

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY: A DOCUMENTARY AND REFERENCE GUIDE

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- The United States has engaged in an unending mission for power and supremacy from bipolar to uni-polar.
- The United States' primary objective was to dominate the world economically and engaged in an endless battle to reshape and dominate the global economy, especially after World War II.
- People in the World argue that the United States has always been “exceptional” and carries a duty to act in a manner reflecting its role as a world leader.
- Some consider the United States to be more or less a “hyper-power.”
- Since the early history of the American foreign policy, it has been a mixture of different events, actors, policies, beliefs, and institutions of the time.
- Leaders, political character who were ruling the country time to time have always influenced U.S. foreign policy decision making.
- Four different schools of thought to understand U.S. foreign policy in its early years.
 - Hamiltonianism(Alexander Hamilton)
 - Jeffersonianism (Thomas Jefferson)
 - Jacksonianism (Andrew Jackson)
 - Wilsonianism (Woodrow Wilson)
- Hamiltonianism is an ideology based on the beliefs of Alexander Hamilton, a founding father of the United States. a strong Federalist, Hamilton exalted the ideas of continental realism. He also believed in capitalism and uninhibited global trade. Dealings with foreign powers” established free trade to protect its own national economy and interests during the sixty years that this ideology dominated U.S. foreign policy, from 1865 to 1929.
- Jeffersonianism, believe the United States should stay away from the entangling alliances of Europe. The stronger central governments have more ability to oppress the common people, and his followers.
- Jacksonian values include honor, individualism, and courage and as such it is the most militant and expansionistic of American Ideologies to this day. U.S. foreign policy guided by Jacksonianism included wars of expansion and a brief period in good old European-style imperialism.
- President Woodrow Wilson was convinced of the moral superiority of the United States. Internationalism is the only way by which a country accepting this mission can operate, and by President Wilson's administration, the United States seems to be changing its attitude toward global affairs. According to the Wilsonianism is one of the most pervasive schools of thought in U.S. foreign policymaking in the twentieth century.
- The first century and a half of U.S. history can be considered a “regional era,” with the United States fighting to establish itself as a leader in the Western Hemisphere, expand its borders, secure its people, and promote capitalism as its main goals.
- It would not be until the end of World War II that the United States entered global superpower status and foreign policy becomes dominated by the modern school of “realism” which overshadowed idealism.

- The study of U.S. foreign policy, importantly from both the theoretical and the practitioner's point of view in developing a theory of international relations, begins with the presentation of President Wilson's Fourteen Points, which directly addressed to international system.
- The policy of containment largely worked against Soviet aggression in Europe and Japan, other continents and regions of the world were not so lucky.
- The United States continued an ongoing policy of attempting to control other areas of the world by helping install brutal dictatorships in countries such as Iran, Pakistan, Chile, Brazil, Argentina, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Greece, and Turkey.
- The dominant position of the United States on the world stage can be defended based on the hard power of military and economic either unilaterally or multilaterally

Mega Lecture