

Ivy League Parliamentary Championship

Columbia Debate Society

March 4th - March 5th, 2023

Motions

THW: This house would

THS: This house supports

THR: This house regrets

THBT: This house believes that

THP: This house prefers

USFG: United States Federal Government

Round 1

- THS making voting compulsory in liberal democracies
- THP parliamentary democracies to presidential democracies
 - Parliamentary democracies have the leader of a majority party (or coalition of parties) as the prime minister, who is the head of state and head of the parliament. Presidential democracies have an executive branch led by the head of state which is distinct from the legislature.
- THS jury nullification
 - Jury nullification is the practice where a jury in a criminal trial recognizes a defendant's legal/technical guilt and chooses to acquit them anyway.

Round 2

- THR the rise of professional video game leagues
- THR the popularity of multimedia franchises (e.g. Star Wars, Marvel Universe, DC Universe)
- TH, as a famous pop musician, W refuse to sell their concert tickets on Ticketmaster
 - "Ticketmaster" is an online platform that is arguably one of the most famous methods in which musicians and artists sell tickets to their fans. They are also the largest ticket seller on the planet making nearly \$12 billion per year in revenue. However, Ticketmaster has recently been criticized for its dynamic pricing, perceived high fees, and technology issues.

Round 3

- THR the use of standardized testing in education
- THBT the US should aggressively invest in supporting trade schools
 - Trade school is post-secondary education that trains students for a specific job in a technical- skilled career
- TH, as an American billionaire, would give a \$10MM donation to a community college over your prestigious alma mater

Round 4

- THR economic globalization
 - Economic globalization refers to the increasing interdependence of world economies resulting from increased cross-border trade of goods and services, integration of international asset trade (stocks, currency, etc.), and widespread transfer of technology/ideas.
- THBT developing countries should prioritize preventing monopolistic practices over fast economic growth
 - Monopolistic practices are distortions of free market competition by one or more overly powerful companies. For example, if a single private company has exclusive rights to develop all oil fields in a country.
- THW ban international economic aid conditionalized on austerity measures
 - Austerity measures are forms of contractionary economic policy that cut government spending to reduce budget deficit. Typical action includes increasing taxes and cutting social services and government salaries.

Round 5

- THBT industry-sponsored academic research does more harm than good
 - Industry-sponsored academic research (as opposed to government or foundation sponsored research) is academic research funded by actors such as corporations, pan-industry organizations, etc.
- TH, as the USFG, W require companies selling or using users data to give 50% of the profit directly to the user.
- THP text-based social media platforms (Twitter, tumblr, etc.) to image-based social media platforms (Instagram, Snapchat, etc)

Novice Semis and Open Quarters

- THBT copyright has done more harm than good for artists
 - Copyright law gives creators of original material the exclusive right to further use and duplicate that material for a given amount of time, at which point the copyrighted item becomes public domain. In the U.S., the work of creators is protected by copyright laws until 70 years after their death.
- THR the rise of artificial intelligence in visual art
- THW, as the Lorax (book version), kill the Onceler
 - The famous children's book "The Lorax" is a metaphor for the effects of capitalism on climate change. The Lorax is a mythical forest creature who meets a businessman named "the Onceler." As the Onceler continues to cut down trees and destroy the environment in favor of money despite the Lorax's protests, the story ultimately ends with the Lorax being forced to move along with the many animals who once lived in the land and the Onceler in regret of his actions.

Novice Finals and Open Semis

- THBT the United Nations should be disbanded
- THR sports diplomacy
 - Sports diplomacy is the practice of using athletes, coaches, and competition hosting/sponsorship for international relations ends
- TH, as the US, would give Ukraine current western fighter jets,
 - Ukraine has requested American fighters like the F-16 which can be armed with more advanced weapons to target both flying and ground-based targets weapons compared to their current Soviet-made fighters.

Open Finals

- TH, as a social movement that supports the use of civil disobedience, would advocate that its members resist rather than accept punishment
 - Civil disobedience is a public breach of law or government order undertaken with the aim of enacting some form of social or political change. Proponents of civil disobedience have historically commended accepting the punishment that goes along with following conscience over law.
- THP social movements with leadership (e.g. March for our Lives) to decentralized social movements (e.g. BLM)
- THBT the mainstream climate change movement should openly endorse eco-terrorism against property
 - Eco-terrorism is an act of violence against property that's committed in support of environmental causes. Examples: throwing soup on a famous painting (to cause public disruption), damage to a petroleum pipeline, etc.