

CHRISTOPHER BOOKER *Sunday Telegraph* 16/7/17

**President Trump's decision on the Paris accord isn't the real story - it's other nations' hypocrisy**

Golly, what excitement there was over President Trump's refusal to sign the G20 communique backing the Paris accord on climate change. Trump was in a minority of one against all the other 19 governments (plus the EU) which supported an agreement that the world must phase out fossil fuels. We were even told that the US now stood alone against all the other 195 countries that signed up to that non-binding accord.

But, just as happened at the time of Paris itself, everyone completely missed the real story. Before Paris, each of the 196 participating countries, as I reported at the time (thanks to that expert analyst Paul Homewood on his blog, [notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com](http://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com)), was asked to submit an Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC), setting out its energy plans for the years up to 2030.

All the major "developing" nations, led by China and India, paid lip service to the conference's intentions, showing how they would be investing in "renewables" such as wind and solar, so long as they were generously subsidised to do so by the "developed" nations out of a Green Climate Fund worth \$100 billion a year.

But they then explained how, to keep their economies growing, they planned to build huge numbers of new fossil fuel power stations, which would lead to a massive increase in their CO2 emissions.

China, the world's largest CO2 emitter, is planning to double its yearly emissions, by an extra 10.9 billion tons. India, the third largest emitter, will treble its emissions, adding 4.9 billion tons. All the other major "developing" nations, plus Japan and Russia, are equally planning to build more coal-fired power stations. So 13 of the countries which signed the G20 communique last week intend to contribute to what the INDCs show will within 13 years be a 46 per cent rise in global emissions.

The only G20 countries left committed to CO2 reductions (by 1.7 billion tons) are now those in the EU, plus Canada and Australia, responsible for just 11.3 per cent of global emissions between them. Most of the remaining 88.7 per cent is emitted by countries which plan to increase them. Is it surprising that President Trump wanted no part in such a grotesque display of international hypocrisy?