



AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN THE WORLD

The President has refocused and reaffirmed American leadership in the world, recognizing that American strength derives not only from our military power but also our economic vitality, the depth and breadth of our global partnerships, and our values. In doing so, the President has remained relentless in taking action against terrorist networks, while also focusing on key emerging regions and policies that will shape the 21st century.

■ Strength Through Historic Diplomacy and Collective Action

- Built an international coalition to impose sanctions on Iran and secured an agreement to verifiably prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon
- Secured the New START agreement, made substantial reductions in the U.S. nuclear stockpile, and reduced the role of nuclear weapons in our security strategy
- Led global efforts to secure nuclear materials to prevent them from falling into the hands of terrorists
- Secured bilateral agreements with China, India, Brazil, South Africa, and Mexico to reduce carbon emissions and combat climate change
- Secured an ambitious and enduring agreement among 196 countries to take real action on climate change that calls for strong transparency and reporting of national emissions, ensuring countries adhere to their goals and setting the world on a course to cut carbon pollution and other greenhouse gases
- Normalized relations with Cuba, ending a failed policy of over 50 years by re-establishing diplomatic relations and facilitating greater travel, commerce, and people-to-people ties
- Advanced a broader Latin America strategy through Central American development and security, support for the Colombia peace process, and the 100,000 Strong educational program
- Led international efforts to end the Ebola epidemic in West Africa, shoring up public health systems both at home and abroad
- Maintained the largest investment by any nation to put an AIDS-free generation within our reach
- Committed the United States to the Sustainable Development Goals, including halving the number of people living in poverty by 2030
- Ensured the United States remained the world's largest donor in humanitarian aid for refugees and displaced persons around the world
- Led the campaign that mobilized \$22 billion in food security and agriculture assistance through programs like New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition and Feed the Future

- Launched the Power Africa Initiative to double access to electricity in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Launched initiatives to build ties with young leaders of tomorrow in Africa, Southeast Asia, and Latin America
- Joined the First Lady in launching the Let Girls Learn Initiative, a government-wide approach to support adolescent girls education around the world

■ Strength Through National Security and American Values

- Responsibly ended the U.S. combat missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, bringing home some 90 percent of the nearly 180,000 American troops deployed in those countries when President Obama took office
- Dismantled al Qaeda's leadership, including the operation that killed Osama bin Laden
- Established a comprehensive, government-wide strategy and is leading a 65-member coalition to degrade and ultimately destroy ISIL
- Built a network of counter-terrorism partnerships from South Asia to the Sahel to combat ISIL and al Qaeda affiliates
- Through Operation Atlantic Resolve and the European Reassurance Initiative, took immediate, lasting steps to assure our allies and bolster NATO collective defense in light of a changing European security environment
- Working together with European and other international partners, pursued a diplomatic solution to the crisis in Ukraine and helped the Ukraine sustain its economic commitments, stabilize its economy, and continue to implement its reform agenda, while developing a set of sanctions to increase pressure on Russia to cease its efforts to undermine Ukraine's security and stability
- Promoted an open, secure, and reliable cyberspace by issuing the U.S. International Strategy for Cyberspace, the Cybersecurity Framework, and executive orders for critical infrastructure cybersecurity and sanctioning malicious cyber actors, and securing cybersecurity information sharing legislation

- Charged suspected terrorists in Article III Federal Courts – like Abu Khattalah, Ahmed Abdulkadir Warsame, Abu Anas al-Libi, and others
- Prohibited torture
- Established clear guidelines, oversight, and accountability for direct action — including with remotely piloted aircraft — outside areas of active hostilities and intelligence activities
- Expanded areas of cooperation with China while candidly addressing differences on human rights, cybersecurity, and the South China Sea

■ Strength Through the Asia Rebalance and 21st Century Opportunity

- Negotiated and concluded the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), a 12-country agreement representing nearly 40 percent of global economic output, to increase American trade with the fastest growing region in the world, based on an open, transparent, and level playing field
- Modernized alliances with Japan and South Korea
- Concluded new defense agreements with Australia and the Philippines that allow for the forward deployment of U.S. military assets for security cooperation and rapid response throughout the Asia-Pacific region
- Deepened relations with key emerging partners like Singapore, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Malaysia
- Forged a new, partnership with India that includes closer cooperation on development and trade; defense and security; and clean energy and combatting climate change
- Strengthened the Asia-Pacific region’s institutional architecture through direct presidential engagements — such as ASEAN, EAS, and APEC — to reinforce their important role in establishing a rules-based order with common norms and principles
- Supported Burma’s ongoing transition to democracy by establishing a U.S. Ambassador in Rangoon, increasing assistance, and closely monitoring the first successful elections resulting in a peaceful transfer of power in Burma’s history

Over the course of his time in office, President Obama has chosen to pursue engagement over the use of force – making it a hallmark of the Administration’s promotion of America’s national security interests and the safety of the American people. Through strong and smart, resilient and relentless policies, the President is leveraging every aspect of American power to ensure our homeland remains safe and America remains the global leader of the 21st century.

See more on the President’s record on foreign policy at
[WH.gov/the-record/foreign-policy](https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-record/foreign-policy)