



ODUMUNC 2013
Issue Brief for the
Future Security Council (FSC)



The Dangers of a Malthusian World – Crisis in 2033

By: Pat Faha

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Globalization and modern advancements in medicine, technology, food development and production, and other fields have advanced our global community into an era of exponential growth. Today we see the beneficial effects of such growth in the world as many of us live with conveniences and commodities that our predecessors of one hundred, or even twenty, years ago could not have envisioned. At such a growth rate humans have the potential to reach and even exceed the Earth's carrying capacity. Having brought ourselves beyond natural laws and freeing ourselves of many regulating factors, this day may come sooner than our global population can prepare for.

These transformations raise the specter of Malthusian crises, named for the Eighteenth Century English parson and mathematician who first identified the tension between rapid population growth and the slower growth in resources availability. Such crises were avoided in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Century, by bringing new land under cultivation, more efficient agriculture, and exploitation of fossil fuels. This approach seems increasingly unsustainable, as the mechanisms that allowed for the survival or growing populations increasingly undermine the environment and climate, endangering future generations.



The Reverend Thomas Malthus (1766 –1834)

The year of 2033 comes wrought with much turmoil over the increasing pressures of a growing population. By this time in our history the population has hit 8.4 billion worldwide and is quickly approaching 9 billion. Most of the increase comes from developing nations with large



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rural populations where families are reliant on domestic farming practices. The escalation of private food production has led to more instances of overcrowding, soil depletion, and land disputes.

Continued use of other resources has also been amplified. The demand for fossil fuels, particularly oil and natural gas, has remained high and resulted in significant reduction in availability. Additionally, their effects on the environment have not diminished and continue to contribute to atmospheric carbon dioxide and methane. This increase in greenhouse gases will augment the greenhouse effect and subsequently global climate change.

The greater concentration of greenhouse gases, particularly carbon dioxide, in the atmosphere has magnified the greenhouse effect resulting in a net increase of two degrees Fahrenheit globally, raising the annual global average to 58.5 degrees Fahrenheit, three degrees greater than in 2010. Though the direct change in temperature does not seem very imposing, the effects resulting from it are expected to be costly. Often the first of these effects to be mentioned is sea level rise which by 2033 will reach several centimeters in many parts of the world, roughly the same as the previous rise between 1870 and 2010.

More importantly, this change in temperature will result in changing climate and weather patterns. Notable changes will be found in precipitation amounts and location. Precipitation will decrease in some areas and increase in others, though this increase is not necessarily beneficial as it will likely be accompanied by severe storm events. Weather patterns are also more likely to become intensified and erratic with increases in strength and variability. Areas in which precipitation levels decrease are prone to be affected by droughts and dust storms and may also have water resource levels drop below the minimum estimated levels to sustain an established population. Additionally, increased population levels will more heavily tap into water supplied by aquifers draining them faster than they can be replenished.

Variations in climate and weather patterns are also negatively affecting food production. Areas of drought and dust storms have become too arid to grow sufficient amounts of food to farm. Other areas have been over farmed and have become nutrient depleted and can no longer sustain agricultural crops. Such areas include large swaths of the Amazon rainforest which has been almost entirely deforested only to be used for only a few seasons of crops before the nutrients in the soil became exhausted.



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Climate changes not only disturbed the yields of terrestrial food, but also of marine food sources. The changes have upset the El Nino/La Nina weather cycle and disrupted upwelling cycles along the western coast of South America almost completely eliminating the well-established fishing industry in the area. Overfishing in other parts of the world has also drastically reduced the number of fish caught and even driven many species to extinction.

Following 2014, oil and production peaked at 80 million barrels per day and enters a period of decline with no sign of alleviating. With peak recorded production in that year, all nations with large oil reserves, including the United States, have begun pumping them to offset the costs of oil imports. The increase in drilling efforts failed to compensate for the decline in total oil production and only proved to also increase the rate at which the reserves were being depleted. Oil production in 2033 has expanded to more difficult and costly methods such as fracking and extracting oil from oil rich sands have become more common. Areas with smaller amounts of oil are generally bypassed as the payout would not be worth the effort to obtain and process the material.

Environmental, energy and agricultural issues may be the world's most important in 2033. But they must be engaged in the United Nations by member states. These countries still work through a filter of domestic politics and local priorities. Sometimes climate and resource issues dominate at home, sometimes not. The primacy of democratic politics among the member states of the Security Council in 2033 insures that domestic politics continues to determine national perspectives and expectations and capabilities.

Global transformation has affected representation in the UN Security Council. Their absence means that more responsibility will be demanded of those regions and actors active in the Security Council. They should be prepared for calls for new forms of intervention to prevent and respond to environmental crises around the world.

The Actors: As the UN's most powerful body, able to create binding international law, the Security Council is the place for resolving serious crises. But the Security Council is not without problems of its own.

Despite the enormous pressure for reform, the UN Security Council has changed modestly, reform inhibited by the resistance of certain veto powers. The members of the UN Security Council in 2033 continue to be a combination of five permanent members with vetoes and others elected to two-year rotating terms. While Brazil and India effectively have their rotating



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seats semi-permanently, they do not veto. More and more of the world is not represented in the Security Council, including some of the very largest countries like Indonesia (population 450 million), Pakistan (470 million) and countries with more than 150 million such as Bangladesh, Iran, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and Vietnam.

The lack of direct representation for much of the world undermines the legitimacy and authority of the Security Council, widely criticized for defending privilege rather than serving global needs. Security Council reform may be essential to better address the crises of 2033. In lieu of far-reaching reform, Security Council members must cooperate more closely than ever before to be taken seriously world-wide and work effectively. But they also will find cooperation is harder than ever.

Australia: As a result of the American pivot towards the Pacific, Australia has become one of the most important American partners in the region. Many new American military facilities have been built and expanded. This expansion of American power has created some Anti-American sentiments with the Australian people. Many are starting to claim that they are becoming an American puppet state or colony. While, these claims are over exaggerations, they are most likely caused by the major increase of food prices in Australia. This increase in food price has caused a sharp rise in poverty, especially among Australia's elderly population. The Australian government has tried to expand its social welfare programs to help its needy people, but budget constraints have prevented them from being effective. Drought stricken and sensitive to climate change, Australia is a leader in water conservation and global environmental policy, But with its economy entirely depend on exports of natural resources to China, India and other emerging powers, Australia has to play a careful game.

Brazil: Brazil has found a new foothold in the world of 2033. With its population grown to over 400 million, Brazil worked to gain global influence by expanding its exports of a multitude of natural resources. After settling controversy over offshore drilling, operations began for the drilling of the Lula oil field and numerous other locations off the coast of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. While the production of oil has been hugely financially successful—the country is approaching but not quite self-sufficient—as well as globally influential, it has also, as it so often does, come at the cost of environmental health. Oil slicks have become more common along Brazilian coastlines and are contributing to the already dwindling population of pelagic fish. Exportation of Brazilian mineral resources has also increased as they are in high demand. Deforestation of the Amazon rainforest and quick depletion of the nutrients in the soil has provided Brazil large tracts of land to use for solar farming.



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Bolivia: As a landlocked country, Bolivia does not find trade so accommodating as many other countries in the Security Council. As a result keeping their trade routes open is a critical issue to the Bolivian economy. Primary exports include mineral and agricultural resources as well as oil and natural gas. Nationalization of oil production in 2006 has benefitted the country greatly by significantly expanding their export capabilities. Citizens of Bolivia remain upset over their loss of access to the sea to Chile in 1904 and efforts continue to be made to gain sovereign access to ports, though variable means. In 2033 Bolivia maintains access through Peru and Chile to the Pacific and through Argentina to the Atlantic. Recently Brazil granted Bolivia greater access to tributaries to the Amazon River which have been taken full advantage of and worked favorably for both nations. While access to ports is important, the Bolivian government encourages trade between bordering nations and other South American nations.

As Bolivia's economy continues to grow it becomes a much more influential nation. Closer relations to the ever growing Brazil have worked to Bolivia's benefit as the countries are working together to enter the new global stage of economic and energy efficiency.

Canada: Canada finds itself well off in the world of 2033 with the processing of Alberta's oil rich sand deposits. Canada has also taken advantage of melting permafrost by subsidizing solar industries and expanding northward into largely previously unused territory. With its population grown to 70 million, largely due to widespread acceptance of immigration, especially from Asia, Canada has become wealthier and more active internationally. Western provinces, especially Alberta and Saskatchewan, rejected central government authority in energy and social policy during the 2020s. The dominance of energy policy has greatly weakened the domestic authority of the government in Ottawa, which now focuses exclusively on foreign policy.

Cuba: Following the death at the age of his father Raúl Castro at the age of 89, Alejandro Castro Espín, Raul's only son, assumed the position of President of Cuba in 2019. The gradual collapse of communist authority led to partial democratization of the country, with openly contested elections for parliament, although the Cuban Communist Party still receives the support of the country's poor. Only four years into the presidency, in 2023 Alejandro began talks with the United States to lift the trade embargo remaining from 1959. Fierce support for the embargo in the United States remains unabated, and relaxation only became possible in in 2030. The high level of trade between the two nations has already been seen to be prosperous for Cuba as their GDP has quickly grown. Long before this Cuba was already making headway in becoming economically and environmentally sustainable. Cuba now operates on 90% renewable energy.



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A sunny day at Beijing's Bird's Nest Stadium

People's Republic of China: The world's second largest country (by population), China has gained much ground in becoming a dominant world power. China's One-Child Policy has benefited the country over the short-term by curtailing the population growth to much lower than the global average. China's population remains 1.4 billion, roughly the same as in the year 2020, the same year it became the world's largest single economy. . . Economic success has lifted 800 million Chinese people from extreme poverty, but the rest of China's people continue to seek economic advancement.

The One-Child Policy collapsed in the 2020s, but the long-term problems remain unresolved, especially the immense problems of providing for older Chinese, who still lack proper pensions. The On-Child Policy also left Chinese people unwilling to risk the lives of their only children in foreign intervention. Although China remains very assertive and nationalistic in East Asia, it only takes commercial risks in other regions. An urbanization trend has allowed China's production capabilities to continue to work in its favor to keep it globally competitive, but lack of resources has strained this. Another strain is that as the urbanization trend continues, China will produce fewer and fewer resources, most notably food, from rural areas.

The worst environmental problems of the 2010s abated after a series of reforms by Premier Jie Chen (selected in 2022) in the 2020s. But these focused on specific forms of population such as mercury and radiation, leaving major issues unresolved. Cities like Beijing and Chengdu



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continue to have poisonous air alerts. Coastal regions, including massive cities like Tsingtao and Shanghai, face enormous problems with sea level rise. The selection of new premier and central Committee in 2032 gave national power to Premier Chang Miao, an environmental lawyer by training, but also a strong nationalist.

Democratic Republic of the Congo: After decades of violent civil war and control by neighboring states, especially Rwanda, following the end of the Mobutu dictatorship in 1997, in 2024 the government of Democratic Republic of the Congo finally took control of most of the country. Taking advantages of changes in technology and air travel, it was able to reach territory previous cut off. The state has been able to improve human rights, reduce sexual violence in the country, and stabilize Eastern regions; however, the state has taken a more authoritarian role in the country. Elections in the country are not considered free or fair, but the effectiveness of the administration's policies to improve the country have allowed leaders to keep their authority.

Africa's largest and most populous country also is its most assertive. The foreign policy of DRC is focused only on ensuring internal stability of the country. Its also defends trade and raw materials exports, especially to China and India, and it not preoccupied with the environmental issues that preoccupy other countries. With stabilization, the central government is able to ensure that exports and imports are not disrupted which gives confidence to foreign firms considering investing in the country. DRC is now a major exporter of raw materials and basic manufacturing goods. China is by far the country's biggest customer for exports, followed by India, Brazil and other African states. DRC imports complex manufactured goods, mostly industrial machinery and vehicles, from African states, China, Belgium, and France. Since the country is primarily landlocked, DRC depends greatly on its 25mile coastline for shipping goods; all other trade must go through neighboring countries.

Egypt: After eight years of turbulent nation forming, including a short rebellion and two constitutional conventions, a stable democracy took root in 2020. The Freedom and Justice party, a group with strong ties to the pan-Islamic Muslim Brotherhood, is effectively in control of the legislative and is currently holding the executive office. The party maintains socially conservative and economically liberal policies domestically. Now with Egypt's democracy on sound footing, the country is looking to expand its role internationally in its foreign policy. Egyptians consider themselves an important voice for Muslims across the Middle East, especially compared to the other Middle Eastern powers that attempt to assert themselves.



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While Egypt has used antagonistic rhetoric attempting to distance themselves from Western powers, the leaders usually support policies that align with Western powers. Egypt has kept its peace with Israel, supports democratic governments in the Middle East and Africa, and has strong trade relations with the EU, Italy, the US, and the Middle East. In Africa, Egypt is not a dominant power, but its population and wealth often sways viewpoints on African matter. Egypt's biggest issue in Africa is illegal immigration from unstable and poor nations to its South. In the Middle East, Egypt is forging alliances with its neighboring countries to become the dominant voice in the region. Egypt is openly hostile with Iran, but comfortable with Saudi Arabia and Turkey.



Fiji leads Pacific Island adaptation

Fiji: Although small, with a population of just 2 million in 2033, Fiji emerged as a spokesman for much of Asia-Pacific, the region worst affected by sea-level rise. Fiji began to move its cities inland to higher ground in the 2020s. This policy has been only partially successful, but it the mountainous country is not in danger of disappearing, unlike many island states that already have. Fiji's tourism industry, the main industry of the island nation, has been greatly affected by climate change. Beach erosion and sea level rise has left many tourist destinations extremely vulnerable to potential cyclones and other large storms. These vulnerabilities have caused investors to focus on less vulnerable island nations. Fiji is heavy dependent on food importation. Any disruption in world food transportation or supply would greatly affect the island nation. The country continues to be affected by social schisms between its Micronesian and South Asian populations, causing great political instability.



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French nuclear electrical generation facility in the Rhone valley

France: Distinguishing itself from the rest of Europe, France's population continues to rise through 2033. In addition to natural born citizens, immigration from North and West Africa has allowed the country to continue growing and is larger than Germany, with a population of 85 million. This has reinforced France's role as the new European leader, making it the dominant actor in the European Union and the European bloc in the UN.

Population growth greatly reduced economic problems faced elsewhere in Europe, but created additional energy demands. France continues to meet energy needs primarily through nuclear energy, which supplies over ninety percent of its needs. French cities are not affected dramatically by sea-level rise (nothing like Belgium, London, Netherlands or northern Germany) although it faces difficulties. Wielding the largest agricultural economy in the European Union, France holds significant trade influence in areas stricken with poor crop yields. However, preference to crop distribution is given to its own citizens.

India: The world's largest country (its population, not 1.6 billion, overtook China in 2025); India increasingly is the world's most demanding power. India relies on coal from most of this newly-



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installed electrical generation and is trying to emphasize nuclear power. Its coastal regions, especially major west coast cities like Mumbai (Bombay), and cities on river estuaries like Kolkata (Calcutta) face massive flooding much of the year. The country also has become more vulnerable to cyclones.

Pressure from India has provoked new conflict with arch-rival China, especially regarding their still-contested borders. Indian support for Tibetan independence movements over the years also has hurt relations. China's decision in 2027 to divert to its drought stricken regions much of the Brahmaputra (Tsangpo) river—the massive river that previously irrigated much of Eastern India and Bangladesh—has caused enormous disputes.

India being the newest member of the P-6 is perhaps suffering the most in the transition from old power to new power. While the more globally established governments are able to make necessary accommodations to update from their old world energy and resource production methods, India has bypassed many of the prior steps of stabilizing a nation. Like China, India is one of the primary nations being affected by overpopulation. While already a problem, in 2030 it has been amplified as the government works to adopt renewable energy and more sustainable resource management. The new methods of resource management were developed for nations of stable populations and as a result India is having issues implementing them effectively due to the gross overpopulation.



The Brahmaputra (Tsangpo) river before diversion to eastern China in 2027



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Iraq: The best-ruled and most democratic country in the Arab Middle East, Iraq is the region's natural leader and power-house. It still has massive sectarian problems, with Kurdish rule in the north effectively sovereign and Sunni enclaves in the west closer to Jordan and the former-Syrian states. Iraqi's oil reserves—with new capacity still becoming available in 2033—gives it increasing dominance over its former patrol state, Iran.

Due to the high energy demand of developing nations like Brazil, China, India, and Indonesia, Iraq has become very wealthy over the past twenty years, becoming the world's third biggest export after Russia and Saudi Arabia. After the American withdraw, Iraq struggled against terrorist attracts and what many referred to as sectarian civil war. Eventually, the Shia population won control of the country and has been heavily influenced by Iran. Some go as far to claim that Iraq has become an Iranian puppet state. While many of Iraq's domestic and international policies match Iran's, there is some disagreement between the two nations. Iraq has proven to be somewhat more willing to work with the West and has signed the NPT. Climate change has affected the desert nation, and on average it now receives about fifteen percent less rainfall then it did in the year 2000. Also, the major dam projects along the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in Turkey threaten to cut off Iraq from its major source of potable water.

Japan: From 2020 onward, Japan has faced yet another recession for its population of 115 million. The again Japanese population has put massive strain on Japan's tax base and their debt to GDP ratio has sky rocketed to two hundred and fifty percent of GDP. Now some lenders are refusing to lend to Japan and many worry that the country will face another fiscal crisis greater than it did in the 1990s. Japan's productivity has also dropped and they no longer are making a large volume of the words high end electronic goods. The Japanese government has been not been able to find a solution to this problem. Some are arguing for allowing foreign communities to move to the island nation and serve as their labor force, but many Japanese worry that this will lead to a collapse of Japanese society. Others believe the future is through cooperation with reunified Korea.

Kazakhstan: Kazakhstan has continued its move towards an open economy, but remains an authoritarian regime. Despite declaring independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, the country is only on its second president. Despite being more liberal than its former Soviet government, the state puts pressure on dissenting opinions and news networks. Kazakhstan remains a major source for narcotics in the area, and police authorities rarely pursue illicit drug traders. Government corruption has been on the rise and has led to several public protests in recent years. Economic growth is powered by oil exploration, and the supplying of oil often puts many nations on friendly terms with Kazakhstan.



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Kazakhstan pursues a ‘balanced’ foreign policy that aims to make no enemies. Kazakhstan works with Russia on energy and trade issues, including a regional customs union with Russia. With China, Kazakhstan receives investments that help promote economic growth in return for promising a stable supply of fuel for China. With Western nations, Kazakhstan normally follows Western military and peacekeeping policy, specifically the US’s War on Terror and nuclear non-proliferation, and is a non-member participant with NATO, with hints about applying for a full membership in the future. As this is the first time Kazakhstan has been elected to the Security Council with all the countries it tries to please, the ‘balancing’ of its foreign policy may be tested.

Kenya: Since major government reforms in 2010, including a new constitution, Kenya has been able to rapidly increase economic growth, bring millions of citizens out of poverty, and reduce corruption. The constitutional reforms that gave more power to its 47 counties helped reduce corruption by making local officials more accountable for their actions; plus, with 47 different policy laboratories, local governments can quickly see which policies help and which hurt. The national government has also been able to focus more on the large-scale needs and foreign relations of the country. Successful infrastructure projects, regional integration, and trade expansion attracts foreign investment to increase industrial production. The economic boom has decreased the poverty level, but has also attracted illegal immigrants from neighboring South Sudan, Ethiopia, and Somalia.

Kenya has remained neutral in world affairs and is focused on internal development. Like many other African countries, Kenya has heavily pursued trade contracts with China, India, Russia, and Brazil. Recently, Kenya has been increasing military links with China, culminating with a Chinese military base in Kenya. In return for the base, China helped finance several infrastructure projects, such as seaports, fiber-optic cable lines, and highway-systems. Kenya’s spot on the Security Council was backed primarily by China.



When optimism reigned: Rally after Korean unification in 2023



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Korea: In 2023, the North Korean regime fell. The North Korean people suffered badly from 2013 to the collapse in 2023, the small amount of GDP went to further developing North Korea's nuclear and missile programs. As famine became wide spread, reports started leaking of the opulence and wealth of the North Korean leaders. Eventually the starving populous began to rise up. Quickly, the protests evolved into riots, and then into a small civil war. Once the war broke out, thousands of refugees began pouring across the Chinese border. Many policy experts believe that the impending refugee crisis caused China to end all support of the North Korean regime and abstain from a Security Council that allowed South Korea to openly assist the Free North Korean Army. A few weeks later, the North Korean regime fell and the two Koreas began the reunification process, which has not been easy for the country with a combined population of 73 million. Most of the North Korean people were starving, poorly educated and for a lack of a better term, brain-washed. There was almost no industry in the north, and the infrastructure was antiquated by 1950s standards. South Korea began to heavily invest and reeducate the Northern population. For the first time in 2033, the North Korean people will be allowed to vote for a completed unified Korean government. As a result of the massive amount of money that South Korea invested in the North, their GDP to debt ratio has risen to nearly two hundred percent.

Mexico: Although it is one of the world's most-oil rich countries, Taking cues from the United States and Canada and funding much of the project with profits from oil exports Mexico has worked to build solar farms on much of their previously unused desert area. This jump toward energy independence has already been seen to be profitable as Mexico's already advancing position on the global GDP scales only continues to rise, and now at an accelerated rate. By maintaining its close ties to other North American countries, Mexico has been able to stay globally competitive while also dealing with severe poverty issues. It remains one of the most assertive countries in the UN, usually insisting on independence and difference from other American leaders, especially from Brazil and the United States.

The disparity between those above and below the poverty line in Mexico remains significant in 2033. Fortunately, the difference has remained relatively constant, with the exception of a slight decrease caused by Mexico's energy successes. Population loss to United States border crossings has become less of a problem, as the rise of vast and successful middle class and as many public works projects have eased the stresses on lower income families. Mexico has continued attempts to foster greater unity between Central American nations in the hopes to create a more influential and prosperous group of nations.



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Philippines: With a population of 180 million, Philippines is increasingly crowded and resource poor, vulnerable to sea level rise. Separatism in the southern island of Mindanao, never resolved, creates additional stress. Tensions between the Philippines and China have only increased as China routinely tries to expand its influence in the region, especially asserting control of the South China Sea. The Chinese expansion of power has caused the Philippines some internal problems. On the one hand, China is their biggest trading partner, but China has also tried to claim Philippines territory for its own. As a result, the island nation has become more dependent on American security assurances, which the United States is hard pressed to make good. Many fear that China could retaliate economically and devastate the emerging Philippines economy, if they become too close to the United States. Many of the population centers in the Philippines are in low lying areas and very sustainable to flooding during major storms. Many worry about the future effects that climate change will have on their country.

Russian Federation: Although democratic intuitions remained throughout, the years of Putin Primacy (2012-2025) saw the rise of effective one-man rule and crushing of opposition. Politics today are in flux, with no successor to Putin for several years and weak party coalitions based on wealthy entrepreneurs.

Contrary to global trends, Russian population has declined resulting in an aging working population creating production issues. Where the former Soviet Union had 300 million resident, by 2033 Russia has seen its population shrink due to loss of territory and decline to 125 million, a little larger than Japan. With a diminishing work force, Russia has struggled to maintain its status of global influence. Oil reserves have kept Russia's energy supply afloat and they are consequently resisting renewable energy reforms. The country remains the world's largest fossil fuel producer, supplying natural gas to Europe and China. Gas line politics give Russia influence in both. Former Soviet states have allied themselves with Russia in the New Economic Russian Domain. This allegiance has provided Russia some leeway and a position of greater global influence as many of these nations are dependent on Russia. Additionally, melt of perennial Arctic ice has opened polar shipping routes providing Russia with a greater ability to export goods. But climate change has caused widespread drought and turned Russia into a grain importer for the first time since the end of the Soviet Union, making it vulnerable to bargaining pressure from suppliers like Brazil and the United States.



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Russia: forest fires during the 2029 drought

South Africa: South Africa has been stagnant for the last 20 years: economically, the country growing but not by the amount of the other BRICS countries, but demographically, the country has not been able to make major gains in HIV/AIDS prevention, decreasing poverty, nor protecting the security of its citizens. The country has been able to keep the economy steady and increase trade with Brazil, China, and India, but poverty has not decreased by much and government programs take up much of the government tax revenue. Over the years, South Africa has tried several different strategies to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS, but has only had mild success. Young people are relatively AIDS free, but the population above 30 has a high prevalence rate. Rape and other violent crime also occur in South Africa well above what would be expected for a developed country. The cost of the HIV/AIDS program and attempts at protecting women, along with the health care required for victims, puts a heavy toll on the country's finances.

South African foreign policy remains active on the African continent, supplying Peace Keeping troops and political support to international projects. South Africa is a leading candidate for a potential new permanent seat on the Security Council, and the country has applied many times to be at the table. South Africa has mediated several wars on the African continent and provided logistical support for a dozen humanitarian crises. The country's ties to Brazil, India, and China have been mostly economic, but the countries have also conducted several military exercises together. With other countries, South Africa has no major disputes except with immigration issues from neighboring nations, especially Zimbabwe. Because domestic policies have been straining the government's finances, the country is normally cautious before acting or supporting long-term international projects.



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Sri Lanka: After recovering from the civil war that ended in 2009 and the rise of authoritarian rule immediately after, the island country has slowly been moving towards unification and democracy. In 2014, they voted upon a new constitution which gave a significant amount of autonomy to the Tamil region in the east and north. Since then, relations between the two groups have moderated and many of the former tensions have died down. Improving relations allowed Sri Lanka to develop deeper relations with India. Sri Lanka has also been heavily affected by climate change. The effects of the 2004 tsunami are still felt. Although the government tried to move reconstruction in-land, poorer people continue to live in highly vulnerable, often flooded regions. They frequently receive a heavy amount of rainfall causing flooding and damage to their underdeveloped infrastructure. Economically, the country is still very poor and struggling to develop industry. Sri Lanka has been courted heavily by china, its leading investor. But ethic and cultural ties to India also are important. Sri Lanka needs to keep Chinese investment, but also needs to maintain good relations with India.



*Sea-level rise: London during the 2031 Spring Flood.
Prime Minister "It could; have been worse!"*



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United Kingdom: Despite the independence of Scotland after the referendum of 2014, the United Kingdom saw much success while the rest of Europe faltered as they struggled to maintain the Euro. The stability of the United Kingdom's pound has allowed them to make headway in the shift to renewable power. Financial reassurance allowed the nation to follow the United States and adopt Germany's exemplary model of energy transition. Economic growth resumed in the late 2010s, fueled by immigration from Eastern Europe and the Caribbean. Nuclear power remains extremely important for the reduced United Kingdom of England, Northern Ireland and Wales, but conservation and massive investment in public transportation have had a major effect too. Experimental success has been seen in the establishment of Gulf Stream turbines to the northwest of the British Isles which constantly generate energy harnessed by the Gulf Stream.



The UK in 2033

United States of America: Although no longer the world's superpower, the United States remains very powerful in specific sectors. The country of 410 million is less wealthy and less educated, but no less assertive. Sea level rise submerged many East Coast cities under ten to thirty centimeters of water and left others dealing with constant flood control. There also have been important milestones in national policy. With the federal government constitutionally paralyzed, action has become the responsibility of states, cities and private enterprise. International action remains very sensitive for much of the United States, especially southern and western states where the effects of the Great UN Scare of 2021 are still felt.

Relying on private corporate initiative, by 2030 the United States has established energy independence from the foreign market. This was largely done by expansion of the oil and natural gas industry's exploration and collection efforts. Recognizing the need to broaden the



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industry's capacity, in 2015 the U.S. Congress passed the Free Flowing Energy Act to eliminate all state and local barriers to fracking and all other experimental methods of crude oil and natural gas collection. The majority of the gas and oil recovered has gone into the automobile market as additional efforts were put into developing the "alternative energy" sector. New fossil fuels are expected to keep the country import free until the mid-2040s. The United States has almost accomplished this goal by following much of the groundwork laid out by Germany as it became a nation powered by renewable energy. In the United States, solar energy is entirely privately owned, and Reagan Solar Electric Inc. has become a dominant force in Southern and Southwest politics. Solar fields were built in a number of deserts in the western United States as well as wind farms around the country and geothermal power plants where possible.



One of 8,667 solar panel farms owned by Reagan Solar Electric Inc.



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In addition to knowing your country today, be prepared for the conditions tomorrow. Future studies are a major field in international relations, economics and intelligence. Here are some major and well-regarded reports:

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