

08 – Foreign Policy

The United States should lead by example as a beacon of freedom and democracy, working within the world community in a spirit of peace, cooperation, and generosity, using democratic ideals with diplomacy and mutual respect, not force.

We believe:

- In order to realize a sustainable, nonviolent world, the United States must promote human welfare and a healthy environment for all peoples;
- We must refuse to conduct preemptive war and must make nonviolence the primary organizing principle of our foreign policy;
- We must protect our nation from terrorist attacks without suppressing basic human rights;
- The United States should work closely and persistently with other countries to prevent or stop genocide, in Darfur and elsewhere;
- The United States should provide proportionate assistance and work with other nations to build a more peaceful and stable world by addressing root causes of conflict, including poverty, inequitable access to natural resources, economic injustice, and environmental degradation;
- Our government should not engage in covert efforts to destabilize other nations' governments.

We call for:

- Providing military and foreign aid only to those nations that support human and civil rights;
- Honoring and upholding the rights, welfare, and healthy environment of all indigenous people;
- Freezing the assets of leaders of repressive regimes and banning military exports to such countries, instead of imposing sanctions that harm the civilian population;
- The pursuit of peace through nonviolent conflict resolution;
- A genuine, open multilateral approach to foreign policy, including participation in multilateral peacekeeping missions;
- Revision of the War Powers Act to assure that Congress can declare an end to a war;
- Cooperative participation in the United Nations and the full payment of our U.N. dues, the signing and ratification of the U.N. agreement forming an International Criminal Court and the recognition of its jurisdiction, , ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, and honoring the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

- 42 • An effective, comprehensive plan to ensure our security while protecting our
43 constitutional rights and the human rights of all;
- 44 • Working with other nations to pursue police action against terrorist
45 networks;
- 46 • The signing of the Land Mine Ban Treaty, the Comprehensive Test Ban
47 Treaty, and the 2010 START treaty, and complying with the Geneva
48 Conventions, the Biological and Chemical Weapons Conventions, and other
49 treaties protecting civilian populations and addressing climate change;
- 50 • Effective foreign aid to reduce poverty, improve health and education,
51 provide sustainable access to safe water and food free of contaminants, and
52 prevent and treat pandemic and endemic diseases;
- 53 • Restoring programs that support family planning worldwide;
- 54 • Prohibiting United States companies from engaging in practices abroad that
55 would be prohibited at home, such as dumping of products and importing
56 products made by exploiting the environment, local communities and people;
- 57 • Prohibiting multinational corporations, their affiliates, subsidiaries and/or
58 franchises from operating in violation of international law;
- 59 • Outlawing the sale and importation of all products of slave labor and child
60 labor in the United States;
- 61 • Fair trade among nations based on sound environmental principles,
62 sustainable agriculture and manufacturing, and democratic and economic
63 rights of the workforce;
- 64 • Renegotiating international trade agreements to deal adequately and
65 transparently with human rights, labor rights, and environmental rights and
66 laws;
- 67 • The expeditious and orderly withdrawal of all United States military forces,
68 bases, and private security forces from Iraq, redirecting U.S. efforts toward
69 repatriation of Iraqi refugees, helping the Iraqis repair their infrastructure,
70 and encouraging multilateral diplomatic efforts to create and preserve peace
71 in the region;
- 72 • Developing and implementing an orderly, complete and timely exit strategy
73 for all United States combat forces from Afghanistan, and fostering long-term
74 stability and open government in Pakistan and Afghanistan with a
75 substantial contribution to education;
- 76 • Supporting Muslim nations in their efforts to prevent the radicalization of
77 Islam;
- 78 • Serious, full, constructive, and persistent United States engagement to
79 promote negotiations and other actions that will lead to a peaceful,
80 sustainable resolution of the Israeli–Palestinian conflict, based on mutual
81 recognition and ensuring security, economic growth, and quality of life for
82 the peoples of a sovereign state of Palestine and the sovereign state of Israel;

- 83 • Prompt negotiations, consistent with the United States recommitment to a
84 nuclear-free world, between Iran and the IAEA, to put in place revised and
85 enhanced nuclear safeguard and inspection agreements;
- 86 • Political and economic self-determination for the Cuban people and
87 normalization of relations with Cuba, including an end to the United States-
88 imposed embargo and travel ban;
- 89 • Closing the School of the Americas, also known as the Western Hemispheric
90 Institute for Security Cooperation, and ending the use United States tax
91 money to fund, train or sponsor military or police forces that suppress human
92 and civil rights in foreign countries;
- 93 • Reduction of nuclear arsenals, strengthening international control of fissile
94 material, and nonproliferation of nuclear weapons by limiting use of fissile
95 material to peaceful purposes;
- 96 • Forgiving onerous debt of countries forced to choose between debt
97 repayment and essential services;
- 98 • The United States government's working with transnational corporations
99 and lending institutions, the International Monetary Fund, and the World
100 Bank to improve regulation of financial systems to prevent economic
101 disruptions and to develop better ways to refinance countries' debts without
102 compelling privatization of government services.

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104 **We oppose:**

- 105 • The production, testing, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, as well as
106 the development of new or enhanced nuclear weapons;
- 107 • The use of depleted uranium as a weapon;
- 108 • Exportation of offensive weapons systems that contribute to destabilization in
109 international relations and contribute to the international arms race;
- 110 • Extraordinary rendition, the abduction of persons of any nationality, their
111 detention in secret prisons, and torture, as illegal and immoral;
- 112 • Using fear as a rallying cry for extended wars and conflict;
- 113 • Rape as a tool of war and the lack of action to stop such rape, which destroys
114 societies, from occurring;
- 115 • Governmental destabilizing operations against Iranian Republic, recognizing
116 that only Iranians can ensure the development of democracy in their country.