

Chapter 17: Foreign Policy and  
National Defense

Section 1  
Lecture Notes

AMERICAN  
**GOVERNMENT**

PEARSON

## ▶ Isolationism to Internationalism

- For nearly 150 years U.S. foreign relations were based on isolationism, as U.S. leaders refused to get widely involved in foreign affairs.
- From the 1940s on, the United States has played a major role in world affairs.
  - Today America's national security can be endangered by terrorism and foreign conflicts.
  - Additionally, the U.S. economy is now tied to the global economy.

## ▶ Foreign Policy

- Foreign policy consists of all the stands and actions that a nation takes in every aspect of its relationships with other countries – including diplomatic, military, and economic relationships.
- These stands and actions include all of America's treaties, alliances, and foreign aid, as well as U.S. policies on international trade, immigration, human rights and the environment.

## ▶ Foreign Policy, cont.

- Foreign policy goals change over time.
- The President is the nation's chief diplomat.
  - Several Presidents have tried to broker Mideast peace agreements.



# ▶ State Department

- The President looks to the State Department, the first executive department created by Congress, for advice and assistance in conducting U.S. foreign policy.
- The department is divided into bureaus that deal with specific geographic regions or with specific foreign policy issues.
- The State Department pursues four major foreign policy goals:
  - **Protecting America**
  - **Advancing democracy**
  - **Protecting American values**
  - **Supporting diplomatic officials**

# ► Protecting America

- The State Department:
  - Maintains and strengthens diplomatic ties with other nations
  - Manages domestic and international travel and trade policies
  - Promotes global stability



## ▶ Advancing Democracy

- The State Department:
  - Supports newly established democracies
  - Promotes fair voting practices and just legal systems
  - Monitors human rights issues globally



# ▶ Promoting American Values

- The State Department:
  - Uses government-supported and other media to provide information on American values to other peoples
  - Supports cultural exchange programs





## ▶ Supporting Diplomatic Officials

- The State Department:
  - Uses the right of legation to send thousands of diplomats abroad
  - Protects American diplomats and others abroad under international law



# ▶ Secretary of State

- The President appoints the Secretary of State, who is always a key cabinet member.
- He or she helps make and conduct policy as well as managing the State department.
  - John Foster Dulles (right) was an influential Secretary of State.



## ▶ Ambassadors and Embassies

- Ambassadors are appointed by the President with Senate approval and serve at the President's pleasure.
  - Appointees range from political allies of the President to career diplomats.
- The United States has embassies in more than 180 countries.
  - Foreign Service officers staff more than 260 diplomatic and consular offices as well. They encourage trade, gather intelligence, and aid American citizens abroad.

## ▶ Diplomatic Immunity

- Ambassadors and embassy personnel are normally granted diplomatic immunity.
  - This means they cannot be arrested, sued, or taxed by the country to which they are ambassadors.
  - Their embassies and communications cannot be entered or searched without their consent.
  - However, a host country can expel a diplomat whose conduct it finds unacceptable.

## ▶ Diplomatic Immunity, cont.

- Diplomatic immunity is normally, but not always, respected.
- In 1979, Iranian students violated diplomatic immunity and international law by seizing the American embassy in Tehran and holding 52 Americans hostage for 444 days.



# ▶ Travel Documents

<b>Passports</b>	<b>Visas</b>
Issued by a government and identifies the bearer as a citizen or national of the issuing country	Issued by the country the individual requests permission to enter
Entitles the bearer to consular protection abroad and to return to his or her country of citizenship	Permits the traveler to remain in a country for a specified period of time, but does not guarantee entry
Valid for 10 years	Valid for only the time period stated
Three types: diplomatic, official, tourist	Of many types, including: transit, tourist, business, and student

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# ▶ Defense Department

- Congress created the Defense Department in 1947, replacing the War and Navy Departments.
- Today there are nearly 1.4 million men and women on active duty in the military.





## ▶ Civilian Control of the Military

- The Constitution puts civilian authorities in charge of the military.
  - The President acts as commander-in-chief of the armed forces. Congress also has broad military powers.
  - The civilian Secretary of Defense, appointed by the President, heads the Defense Department.
  - Each military department is also headed by a civilian secretary.

## ► Advisers

- The Secretary of Defense is the President's chief aide and advisor on defense policy.
- The six members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the nation's highest ranking uniformed officers, also advise the President and other key officials.

## ▶ Department of the Army

- The **U.S. Army** is responsible for military operations on land.
  - The Army defends against attacks on the United States and acts to protect U.S. interests around the world.
- The **Regular Army** has more than half a million soldiers on active duty.
  - Infantry defends, takes and holds land areas with the support of the artillery and armored cavalry.
  - Many other units provide needed logistical, medical, and technical support for this mission.

## ▶ Department of the Navy

- The **Navy's** main responsibility is sea warfare.
  - Today the navy has some 330,000 personnel.
- The **U.S. Marine Corps** is a separate, combat land force within the Navy.
  - The 180,000 Marines are tasked with seizing and defending naval bases and carrying out other necessary land operations.


## ▶ Department of the Air Force

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- The **Air Force** is the newest department, established in 1947
- The Air Force has the primary responsibility for military air and aerospace operations.
  - Its 340,000 members defend the United States, attack enemy air, ground, and sea forces, strike targets in enemy territory, and provide transport and support for land and naval operations.

# ▶ Major Military Deployments

- Nearly one fourth of the U.S. armed forces is stationed abroad. Today, the top five areas to which the American military are deployed are in East Asia, Southeast Asia, and Europe.



	Total	Army	Navy	Marine Corps	Air Force
<b>East Asia</b>					
Japan	33,164	2,483	3,734	14,226	12,721
South Korea	26,076	17,798	227	108	7,943
<b>Europe</b>					
Germany	57,155	42,023	277	319	14,536
<b>Southwest Asia</b>					
Afghanistan	25,700	19,700	800	400	4,800
Iraq	196,000	125,800	21,300	26,900	22,600

SOURCE: Department of Defense, Personnel and Procurement Statistics, 2007.

A soldier attends a farewell event prior to his deployment to Iraq.



## ▶ Director of National Intelligence

- Intelligence agencies had failed to collect and share information warning of potential terrorist attacks such as Sept 11, 2001.
- The DNI supervises the operations of the 16 agencies in the federal intelligence community.
- Much of this intelligence work involves spying and is done with secrecy - even the budgets are secret.

## ▶ Dept. of Homeland Security

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- The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) was created in 2002 to protect America from terrorism.
  - It coordinates all antiterrorist activities of all public agencies that deal with domestic security.
- The DHS operates in five key areas:
  - Border and transportation security
  - Infrastructure protection
  - Emergency preparedness and response
  - Information analysis
  - Defense against chemical, biological, and nuclear attack



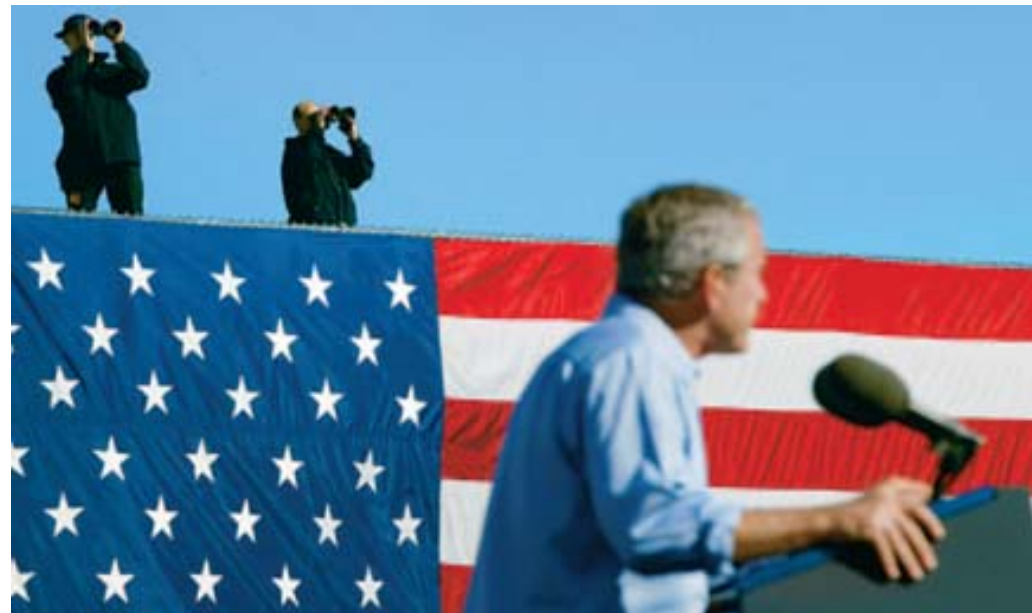
## ▶ DHS, cont.

- The DHS works to detect and deter threats by:
  - Securing U.S. borders
  - Enforcing immigration laws
  - Strengthening transportation security
  - Developing detection technology



## ► DHS, cont.

- The DHS works to protect the nation from terrorism by:
  - Protecting the President and other key officials
  - Protecting physical and cyber infrastructure
  - Fighting financial crimes and identity theft



## ▶ DHS, cont.

- The DHS leads the response to national emergencies by:
  - Preparing and helping implement plans to deal with crises such as natural disasters, health emergencies, and acts of terrorism
  - Providing emergency housing



## ▶ DHS, cont.

- The DHS has to protect America's:
  - Food and water supply
  - Healthcare system
  - Communications network
  - Pipelines and power plants
  - Roads, bridges, railways, waterways, seaports, and airports
  - Skyscrapers and stadiums



## ► Terrorism

- The sheer number of potential targets means that the nation cannot be completely and absolutely protected against all possible terrorist attacks.
- The best that can be hoped for is to stop or minimize the effect of most terrorist attacks, and to bring those responsible for such attacks to justice.

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## ► Isolationism

- For many years the United States tried to avoid becoming entangled in foreign affairs and alliances.
- However, the United States did have diplomatic relations and trade with many nations.
- Benjamin Franklin (right) was one of the first U.S. diplomats.



## ► Isolationism, cont.

- Geographic isolation, abundant national resources, and weak U.S. armed forces all encouraged isolationism.
- In 1823, President Monroe issued the **Monroe Doctrine**, warning European powers to stay out of the affairs of North and South America.
- By 1900, America had expanded across the continent and overseas and sought to expand its political influence as well.



## ► Intervention

- Beginning under President Theodore Roosevelt in the 1900s, U.S. forces began to police Latin America to restore stability.



THE WORLD CONSTABLE

## ▶ Intervention, cont.

- In the 1930s President Franklin Roosevelt pursued the **Good Neighbor Policy**, reducing U.S. military and political involvement.
- In the 1800s, America opened Japan to trade and called for an **Open Door policy**, giving all nations equal trade access to China.
  - By the 1940s, U.S. relations with both Japan and China were poor.

## ▶ World at War

- After entering World War I, America had isolated itself once again until the start of World War II.
- The United States ended WW II as the world's major military and economic power.
- U.S. foreign policy then shifted to one of heavy international involvement, aimed at protecting American security and prosperity.

## ▶ Collective Security & Deterrence

- After World War II America tried to create a world community that would unite against threats to peace.
  - The United Nations was created in 1945 to pursue this goal, but its effectiveness was limited during the cold war.
- The United States has also pursued a policy of **deterrence**, building a military strong enough to deter any direct attack on America.

## ▶ The Cold War

- The Cold War began after WW II as the **United States** and **the USSR** confronted each other in Europe and elsewhere.
  - The Soviet Union occupied Eastern Europe and set up communist regimes.
  - President Truman then offered U.S. military and financial aid to the rest of Europe.
- The U.S. policy of **containment** during the Cold War sought to contain the spread of communism.

# ▶ Cold War Confrontations

- Soviets blockaded Berlin in 1948-49, but a U.S. airlift of supplies saved the city without a fight.
- Soviets placed nuclear missiles in Cuba in 1962, but backed down during the Cuban Missile Crisis.



## ▶ Korean and Vietnam Wars

- **The Korean War** (1950-53) pitted UN forces, mainly Americans and South Koreans, against communist North Koreans and Chinese that were supported by the Soviets. It ended in a stalemate.
- **The Vietnam War** (1965-1973) saw the United States fighting the North Vietnamese and communist guerillas.
  - The American people were bitterly divided over the war, and the United States eventually withdrew.

# Cold War Conflicts, 1947–1991

**KEY**

 United States and allies	 Other communist states
 Soviet Union and allies	 Cold War hot spots (with dates)





## ▶ Détente

- President Nixon sought to improve relations with the USSR and China, but Soviet relations remained strained.



- The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 led to U.S. support of the anti-communist rebels and a renewed containment policy.

## ▶ The Cold War Ends

- Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev made reforms and met with President Reagan to ease tensions.
- Economic and political problems in Eastern Europe and the USSR also contributed to the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.
- U.S. policies of deterrence and containment worked over time.

## ▶ Modern Dangers

- The modern world faces many threats.
  - Terrorist groups like al Qaeda oppose the United States.
  - Hostile nations such as Iran and North Korea may gain nuclear weapons.
  - Africa suffers from many conflicts.
  - The Middle East divides U.S. interests between the need for oil and American support for Israel. U.S. efforts to broker a peaceful solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict have had limited success.

## ▶ Afghanistan

- After the 2001 attacks, U.S. forces toppled the Taliban regime in Afghanistan.



- Today the pro-al Qaeda Taliban forces continued to fight U.S. and NATO troops for control of the country.

## ▶ Iraq

- The United States and its allies began the second Gulf War in 2003.
  - The goal was to end the threat posed by Saddam Hussein's dictatorial regime and its suspected weapons programs.
- American forces have been involved in an ongoing effort to stabilize and rebuild Iraq as a democracy in the face of continued violence.
- This task will likely continue for years to come.

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The title 'AMERICAN GOVERNMENT' is centered on the page. 'AMERICAN' is in a white, serif font with a slight shadow, and 'GOVERNMENT' is in a larger, bold, yellow, sans-serif font with a black outline. The text is set against a background of a stylized American flag with blue stars and red and white stripes.

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# ▶ U.S. Foreign Aid

- Early foreign aid, such as the Marshall Plan, was mainly economic and went mostly to Europe.
- Today foreign aid is both military and economic.
- Most aid goes to nations in Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America.



## ▶ NATO

- The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was originally formed to protect western Europe against Soviet aggression.
- Since the collapse of the USSR, NATO has grown in size and is no longer focused on opposing the Soviets.
- Today NATO is focused on crisis management and peacekeeping in Europe and around the world.



# The Expansion of NATO



## ▶ NATO Missions

- NATO intervened to stop fighting in Bosnia and Kosovo. NATO troops continue their peacekeeping mission in the Balkans today.
- NATO has taken over the ISAF, the multinational peacekeeping force fighting the Taliban in Afghanistan.
- NATO also plays a small peacekeeping role in the Darfur region of Sudan.

## ▶ Other Security Alliances

- **The Rio Pact** is a mutual defense treaty allying the United States with Canada and 32 Latin American countries.
- **ANZUS** is a pact uniting Australia, New Zealand, and the United States.
- **The Japanese, Korean, and Philippines Pacts** each pledge that U.S. forces will come to the aid of their ally if needed.

# ▶ The United Nations

- The United Nations charter was written in San Francisco in 1945. The UN first met in 1946.
- The UN's goals are:
  - Maintaining world peace and security
  - Developing friendly relations among all nations
  - Promoting justice and solving international disputes



## ▶ General Assembly

- Each UN member has a vote in the General Assembly, which regularly meets once a year in New York and in special sessions.
- The Assembly has several functions.
  - It can debate issues and make nonbinding, but influential recommendations.
  - It elects the nonpermanent members of various UN councils and courts.
  - It can admit, suspend, or expel members.
  - It can propose amendments to the charter.

## ▶ Security Council

- The **Security Council** is responsible for maintaining international peace.
  - It has 15 members. Five—the United States, China, Britain, France, and Russia—are permanent members. The other 10 serve two-year terms.
  - With the support of at least 9 members, the Council can call for sanctions, peace-keeping operations, or military action.
  - A permanent member can veto any major Security Council resolution.

## ▶ Other Councils

- The **Economic and Social Council** has 54 members elected by the General Assembly. They carry out the UN's many economic, cultural, educational, and health activities.
- The **Trusteeship Council** once oversaw the treatment of colonies and former colonies. Since these are all independent now the Council exists in name only.

## ▶ World Court

- The **International Court of Justice**, or World Court, is the UN's judicial arm.
  - The ICJ is made up of 15 judges who handle cases brought to them voluntarily by UN members and nonmembers.



## ▶ The Secretariat

- The Secretariat is the UN's civil service branch.
  - It is led by the secretary-general, elected by the General Assembly.
  - The secretary-general prepares the UN budget, oversees day-to-day administration of the UN, and brings key matters before the Security Council.

## ▶ The Work of the UN

- The UN has 15 **specialized agencies** that provide many economic and social programs.
- The **FAO** works to improve farming productivity, food quality, and living standards in rural nations.



## ▶ The Work of the UN, cont.

- The **WHO** has helped immunize 80 percent of the world's children against six fatal diseases.
- **UNESCO** promotes education, science, culture, and freedom of the press.
- The **IMF** promotes global financial stability.



## ▶ The Work of the UN, cont.

- Peacekeeping is a major function of the UN.
- The UN promotes human rights, protects refugees, and raises money for disaster relief.
- The UN also works closely with many NGOs, such as the Red Cross, to aid people worldwide.

### UN Peacekeeping

**\$7.1 billion**

Current budget for UN peacekeeping operations

**16**

Peacekeeping operations in progress

**88,000**

UN troops deployed in peacekeeping missions around the world

SOURCE: The United Nations



## ▶ The United States and the UN

- The United States provides major funding to the UN.
- The UN and U.S. leaders have not always agreed.

- At times the United States has withheld funds or fought UN policies.
- Still, the two work closely together on many issues.

