Should the US Be a Signatory to the Paris Agreement?

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The Paris Agreement is a treaty of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Agreement aims to reduce adverse climate change effects and implement strategies to counter the effects. The Agreement was initiated in 2015, sparking a critical call for universal climate action. Most world leaders came to a common goal of fighting climate change and managing its effects (Savaresi, 2016). Initially, 175 nations joined the Agreement. Currently, the number has risen to 195. However, the US, with all its adverse climate changes, is not part of the signatories. According to McGrarth (2020), on June 1, 2017, the US stopped all participation in the Agreement. Former US President Donald Trump indicated that the Agreement undermines the US economy and puts the country at a permanent disadvantage. However, due to the climate changes affecting the US, it should be part of the Agreement. In this paper, there will be a review of the various reasons why the US should be a signatory of the Paris Agreement.

Reduction of adverse climatic changes is one of the reasons the US should join the Paris Agreement. According to Chen et al. (2017), dramatic alterations have plagued the nation, all led by climate change. For example, citizens residing in coastal cities are experiencing street floods regularly. This also applies to communities living near large rivers, all fueled by climate change. The areas experience disastrous outcomes due to adverse climate changes such as increased temperatures, leading to a higher level of glaciation. Additionally, hotter and drier weather caused by the greenhouse effect intensifies wildfires, leading to the burning of acres of forest land. Commitment through the Paris Agreement is essential as it will reduce such climatic changes by incorporating strict environmental policies. If the US becomes a signatory of the Agreement, the country will be better placed to reduce the rising cases of adverse climate that risk its prosperity.

The US has been putting efforts into tackling climate change; however, no nation can deal with the issue alone. According to Dryzek et al. (2011), effective handling of climate changes and their adverse effects requires a joined effort among all significant players. Through the tactics and strategies employed by the Parsi Agreement, every signatory nation on Earth aims to address the climatic change menace. The accord views the issues and solutions as a global endeavor. Member nations present their climatic commitments, ensuring that they carry out their roles to reduce factors leading to climatic change. For example, the members explain their tactics on dealing with the high carbon footprint, reduction of carbon emissions, and mitigation of the greenhouse effect. The nations motivate each other to attain these sustainable environmental goals as the Agreement presents a source of unity and collaboration. Thus, the US should be a member of the Paris Agreement since it cannot solve climate change issues alone. It will work jointly with players such as Europe, China, and Japan, who are working to mitigate climate change effects.

The Paris Agreement has and will continue to generate millions of jobs that aid in improving the economy. According to Montt et al. (2018), the actions of the Paris Agreement are speculated to create over 24 million job opportunities by 2030. With the right policies towards promoting a sustainable environment, the accord has created occupations that benefit the citizens of the member states. For example, there is a requirement of 25 governors dedicated to ensuring the attainment of the Paris Agreement goals. The environmental policies and standards developed 120,000 clean energy jobs, which grow annually. Thus, the claim by former US President Donald Trump can be proven false as the US can significantly benefit from the job opportunities created. Hence, it advised that the US should be a signatory of the Paris Agreement.

In summary, the Paris Agreement is critical in dealing with the rising climate change cases. It seeks to ensure mitigation of the climate change issues and that member states can effectively adapt to its impacts. Regardless of its initiative, the US withdrew from the accord in 2017. However, the nation should consider rejoining the Agreement as it will mitigate the effects of climate change. Also, the US will link with other countries to solve climate change effects, which will be a great source of motivation for all member nations. Finally, the US will benefit from the millions of jobs that the Agreement will create. Summarily, the US should become a signatory of the Paris Agreement since it will benefit from all the illustrated benefits.

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