

6.4 Foreign Policy Overview

Government and Politics

Essential question for this unit

- *What is the role of the U.S. in a changing world?*

What is foreign policy?

Every nation's foreign policy is actually many different policies on many different topics.

Foreign policy - includes everything that a nation's government says and everything that it does in world affairs. (ex. diplomatic, military, commercial)

What is foreign policy?

- Thus, American foreign policy consists of all official statements and actions with foreign relations.
- It involves treaties/alliances, international trade, the defense budget, foreign economic and military aid, the United Nations/other international organizations, nuclear weapons testing and disarmament and environment.

U.S. History of Foreign Affairs

- Basic purpose has always been to protect the security and well-being of the United States.
- Roughly the first 150 years shaped by a policy of **isolationism - a purposeful refusal to become generally involved in the affairs of the rest of the world.**

U.S. History of Foreign Affairs

- U.S. foreign policy will be shaped by our national interests - a country's goals and ambitions whether economic, military, or cultural.

U.S. History of Foreign Affairs

- Monroe Doctrine: reinforced isolationism (our intentions to stay out of European affairs and for others to stay out of N/S America)
- Manifest destiny: Louisiana Purchase
- World War II: Pearl Harbor
- Cold War: second half of the 20th century

U.S. History of Foreign Affairs

- The principle of *deterrence* has also been a part of the American foreign policy since WWII

deterrence - strategy of maintaining military might will deter/discourage an attack by any hostile power.

U.S. History of Foreign Affairs

- The principle of *containment* has also been a part of the American foreign policy since WWII
- containment - belief that if communism would be kept within its existing boundaries, it would collapse under its own internal weaknesses
- Korea
 - Vietnam

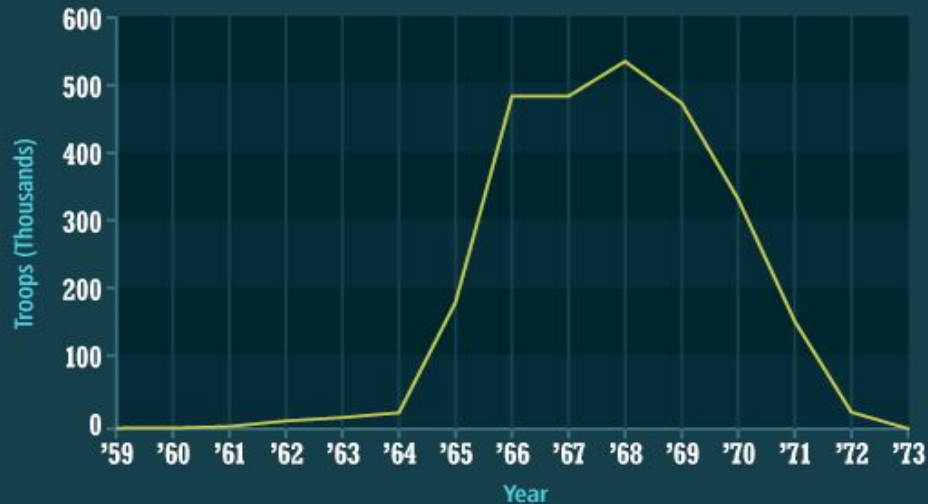
Cold War Conflicts, 1947–1991



Competition between the two superpowers became a source of political tension; nations allied themselves with one or the other. What do most of these locations have in common?

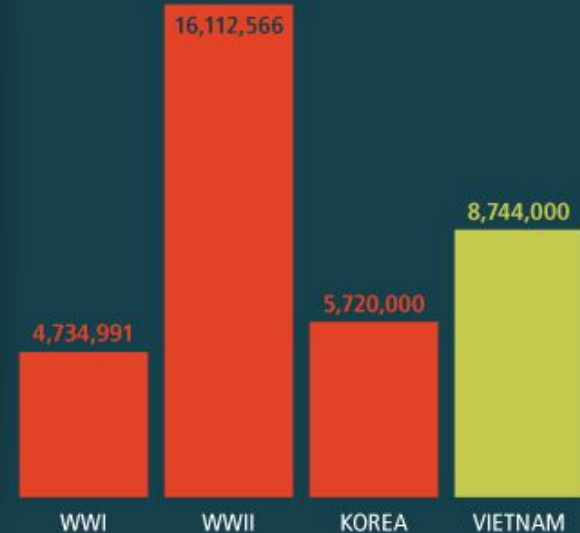
AMERICAN TROOPS **IN** VIETNAM & OTHER WARS

U.S. TROOPS IN VIETNAM



Sources: U.S. Army War College, Department of Defense Manpower Data, Congressional Research Service

TOTAL NUMBER OF U.S. SERVICE MEMBERS



The U.S. committed to full-scale war in Vietnam in 1965 and began to end that involvement in 1969. According to the bar graph, how many total troops served in the wars shown?

U.S. History of Foreign Affairs

- The principle of *detente* has also been a part of the American foreign policy since WWII

detente - a purposeful attempt to improve relations with the Soviet Union and China (Nixon administration)

Today's Foreign Policy Challenges

- The period from the 1940s onward has been marked by a profound change in the place of the United States in world affairs.
- As a result of WWII, the American people were convinced they could no longer live in isolation.

Today's Foreign Policy Challenges

- The well-being of everyone in this country is affected by what happens elsewhere.
- Wars and other political and economic upheavals abroad have an impact on the U.S.
- The American economy has become part of a truly global economy.

Today's Foreign Policy Challenges

- Today, much of the U.S. foreign policy is shaped by **internationalism - the principle of cooperation among nations, for the promotion of their common good,**

Today's Foreign Policy Challenges

- North Korea - nuclear power
- China - rising influence
- Middle East - internal conflict / “Arab Spring”
- Afghanistan and Iraq - Taliban / Al Qaeda
- Libya - unrest

Middle East and North Africa Uprisings, 2010–2013



This map shows the Arab Spring uprisings of 2010–2013. What can you conclude about the threat to nations such as Israel and Turkey?

Current Syrian Refugee Crisis

- Syrian Civil War

Video: Who is fighting and why?

Video: Syrian War Explained

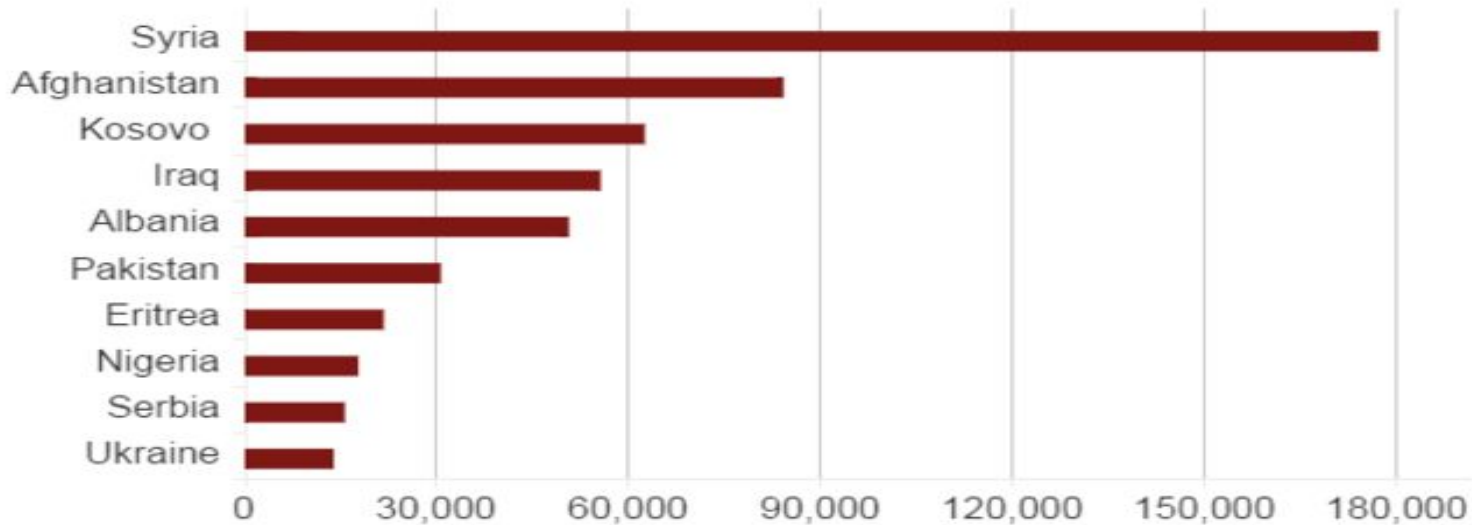
Video: American Governors React

Video: Isolationism is wrong viewpoint

Current Syrian Refugee Crisis

Top 10 origins of people applying for asylum in the EU

January - October 2015, first-time applications



Source: Eurostat

Review/Reflection

- Review foreign policy overview