**ARGUMENT CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY 2**

**Activity 2: Use the following pieces of debate evidence from this year’s topic to create arguments. You must READ the Evidence, WRITE a Claim, and UNDERLINE the Reasons/Warrants.**

**Here is an example:**

#### Claim: Democracy eliminates the need for terrorism.

#### Proof/data:

Li 5 Quan, “Does Democracy Promote or Reduce Transnational Terrorist Incidents?”, Department of Political Science, The Pennsylvania State University, http://www.psci.unt.edu/jbooks/TerrorBib\_files/Statistical%20Studies%20of%20Terrorism/Li-Does%20Democracy%20Promote.pdf

One argument in the democracy-terrorism literature posits that aspects of democracy reduce terrorism. In nondemocratic societies, the lack of opportunities for political participation induces political grievances and dissatisfaction among dissenters, motivating terrorism (Crenshaw 1981, 383). In contrast, in democratic societies, free and fair elections ensure that rulers can be removed and that desirable social changes can be brought about by voters, reducing the need to resort to violence (Schmid 1992). Democratic rules enable nonviolent resolution of political conflict. Democracies permit dissenters to express their policy preferences and seek redress (Ross 1993). Different social groups are able to participate in the political process to further their interest through peaceful means, such as voting and forming political parties (Eubank and Weinberg 1994, 2001). Since democracy lowers the cost of achieving political goals through legal means, groups find costly illegal terrorist activities less attractive (Ross 1993; Eyerman 1998). Wide democratic participation also has beneficial consequences that remain largely unnoticed in the literature. To the extent that democratic participation increases political efficacy of citizens, terrorist groups will be less successful recruiting newmembers in democracy than in autocracy. This may reduce the number of terrorist attacks in democracy. Within the context of transnational terrorism, wide democratic participation helps to reduce incentives of domestic groups to engage in terrorist activities against foreign targets in a country. When citizens have grievances against foreign targets, greater political participation under a democratic system allows them to exert more influence on their own government so that they can seek favorable policy changes or compensation more successfully. Joining a terrorist group and attacking the foreign target become less appealing options. To the extent that democratic participation leads to public tolerance of counterterrorist efforts, a democratic government will be more effective stopping a variety of terrorist attacks, including those by domestic terrorists against foreign targets as well as those committed by foreign terrorists in the country.

*NOTE: See that the reasons/warrants are underlined!*

Now, it’s your turn to build arguments and underline warrants. Each claim must be a complete sentence, and then you must underline the words and phrases in the evidence that prove your claim, or give you reasons/warrants:

#1: Claim (you have to write this): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Proof/Evidence/Data-

**Behsudi 16** 6-17-16 – Adam Behsudi is a trade reporter for POLITICO Pro (“U.S., China talks ratchet up a BIT,” http://www.politico.com/tipsheets/morning-trade/2016/06/us-china-talks-ratchet-up-a-bit-214880)

U.S., CHINA TALKS RATCHET UP A BIT: The United States and China have exchanged updated negative list offers in their bilateral investment treaty negotiations, POLITICO has learned. The new offers will likely be a point of discussion as U.S. and Chinese negotiators close out a week’s worth of meetings today, although the gathering in Washington is not being considered a formal round of talks. The two sides committed at last week's high-level Strategic and Economic Dialogue to updating market access this week. Beijing last updated its negative list, which lists sectors excluded from investment liberalization, in September. U.S. Treasury Secretary Jack Lew on Thursday said he had not seen a full analysis of China’s revised offer. "But [China] certainly led us to expect a list that would be the basis for working together going forward, even though it wouldn’t be the final end result. I hope that’s the case when our experts go through the list, but the jury is out because it still really is happening in real time,” he said at an event hosted by the American Enterprise Institute. LEW HOPING FOR BIT UNDER OBAMA: Lew said he still hoped the two sides could strike a deal before President Barack Obama leaves office on Jan. 20 and wanted to see as much progress as possible before U.S. and Chinese leaders meet in September. But “I don’t think we have any interest in an agreement for the sake of an agreement, so it will either be a good, ambitious agreement or it will not happen,” he said. “Up until this last round, the negative lists that we’ve seen have not been sufficiently ambitious to open enough of the economy for the BIT to have a successful path forward,” Lew said, meaning they would not get the necessary two-thirds votes in the Senate to win approval.

#### \*NOTE: Don’t forget to underline the reasons/warrants!

#2: Claim (you have to write this): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Proof/Evidence/Data-

**Hitchens, 16** - Theresa Hitchens is a senior research scholar at the University of Maryland’s Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland (CISSM) and former director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) (“Toward a New National Security Space Strategy: Benefiting from Entanglement with China” China-US Focus, 6/28, <http://www.chinausfocus.com/peace-security/toward-a-new-national-security-space-strategy-benefiting-from-entanglement-with-china/>

As China becomes increasingly dependent on space assets, it organically becomes entangled in the responsibilities of a space-faring nation with a growing stake in containing and abating space debris. China irresponsibly contributed to the space debris issue with its 2007 anti-satellite (ASAT) weapon test that exponentially increased the debris in orbit. Subsequently though, on more than one occasion the U.S. Air Force provided China with warnings, through the State Department, of a potential debris collision with a Chinese satellite, warnings China never acknowledged. But in 2014 China took the unprecedented step of requesting a direct link with U.S. Air Force Space Command for collision warnings. Clearly, China has recognized the debris hazard as a peril to all space faring nations, including itself, thereby giving China a vested interest in working with others toward prevention and abatement. China is a member of the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordinating Committee (IADC) that has created guidelines for prevention. A bilateral (or multilateral) active removal project could be a useful step forward for both countries toward addressing an acknowledged threat to space assets, and through entanglement create a need for consistent communication between the U.S. and China regardless of externalities.

The benefits of communication are maximized when it takes place at multiple levels. High level, strategic communication ideally provides opportunities for decision-makers to clearly convey their “bright lines.” As we point out in our Atlantic Council strategy paper, if China is unaware of what constitutes U.S. “bright lines” regarding negative behavior in space, during either peacetime or wartime, the risk of unwanted escalation grows. As an example, the Defense Department’s 2016 report to Congress on Chinese military power states that China may be considering using counterspace capabilities to target U.S. early warning and navigation satellites. If true, it shows that there is an enormous misunderstanding by China of the importance to the United States of early warning satellites in the nuclear kill chain—something even the Soviet Union understood, hence the mutual ban on attacking these assets embedded in US-USSR bilateral nuclear-arms-control agreements.

Communication at lower levels allows both parties to learn the parameters within which their counterparts operate and make decisions, something that has been especially difficult for the United States because of Chinese cultural and political opacity. Because space technology is largely dual use, the United States is too-often left speculating on Chinese motivations and intentions, often assuming worst-case scenarios which spin-up security dilemmas with accompanying unwinnable arms races. The learning process through working-level communication is accelerated when parties are not just talking, but actually have to work together toward shared goals, such as is the case with the ISS. With station operations run through both Moscow and Houston, communication and cooperation are required.

Entanglement also creates stakeholders in involved countries. Currently, largely due to the legislative ban on U.S.-China bilateral space cooperation, there is little or no incentive for those in the Chinese space or security communities to argue in support of prudent space policy or behavior, because they have nothing to lose by unrestrained actions they may perceive to their benefit. Effective deterrence requires both carrots and sticks, and there are a variety of carrots that could be offered through NASA and the U.S. civil space program.

\*NOTE: Don’t forget to underline the reasons/warrants!

#3: Claim (you have to write this): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**China’s economy is unstable and declining now, they are on the brink of economic collapse.**

**Scutt ’16 – Business Insider Australia reporter, (David, “China’s Economy is ‘still weak and unstable’”** <http://www.businessinsider.com/chinas-economy-is-still-weak-and-unstable-2016-3>**, DS)**

Activity levels in China’s sector, tasked with powering China’s economic transition in the years ahead, decelerated sharply in February, yet again amplifying concerns over the strength of the Chinese economy at present. The Caixin-Markit services purchasing managers’ index slid to 51.2 in February, down 1.2 points on the 52.4 level in January. The index is now fractionally above the 50 level that separates expansion from contraction, meaning that while activity levels continued to expand in February, the pace was all but glacial. Like the headline index, the internals of the report were hardly inspiring. “Latest data indicated a softening of growth momentum across China’s service sector...pointing to a rate of growth that is much slower than the historical series average,” said Markit. It continued: New business growth also slowed across the service sector in February after a solid rise at the start of the year. Furthermore, the latest increase in new orders was weaker than the long-run trend and only modest, with some panellists commenting on relatively subdued client demand. With growth in new orders slowing, so, too, did the pace of hiring in the sector. “Companies that reported higher staff numbers generally mentioned hiring new employees in line with new order growth,” said Markit. Mirroring the slowdown in orders, backlogs of work also declined. If there was one good piece of news to come from the report, it was provided by price movements during the month. Input and output prices rose, the latter for the first time since August, suggesting that disinflationary forces within the sector may be ebbing for the moment. Despite subdued levels of activity, there was also a surprise improvement in perceptions toward operating conditions in the year ahead, rising to the highest level seen in seven months. The slowdown in service sector activity, along with another steep decline in the manufacturing sector, left He Fan, chief economist at Caixin Insight Group, unimpressed. “The Caixin Composite Output Index for February came in at 49.4, dipping below 50 again, indicating the economy is still weak and unstable,” he said. He continued: Overall, the services sector has outperformed manufacturing industries, reflecting continued improvement in the economic structure. While implementing measures to stabilize economic growth, the government needs to push forward reform on the supply side in the services sector to release its potential. While the survey is small in nature, leading some analysts to dismiss the month-to-month movements, the weakness today mirrored that in the larger NBS nonmanufacturing PMI survey released earlier in the week. That government survey, taking responses from firms in the public and private sectors, fell to 52.7, the lowest level on record. Though both continue to suggest that activity levels across the sector continue to expand, the improvement is far from strong. That’s a concern, particularly as this sector is now the largest component of China’s economy, and an important piece in China’s economic rebalancing puzzle moving forward.\*NOTE: Don’t forget to underline the reasons/warrants!

Reflection:

1. Based on this experience (proof/data), what do you find difficult about this process (claim), and why (reasons/warrants):

2. Based on this experience (proof/data), what do you find interesting or fun about this process (claim), and why (reasons/warrants):

3. Based on what you think you know (experience/proof), which country, Cuba, Mexico, or Venezuela, do you think will be the most interesting to talk about this semester (claim), and why (reasons/warrants):