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“America's strength is not our diversity; our strength is our ability to unite people of different backgrounds around common principles. A common language is necessary to reach that goal,” Ernest Istook astutely exclaimed. Cultural alliances are now turning into the necessary basis of modern day global success. We can no longer stand alone on the playing field, we must come together and back each other up as issues are not staying within the boundaries of a single country, but rather rising global obstacles. Not only America, but other countries too, will have to accept the fact that we are going to have to work together or else we will come down hard and there will be nothing that we can do about it. There are many reasons for the Alliance of Cultures, the three that stand out to me are upholding of the global economy, global security and global climate change.

The global economy is one of our biggest worries as a group of nations, if one goes bankrupt, they send a domino effect out to other countries and we also have to come together globally, tightening our belt, but working together to still fulfill our needs. A country's biggest worry is the probable downfall of their economy—when that happens, it is like a sinkhole collapsing underneath a bank safe. As a leader, you have to also take other countries into consideration; you don't want your primary trading partner to go bankrupt because this means that you have no one buying your products and resources. This is part of the bigger domino effect. When one country goes bust, then their trading partners go down and those countries partners go down, and it goes on and on until the whole world is basically in this state of bankruptcy. Since we are currently on the lower end of the spectrum as a whole, we, as countries, are all tightening our belts, but we also need the same amount of resources and supplies because our demands haven't changed. The key thing we are missing is the negotiation as a whole. We can compromise the gaps that need filling. Instead of paying, we could do an equal goods trade, where countries trade goods that the other need. They would give equal amounts of each, and those amounts would be set and compromised by the countries sitting down and haggling price. Global economy and global security go hand in hand and they have a domino effect of their own.

Global security is a very important issue as far as safety of our general population goes, because many global powers and rising powers have nuclear weapons and the domino effect with the global economy. When the economy fails, then a country does not have enough money to pay

for the armed forces and other manners of protection. This causes them to raise and change taxes. This will cause a disruption with the citizens because they are being laid off because companies are not making enough money to keep all of the employees that they have, but a leader has to do it because this will lead to more chaotic situations. Also many rising powers and global powers have nuclear weapons. This is a very dangerous thing because if we get into a nuclear war this will cause much physical disruption to the planet and there will be so much radiation in the air that many people will get cancer and other radiation related diseases and death causes. With all the nuclear weapons that we have, we could quite literally blow up the planet. With that much radiation in the air, it would defiantly change our global climate.

Global climate change is going to require the coming together of countries, for the preservation of life as we know it today and the changes in the forces of nature. The most vital thing that we have to protect is life as we know it. The impact of the melting ice sheets is expected to flood coastal cities, which is where most major cities are located. Many countries have their own issues, but we have to come together and help each other out with the necessary resources needed to survive something this extreme. We also will undergo changes in weather patterns and forces in nature. When the earth heats up, this takes a toll on how weather patterns and forces in nature are going to behave. Since the earth is heating, there will be more hurricanes and storms. We also need to go green and do as much as we can in helping the environment and putting less CO<sub>2</sub> and emissions into the air. We also have to be more prepared for natural disasters.

Global economy, global security, and global climate change are three reasons why we need an “Alliance of Cultures”. They are three separate topics, but they all go hand in hand and make up the bigger picture. These three things make up our one common language needed. Are you willing to speak it?