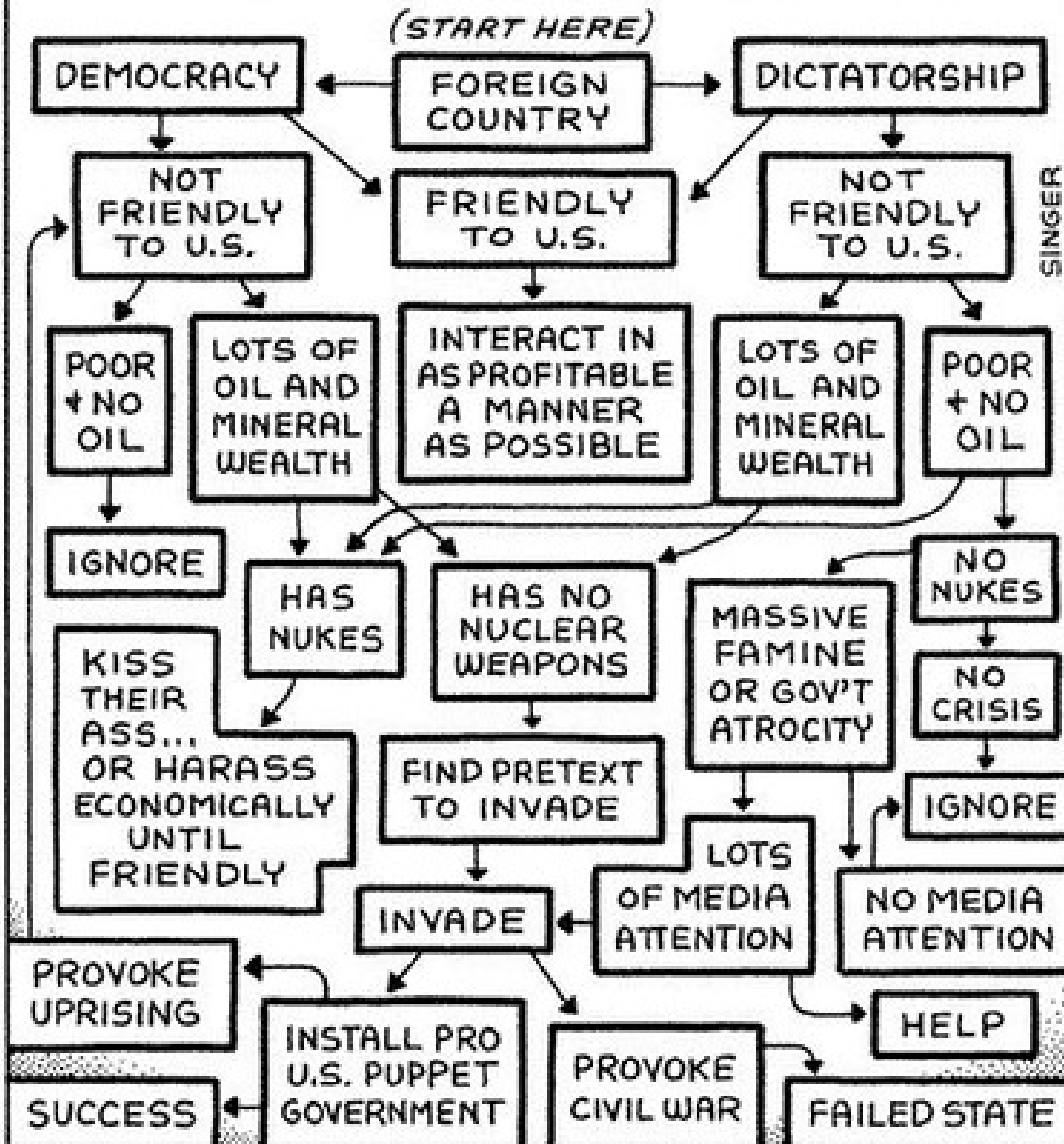


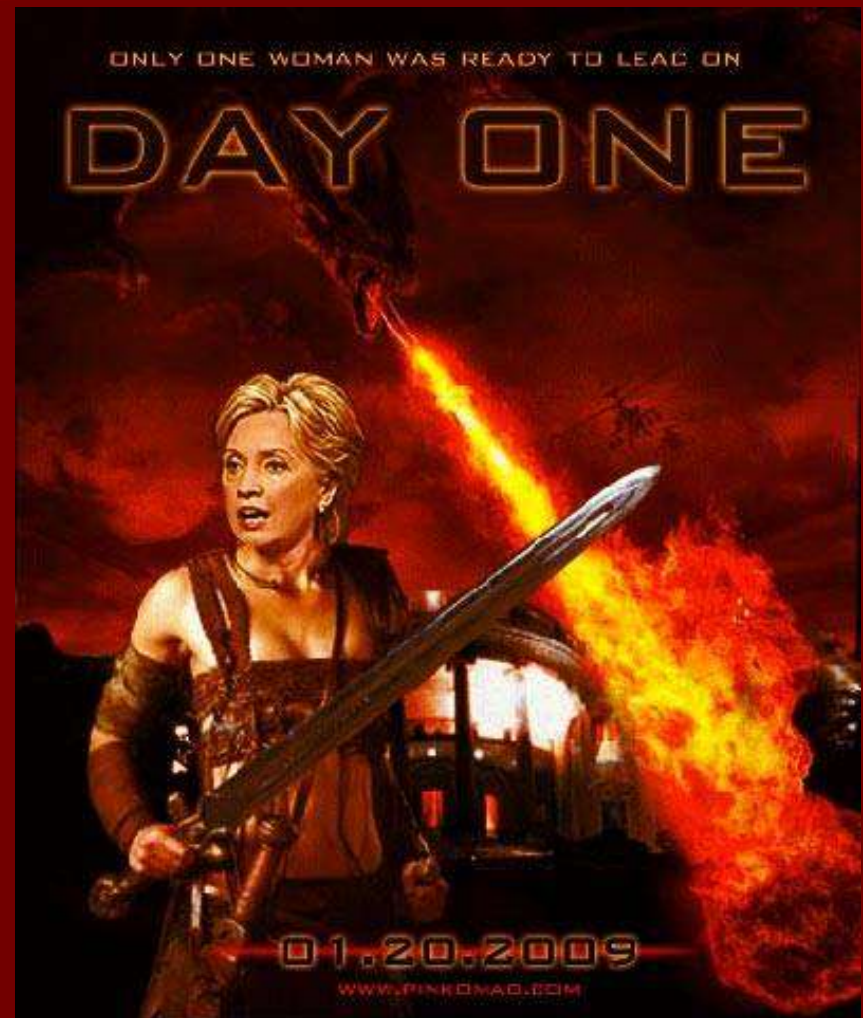
# United States Foreign Policy

*HERE'S A HANDY*  
**U.S. FOREIGN POLICY FLOW CHART**



# US Foreign Policy

**Foreign Policy** – a strategy or planned course of action by decision-makers of a state, which aims to achieve specific goals defined in terms of *national interest*. Major steps include...



# US Foreign Policy

- 1. Translating national interest into specific goals/objectives.**
- 2. Determining the national and domestic situational factors related to policy goals.**
- 3. Analyzing the state's capabilities for achieving desired results.**

# US Foreign Policy

- 4. Developing a plan or strategy to link capabilities with goals.**
- 5. Undertaking the requisite actions.**
- 6. Periodically reviewing and evaluating progress toward achievement of the desired results.**

# **US Foreign Policy**

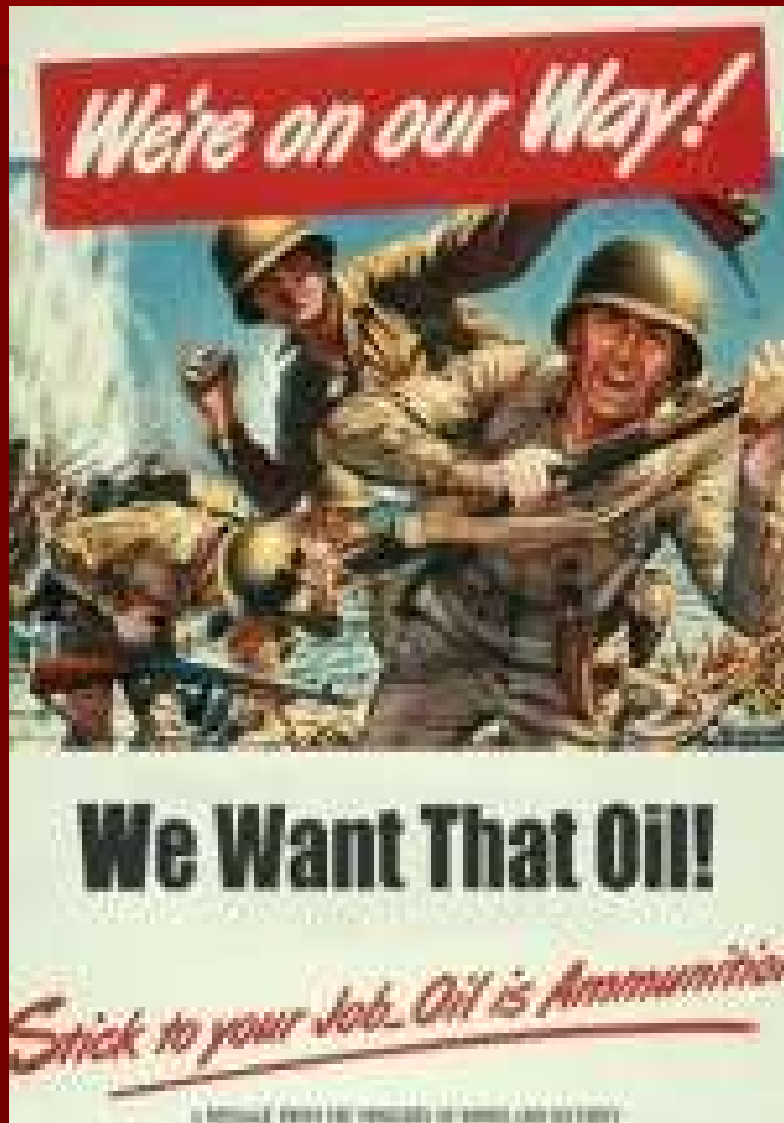
**Foreign policy actions  
are difficult to  
evaluate because:**

# US Foreign Policy

**1.** Short-range advantages and disadvantages must be weighed in relation to long-term consequences.



# US Foreign Policy



**2.** Their impact on other nations is difficult to evaluate.

# US Foreign Policy



**3.** Most policies result in a mixture of successes and failures that are hard to disentangle.

# Foreign Policy Approaches

## Realist / Idealist

**Dichotomy - alternative approaches in forming foreign policy.**

### Realism vs Idealism Shape U.S. foreign policy

#### Realism:

- Is based on the belief that relations with other countries should be guided by national self-interest. **Do what is best for America.**

#### Idealism:

- Is based on the belief that values and ideals should influence how countries relate to one another. **Do what's better to ensure a better world, not just a better America.**

# Foreign Policy Approaches

**a. *Realist*** –  
fundamentally  
empirical and  
pragmatic...

**b. *Idealist*** –  
abstract  
principles  
involving  
international  
norms, legal  
codes, and  
moral/ethical  
values.

# Foreign Policy Approaches



**2. *Revisionist*** – foreign policy which seeks to alter the existing territorial, ideological, or power distribution to its advantage (expansionist and acquisitive).

# Foreign Policy Approaches

**3. *Status Quo*** – foreign policy which seeks to maintain #2 above (conservative and “defensive”).



# Foreign Policy Components

- 1. Objectives**
- 2. Situational factors**
- 3. National interest – the fundamental objective and ultimate determinant that guides decision-makers of a state in making foreign policy. There are 5 components:**

# Foreign Policy Components

## 1. National Security

(preemptive vs. preventive warfare).



# Foreign Policy Components



## 2. Free Trade / Free Markets

(capitalism!)

# Foreign Policy Components

**3. Democracy**

**4. World Peace**

**5. Humanitarian  
Concerns**



# Foreign Policy Process

- 1. Capability analysis**
- 2. Intelligence**
- 3. “Groupthink”**

# Foreign Policy Process

- 4. Decision-makers – those individuals who exercise the powers of making and implementing foreign policy decisions.**
  - a. Opinion elites**
  - b. General public**
  - c. Cabinet secretaries**
  - d. Foreign policy bureaucracy**

**American Foreign Policy**

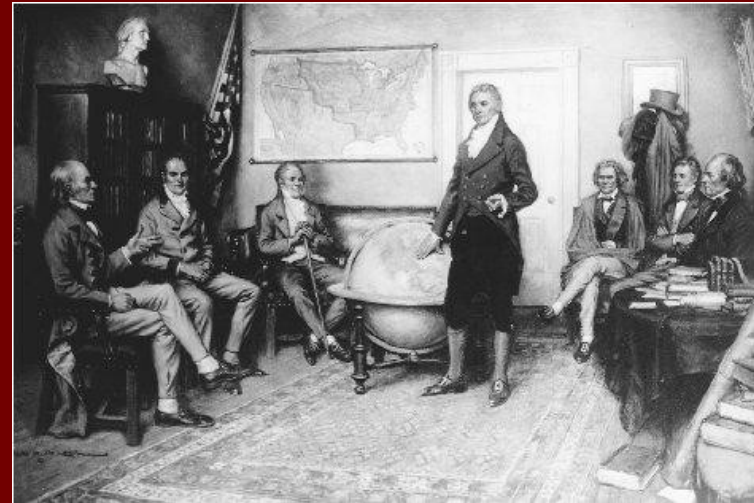
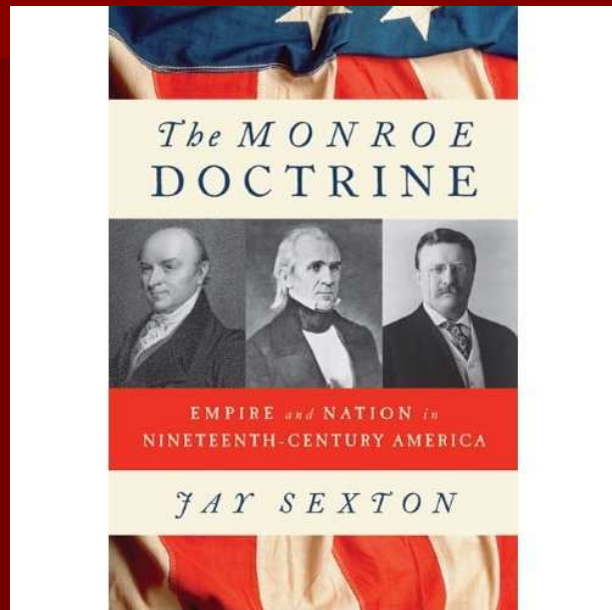
**Common Themes**

**And**

**Historical**

**Concepts**

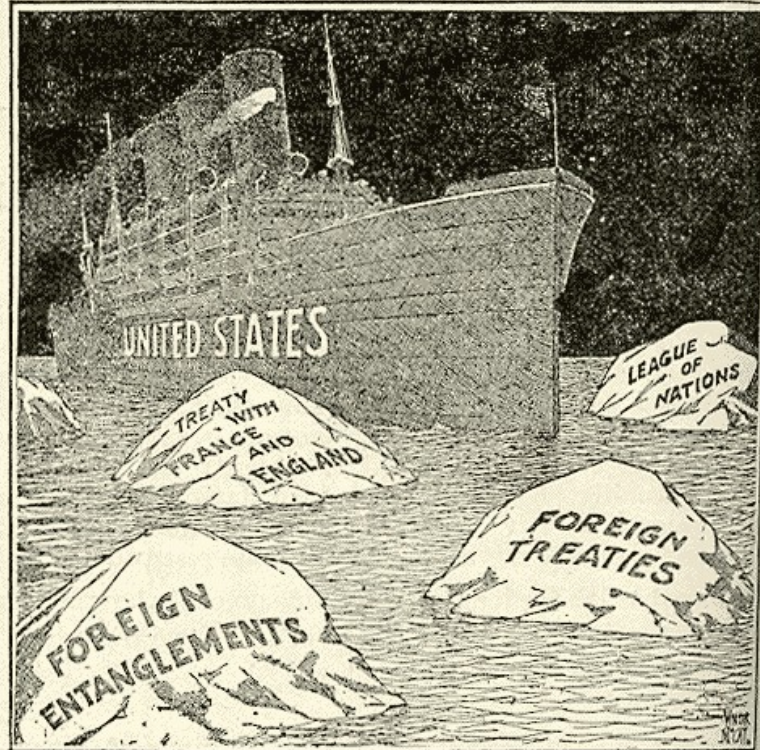
# American Foreign Policy



## 1. The Monroe Doctrine

# American Foreign Policy

## 2. Isolationism and Internationalism



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BETTER KEEP TO THE OLD CHANNEL.

—McCay in the *New York American*.

### Afghanistan: Planning for Success

On Tuesday, March 31, 2009, the Foreign Policy Initiative hosted a half-day conference on the path to success in Afghanistan.



# American Foreign Policy

## 3. Dollar Diplomacy (Roosevelt, Taft, Wilson)

### Dollar Diplomacy:

- **President Taft** urged banks and businesses to invest in Latin America
- He promised U.S. would step in if civil unrest threatened American investments
- This was a more passive imperialism



William Taft.

# American Foreign Policy

## 4. Good Neighbor Policy (FDR)

### FDR's "Good Neighbor" Policy



- 5 Important to have all nations in the Western Hemisphere united in lieu of foreign aggressions.
- 5 FDR → *The good neighbor respects himself and the rights of others.*
- 5 Policy of non-intervention and cooperation.

# American Foreign Policy



## 5. The Marshall Plan



# American Foreign Policy

## 6. The Truman Doctrine (containment)

- The U.S. worked to establish free governments. The Soviet army brings totalitarian control to nations they have promised to free (**Yalta Conference**.)



[http://www.flickr.com/photos/foose\\_gre\\_39459117654/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/foose_gre_39459117654/)



# American Foreign Policy

## 7. Alliance for Progress (John F. Kennedy)



# American Foreign Policy

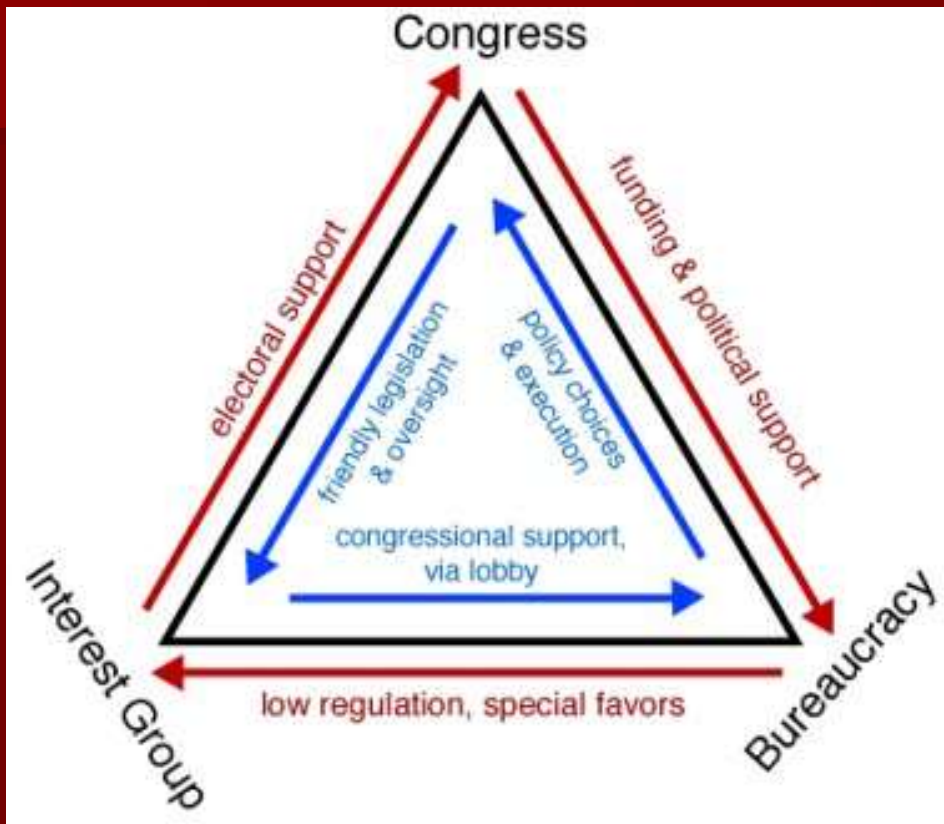
## 8. Agency for International Development (AID)



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



# American Foreign Policy



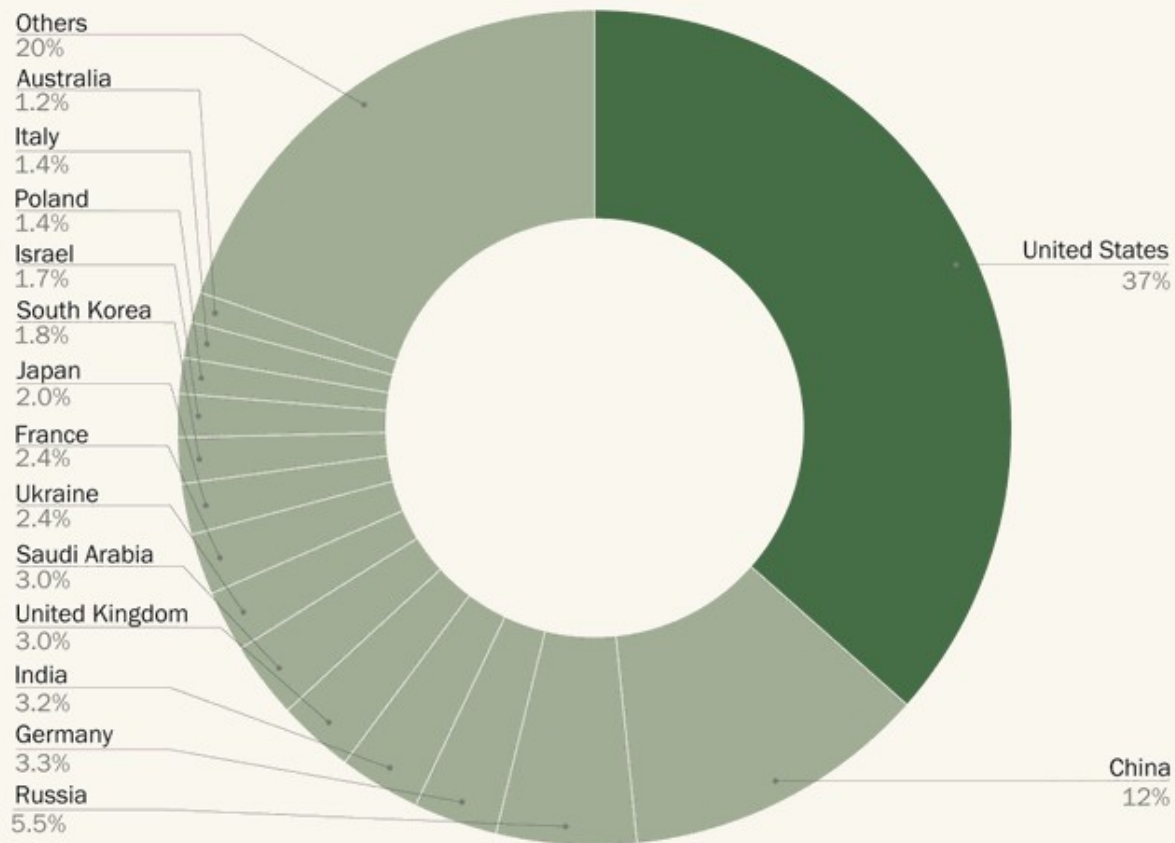
Eisenhower's Farewell Address - January 17, 1961

*"In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist. We must never let the weight of this combination endanger our liberties or democratic processes. We should take nothing for granted. Only an alert and knowledgeable citizenry can compel the proper meshing of the huge industrial and military machinery of defense with our peaceful methods and goals, so that security and liberty may prosper together." -Ike*

## 9. The Military-Industrial Complex

# American Foreign Policy

**The share of world military expenditure of the 15 countries with the highest spending in 2024**



**Foreign Policy**

**Realism**

**Vs.**

**Idealism**

**In Foreign Policy**

# Philosophy

## Realism

**Design policy  
based on  
“what is”**

## Idealism

**Design policy  
based on how  
the world  
“ought to be”**

# Outlook

**Realism**

**Idealism**

**Isolationist**

**Internationalist**

# Power

**Realism**

**Idealism**

**Utilize "hard"  
power**

**Utilize "soft"  
power**

# Leadership

**Realism**

**Idealism**

**Unilateral**

**Multilateral**

# Defense

**Realism**

**Idealism**

**Large;**

**Smaller;**

**National Missile  
Defense;**

**Use Weapons  
We Already**

**2-War**

**Have**

# Arms and Weapons

**Realism**

**Tension**



**Arms**



**War**

**Idealism**

**Arms**



**Tension**



**War**

# Foreign Aid

**Realism**

**Idealism**

**Lower;  
Focus on  
Military**

**Higher;  
Focus on Social,  
Economic**

# **Democracy, Human Rights, Environment, United Nations**

**Realism**

**Idealism**

**Not As**

**More**

**Important**

**Important**

# Trade and Business

**Realism**

**Idealism**

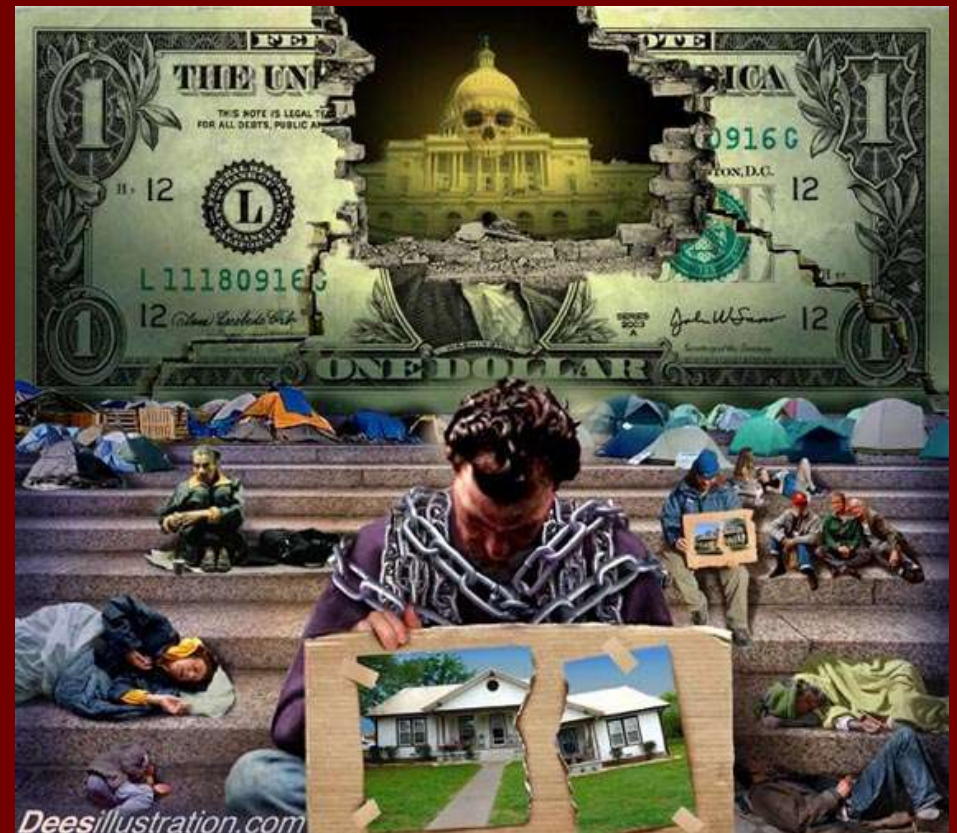
**Will Not  
Necessarily  
Promote Peace**

**Will Help  
Promote Peace**

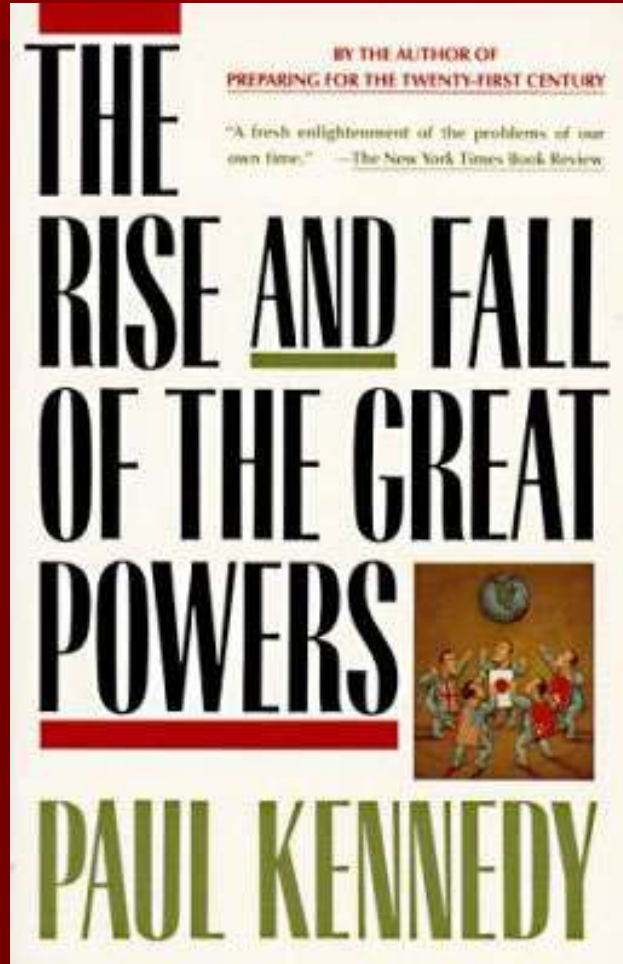
# **Three Schools of Thought on America's Future**

# America's Future

**1. Declinism** – one side in the persistent “debate” about the future of American power and influence. Declinists believe that the relative power position of the U.S. is waning.



# America's Future



**Major Text:**

**Kennedy's *The Decline and Fall of the Great Powers***

**Thesis: Corroding effects of "imperial overstretch"**

# America's Future

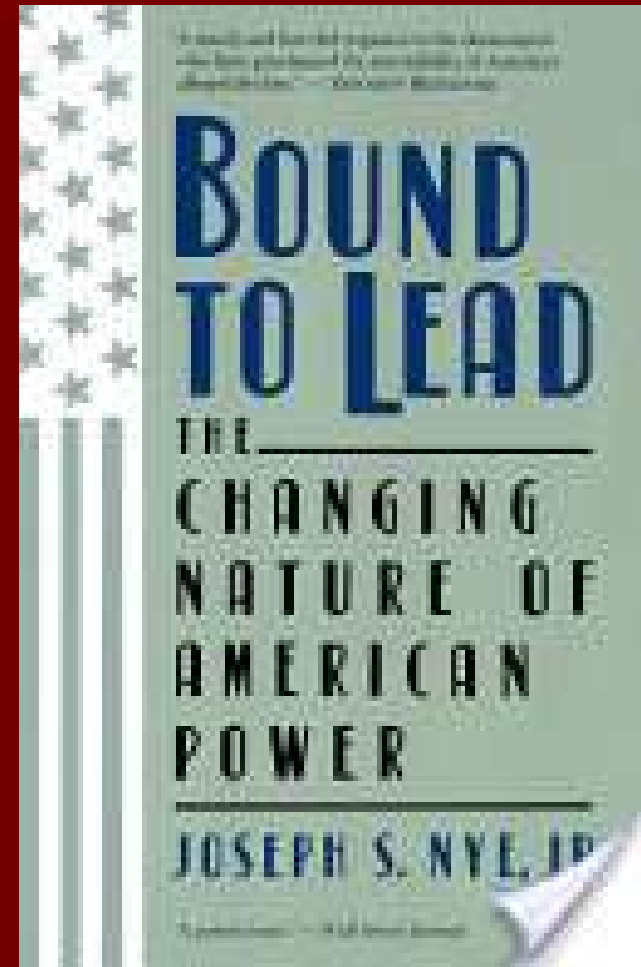


**2. American Exceptionalism** – the other side of the debate on the future of America's power. They believe that America is unique in world history, and thus will continue to grow in power and influence.

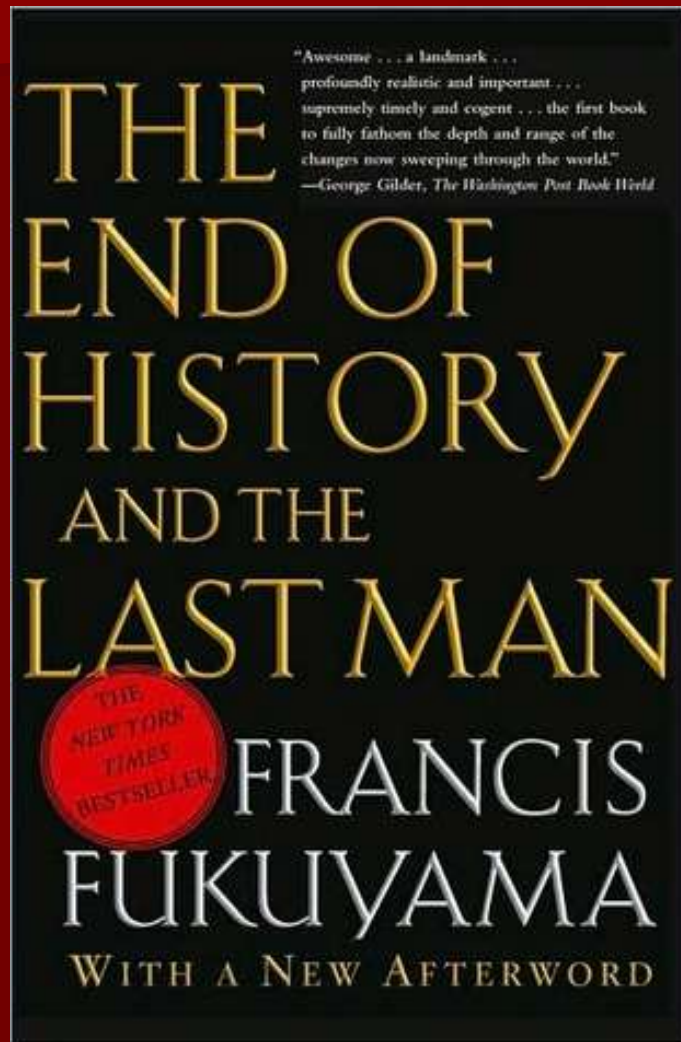
# America's Future

**Major Text: Nye's  
*Bound to Lead***

**Thesis: American  
leaders will take  
the "long view"  
and will seek to  
adapt to changing  
future  
circumstances**



# America's Future



**Major Text: Fukuyama's**  
*The End of History and the Last Man*

**Thesis: The fall of the Soviet Union and U.S. victory in the Persian Gulf are proof that there is no better system in history than democracy and capitalism. Hence, history will "end" with these systems**

# America's Future

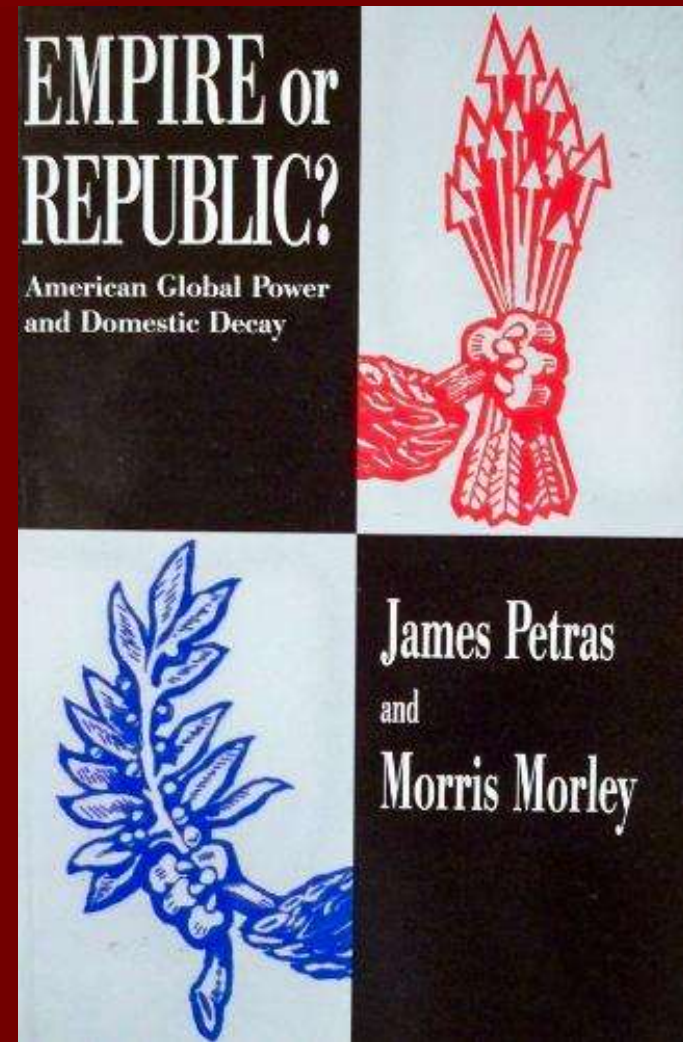


**3. Neoimperialism** – an alternative to both theories. This theory suggests that while American leaders focus on global leadership, they are ignoring pressing social, economic, and political problems at home

# America's Future

**Major Text: Petras  
and Morley's  
*Empire or  
Republic?***

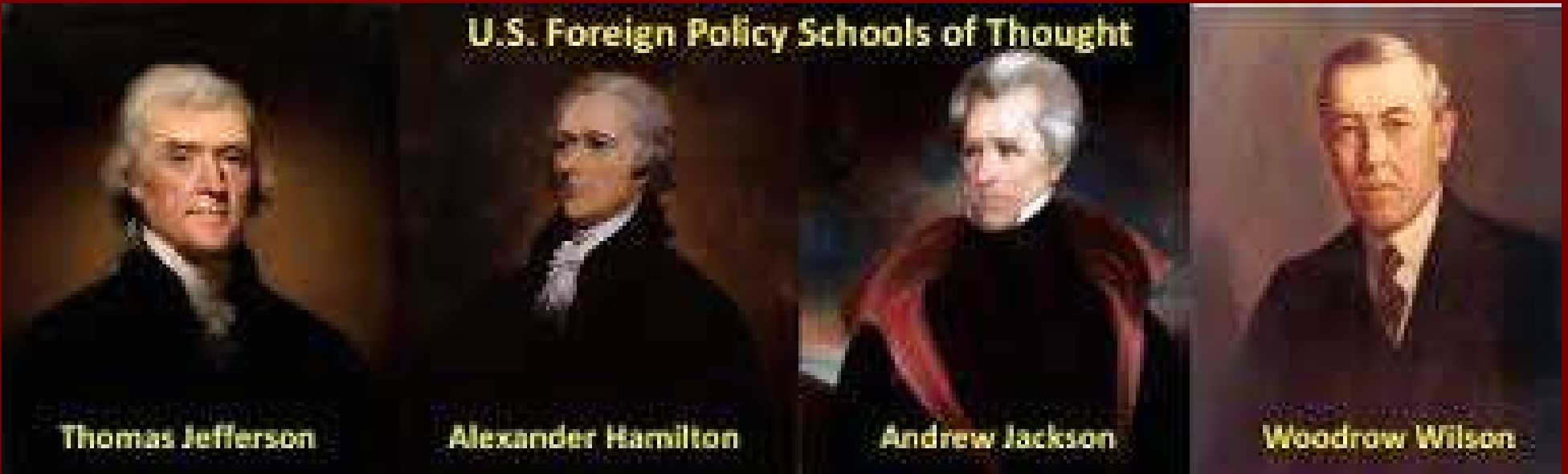
**Thesis: As empire  
expands, the  
republic declines**



# US Foreign Policy

## Walter Russell Mead's Four Schools of American Foreign Policy

### U.S. Foreign Policy Schools of Thought



Thomas Jefferson

Alexander Hamilton

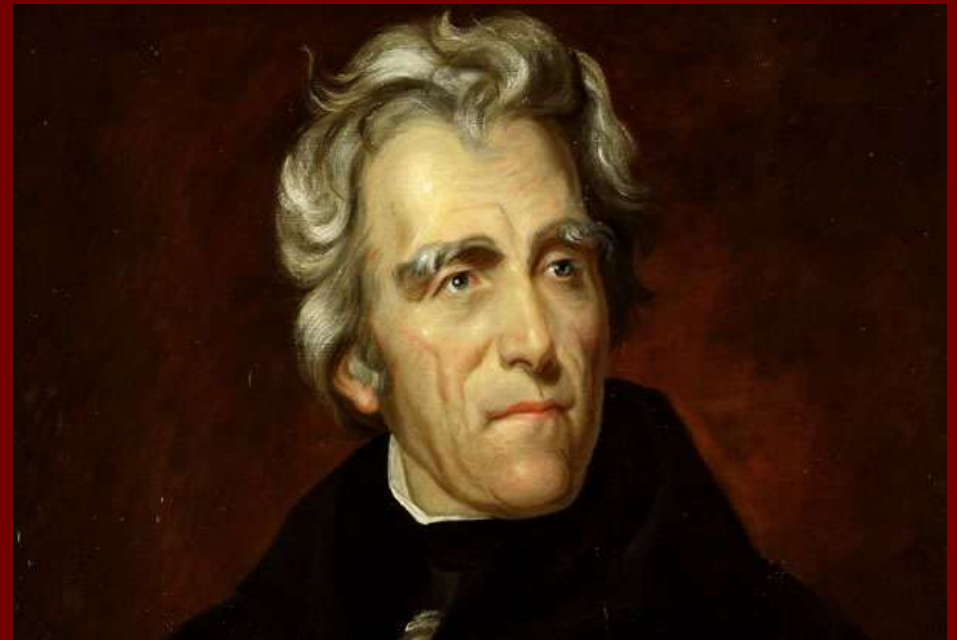
Andrew Jackson

Woodrow Wilson

# US Foreign Policy

## 1. Jacksonian

- a. **First priority – physical security and economic well-being of the American populace**
- b. **US should not seek out foreign quarrels but should fight to win if war starts**
- c. **Values – self-reliance above all**
- d. **Jacksonian presidents – Reagan; Bush II**



# US Foreign Policy



## 2. Hamiltonian

- a. **First priority – economic primacy of the US (mercantilism)**
- b. **The relationship between government and big business is key to survival and success of a country**
- c. **Legacies – IMF, World Bank, NAFTA, WTO**
- d. **Hamiltonian presidents – Bush I; Clinton**

# US Foreign Policy

## 3. Jeffersonian

- a. **First priority – protection of American democracy on the home front**
- b. **Foreign entanglements always bad for democratic systems and highly skeptical of projects that involve the US abroad**
- c. **Legacies – ACLU**
- d. **Jeffersonian presidents – none in the 20<sup>th</sup> century**



# US Foreign Policy

## 4. Wilsonian

- a. **First priority – spreading American democratic and social values throughout the world**
- b. **US should be involved in the world with a peaceful international community based on the rule of law**
- c. **Legacies – the United Nations**
- d. **Wilsonian presidents – McKinley; Carter**

