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## Inherency

### A. American's Traditional Role has been of encouraging more open trade

Trumbull 2010

(Mark, "Trade deficit rises faster than expected: How worrying is that?", *Christian Science Monitor*, Aug 11, 2010, <http://www.csmonitor.com/Business/2010/0811/Trade-deficit-rises-faster-than-expected-How-worrying-is-that>)

**To prod China on its currency policy, Morici urges the US to tax Beijing's conversions of yuan into dollars at a rate as high as 35 percent -- an amount designed to "offset Chinese subsidies that harm U.S. businesses and workers."**

That idea is controversial, given that America's traditional role has been of encouraging more open trade and shunning practices that might be viewed by others as a trade war. Recent presidents including Obama have been reluctant to take the step of alleging officially that China manipulates its currency value.

## Harms

### A. U.S.-China Trade Imbalanced caused by grossly undervalued currency

Navarro 2009

(Peter, "Undervalued currency helps, hurts U.S. economy", San Francisco Chronicle, Feb 15 2009, [http://articles.sfgate.com/2009-02-15/opinion/17187932\\_1\\_us-china-trade-imbalance-trade-deficit](http://articles.sfgate.com/2009-02-15/opinion/17187932_1_us-china-trade-imbalance-trade-deficit))

**At the root of the record U.S.-China trade imbalance is China's grossly undervalued currency. Whether or not China manipulates its currency, as Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner has charged, virtually all economists agree that the yuan is significantly undervalued relative to the dollar, to which it is pegged. The result: a chronic U.S. trade deficit with China that adds up to more than \$5 billion a week.**

### B. Undervalued currency weakens the U.S. economy

Navarro 2009

(Peter, "Undervalued currency helps, hurts U.S. economy", San Francisco Chronicle, Feb 15 2009, [http://articles.sfgate.com/2009-02-15/opinion/17187932\\_1\\_us-china-trade-imbalance-trade-deficit](http://articles.sfgate.com/2009-02-15/opinion/17187932_1_us-china-trade-imbalance-trade-deficit))

**China's undervalued currency has, however, severely weakened the U.S. economy. We are now far too dependent on consumer-driven growth. This overconsumption is mirrored in an underinvestment in domestic manufacturing and a severely weakened industrial base incapable of generating enough good jobs at decent wages. Unless that structural imbalance is fixed, America's long-term growth prospects are bleak.**

## Plan

**The United States federal government will impose a 35% tax on all conversions of yuan to dollars.**

## Solvency

### A. Eliminating trade deficit will help U.S. economy

Morici 2009

(Peter Morici, Economist and Professor, University of Maryland, testimony before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade Hearings on U.S. Foreign Economic Policy in the Global Crisis March 12, 2009, <http://foreignaffairs.house.gov/111/mor031209.pdf>)

**Eliminating the trade deficit with China by eliminating or at least redressing currency manipulation would have a much greater stimulus effect on the economy than the package just approved by Congress. It would inspire a renaissance in manufacturing and restore American growth and wages in a manner and magnitude no public policy this Congress could implement could ever achieve. Simply, it would permanently increase aggregate demand for U.S. goods and services, while raising revenue for positive public purposes; it would restore incentives for the efficient use of labor and capital that free trade should normally provide.**

### B. No public policy problem is more urgent than addressing the trade deficit with China

Morici 2009

(Peter Morici, Economist and Professor, University of Maryland, testimony before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade Hearings on U.S. Foreign Economic Policy in the Global Crisis March 12, 2009, <http://foreignaffairs.house.gov/111/mor031209.pdf>)

**Regarding nonenergy trade, no solution is possible without addressing the trade deficit with China, and its manipulated exchange rate and other mercantilist practices. And given the role of the trade deficit in the nation's macroeconomic problems and sovereignty problems foreign borrowing creates for the United States, no public policy problem is more urgent.**

## A/T: China Control Currency

### China controls the value of its currency

#### Morici 2009

(Peter Morici, Economist and Professor, University of Maryland, testimony before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade Hearings on U.S. Foreign Economic Policy in the Global Crisis March 12, 2009, <http://foreignaffairs.house.gov/111/mor031209.pdf>)

**China controls foreign exchange transactions and manages the value of its currency. It set the yuan-dollar exchange rate at an artificially low value in 1994 and fixed that rate from 1995 to 2005. From mid-2005 to mid-2008, China permitted some modest revaluation of the yuan; however, this was not nearly enough, and the yuan remains significantly undervalued. Since July 2008, the value of the yuan has not changed much.**

Currency Neg

Generic Inherency - U.S. is already influencing China to stabilize their currency

Yuan not to blame for trade gap with U.S.

Currency Float DA

A. External Link - Plan forces China to float their currency

B. Internal Link - Forcing China to Float Their Currency Directly Harms the Chinese Poor

C. Impact - Chinese poverty directly leads to social unrest, environmental destruction, resource loss, and death

Human Rights Counterplan

Observation 1 - U.S. has worse human rights record than China

A. VIOLATION OF CITIZENS' RIGHTS

B. HIGHEST INCIDENCE OF VIOLENT CRIMES ON EARTH

C. RACIAL DISCRIMINATION WIDESPREAD

D. RIGHTS OF WOMEN, CHILDREN LACKING

Observation 2 - The U.S. ability to dictate policy to the rest of the world is declining

Observation 3 - Plan: The United States Federal Government should make no change to its trade policies and/or practice with the People's Republic of China. Instead, it should spend all available political capital on improving the U.S. economy and human rights situation.

Observation 4 - Advantages: The Counterplan will solve for the same areas of the affirmative, but in a more beneficial long-term way since post-Counterplan the U.S. will be able to influence the economy and human rights situations of China in a more effective manner.

A. Obama has very limited Political Capital and must focus on economy

B. The U.S. Economic Recovery is Key to All Other Issues

# Currency Neg

## Generic Inherency - U.S. is already influencing China to stabilize their currency

From the Nation, May 31, 2011 ("Yuan peaks in wake of US prodding", The Nation (Thailand), from Lexis)

The yuan climbed to a record after the United States said China had made "insufficient" progress in letting its currency gain and urged faster appreciation.

The People's Bank of China raised the currency's reference rate 0.06 per cent to 6.4856 per US dollar, the strongest level since July 2005. The yuan's real exchange rate remains "substantially undervalued", the US Treasury Department said in a report to Congress on Friday, without branding China a currency manipulator.

The adjustment to the yuan was "clearly encouraging", said Thomas Harr, the head of Asian foreign-exchange strategy in Singapore at Standard Chartered.

"Basically what the US is saying is, we trust you to go on with this and we'll let you do your work yourself," he said.

The yuan rose 0.12 per cent to 6.4840 per dollar as of mid-morning in Shanghai, according to the China Foreign Exchange Trade System. The currency reached 6.4835, the strongest level since 1993. The yuan is not allowed to move more than 0.5 per cent on either side of the central bank's daily fixing.

In Hong Kong's offshore market, the yuan strengthened 0.09 per cent to 6.4875.

Twelve-month non-deliverable forwards (NDF) rose 0.09 per cent to 6.3685 per dollar, a 1.8-per-cent premium to the spot rate in Shanghai, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

The yuan will reach 6.25 by the end of the year, 3.7 per cent stronger from its current level, according to Standard Chartered.

"We are clearly bullish compared [with] market pricing," Harr said. "We definitely recommend to be short dollar against the yuan through the NDF curve."

## Yuan not to blame for trade gap with U.S.

From China Daily on March 11, 2011 ("Yuan Not to Blame for Trade Gap with U.S.", chinadaily.com.cn, from Lexis)

NEW YORK - China's rising inflation is partly rooted in the rapid monetary expansion of the United States, and the real concerns for the US economy are its lack of competitiveness and trade deficits and not of the China factor, US economists said on Wednesday.

...

"America is manipulating its currency," he said, and China is simply trying to maintain the stability of the yuan against the dollar.

"We enjoy Chinese-made goods without paying for it because we just print the money," he said.

Schiff said the current US budget plan would be impossible without the help of China as a lender and the country's CPI wouldn't be as low without the relative balance between the yuan and the dollar.

Even if the yuan appreciates, it will not change the US trade deficit with China because of the limited availability of "Made-in-America" products. "The real reason we are importing so many products from China is that we cannot afford to make this stuff ourselves," he said. The rules, regulations and taxes laid on US companies have made them uncompetitive, not the high wages. Countries with high wages, such as Germany and Japan, enjoy trade surpluses with China, he said. China-related issues such as currency revaluation and the trade imbalance seem important to the US, but the real concerns should be its lack of competitiveness and trade deficits. Eswar Prasad, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, told China Daily. "There are lots of debates about US fiscal deficits. That's really a serious problem, which has constrained the US enormously," said Prasad, who is also Tolani Senior Professor of Trade Policy at Cornell University.

Ultimately the world's largest economy has to reduce government spending and raise taxes to meet the huge burden of public debts. That's going to have serious impact on US productivity, Prasad said.

"China seems very important, but ultimately it is not what China does, but what the US does. The key issue is US competitiveness and productivity," he said. If the trade relationship between the two countries fares well, it will bring lots of mutual benefits, he said. China might be the only country that allows US President Obama's exports plan to happen, said Shangjin Wei, professor of Chinese Business and Economic at Columbia University. Obama has promised to double US exports by the end of 2014.

China's Commerce Minister Chen Deming has repeatedly said that the country will import more from the US in the coming years to reduce the bilateral trade imbalance.

Wei said the US deficit with China is not a unique phenomenon. Besides China, the US runs deficits with the European Union, Canada, Mexico, India and a number of other countries. "It's in China's interests to make its currency more flexible, but it won't do too much in reducing the current US deficit," Wei said.

# **Currency Float DA**

Story: The Plan forces China to float their currency even more than they have, which will lead to inflation in China, and serious consequences for that country's poor.

## **A. External Link - Plan forces China to float their currency**

## **B. Internal Link - Forcing China to Float Their Currency Directly Harms the Chinese Poor**

From China Daily on March 11, 2011 ("Yuan Not to Blame for Trade Gap with U.S.", chinadaily.com.cn, from Lexis)

China's rising inflation is partly rooted in the rapid monetary expansion of the United States, and the real concerns for the US economy are its lack of competitiveness and trade deficits and not of the China factor, US economists said on Wednesday.

"The reason Americans can live beyond their means is that the Chinese are living beneath their means," said Peter Schiff, president and chief global strategist at Euro Pacific Capital, at a seminar held by the Council on Foreign Relations in New York.

The Chinese currency rose to a 17-year high this week, which analysts said could help ease the country's consumer inflation by reducing import costs. China's consumer prices hit 4.9 percent in January and the February data are scheduled to be released on Friday.

The US is "printing so much money" and shipping the excess dollars to China, that it is causing increased liquidity in China and stoking price rises, Schiff said at the seminar.

Some US politicians have accused China of manipulating its currency and claimed the manipulation harms the US economy by thwarting its exports to China.

China says it has adopted a managed and floating exchange rate regime that reflects demand and supply. The yuan, as a result, have appreciated by nearly 26 percent since July, 2005.

"I don't think what China is doing is manipulation. There was a manipulator, but not necessarily China because the biggest beneficiary (of the game), at least in the short run, is America," Schiff said.

"America is manipulating its currency," he said, and China is simply trying to maintain the stability of the yuan against the dollar.

"We enjoy Chinese-made goods without paying for it because we just print the money," he said.

## **C. Impact - Chinese poverty directly leads to social unrest, environmental destruction, resource loss, and death**

From the Straits Times, November 9, 2010 (The Straits Times (Singapore), "Changing Economic Priorities in China", by Chin Cheong, Staff Writer, from Lexis)

But even as China wows the world every year with its double-digit GDP growth figures, that same growth was spawning a host of problems at home.

With officials at all levels mouthing the 'growth at all costs' mantra, there was no room for other considerations like social justice. Ruthless exploitation of agricultural and industrial labour, and illegal land grabs were condoned.

Although China has an exceedingly low poverty line, the number of Chinese earning 1,196 yuan (S\$230) a year - or slightly over 3 yuan a day - still stood at 43 million last year. Premier Wen Jiabao told the United Nations General Assembly recently that if China were to adopt the United Nations' standard of US \$1.50 a day to define the poverty line, the size of its destitute population would immediately balloon to 150 million, or 11 per cent of the population.

Extreme poverty goes hand in hand with extreme inequality in income distribution. The Gini coefficient - a commonly used measure of income inequality - for China has reached 0.47, exceeding the recognised warning level of 0.4.

This aggregate measure masks the fact that a mere 0.4 per cent of households in the country own almost 70 per cent of national wealth, according to a joint study by China's State Council, the Academy of Social Sciences and the Central Party School.

Extreme poverty and steep inequality in income distribution are a volatile mix, increasing the risk of widespread social unrest. It is for this reason that the Chinese government has this year earmarked about 514 billion yuan, or 10 per cent of total GDP, to keep social unrest under control.

Years of spectacular growth have also taken a heavy toll on the environment.

According to Professor Zhou Tianyong of the Central Party School, desertification over the past 20 years has spread from about 10 per cent of total land surface area to 18 per cent. Acid rain, almost unheard of in the 1970s, now falls on one-third of the country.

That is not all. One-tenth of China's total arable land is tainted by solid, liquid and heavy metal pollutants, and no fewer than 700 million rural Chinese are drinking sub-hygienic water. It has been estimated that 33 per cent of deaths in China every year can be attributed to polluted household water.

Added to this is the depletion of mineral resources. Prof Zhou has estimated that unless China suppresses its ravenous appetite for energy, it will deplete all its petroleum and natural gas deposits, as well as consume between 40 per cent and 70 per cent of the world's total energy supply within 30 years.

In his view, China has only one course of action: Change its development strategy or risk both social and environmental factors putting a brake on its growth.

# Human Rights Counterplan

## Observation 1 - U.S. has worse human rights record than China

From the BBC on April 10, 2011 (BBC Monitoring Asia Pacific - Political, "More on China Hits Back with Report on US Human Rights Record)

The Human Rights Record of the United States in 2010 was released by the Information Office of China's State Council, or cabinet, in response to the Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2010 issued by the US Department of State on April 8.

The US reports are "full of distortions and accusations of the human rights situation in more than 190 countries and regions including China. However, the United States turned a blind eye to its own terrible human rights situation and seldom mentioned it," China's report said.

The United States has taken human rights as "a political instrument to defame other nations' image and seek its own strategic interests," the report said.

While illustrating a dismal record of the United States on its own human rights, China's report said the United States could not be justified to pose as the world's "human rights justice."

"However, it released the Country Reports on Human Rights Practices year after year to accuse and blame other countries for their human rights practices," the report said.

These moves fully expose the United States' hypocrisy by exercising double standards on human rights and its malicious design to pursue hegemony under the pretext of human rights, it said.

The report advised the US government to "take concrete actions to improve its own human rights conditions, check and rectify its acts in the human rights field, and stop the hegemonistic deeds of using human rights issues to interfere in other countries' internal affairs."

## **A. VIOLATION OF CITIZENS' RIGHTS**

From the BBC on April 10, 2011 (BBC Monitoring Asia Pacific - Political, "More on China Hits Back with Report on US Human Rights Record)

In the United States, the violation of citizens' civil and political rights by the government is severe, said the report.

Citizen's privacy has been undermined. More than 6,600 travellers had been subject to electronic device searches between October 1, 2008 and June 2, 2010, nearly half of them American citizens, said the report, citing figures released by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) in September 2010.

The report said abuse of violence and torturing suspects to get confession is serious in the US law enforcement, and "wrongful conviction occurred quite often."

While advocating Internet freedom, the US in fact imposes fairly strict restriction on cyberspace, said the report.

The United States applies double standards on Internet freedom by requesting unrestricted "Internet freedom" in other countries, which becomes an important diplomatic tool for the US to impose pressure and seek hegemony, and imposing strict restriction within its own territory, the report said.

The US regards itself as "the beacon of democracy." However, its democracy is largely based on money, the report said.

According to media report in 2010, US House and Senate candidates shattered fundraising records for a midterm election, taking in more than 1.5 billion US dollars as of October 24. The midterm election, held in November 2010, finally cost 3.98 billion US dollars, the most expensive in the US history.

## **B. HIGHEST INCIDENCE OF VIOLENT CRIMES ON EARTH**

From the BBC on April 10, 2011 (BBC Monitoring Asia Pacific - Political, "More on China Hits Back with Report on US Human Rights Record)

One out of every five people is a victim of a crime in the United States every year, said the report.

The United States reports the world's highest incidence of violent crimes, and its people's lives, properties and personal security are not duly protected, the report said.

In 2009, an estimated 4.3 million violent crimes, 15.6 million property crimes and 133,000 personal thefts were committed against US residents aged 12 or older, and the violent crime rate was 17.1 victimizations per 1,000 persons, said the report, quoting figures from the US Department of Justice.

The United States also ranks first in the world in terms of the number of privately-owned guns and had high incidence of gun-related crimes, said the report, noting that the United States exercised lax control on the already rampant gun ownership.

Some 90 million people own an estimated 200 million guns in the United States, which has a population of about 300 million, the report said citing figures from the public media.

Statistics showed there were 12,000 gun murders a year in the United States, the report said.

The report also said that the frequent campus shootings in colleges in the United States came to the spotlight in recent years.

## **C. RACIAL DISCRIMINATION WIDESPREAD**

From the BBC on April 10, 2011 (BBC Monitoring Asia Pacific - Political, "More on China Hits Back with Report on US Human Rights Record)

"Racial discrimination, deep-seated in the United States, has permeated every aspect of social life," said the report.

Minority groups confront discrimination in their employment and occupation. The black people are treated unfairly or excluded in promotion, welfare and employment, the report quoted U.S media reports as saying.

It is reported that one-third of black people confronted discrimination at work, against which only one-sixteenth of the black people would lodge a complaint.

The New York Times reported on September 23, 2010 that by the end of September 30, 2009, Muslim workers had filed a record 803 claims of complaints over employment discrimination, up 20 per cent from the previous year.

The report said US minority groups have high unemployment rate, and do not enjoy the same political status as white people.

Poverty proportion for US minorities is high in the United States. The poverty proportion of the black was 25.8 per cent in 2009, and those of Hispanic origin and Asian were 25.3 per cent and 12.5 per cent respectively, much higher than that of the non-Hispanic white at 9.4 per cent, said the report, citing US media figures.

The report also said that US minority groups face obvious inequality in education, and the health care for African-American people is worrisome.

Racial discrimination is evident in the law enforcement and judicial systems, racial hate crimes are frequent, and immigrants' rights and interests are not guaranteed, said the report.

## **D. RIGHTS OF WOMEN, CHILDREN LACKING**

Gender discrimination against women widely exists in the United States, and women in the country often experience sexual assault and violence.

Statistics showed that some 20 million women are rape victims in the country, some one fifth female students on campus are victims of sexual assault, and nearly 3,000 female soldiers were sexually assaulted in fiscal year 2008, up nine per cent from the year before.

Women are also victims of domestic violence in the United States, said the report, as some 1.3 million people fall victim to domestic violence every year, with women accounting for 92 per cent.

Many children in the US live in poverty and their physical and mental health is not ensured as nearly one in four children struggles with hunger, according to the report.

The report also pointed out that violence against children is very severe in the country, citing figures from the official website of Love Our Children USA that every year, over three million children are victims of violence reportedly and the actual number is three times greater.

More than 93,000 children are currently incarcerated in the United States, and between 75 and 93 per cent of children have experienced at least one traumatic experience, including sexual abuse and neglect, the report said.

According to the report, pornographic content is rampant on the Internet and severely harms American children as seven in 10 children have accidentally accessed pornography on the Internet and one in three has done so intentionally.

## Observation 2 - The U.S. ability to dictate policy to the rest of the world is declining

From Patrick Smyth in the Irish Times, June 18, 2011 ("US Needs to Redefine its Foreign Policy", Opinion, from Lexis)

WHAT IS philosophy? we were asked in our first essay project in first year. The smart answer was not about epistemology, ontology, or any other ology, but the circular That which is studied in university departments of philosophy .

And there s a similar sense, according to Prof Stephen Walt, that the framework/context of the US study of international relations itself defines the scope, content and approach to the field in much of the US academic and policy community, rather than the other way round.

Walt was in Dublin on Wednesday to address the Institute of International and European Affairs on Obama's foreign policy at what he called the end of the American era , the waning days of outright US hegemony which call for a reappraisal and stepping down of its global role.

With the rise of China and the new powers of Brazil, Turkey, India, and Russia, the postwar order means the US must reconcile itself to a partner role, still crucial, but not as decisive.

In 1945 the US represented half of global production and was able to plough as much as 5 per cent of its annual gross domestic product into propping up a beleaguered Europe through Marshall Aid. Now its share of world production is only half as much, and to put the equivalent into the Middle East would mean an impossible \$700 billion. That should mean, Walt argues, the US being more selective in choosing where to make its presence felt. Less in Europe, which doesn't need it. More in Asia to counter China. A back seat in ousting Gadafy. Out of Afghanistan . . .

**Observation 3 - Plan: The United States Federal Government should make no change to its trade policies and/or practice with the People's Republic of China. Instead, it should spend all available political capital on improving the U.S. economy and human rights situation.**

**Observation 4 - Advantages: The Counterplan will solve for the same areas of the affirmative, but in a more beneficial long-term way since post-Counterplan the U.S. will be able to influence the economy and human rights situations of China in a more effective manner.**

## **A. Obama has very limited Political Capital and must focus on economy**

From the Financial Mail of South Africa, May 6th, 2011 ("Barack Obama's political capital", Opinion & Editorial Section, from Lexis)

The death of Osama bin Laden at the hands of American special forces is more of a symbolic event than an actual dent in the fight against terrorism. By all accounts Bin Laden had long ceased to be the principal mover in Al-Qaeda and the group has over the years become more of a Hydra, with many heads in different parts of the world.

In business parlance you could say Al-Qaeda had become a very successful, though deadly, terrorist franchise. It is as such perhaps too early for US president Barack Obama to say the world is now a "safer place" with his death. A byproduct, though, for Obama in the ordering of the attack on Bin Laden and the apparent instruction, similar to his predecessor George W Bush's instructions to bring him back "dead or alive", is the boost to his flagging political fortunes that could have some important implications. Obama has been under siege in the US in recent months over concerns that he was aloof, unable to lead decisively or take unpopular decisions, compounded by the deadlock in negotiations over the US budget. Also, there have been persistent questions raised in some quarters, including by his former rival and current secretary of state, Hillary Clinton, during the campaign for the Democratic nomination in 2008, that his inexperience in military matters and foreign affairs meant he didn't have the necessary credentials to be a commander-in-chief.

This has all been forgotten in the aftermath of this weekend's event. The question now is, can Obama use the political capital he has gained to tackle perhaps an even bigger threat to the US - its ballooning debt and an inability to find a deal with a Republican Party emboldened by its historic victory in last November's congressional elections?

Obama may be tempted to deploy his newfound popularity for his re-election next year. But the budget crisis is more urgent. There are perhaps just a couple of weeks until the US is expected to reach its US\$14,7trillion debt limit. US lawmakers have indicated that they will not extend this limit until a deal is brokered between the Republicans and Democrats on how the government will cut America's federal budget deficit.

The situation has reached such a dire point that rating agency Standard & Poor's took the unprecedented step of placing US treasuries on a negative outlook last month. The agency warned that unless the Obama administration and the US congress found a way to slash the deficit within the next two years, the US could lose its prized AAA+ credit rating.

The problem, though, is that the Democrats and Republicans remain poles apart on a solution. This despite the chairman of the budget committee, who is trying to find a deal that will be acceptable to both parties, saying they were getting closer to a deal.

## **B. The U.S. Economic Recovery is Key to All Other Issues**

From Stephen M. Walt in the American Review, November 2009 (“Restoring Solvency”, <http://americanreviewmag.com/stories/Restoring-solvency>, **Stephen Walt** is the Robert and Rene Belfer Professor of International Relations at the University of Sydney. He previously taught at Princeton University and the University of Chicago, where he served as master of the Social Science Collegiate Division and deputy dean of Social Sciences. Professor Walt has been a resident associate of the Carnegie Endowment for Peace and a guest scholar at the Brookings Institution and presently serves on the editorial boards of *Foreign Policy*, *Security Studies*, *International Relations*, and the *Journal of Cold War Studies*, and he also serves as co-editor of the *Cornell Studies in Security Affairs*.)

Yet appearances can be deceiving, and this is almost certainly the case when it comes to foreign policy. Although Obama has made a number of positive moves, his actions to date are more style than substance. To be blunt, anyone who expects Obama to produce a dramatic transformation in America’s global position is going to be disappointed.

There are three reasons why major foreign policy achievements are unlikely. First, the big issue is still the economy, and Obama is going to focus most of his time and political capital there. Success in this area is critical to the rest of his agenda and to his prospects for re-election in 2012. Second, Obama is a pragmatic centrist and his foreign policy team is made up of mainstream liberal internationalists who believe active US leadership is essential to solving most international problems. Although they will undoubtedly try to reverse the excesses of the Bush administration, this group is unlikely to undertake a fundamental rethinking of the US’s global role. Third, and most important, there are no easy problems on Obama’s foreign policy “to-do” list. Even if he was able to devote his full attention to these issues, it would be difficult to resolve any of them quickly.

In terms of grand strategy, his ultimate aim must be to bring US commitments back into alignment with its interests and resources—to restore what Walter Lippmann termed “solvency” to US foreign policy. This broad goal can be achieved by extricating the nation from some current obligations, by improving relations with adversaries, by getting other states to bear a greater share of America’s burden, or a combination of all three. Obama will try to keep US commitments within bounds and to improve relations with several adversaries, while taking symbolic steps to repair the damage the Bush administration did to the country’s global reputation. But he is unlikely to achieve any far-reaching breakthroughs. The foreign policy agenda at the end o



## Rising RMB value did not diminish US trade deficit

Ford 2010

(Peter, "Why some economists see a looming US-China trade war", Christian Science Monitor, September 17, 2010, <http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Asia-Pacific/2010/0917/Why-some-economists-see-a-looming-US-China-trade-war>)

Some American economists say that boosting the value of the RMB, which would make Chinese exports more expensive abroad and US imports cheaper here, would help shrink the US trade deficit with China.

But the Chinese government warned against outside efforts to accomplish that. Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu said Thursday that "pressure cannot solve the issue. Rather, it may lead to the contrary."

Leading Chinese economists have also cast doubt on US critics' reasoning. At a conference Tuesday, Ding Yifan – an economist with a think tank that advises the Chinese government – warned that Washington would be unwise to touch off a trade war with its fastest-growing export market.

Nor is it clear that even a large appreciation in the value of the RMB would reduce the US trade deficit with China, argues Xiang Songzuo, deputy head of the International Monetary Institute at Beijing's Renmin University.

In the three years before Beijing pegged its currency to the US dollar in July 2008, the RMB gained more than 20 percent against the dollar, he points out, "but the US trade deficit with China did not decrease. It increased.

"A policy of currency appreciation will not be of significant value to the US," he insists.

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## People's Republic of China

**\_\_\_ People's Republic of China is the country in Asia with Beijing as its capital**

**State Department, August 5, 2010, "Background Note: China",  
<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/18902.htm>**

Background Note: China

Official Name: People's Republic of China

### PROFILE

#### Geography

Total area: 9,596,961 sq. km. (about 3.7 million sq. mi.).

Cities: Capital--Beijing. Other major cities--Shanghai, Tianjin, Shenyang, Wuhan, Guangzhou, Chongqing, Harbin, Chengdu.

Terrain: Plains, deltas, and hills in east; mountains, high plateaus, deserts in west.

Climate: Tropical in south to subarctic in north.

**\_\_\_ People's Republic of China is a communist nation that is the most populous country in the world**

**The Free Dictionary, "People's Republic of China", last accessed Sept 6, 2011**

a communist nation that covers a vast territory in eastern Asia; the most populous country in the world

## Federal

**\_\_\_\_\_ Federal Government refers to the national government of the United States**

**Blacks Law Dictionary 8th edition (Legal dictionary, 2004, edited by Bryan A. Garner)**

Federal, adj. Of or relating to a system of associated governments with a vertical division of governments into national and regional components having different responsibilities; esp., of or relating to the national government of the United States

**\_\_\_\_\_ Federal means relating to the central government.**

**Cambridge Online Dictionary, '10**

**(<http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/federal>)**

federal adjective

[before noun] relating to the central government, and not to the government of a region, of some countries such as the United States

## Substantially

\_\_\_ Substantially means large.

Cambridge Online Dictionary, '10  
([http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/substantially\\_1](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/substantially_1))

substantially adverb ( LARGE )  
to a large degree

\_\_\_ Substantially means generally.

Cambridge Online Dictionary, '10  
([http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/substantially\\_2](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/substantially_2))

substantially adverb ( GENERAL )  
generally

\_\_\_ Substantially means significant

The New Oxford American Dictionary, 2005  
<http://www.oxfordreference.com/views/ENTRY.html?entry=t183.e76181>

1. to a great or significant extent: profits grew substantially | [as submodifier] substantially higher earnings.
2. for the most part; essentially: things will remain substantially the same over the next ten years.

NFA-LD  
Mt. Sac Forensics

China 2011  
Topicality

## Trade Policy

**\_\_\_ Trade policy is any policy affecting international trade**

**Deardorff, 2011**

**(Professor of Economics and Public Policy, Univ of Michigan, International Economics Glossary, last accessed Sept 6, 2011)**

Any policy affecting international trade, including especially tariffs and nontariff barriers.

## Most-Favored-Nation

### \_\_\_\_Most-Favored-Nation a key part of trade policy

#### **Doenecke and Adamson 2002**

**(Justus D. & Michael R.), Encyclopedia of American Foreign Policy. Ed. Richard Dean Burns, Alexander DeConde, and Fredrik Logevall. Vol. 2. 2nd ed. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2002. p417-428.**

From its inception, the United States has incorporated the most-favored-nation (MFN) principle into its trade policy. Until 1923 it adhered to its conditional form and thereafter to unconditional MFN treatment. Only with the passage of the 1934 Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act (RTAA), however, did Congress allow U.S. trade negotiators to use unconditional MFN treatment as an instrument of trade liberalization. That is, the MFN principle does not equate with free or freer trading environments. From 1778 until 1934, U.S. trade policy was explicitly protectionist. In this environment, the adoption by the State Department of unconditional MFN treatment did nothing to advance its program of trade liberalization. MFN treatment is an instrument of trade policy. Its use must be understood within the context of trade policy. In the United States, interest group pressures, the actions of policymakers, and the constraints and opportunities presented by the international political economy shaped policy over time.