India and Pakistan are both nuclear nations and frequently clash, principally due to disputes over territorial ownership of the Kashmir region that both nations, along with China, partially control. Although they have far fewer nuclear weapons than the US or Russia, Brian’s models find that a nuclear conflict between the two nations could bring about significant climate change for the whole world. Therefore, for everyone’s sake, it is essential that they do not engage in nuclear war, but instead negotiate a solution to their conflict.

A paper that Brian recently co-authored on the subject can be found here: https://advances.sciencemag.org/content/5/10/aay5478

Imagine you are a scientific advisor in the USA. Rather than performing science yourself, you take evidence from researchers (such as Brian) and use it to advise the Secretary of State, who oversees the USA’s foreign affairs. Your role in this scenario is to convince the Secretary of State that the India-Pakistan nuclear issue is a serious global matter, based on the best available science.

Use Brian’s paper and other information you find online to write a brief to the Secretary of State on the issue. The brief should:
• outline the issue at hand
• give a concise and readily digestible description of the scientific background
• note any uncertainties in the science, and what they mean
• explain why the issue has consequences for US citizens, and the rest of the world
• offer some suggestions for how the US and the world could respond to the issue.

If you wish, you can use diagrams, tables and infographics within your work to make it more easily readable. The brief should be 1-2 pages in length.