

Letter: Climate change important

I want to thank The Capital-Journal for Andy Marso's terrific review of climate change attitudes and actions in Europe compared to Kansas. There are a couple of topics he might have added. In response to handwringing about European emissions not solving our climate change problem without China and America lowering emissions, Marso might have discussed China's current operating cap and trade programs, plans for a national cap and trade program soon, and announcements that Beijing will stop using coal for electricity in the next few years.

Also, he could have discussed religion. A comparison of the pope's position urging climate change action with current American Catholic politicians' positions on climate change would be fascinating. Similarly, what would we learn from comparisons between statements by national umbrella organizations for Protestant denominations and statements by Protestant politicians?

It is worth considering why the more secular Europe is more in step with religious leaders' calls to address climate change than the more religious America. We would probably learn what Marso alludes to: countries with more fossil fuel resources are economically motivated to deny it, despite what their religions teach.

We ignore scientists, religious leaders, military leaders and our NATO allies. We value a little silver more than the innocent who will suffer the effects of climate change. God help us.

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<http://cjonline.com/opinion/2014-08-28/letter-climate-change-important>