroelectric power are Singapore and Egypt.

Wind: For many arid and inland areas wind power may be one of the only reliable sources of power. Though turbines may be difficult to implement, they can be spread over a wide area, and increase access to electricity for more rural areas. Additionally wind power is especially helpful on cloudy/windy days when solar power



may not be as effective. The current world leaders in wind power are the United States and China.

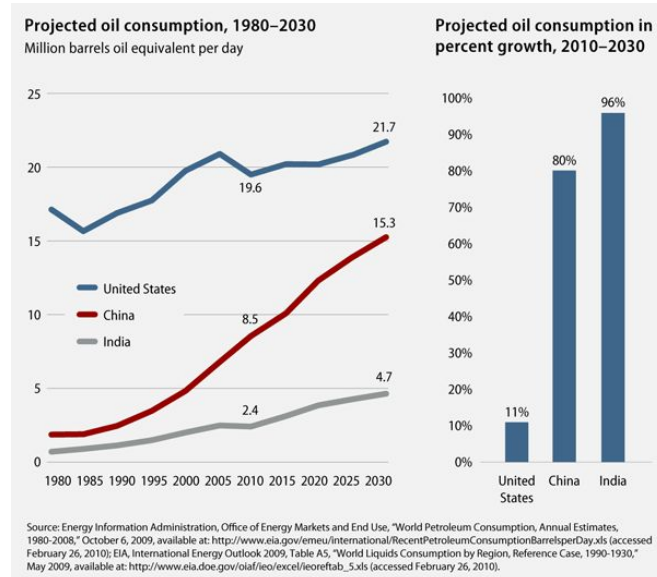
Nuclear: Today's nuclear power is nowhere near the comparatively ancient technologies that were present in Chernobyl. Yesterday's nuclear power was fission, today's nuclear power is fusion. While fission may present dangers in the event of a meltdown, fusion reactors are not able to meltdown, become explosive, or release potentially harmful radiation. However they are very efficient and reliable, but are, more often than not, ludicrously expensive. Currently Germany is the only country that has more than 5 operational fusion reactors.

The Delegation and Future of Oil in Africa:

For the last 25 years oil production in Africa has been on the decline as the old oil reserves have been drained of most of their volume. Nigeria hit peak oil production in 2011^[1] and has been declining ever since. Other countries, such as Libya and Angola, hit peak oil in the early 2020s, and the near collapse of OPEC in 2019 put large economic strains on all of Africa. This problem was relieved by increased Chinese foreign investment starting in 2015 and continuing to this day. The average economic growth rate of African countries went from 4.5% in 2014^[2] to over 8% in 2018, and oil no longer became the primary concern for the newly diversified and booming economies. This strong economic growth was halted by the global depression, and growth rates plummeted to a dismal 3% by 2025. Much of the African economy now had to fall back to oil as manufacturing no longer became as attractive, however the dissolution of OPEC in 2026 further deepened the oil crisis as countries struggled to increase their economic output. The economy showed signs of recovery in 2030, and by 2035 the average GDP growth rate of Africa again reached an incredible 6%.

In 2037 a new series of oil reserves were discovered in the Congo with an estimated capacity of 400 billion barrels (bn bbl) of petroleum. Though the African economy is showing signs of increased growth and recovery, this new oil reserve could jumpstart the African continent into a new era of sustainable growth, and reduce African dependence on China. However it is uncertain whether this new source of oil should be seen as a boon or as an unnecessary resource.

The main conflict which has arisen over the oil so far has been hostility between Nigeria, South Africa, and China as to which nation has the greater claim over the reserve. China argues that their expenditures in Africa grant them first dibs, South Africa argues that their direction of Africa has granted them more than enough permission to obtain the oil, and Nigeria feels that a diplomatic solution must first be



reached, though they are no less interested in the oil. The other African Union states either support Nigeria, South Africa, or are much more ambiguous in their support. Former NATO member states are also very interested in the lucrative prosperity of more black gold, but are more reticent in their actions. Some ASEAN member states, such as Indonesia and Brunei, retain a sort of monopoly on oil trade in the South China Sea, and they would hate to see their monopoly go. Other factions have ascertained that oil is a thing of the past, and that the only energy future is in renewables even if the increased spending may hamper the growth of their economies. One thing is certain: Congolese oil could bring the world back to its feet, or kick it back 15 years to when the struggle for oil devastated world affairs.

Finding sustainable methods of producing energy while avoiding future crises is a priority for this council. Working alongside the ASEAN(plus six), many African nations must find stability and alternatives to their oil-centric governments (or lackthereof).

Operation of the Committee:

The council will be split into two rooms: one dedicated to the African Union, and one dedicated to ASEAN (plus six). Each room will have separate POs and judges, but both rooms will interact with one another. If an action is made in the African Union room, the message and action will be relayed to the ASEAN room. In addition there shall be messages, actions, and initiatives undertaken by the former NATO states throughout the course of the council. China may also be involved in a significant way in a role similar to the former NATO states.

As this is a crisis counsel, there is no need to write Resolutions. Almost all of the time will be taken up by debate, writing directives, and issuing press releases. Parliamentary procedure is the same as it is in a General Assembly or ECOSOC, but is more informal. Moderated caucuses may be used to discuss multiple topics, and lengthy unmoderated caucuses are allowed, if not encouraged. There may be a speaker's list, but there is no requirement in this counsel to have one.

Each delegation is responsible for knowing their national resources, policy, and style of governance as they will be needed when delegations write directives. A directive can take two forms in this committee: personal and committee. A personal directive is an action that your country carries out (increasing spending, moving troops, buying resources) that does not require permission from the committee at large. Just write a note, send it up to the chair, they will either approve or disapprove it, and, if it is approved, it will be read to the committee and announced in the other room. A committee directive is also a direct action, but it must be voted on by the committee. The amount of votes needed for a committee directive to pass is up to the discretion of the PO.

Additionally the committee may issue a Press Release, an announcement of news, actions, or future actions to both the other committee and the general public. This is not a directive and has no power, but it may be used as a method of communicating with the other counsel.

Critical Questions:

1. How can the future of energy be secured? Should the new oil in the Congo or renewable sources be the future of energy?
2. Which other energy sources are available and/or preferable to oil? How can this council and your country either promote or dissuade their use?
3. What role do the AU member states have in this dilemma? ASEAN? Former NATO members?
4. Should past events dictate and shape the decisions of this council?
5. What did your country accomplish during the last 25 years? (please keep it reasonable)
6. Should China be involved in the proceedings? Why or why not?
7. Is there a prescient need for more development of energy or civil infrastructure in the Congo?

Major Parties:

Democratic Republic of the Congo: The DRC has deep seated problems with corruption, and a lack of developed infrastructure. Their possession of the world's largest oil reserve brings up great fears of a renewed resource curse - while there is great hope of bringing the country out of corruption, the reality is that the current government is maintaining their grasp on power and likely will for years to come.

Nigeria: Nigeria had the largest oil reserves in Africa, but now has the most amount of redundant oil infrastructure. The amount of energy expertise in Nigeria is very high, and their resources may prove vital to the construction of oil infrastructure in the Congo.

South Africa: Even though South Africa has little oil infrastructure to start with, the size of their economy and their long-standing alliances with former NATO states may make them a favorable ally and moderator for debate between the AU, ASEAN, and the former states of NATO.

Egypt: Egypt recognized that though the Aswan High Dam had some severe environmental issues, the energy security that it provided to Egypt when the OPEC dissolved was more than enough to convince Egypt to begin investing more in hydroelectric. Now over 30% of Egypt's power comes from hydroelectricity, and their expertise and experience could be very valuable.

Germany: 2015 marked a year of transition for Germany: the transition from oil and gas to fusion. The reactor Wendelstein 7-X was the precursor to a series of fusion reactors, with the latest being the Wendelstein Y, a small, low-cost, and efficient fusion reactor capable of powering 500,000 homes for a very low cost. Fusion power is another alternative energy source, but it is generally ineffective for spread out/rural populations.

United States of America: America post-New York is ridden with increased security, decreased international involvement, and a general distrust of many other nations. On the contrary it may be time for the United States to take an increased role in international politics once again. In addition the United States has prescient energy needs which require fulfillment, whether by one way or another.

Myanmar: The government of Myanmar began heavily subsidizing renewable energy beginning in 2011. They are now at the forefront of low-cost high-efficiency solar energy, and now over 50% of Myanmar runs on renewable energy, making them a powerful example of the electrifying abilities of solar power.

Philippines: Agricultural production in the Philippines propelled it to the forefront of ASEAN in 2015, but they have little investment in energy technologies; they are interested in taking a greater stake in the energy policy of the world.

Singapore: The former trade center of the South China Sea has now become the first country in the world powered entirely by the ocean. Singapore invested billions of dollars into tidal turbines which generate enough power to power the entire city. This technology can be expanded to assist other coastal nations with prescient energy needs.

Indonesia: Indonesia was one of the major sources of oil in the South China Sea, and they are currently the main producer of oil for ASEAN. Their monopoly on the oil for ASEAN may be broken by the extraction of DRC oil, and Indonesia's economy would be further devastated if new oil were to be injected into the market.

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