



DECEMBER DEBATE OF THE MONTH

Resolved, implement the Green New Deal.

Coined by Pulitzer Prize-winner Thomas Friedman in 2007, the "Green New Deal" is a set of policies that fight inequality and climate change. According to Emily Holden of Guardian U.S., "[the Green New Deal] endorses ways of ensuring that vulnerable populations – including the poor, people of color, indigenous populations, and communities already facing environmental degradation – take part in the planning process and benefit from the green economy." In February 2019, Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) and Sen. Ed Markey (D-Mass.) introduced into Congress a [14-page resolution](#) calling for a Green New Deal. While politicians have been aware of the threat of climate change for years, supporters of the Green New Deal claim that it is the most detailed plan to address it. However, the Green New Deal is characterized by critics as vague. The resolution outlines how the United States must become a leader in green technology and details the effects of climate change on the economy. Deborah Dsouza, news editor at Investopedia, states that "The main goal of the plan is to bring U.S. greenhouse gas emissions down to net-zero and meet 100% of power demand in the country through clean, renewable, and zero-emission energy sources by 2030. The Green New Deal also calls for the creation of millions of jobs to provide a job guarantee to all Americans, along with access to nature, clean air and water, healthy food, a sustainable environment, and community resiliency." Further analysis of the Green New Deal's specifics can be found at [Envisioning a Green New Deal: A Global Comparison](#).

SAMPLE ARGUMENTS:

PRO:

- ["Senator Markey and Rep. Ocasio-Cortez Introduce Green New Deal Resolution,"](#)
-Press Release from Senator Markey
- [What Is a Green New Deal? \(Sierra Club\)](#)
-Comprehensive article on the Green New Deal from the Sierra Club, one of the nation's largest environmental organizations.
- [Green New Deal is good economics](#)
-Opinion article by Quentin Karpilow and Zachary Liscow



CON:

- [It's Not Just About Cost. The Green New Deal Is Bad Environmental Policy, Too](#)
-Opinion article by Nicolas Loris, Deputy Director of the Thomas A. Roe Institute
- [The Trouble with the 'Green New Deal'](#)
-Opinion article by Michael Grunwald, senior staff writer for Politico Magazine
- [John Hickenlooper: The Green New Deal sets us up for failure. We need a better approach.](#)
-Opinion article by John Hickenlooper, US Senator-elect from Colorado and former Presidential candidate