

mitigate the effects from which the country is already suffering⁷¹. In pursuit of this end Tuvaluan leaders engage passionately on the devastating effects climate change is having on their states and the existential threat climate change poses to their nation and their people. This includes chastising the world's only super power when in response to US President Trump's withdrawal of the US from the Paris Climate Deal Tuvalu's Prime Minister Enele Sopoaga said:

"I have instructed my officials not to talk any climate change issues with this country until a new policy is put in place,"

and added: *"I think it doesn't make any sense to talk about any other thing if we don't fix the problem of climate change."*⁷²

Tuvalu's leaders have also used the media and other forms of soft power to influence and mobilise public opinion in larger influential states such as the United States, Britain, Australia and the European Union (EU)⁷³. This has yielded political capital that could influence the policy positions of these states in major climate conferences but also yielded commitments for mitigating aid support to alleviate tidal inundation and damage to fresh water supplies⁷⁴.

For Tuvalu its small land area, large EEZ, small population, small economy and vulnerability to climate change mean its national security equation has neither the financial resources or manpower for military forces nor the security need for military forces. In short there is no realistic threat to Tuvalu's national interests that can be mitigated by the use of force. A Police maritime capability supported by Australian money and advisers manages resource security and the bigger existential security issue of climate change is managed by diplomacy, public affairs and Tuvalu's sovereign status in the community of nations. Without this sovereign status Tuvalu would not have access to the international fora it currently does to put forth its case. The current international system of sovereign states and the United Nations gives Tuvalu the means to defend itself, its people and its interests in a way a military force can not.

Liechtenstein and Tuvalu are not typical states by any means but they are sovereign entities

⁷¹ **Tuvalu's Views on the Possible Security Implications of Climate Change to be included in the report of the UN Secretary General to the UN General Assembly 64th session,** http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/resources/res_pdfs/ga-64/cc-inputs/Tuvalu_CCIS.pdf

⁷² Tuvalu PM reaction to Trump <https://pasifik.news/pacific-leaders-react-us-climate-move-indignation/>

⁷³ Tuvalu Media Engagement on Climate Change <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-08-15/an-tuvalu-president-is-climate-change-27like-a-weapon-of-mass-/5672696>

⁷⁴ Foreign Aid in Support of Climate Change <http://dfat.gov.au/geo/tuvalu/development-assistance/Pages/objective-3-environment-and-climate-change.aspx>