

Human Progress

# DOOMSLAYER

a newsletter that cuts through the gloom



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## “Home Alone” Grocery Shopping, but with Time Prices

In the 1990 movie *Home Alone*, eight-year-old Kevin McCallister buys a basket of groceries for \$19.83.

Those same goods would cost \$40.60 in the United States today.

But our wages have grown too: for the time it took to earn the money to buy one McCallister basket in 1990, an unskilled worker would get 1.337 baskets today.

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## Takeaways from the UN Climate Conference

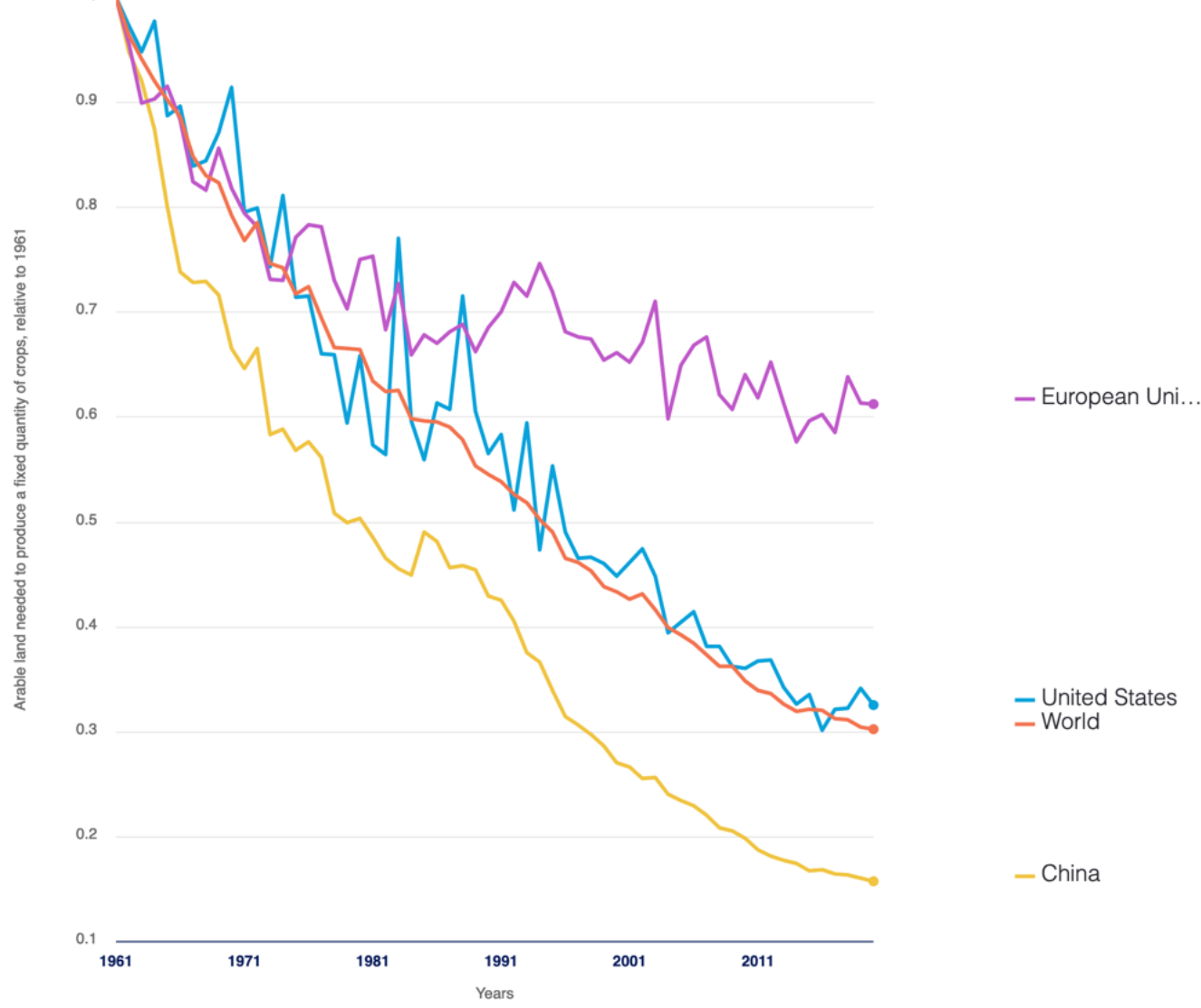
Something different happened at this year’s climate summit. The energy industry had a larger seat at the table, and, for the first time, nuclear power played a central role.



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### Arable land needed to produce a fixed quantity of crops

relative to 1961, 1961-2020



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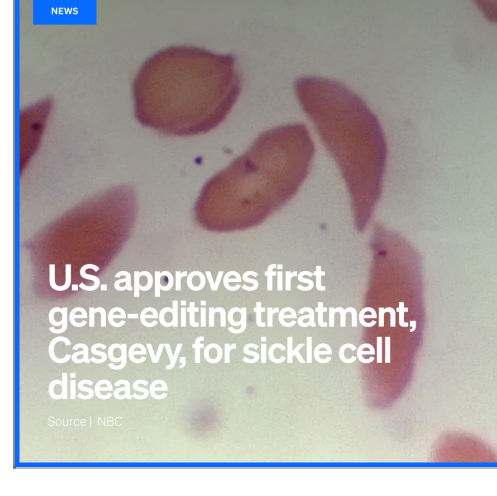
One reason food has become cheaper (over the long run) is improved agricultural productivity.

Around the world, farmers, geneticists, and other innovators are steadily increasing the amount of food they can grow from the same patch of dirt, lowering costs and pressure on wildlife.

Of course, those improvements mainly occur in places that embrace agricultural innovation.

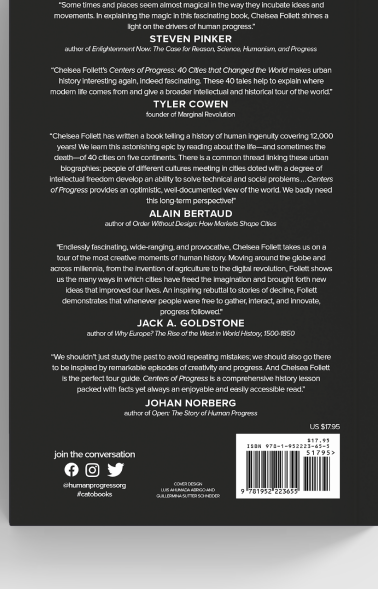
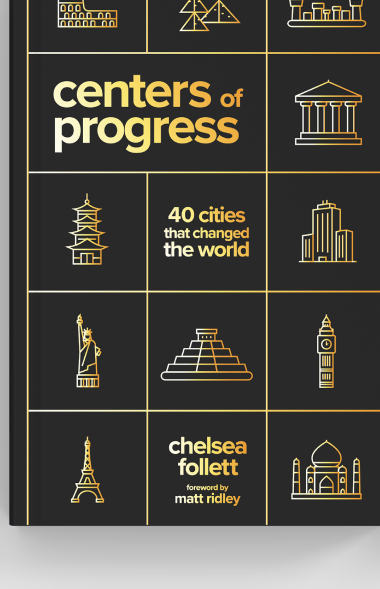
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