

Topic: Government funding of scientific research

Thesis: The U.S. government needs to spend more on scientific research because current spending is not keeping pace with other countries', it is an investment with high rewards, and it helps us maintain our position as a world power.

- I. Spending on research is a smaller portion of our federal domestic budget than other industrialized nations.
 - a) "The EU spends more collectively on scientific research than any of its members' total defense budget"
 - b) "CERN's primary funding source is the EU."
 - c) "Research spending is less than .01% of the total federal budget."
- II. Spending on research yields tremendous economic gains.
 - a) "Research facilities applied for more than 500,000 new patents in 2009."
 - b) "On average, every dollar spent on scientific research returns a ten-fold investment when cost analysis looks over 20 years."
- III. Research can have multiple advantages to help the U.S. maintain its position as the world's most powerful nation.
 - a) "Often it is because of American universities' reputation as research institutions that they continue to be considered far superior to most universities in other parts of the world."
 - b) "Scientific research on plastics and acoustics directly led to military stealth technology."
 - c) "Fiber optic and satellite technology have improved U.S. standard of living."