

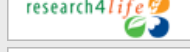
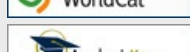
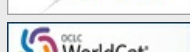
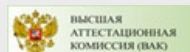


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FOREIGN POLICY EXPERTISE IN THE U.S.

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Abstract

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Abstract

American expert community emerged as an influential component of the national political establishment and is able to affect significantly foreign policy of the country. The article seeks to analyze the current state of the foreign policy expertise in the U.S. It identifies functional objective determining activities of the expert community, related both to the clarification of foreign policy ideology and to the achieving greater efficiency in foreign policy. The author also studies the issues related to funding of expertise, including the amount of accumulated financial resources and numerous private sources it comes from. Finally, he examines the foreign policy discourse in the U.S., defined by competing approaches developed by multiple think tankers.

Keywords

[foreign policy ideology](#), [think tanks](#), [foreign policy](#), [USA](#), [expert community](#), [policy of Barack Obama administration](#), [neoconservatives](#), [liberals](#), [foreign policy realism](#).

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The United States is the largest foreign aid donor in the world, accounting for about 24% of total official development assistance from major donor governments in 2017 (the latest year for which these data are available). Key foreign assistance trends in the past decade include growth in development aid, particularly global health programs; increased security assistance directed toward U.S. allies in the anti-terrorism effort; and high levels of humanitarian assistance to address a range of crises. 1 Other tools of U.S. foreign policy are the U.S. defense establishment, the diplomatic corps, public diplomacy, and trade policy. American defense capabilities, even if not employed, stand as a potential stick that can be wielded to obtain specific objectives. The debates held in the US foreign policy on the Middle East and particularly on Syria during the presidency of Barack Obama are reminiscent of the debates held in the period between 1953-1961, when Dwight Eisenhower was the US president. The fact of Obama having referred to Eisenhower in some of his statements led indeed some specialists and journalists in the American political circles to comment on the resemblance of Obama's foreign policy to Eisenhower's. The officially stated goals of the foreign policy of the United States, including all the Bureaus and Offices in the United States Department of State,[1] as mentioned in the Foreign Policy Agenda of the Department of State, are "to build and sustain a more democratic, secure, and prosperous world for the benefit of the American people and the international community." [foreign policy also has been characterized by a shift from the realist school to the idealistic or Wilsonian school of international relations.[6]. The Jay Treaty of 1795 aligned the U.S. more with Britain and less with France, leading to political polarization at home. The United States exercises its foreign policy through economic aid. For example, famine relief in North Korea provides not only humanitarian assistance but also a foothold for the development of democratic ideals and institutions. George Washington's Farewell Address in 1789 contained one major piece of advice to the country regarding relations with other nations: "avoid entangling alliances." If isolationism has become outdated, what kind of foreign policy does the United States follow? In the years after World War II, the United States was guided generally by containment — the policy of keeping communism from spreading beyond the countries already under its influence. The policy applied to a world divided by the Cold War, a struggle between the United States and the Soviet Union. For too long, foreign policy experts have isolated themselves from the public. Confined to the coastal cities, experts have failed to engage citizens where they live. Instead, experts typically tell the public what must be done instead of presenting multiple options from which the public can choose. Although the landscape of foreign policy expertise in 2017 is recognizable as the ground tilled in 1947, today the system is different. With the end of the Cold War, experts and the public lost a shared rationale for U.S. foreign policy. What alternative approach to foreign policy is needed? "patient and systematic investigation of phenomena and the exploration of causes and consequences?" Kuk

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