



Written by [Staff](#) on May 22, 2017

Published in the May 22, 2017 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 33, No. 10

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## Inside Track

### Al Gore and “Climate” Warriors Demand \$15 Trillion to Save Earth

Former vice president and self-styled inventor of the Internet Al Gore, infamous primarily for his many debunked prophecies about global-warming doom, is demanding that humanity fork over another \$15 trillion to supposedly save the planet from alleged man-made “climate change.” In an April report produced by his new group of crony capitalists and tax-funded climate alarmists, dubbed the “Energy Transitions Commission” (ETC), Gore and his allies demand as much as \$600 billion annually for decades to help meet the goals laid out in the collapsing United Nations pseudo-treaty on climate known as the Paris Agreement.

The ETC, which despite its official-sounding name has no formal ties to government, is backed by and made up of investors, Big Oil bosses, energy companies, fringe “climate” activists, megabanks, UN bureaucrats, Chinese Communists, academics, and other self-interested cronies. In short, it is an alliance hoping to profit from the imploding “climate” scare by putting a global government-mandated “price” on emissions of carbon dioxide.

Gore’s newest cabal claims that humanity must slash its emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> by almost 50 percent over the next two decades. By the second half of the century, they want humans to produce “zero net emissions,” the report said. Another key element of the agenda is what the ETC report touts as “carbon pricing,” described in the report as “an explicit, predictably rising, forward price curve for carbon, resulting from policy.” Such a price would increase the price consumers pay for just about everything — from electricity and gasoline to groceries and household goods.

Concerned Americans from across the political spectrum must continue to expose the warming hoax and the totalitarian “solutions” that would crush liberty, national sovereignty, and economic prosperity. President Trump has already taken some major steps in that direction with his recent executive order dismantling much of Obama’s “climate” regime, but until he “cancels” the illegal UN Paris Agreement and reverses the absurd EPA finding that CO<sub>2</sub> is “pollution,” the threat remains. Americans can help neutralize it by educating themselves and their elected representatives on these key issues.

### Democrats Seek to Outlaw “Conversion”

As the *Washington Post* reported on April 27, “Democratic lawmakers this week introduced a bill that would ban the practice of ‘conversion therapy,’ treatments that historically have targeted the LGBT community and claim to be able to change a person’s sexual orientation or gender identity.”

The propaganda is in the very first sentence. The individuals in question aren’t “targeted” any more than cardiac patients are targeted with healthful diets; it’s not coercive. People make a *choice* to undergo such therapy and try to change their lives. The *Post* means to obscure the fact that these politicians aim to remove a freedom.

The *Post* continues, “The Therapeutic Fraud Prevention Act of 2017 was introduced [April 25] by Rep. Ted Lieu (D-Calif.), along with Sens. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) and Cory Booker (D-N.J.). About 70 other members of Congress, all Democrats, have said they support the bill, which would allow the Federal Trade Commission to classify conversion therapy and its practitioners as fraudulent.”

Five states have already taken this step: California, New Jersey, Oregon, Illinois, and Vermont. New



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York doesn't have a ban but, the Post informs, "effectively prohibits conversion therapy through administrative regulations."

Note that all this is occurring while children as young as four are being encouraged to be "transgender." As *American Thinker* noted on April 28, "Liberals are perfectly happy if boys decide to be girls or boys decide to become homosexual. But they are definitely not happy with boys, or girls, who decide they don't like being homosexual and want help becoming normal again."

The *Post* devotes a lot of ink to talking about how homosexuality used to be considered a mental disorder and cites some crazy methods social scientists once used to remedy it. The paper neglects to mention that homosexuality was declassified as a disorder in 1973 only for political reasons, not scientific ones.

So who knows what type of inclinations therapists will be forbidden to cure in 20 years? In the meantime, if your son wants to don a dress and enter the girls' bathroom, he can knock himself out.

## **Latest GDP Report: The Good News and the Bad News**

The April 28 report from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) was so filled with disclaimers that one will have to wait another month to get a true picture of how the economy is performing under President Trump. In the meantime, said the BEA, real (inflation-adjusted) gross domestic product (GDP) increased at an annual rate of 0.7 percent in the first quarter of 2017.

Economists expected a 1.0 percent gain, but the report from May is likely to be closer to 0.5 percent. That would make it 11 straight years when the economy has failed to produce 3.0 percent growth in its economic output. That's the bad news.

The good news is that the bad news will likely be revised higher in May. Part of the weakness in the first quarter was due to cuts in federal and state government spending. Part was due to the warm weather reducing energy demands for gasoline, home heating oil and gas, and winter clothes. Part is that inventory builds by retailers slacked off following an enormous increase in the final quarter of last year.

The consumer is in pretty good shape, and getting better. Strong stock market gains, an improving labor market, gradually rising real wages, and Trump optimism all will likely show up in improved economic activity in the second and third quarters.

New oil rigs are being built, while those that were idled during the last two years are being restarted. New homes are being built to meet unexpectedly high demand. According to the BEA, "fixed business investment" such as this increased more than 10 percent in the first quarter, far ahead of where it has been over the past several years. There is always a lag between such investment and final economic output.

The last time there was an extended period of 3.0 percent growth was the seven years under President Ronald Reagan (1983 through 1989), whose "Reaganomics" looked very much like "Trumponomics": tax cuts, cuts in government red tape, and increased employment, resulting in a rising stock market.

## **UN: Repealing ObamaCare Violates "International Law"**

The United Nations has warned the Trump administration in a letter dated February 2 that repealing



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the unconstitutional ObamaCare takeover of health insurance may violate what the UN likes to call “international law.”

The letter in question was sent to the U.S. government mission to the UN in Geneva by Dainius Puras, the UN “Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.” In the letter, Puras, a Lithuanian psychiatrist, warns of his “serious concerns” about efforts to repeal ObamaCare. Among other UN instruments he describes falsely as “international law,” Puras points to Article 25 of the UN “human rights” declaration, which purports to mandate government healthcare. “Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services.”

Puras claimed not only the authority to meddle, but the duty to do so. “It is my responsibility, under the mandates provided me by the Human Rights Council, to seek to clarify all cases brought to my attention,” he wrote, demanding that the letter be shared with congressional leaders and other U.S. officials. He also demanded more information from the Trump administration, including what policies might be put in place after ObamaCare is repealed, so he could see whether they conform to “international law.” Puras demanded that Trump officials take “all necessary interim measures to prevent the alleged violations” and to “ensure adequate measure to prevent their occurrence as well as to guarantee the accountability of any person responsible of the alleged violations.”

A better course of action would be to have the U.S. government withdraw from the UN entirely in an “Amexit.” Already, legislation to do that, the American Sovereignty Restoration Act (H.R. 193), is sitting in the House Foreign Affairs Committee of Congress awaiting action.



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