
The RECORD

President Obama *on* Foreign Policy

AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN THE WORLD

When President Obama took office in 2009, America was engaged in two costly wars, faced a global economic crisis, and had a diminished standing with our allies and around 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.

Historic Diplomacy and Collective Action

- Secured a landmark multilateral deal to roll back the Iranian nuclear program and verify that Iran cannot obtain a nuclear weapon
- Built a historic opening to Cuba, ending a failed policy of over 50 years by re-establishing diplomatic relations and facilitating greater travel, commerce, and people-to-people ties
- Led global effort to achieve the Paris Agreement among 196 countries to take real action on climate change that calls for strong transparency, ensuring countries adhere to ambitious emissions reduction goals and setting the world on a course to cut carbon pollution and other greenhouse gases
- Secured bilateral agreements with China, India, Brazil, South Africa, and Mexico to reduce carbon emissions and combat climate change

- Ensured the United States remained the world’s largest donor in humanitarian aid for refugees and displaced persons around the world, safely increased refugees accepted in the United States, and spurred global action with international and private sector partners in response to the worst refugee crisis since World War II
- Led international efforts to end the Ebola epidemic in West Africa, and established the Global Health Security Agenda to shore up public health systems both at home and abroad
- 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 through four Nuclear Security Summits
- Through Operation Atlantic Resolve and the European Reassurance Initiative, took lasting steps to assure our allies and bolster NATO collective defense
- Worked with European and other international partners toward a diplomatic solution for the crisis in Ukraine, enforced sanctions to increase pressure on Russia to cease its efforts to undermine Ukraine’s security and stability, and helped Ukraine implement its reform agenda
- Advanced a broader Latin America strategy through Central American development and security and the 100,000 Strong educational program
- Supported security and diplomatic efforts to achieve peace in Colombia, ending Latin America’s longest running conflict
- Strengthened cooperation with the United States’ closest neighbors – Mexico and Canada – to secure our borders and grow the regional economy
- Provided the single largest military assistance package in U.S. history to Israel with a 10-year agreement affirming the unbreakable bonds between our countries.
- Strengthened global institutions by mobilizing the United Nations with multiple Head-of-State summits, promoting the G-20 as the premier international economic forum, joining the UN Human Rights Council, and making the World Bank and International Monetary Fund more representative

National Security and American Values

- Built a network of sustainable counterterrorism partnerships from South Asia to the Sahel
- Responsibly ended the U.S. combat missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, bringing home over 90 percent of the nearly 180,000 American troops deployed to 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 68-member Coalition to degrade and ultimately destroy ISIL
- Prosecuted suspected terrorists effectively in U.S. courts – like Faisal Shahzad, Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, and others
- Banned the use of torture, which has since been codified by law
- Established clear guidelines, oversight, and accountability for counterterrorism operations — including with unmanned drones — and increased transparency regarding U.S. use of military force against terrorist targets
- Reformed how the United States conducts intelligence collection to strengthen oversight, enhance privacy protections, protect civil liberties, and ensure national security professionals have the tools needed to keep Americans safe
- Engaged in sustained diplomacy to safely lower the population of Guantanamo from 242 detainees in 2008 to under 60 in 2016, despite Congressional efforts to block the costly facility's responsible closure
- Improved the organization of federal efforts to bring home Americans held hostage overseas and provide support to their families
- Combated the rise of radicalization by empowering community-led efforts and sustained engagement between credible, moderate voices and those most susceptible to hateful rhetoric on the platforms where violent extremist ideology is spread
- Promoted diversity and inclusion as an indispensable asset and strategic imperative in the United States' national security workforce of more than three million dedicated military and civilian personnel

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
- Expanded areas of cooperation with China while candidly addressing differences on human rights, cybersecurity, and the South China Sea
- 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, Laos, and Malaysia
- Forged a 21st century partnership with India that includes closer cooperation on development and trade; defense and security; and clean energy and combating climate change
- Strengthened the Asia-Pacific region's institutional architecture through direct presidential engagements in multilateral fora like ASEAN, EAS, and APEC to reinforce their important role in establishing a rules-based order with common norms and principles
- Supported Burma's historic transition to democracy by establishing a U.S. ambassador in Rangoon, increasing assistance, closely monitoring the first successful elections resulting in a peaceful transfer of power in Burma's history, and lifting sanctions to bring Burma into the global economy

National and Economic Security in Cyberspace

- Built a national strategy to raise the level of our cybersecurity; deter, disrupt, and interfere with malicious cyber activity aimed at the United States or our allies; and respond effectively to and recover from cyber incidents, the capstone of which is the Cybersecurity National Action Plan (CNAP)
- Instituted a cybersecurity framework to raise the level of cybersecurity in our public, private, and consumer sectors to empower Americans to take better control of their digital security
- Directed the creation of a nonpartisan Commission on Enhancing National Cybersecurity, including experts from the public and private sectors and academia, who assessed the state of cybersecurity in the United States and recommended bold, actionable steps to bolster our security in today's digital world
- Directed the Federal Government to take new actions in responding to and recovering from cyber incidents
- Established the Cyber Threat Intelligence Integration Center (CTIIC) to integrate all U.S. intelligence and analysis of malicious cyber threats to the nation
- Authorized the imposition of economic sanctions on any malicious cyber actors seeking to harm critical infrastructure, damage computer systems, or steal trade secrets and sensitive information

Development Based on Real Outcomes and Real Lives

- Launched initiatives to build ties with young leaders of tomorrow in Africa, Southeast Asia, Latin America, and Europe

- Committed the United States to the Sustainable Development Goals, including halving the number of people living in poverty by 2030
- Led the campaign that mobilized \$22 billion in food security and agriculture assistance through programs like the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition and Feed the Future
- Maintained the largest investment by any nation to put an AIDS-free generation within our reach
- Launched the Power Africa Initiative to double access to electricity in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Joined the First Lady in launching the Let Girls Learn Initiative, a government-wide approach to support adolescent girls education around the world
- Partnered with fragile states to promote inclusive politics, effective and equitable service delivery, security and rule of law reform, and increased economic opportunity, particularly among youth and women

Strength and Resilience at Home

- Created the National Preparedness System to increase support to local communities, secure critical infrastructure nationwide, and work with private sector partners to prevent, respond, and recover from threats and hazards
- Increased community resilience to flood, earthquakes, drought, and wildfire across the United States and effectively managed response and recovery efforts for a growing number of yearly natural disasters
- Deployed TSA PreCheck, an expedited traveler screening program which has now enrolled over four million passengers, while ensuring passenger security on domestic and international flights through the use of improved terrorist watch list matching