

GED

Social Studies

Day 12



COMUNIDADES LATINAS
UNIDAS EN SERVICIO



Essential Questions

The United States government needs to protect the safety of its citizens while also protecting our civil liberties. What is the proper balance between the two?

Under what circumstances is military intervention justified?

What should be the relationship of the United States to the rest of the world? Why do competing world powers come into conflict?

The Cold War





Peace did not arrive when World War II finally came to an end. Instead, the Cold War began. Because the Cold War dominated U.S. and world history for almost the entire second half of the 20th century, its effects are felt today in many ways.

The Cold War was a state of geopolitical tension after World War II between powers in the *Eastern Bloc* (the Soviet Union and its satellite states) and powers in the *Western Bloc* (the United States, its NATO allies and others) that lasted roughly from 1947 to 1991. The term "*cold*" is used because there was no large-scale fighting directly between the two sides, but they each supported major regional wars known as *proxy wars*. There was also the constant fear of nuclear war between the US and the Soviet Union.

U.S. and USSR: Allies Become Enemies

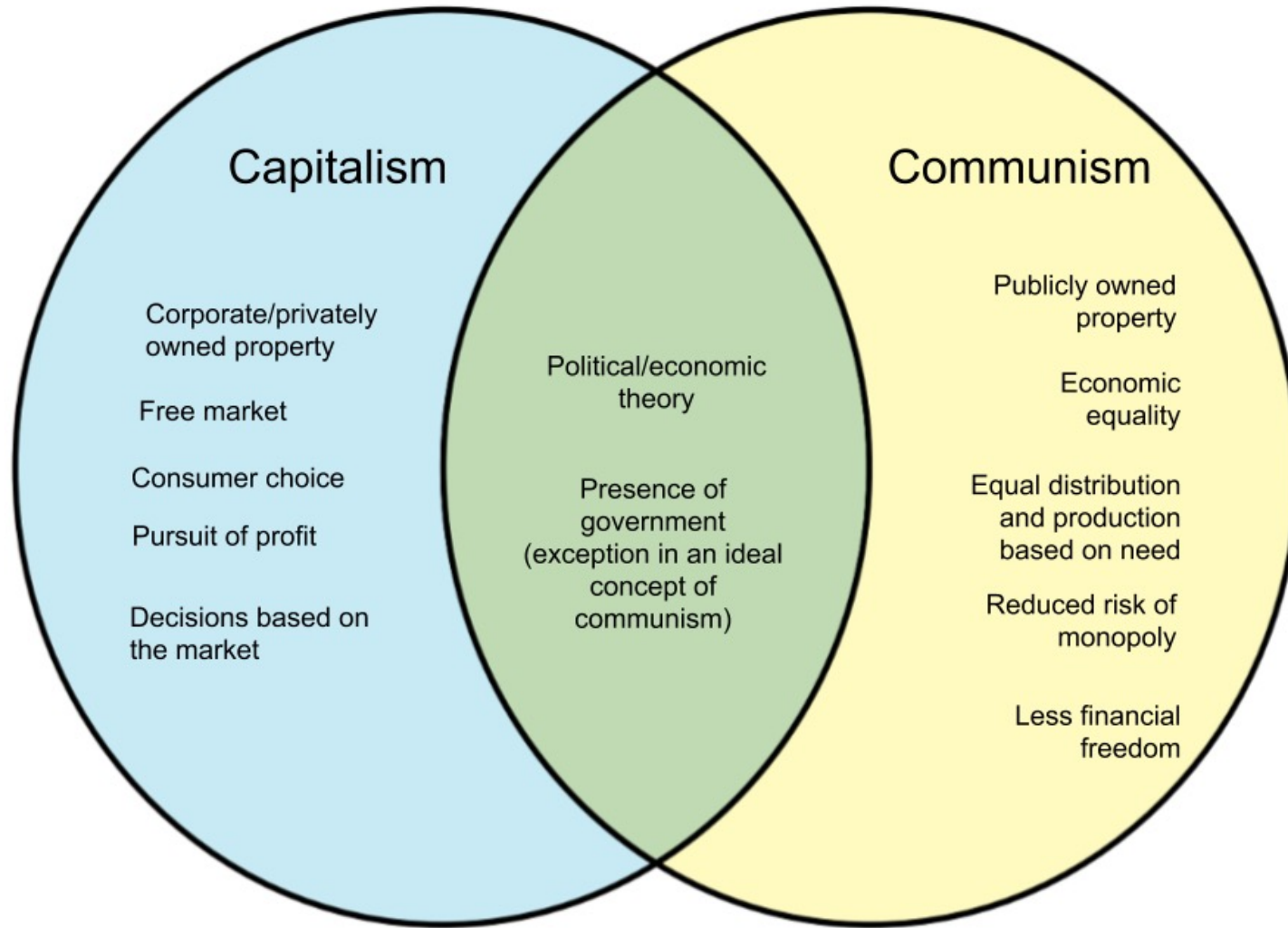
- Different economic systems
- Ideological differences
- Growing mutual suspicions

A U.S. government poster from WWII
portraying the Soviets as friendly



Capitalism vs. Communism

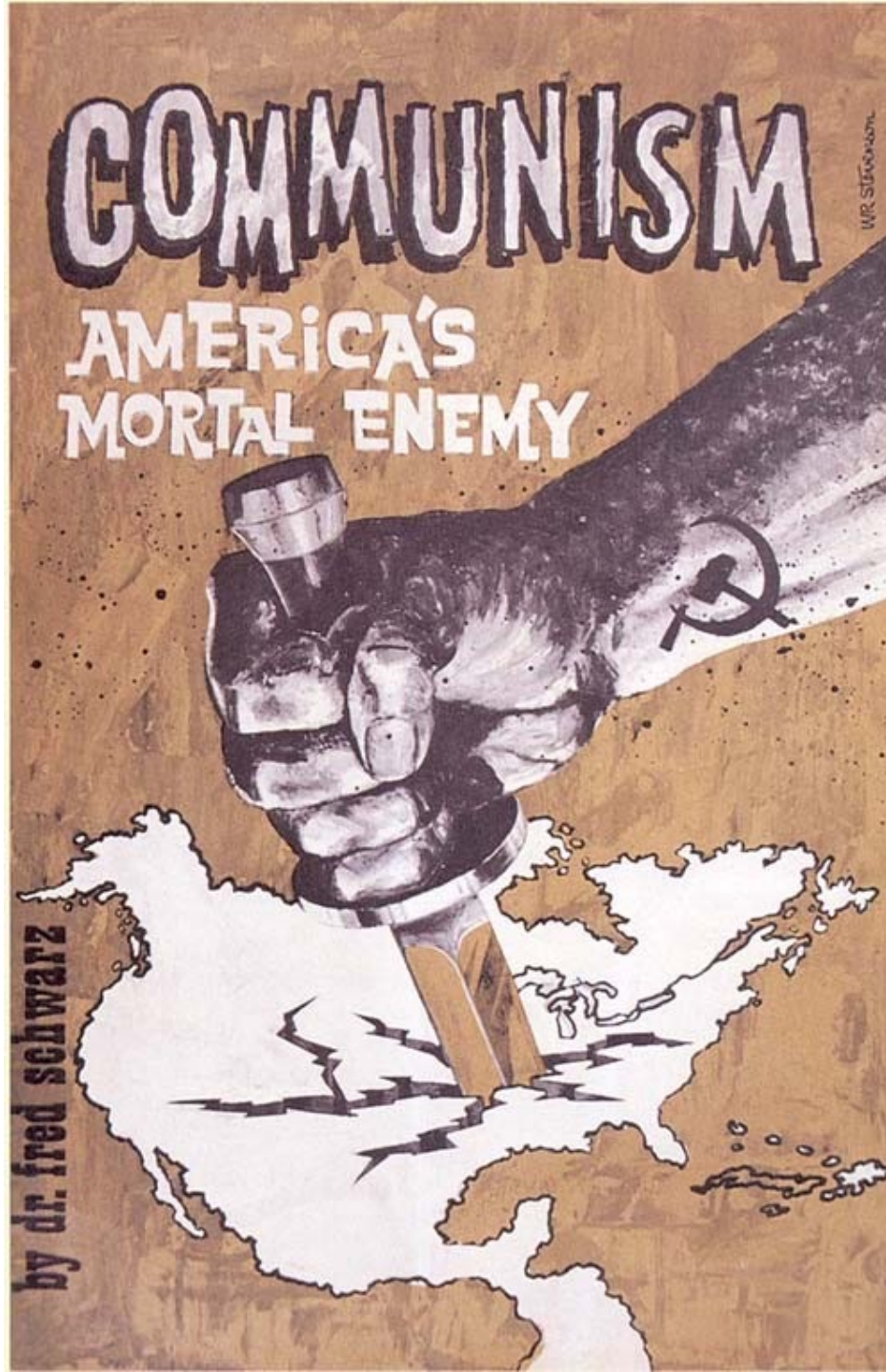
The Cold War was not simply a struggle to control land; rather, it was an ideological competition between the Western powers, which largely had capitalist economic systems, and the Eastern powers, which were part of a new wave of communism.



Communism had arisen primarily in 1917 Russia, when the Russian Revolution overthrew the czar and established the communist Soviet Union under the rule of Vladimir Lenin. Communism was both an economic system and a type of government, and it was spread to Eastern Europe as the Soviet Union fought against Germany in WWII. Capitalist and communist societies were wary of each other since before WWII, but remained allies until the end of the conflict.

The Western nations were intent on limiting the expansion of communism and were worried about the Soviet Union becoming too powerful. In 1949, the US and 11 other countries formed the *North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)* as a defensive military alliance. NATO worked to build up the militaries and defenses of its members, including West Germany.

An anti-communist propaganda poster.



In response to what they perceived as a threat from NATO and a remilitarized West Germany, the member states of the Soviet Union signed the *Warsaw Pact* in 1955. The Warsaw Pact was similar to NATO in that it was also a military defense alliance, but it also served to unify the smaller countries more into the larger USSR.



NATO and the Warsaw Pact in 1955.

Major Events in the Cold War

Although the US and USSR never directly fought during the Cold War, there were many proxy wars, where each side supported fighting in regional conflicts. Many of these were civil wars between communist and non-communist factions. Three significant proxy wars for the US are given below:



The Korean War (1950-1953) was a war fought between northern (communist) Korea and southern (democratic) Korea. Although many countries participated on both sides, the conclusion was a stalemate, resulting in two countries: North Korea and South Korea. The United States maintains a strong military presence in South Korea to this day.



The Vietnam War (1955-1975) was an effort by the US and allies to prevent communist North Vietnam from taking over South Vietnam. It was a long and bloody war that killed millions of civilians and soldiers. In the end, the result was a US defeat and withdrawal from the country. The memory of the conflict still haunts the United States.



The Arab-Israeli conflict (1948-present) began in 1948 with the Arab-Israeli War. In that war, the Arab nations of Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Iraq (in the picture to the left, they are green) all attacked the newly declared country of Israel (blue). The Arab countries were upset that Israel had been formed on land taken from the Palestinians. Israel, on the other hand, had the support of the West, and not only defended itself, but also conquered more territory than it

originally had. Although that war ended in 1948, the tensions in the region between competing parties have never been resolved, and the United States continues to support the Israeli government's military to the present day.

The Legacy of the Cold War

Many of the friends and enemies that were created during the Cold War survive to this day, but others do not. For example, NATO still survives as a military defense alliance, but the Warsaw Pact was dissolved in 1991 with the collapse of the Soviet Union and the official end of Cold War.

Perhaps more important than the alliances were the proxy wars. The North/South divide in Korea continues to be a problematic foreign relations issue for the United States, and the situation in the Middle East has only become more complicated with new conflicts in recent years.

Furthermore, despite playing a very large role in the Cold War, proxy wars did not end in 1991, and cases can still be found today. A prime example today is the Syrian Civil War, in which Russia and the United States have both supported fighting, sometimes on the same side and sometimes on opposing sides. Even though the two countries are not fighting each other, they are both trying to influence the outcome of the war in Syria, much like Cold War proxy wars.

Cold War Questions

- In your own words, describe the term “proxy war”. Give examples of proxy wars.
- Why was the Cold War called “cold”?
- What change of government came about from the Russian Revolution of 1917?

Arrange the following countries into the NATO or Warsaw Pact alliances (see the maps in the text for hints):

United States
West Germany
Romania
Turkey

Poland
Czechoslovakia
East Germany
Greece

France
Soviet Union
United Kingdom
Italy


NATO Members	Warsaw Pact Members

Why did the NATO members dislike Warsaw Pact members? How might this have influenced decisions by the US and its allies to participate in proxy wars?

Think about international relations in the world today. In your opinion, are they mostly the same or mostly different from relations during the Cold War? Give reasons for your answer.

BREAK





**What do you know or
remember about
September 11th, 2001?**

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Late Edition

New York: Today, sunny, a few afternoon clouds. High 77. Tonight, slightly more humid. Low 63. Tomorrow, sun then clouds. High 81. Yesterday, high 81, low 63. Weather map, Page C19.

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NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2001

\$1 beyond the greater New York metropolitan area

75 CENTS

U.S. ATTACKED

HIJACKED JETS DESTROY TWIN TOWERS AND HIT PENTAGON IN DAY OF TERROR

A CREEPING HORROR

Buildings Burn and Fall
as Onlookers Search
for Elusive Safety

By N. R. KLEINFELD

It kept getting worse.

The horror arrived in episodic bursts of chilling disbelief, signified first by trembling floors, sharp eruptions, cracked windows. There was the actual unfathomable realization of a gaping, flaming hole in first one of the tall towers, and then the same thing all over again in its twin. There was the merciless sight of bodies helplessly tumbling out, some of them in flames.

Finally, the mighty towers themselves were reduced to nothing.



President Vows to Exact Punishment for 'Evil'

By SERGE SCHMEMANN

Hijackers rammed jetliners into each of New York's World Trade Center towers yesterday, toppling both in a hellish storm of ash, glass, smoke and leaping victims, while a third jetliner crashed into the Pentagon in Virginia. There was no official count, but President Bush said thousands had perished, and in the immediate aftermath the calamity was already being ranked the worst and most audacious terror attack in American history.

The attacks seemed carefully coordinated. The hijacked planes were all en route to California, and therefore gorged with fuel, and their departures were spaced within an hour and 40 minutes. The first, American Airlines Flight 11, a Boeing 767 out of Boston for Los Angeles, crashed into the north tower at 8:48 a.m. Eighteen minutes later, United Airlines Flight 175, also headed from Boston to Los Angeles, plowed into the south tower.



United States' Foreign Policy Post 9/11

US Foreign Policy After 9/11: Obvious Changes, Subtle Similarities By Steve Jones About.com	Questions
<p>United States foreign policy changed in some very noticeable ways after September 11, 2001. In other ways, foreign policy after 9/11 has remained much the same. When George W. Bush assumed the presidency in January 2001, his major foreign policy initiative was the creation of a "missile shield" over parts of Europe. In theory, the shield would give added protection if North Korea or Iran ever launched a missile strike. In fact, Condoleezza Rice, then the head of Bush's National Security Council, was slated to give a policy speech about the missile shield on September 11, 2001.</p>	<p>Based on the first sentence of this article, what two things do you think this article will address?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.

Nine days later, on September 20, 2001, in a speech before a joint session of Congress, Bush changed the direction of American foreign policy. He made terrorism its focus.

"We will direct every resource at our command -- every means of diplomacy, every tool of intelligence, every instrument of law enforcement, every financial influence, and every necessary weapon of war -- to the destruction and to the defeat of the global terror network," Bush said.

The speech is perhaps best remembered for this remark. "[W]e will pursue nations that provide aid or safe haven to terrorism," said Bush. "Every nation in every region now has a decision to make: Either you are with us or you are with the terrorists."

What shift in American foreign policy took place after 9/11?

Speculative: what do you think other nations thought when they heard President Bush's comment?

The most noticeable change in U.S. foreign policy is its focus on preventive action, not just preemptive action. This is also known as the Bush Doctrine. Nations often use preemptive strikes in warfare when they know that an enemy action is eminent.

When the U.S. invaded Iraq in March 2003, however, it broadened its policy to include preventive warfare. The Bush administration told the public (erroneously) that Saddam Hussein's regime had nuclear material and would soon be able to produce atomic weapons. Bush vaguely tied Hussein to Al Qaeda (again erroneously), and he said the invasion was, in part, to prevent Iraq from supplying terrorists with nuclear weapons. Thus, the Iraqi invasion was to prevent some perceived -- but not clearly evident -- event.

What is the difference between preventive action and preemptive action?

According to the article, what was the Bush administration's reason for invading Iraq?

U.S. humanitarian assistance has become more subject to foreign policy demands, and in some cases it has become militarized. Independent Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) working through USAID (a branch of the U.S. State Department) have typically delivered worldwide humanitarian aid independently of American foreign policy. However, as Elizabeth Ferris reported in a recent Brookings Institution article, U.S. military commands have begun their own humanitarian assistance programs in areas where they are conducting military operations. Therefore, army commanders can leverage humanitarian assistance to gain military advantages.

NGOs have also increasingly fallen under closer federal scrutiny, to ensure that they comply with U.S. anti-terrorism policy. This requirement, says Ferris, "made it difficult, indeed impossible, for U.S. humanitarian NGOs to claim that they were independent of their government's policy." That, in turn, makes it more difficult for humanitarian missions to reach sensitive and dangerous locations.

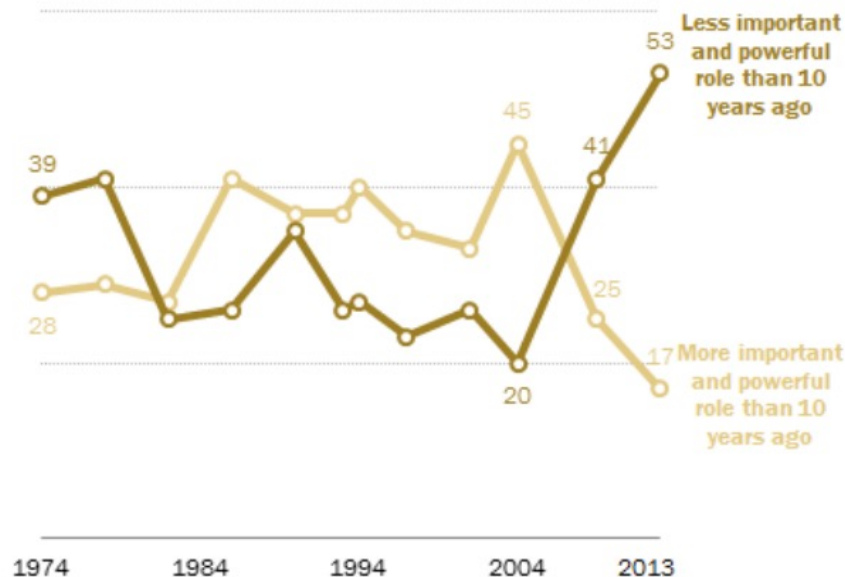
How has U.S. humanitarian assistance changed since 9/11?

RESEARCH FINDINGS FROM PewResearch: Center for the People and the Press

Directions: Use the graphs and tables to answer the corresponding questions.

Views of U.S. Global Power Fall to 40-Year Low

U.S. role today as world leader is ...



Source: America's Place in the World 2013. General public.
"About as important a role as world leader" responses not shown. 1974-1990 data from Chicago Council on Foreign Relations.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

1. What is the percentage of people who believe that the United States role as a leader is more important and powerful role today (2013) than 10 years ago?
2. Using the knowledge you have of what was happening in America in 2004, why do you think that the perception of the importance of the United States' role has dropped significantly since 2004?

Majority Says U.S. Should 'Mind Its Own Business Internationally'

% agreeing that the U.S. should mind its own business internationally and let other countries get along the best they can on their own'



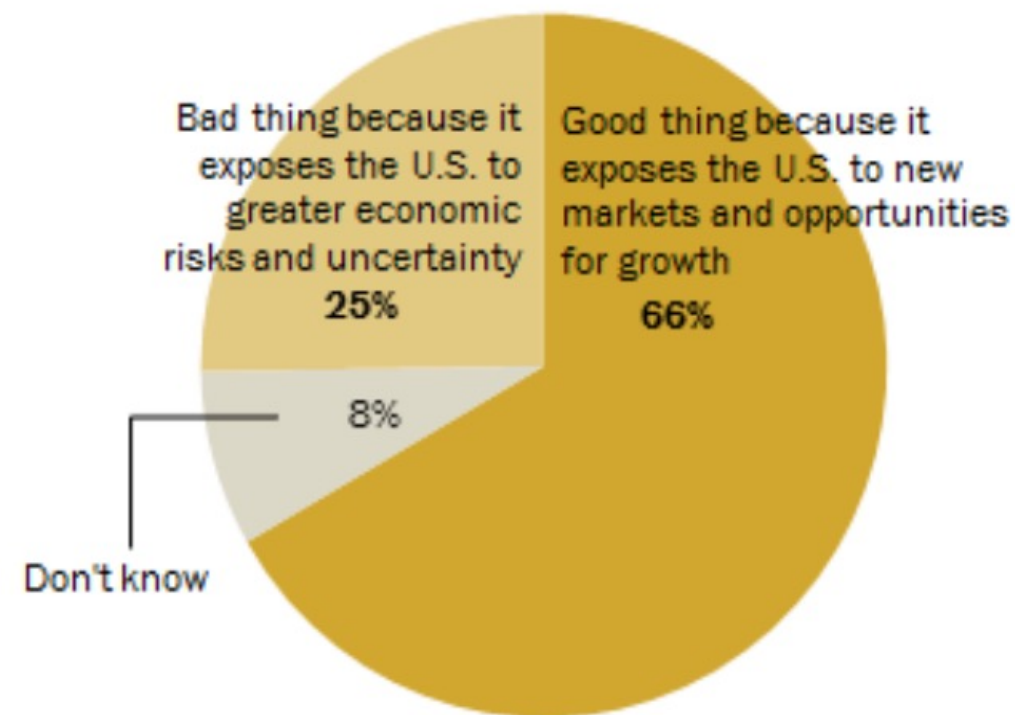
Source: America's Place in the World 2013. General public: PEW2d (Omnibus). 1964-1991 data from Gallup.

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3. What has been the overall trend in U.S. opinion about the United States "minding its own business internationally?"
4. There are three distinct intervals where the graph increases: from 1964 to 1976, 1979 to 1995, and from 2003 to 2013. Why do you think that is? (i.e. what was going on with foreign politics during those times that might reflect this trend?)

Two-Thirds Say Greater U.S. Involvement In Global Economy Is a Good Thing

Greater U.S. involvement in global economy is a ...



Source: America's Place in the World 2013. General public: Q41.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

5. What is the majority opinion about greater U.S. involvement in the global economy?

Many of Public's Top Foreign Policy Goals Reflect Domestic Concerns

% saying each should be a top policy priority ...

	General Public	CFR Members
	%	%
Protecting U.S. from terrorist attacks	83	76
Protecting jobs of American workers	81	29
Preventing spread of weapons of mass destruction	73	81
Reducing dependence on imported energy sources	61	47
Combating international drug trafficking	57	17
Reducing illegal immigration	48	11
Strengthening the United Nations	37	17
Dealing w/ global climate change	37	57
Promoting and defending human rights in other countries	33	19
Helping improve living standards in developing nations	23	25
Promoting democracy in other nations	18	12

Source: America's Place in the World 2013. General public: Q33. CFR: Q17.

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6. Looking at the table to the left, what types of policies do people think the United States should focus on?

7. What are the types of policies that people are reporting as less concerning to them?

America's Place in the World



According to the information presented in the graphs, what does the general public value? I.e. how do Americans, or the general public, feel about The United States' current foreign policy? Use specific evidence from the graphs and tables to support your response.

Homework!

Active Assignments



Week 12

To begin, select an activity from All Activities

[Select New Activity](#) 



All Activities

Completion: 0/5 (0%)



No Due Date