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## GLOBAL WARMING AS A CHALLENGE TO UN COUNTRIES

### Abstract

This article briefly discusses what global warming is, the actions of the United Nations against global warming, the major countries that contribute significantly to this threat, and how climate change affects these countries. The article begins with a brief summary of what global warming is. It then discusses how UN member countries have negatively contributed to the threat of global warming. The article concludes that the impact of global warming has recently increased. But to prevent this, the countries of the world should cooperate closely. People-centric cities, green economy, etc. may be the solutions.

**Keywords:** *global warming, climate change, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, GHG, The United States (The US)*

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## Qlobal istiləşmə BMT ölkələrinə bir çağırış kimi

### Xülasə

Bu məqalədə qlobal istiləşmənin qısaca mahiyyəti, Birləşmiş Millətlər Təşkilatının qlobal istiləşməyə qarşı fəaliyyəti, bu təhdidə öz dırnaqarası töhfəsini verən başlıca ölkələr və iqlim dəyişikliyinə bu ölkələrə necə fəsadlar törətməsi haqqında məsələlər müzakirə edilir. Məqalənin başlanğıcında qlobal istiləşmənin mahiyyəti barədə qısa bir xülasə verilir. Sonra BMT-yə üzv olan ölkələrin qlobal istiləşmə təhdidinə necə neqativ töhfə verdikləri müzakirə edilir. Məqalədə son zamanlar qlobal istiləşmənin təsirinin artdığı qənaətinə gəlinir. Amma bunun qarşısını almaq üçün dünya dövlətləri sıx əməkdaşlıq etməlidirlər. İnsanyönlü şəhərlər, yaşıl iqtisadiyyat və s. həll yolları ola bilər.

**Açar sözlər:** *qlobal istiləşmə, iqlim dəyişikliyi, CO<sub>2</sub> emissiyaları, istixana qazı emissiyaları, Amerika Birləşmiş Ştatları (ABŞ)*

### Introduction

Before examining and analyzing the actions of UN countries regarding global warming, we must first understand what global warming is. The global annual temperature has risen by slightly more than 1 degree Celsius since the Industrial Revolution. Scientists generally have argued that man-made climate change caused by greenhouse gas emissions began in the late 1800s. Between 1880, the year in which correct recordkeeping began, and 1980, it climbed by 0.07 degrees Celsius every ten decades on average. Nevertheless, the rate of warming has almost doubled since 1981, with the estimated global temperature increases by 0.18 degrees Celsius per decade over the last 40 years. The planet has never before been hotter. Nine of the 10 warmest years since 1880 have occurred since 2005 and the 5 warmest years on record have all occurred since 2015 (1).

### Global Warming As a Threat to the World

Global warming deniers have claimed that rising temperatures worldwide have "paused" or "slowed," but multiple studies, including one published in the scientific journal Environmental Research Letters in 2018, have refuted this claim. Global warming is already causing harm to

people all over the world. Climatologists have already indicated that we need to limit global warming to just 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2040 if we want to prevent a future in which daily lives from around the world are highlighted by the worst and most catastrophic impacts of global warming: extreme droughts, forest fires, river flooding, tropical storms, and other tragedies. These consequences are experienced by everyone in some way, but they are felt most sharply by the poor, the economically disadvantaged, and people of color, to whom global warming is frequently a major driver of poverty, dislocation, hunger, and political chaos.

In 1992, its "Earth Summit" produced the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as a first step in addressing the climate change problem (2). It now has nearly universal membership. The parties to the Convention are the 197 nations that already have approved it. The Convention's utmost objective is to safeguard against "dangerous" interactions between humans and the climate system. Global warming represents a major challenging issue for countries around the world, and the United Nations (UN) is playing a critical role in tackling it. Increasing temperatures, melting icecaps and rising sea levels elevated frequency and intensity of natural catastrophes, and alterations in the distribution of biodiversity and ecosystems are all consequences of global warming. These consequences have the possibility of destabilizing societies, economies, and the natural environment, making it a crucial challenge for the United Nations and its member nations.

The primary international convention that aims to combat global warming is the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) that had been established in 1992. Countries have pledged to limit emissions of greenhouse gases and take steps to reduce the effects of global warming under the UNFCCC. The UNFCCC also serves as a forum for international collaboration on global warming, allowing countries to exchange information, work cooperatively, and collaborate to look for solutions to this growing threat. In the second section of this chapter, I will provide broad information about the UNFCCC and other responsible bodies of the UN on global warming.

In attempting to address global warming, UN states face significant challenges, such as limited financial and technological resources, varying degrees of development and political principles, and competing for strategic interests (Hofert, 2002: 981). To overcome these problems and find the most effective solutions to address global warming, the UN and its member countries must collaborate. To address climate change, adapt to the effects of global warming and provide key communities and economies, sustained political will, investment in low-carbon technologies, and international cooperation will be required. To summarize, global warming is a critical challenge for the United Nations and its member nations, possibly requiring long-term global collaboration and actions to reduce emissions, ameliorate the effects of global warming, and build a much more sustainable society for all.

In the contemporary period almost every country "contributes" to global warming. Nevertheless, it is possible to highlight several countries which "contribute" to global warming more than other member countries of the United Nations.

In recent times, China has taken the forefront in global warming pollution, accounting for approximately 27 % of total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The United States is placed second. Despite having only 4 % of the planet's population, they generate a startling 13 % of all CO<sub>2</sub> emissions worldwide – nearly as much as the European Union and India (third and fourth place, respectively). And, by far, America remains the leader in accumulated emission levels over the last 150 years. As a major contributor to global warming, the United States owes it to the world to assist its transition to a greener, safer, and more fair and equal future. Their obligation as a superpower country is important to other countries, and it should be important for them as well.

The United States has surpassed Saudi Arabia as the world's major producer of both oil and natural gas. This tendency has resulted in numerous economic advantages, including the creation of jobs, improved trade balance, and competitiveness for such industries. However, the biggest factor of global warming is greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from fossil fuels (U.S. GHG Inventory,

1990-2019). The world must move away from using fossil fuels, at least those that don't capture and store carbon.

Many Democratic presidential contenders such as Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren and etc. have proposed limiting US exploitation of fossil fuels to combat global warming, such as removing oil and gas production on public lands or prohibiting hydraulic fracturing, a key technology in the US production rise. Such policies appear to make sense at first look, considering that the United States contributes significantly to the issue through domestic oil and gas extraction. Trying to eliminate that production appears to be a good way to reduce emission levels.

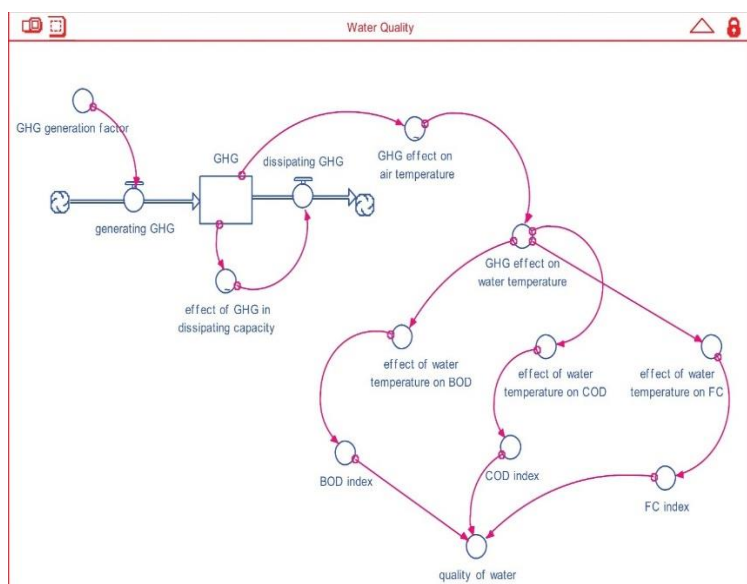
However, reducing domestic production of oil and gas without an equally aspirational focus on demand will increase rather than decrease US consumption. Without a comparable decrease in GHG emissions, the United States may lose the economic benefits of its oil and gas industry. Depending on how replacement fuels are produced and the emissions generated in transferring them to the United States, such a consequence could probably boost global emissions. We must keep in mind that climate change is a global issue and that the only metric that matters is global GHG emissions.

Any "solution" that decreases US emission levels while increasing global emissions is ineffective. While fossil fuel producers are a politically convenient opponent, the difficult work of actually reducing greenhouse gas emissions necessarily requires concentrating on well almost every part of the economy.

The environmental and societal consequences of global warming will be very challenging for the US. For instance:

#### **Water Supplies:**

Storm location and timing changes will influence the frequency and amounts of precipitation and groundwater, and warmer conditions will convert snow to rain (NAST, 2001: 612). This will be especially true in the western United States, where there is likely to be less snow and much more rain in winter, as well as faster and earlier melting of the ice cover. Water precipitation is predicted to decrease by 5–20 percent. These alterations are likely to necessitate minimizing reservoir levels in the winter and spring to ensure a greater flood safety factor, despite the risk of decreasing water accessibility in summer when demand is expected to rise.



#### **Air Quality:**

Warmer temps tend to quicken the creation of atmospheric pollution (U.S. Department of State, 2002: 263). Rising temperatures and air humidity are likely to significantly raise the urban heat wave, contributing to factors that cause breathing problems. Meeting future standards for air quality will almost certainly involve further reductions in harmful gases. Summertime drought in some

areas may exacerbate the possibility of fire, resulting in increased amounts of smoke, whereas dust may become a greater challenge in others.

Passenger cars are the biggest source of transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. The growing popularity of athletic vehicles (SUVs) and small trucks has contributed to a rise in transportation-related emissions. The average fuel usage of vehicles in the United States has also remained fairly low, resulting in increased car emissions.

Aside from direct emissions produced by vehicles, the manufacture and disposal of vehicles both contribute to global warming. Vehicle production generally requires the use of energy and raw materials, both of which contribute to greenhouse gas emissions. Vehicle disposal is also difficult because it contains a variety of dangerous chemicals that, if not safely removed, can release harmful chemicals into the atmosphere. The United States government has taken a variety of steps to decrease the impact of vehicles on global warming. One of the most important policies that aim to reduce car emissions is the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards (NHTSA, 2021). The CAFE standards ensure vehicle manufacturers comply with minimum fuel economy standards, lowering the number of resources consumed and the emissions produced by vehicles.

The United States has taken some measures to overcome global warming and mitigate its effects. The United States government, businesses, and people are all working to reduce emissions, adapt to the consequences of global warming, and encourage sustainable development.

To reduce carbon emissions and promote environmentally friendly development, the US public and private sectors have invested in renewable energy sources such as wind, solar, and geothermal. The United States is among the world's leading producers of solar and wind and has set a goal of achieving carbon-free power by 2035. From my point of view, the wide spreading of a green economy and heavy investment and usage of clean energy will significantly contribute to the reduction of global warming in the world.

China, such as the rest of the world, will progressively struggle with the impacts of global warming, such as rising sea levels, severe storms, and more severe heat waves, over the coming decades. Based on a 2020 report from China's National Climate Center, the average temperature and water levels in China have increased more quickly than the global average (Chen, Cui, Xu, Ge, 2021). If world average temperatures keep rising some of China's coastal regions, such as Shanghai, may be covered in water. Extreme weather conditions including heavy rain will become more common in China. Natural catastrophes take the lives of Chinese people each year and severely damage millions of acres of crops. China's icecaps will continue to melt at an alarming level as temperature increases, potentially leading to much more catastrophic flooding. Intense temperatures and periods of drought may become more common as well.

### **Conclusion**

The climate change issue gains essential amount of attention by the global community step by step. It is obvious that, international organizations play leading role to unite the concerned sides, and find a solution way of the bane of century.

In summary, the threat posed by global warming to environments, economic growth, and human well-being has made it one of the most urgent issues of our time. We have looked at how international organizations – more especially, the United Nations – plays a part in solving this intricate issue throughout this dissertation.

The research's conclusions emphasize how crucial multilateral collaboration and group effort are to combating global warming. In order to address climate change, the UN has made major contributions to goal-setting, resource mobilization, and awareness-raising. This organization has shown a commitment to addressing the climate catastrophe head-on by putting progressive climate policies and projects into action.

In conclusion, global warming is an urgent problem that requires international cooperation. The UN plays a central role in facilitating this cooperation through agreements such as the UNFCCC. Although many countries contribute to greenhouse gas emissions, the United States and China are

the main culprits. Both countries must significantly reduce their dependence on fossil fuels and invest in renewable energy sources. Otherwise, due to the ongoing increase of CNG and that type of poisonous gases, the world will be non-livable place for all live-beings, like humans, animals, plants, and etc. in the near future. The article concludes on a hopeful note, suggesting that widespread adoption of the green economy and significant investment in clean energy could significantly reduce global warming.

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