



Government Policies

Instructional Slides



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

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Topic 3: The United States in World Affairs



Framing Question:
How have foreign policy decisions affected the United States at home and abroad?



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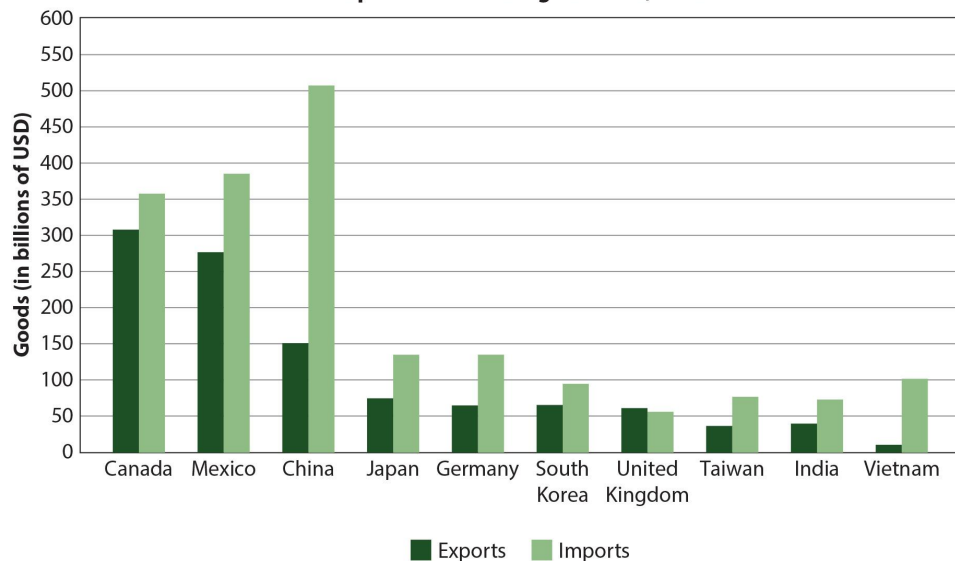


Soldiers from the NATO peacekeeping force in Kosovo (KFOR) push through smoke from a grenade as part of a training exercise.



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Top Ten U.S. Trading Partners, 2022



The United States participates in an extensive network of global trade. In 2022, its three largest trading partners were Canada, Mexico, and China. Notice that in most cases, the United States imports considerably more goods (by dollar value) than it exports to a given country.



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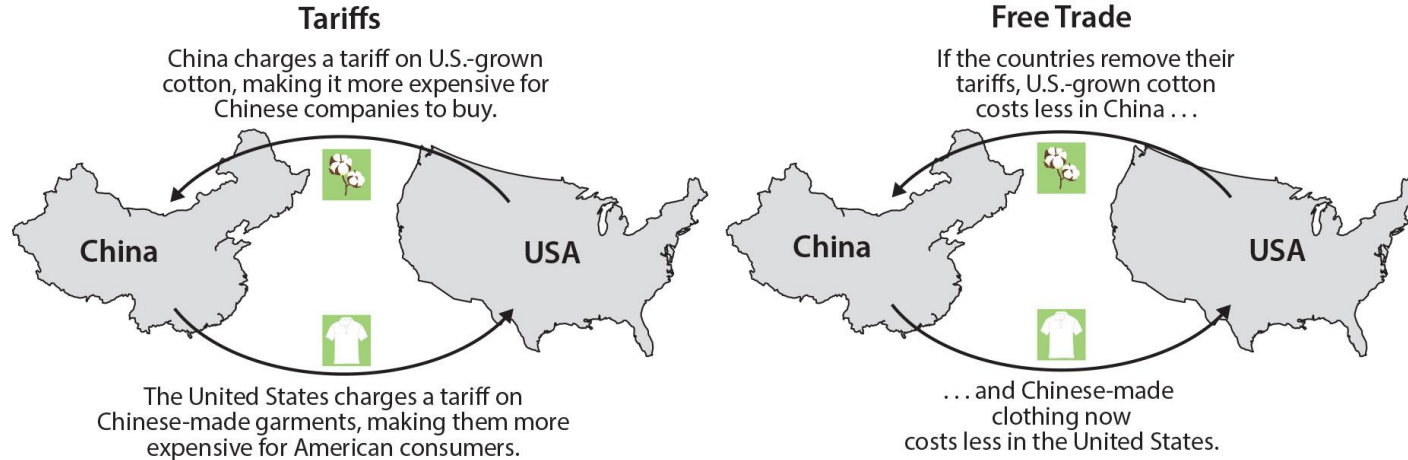


The impact of globalization can be seen in the rise of multinational brands. This photo from Hong Kong International Airport shows the global spread of fast-food restaurants that serve recognizably American fare, including cheeseburgers, bagels, and fried chicken.



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Tariffs Versus Free Trade



Tariffs raise the prices of imports, both raw materials and manufactured goods. This makes domestic goods more attractive and affordable by comparison.

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Benefits and Drawbacks of Free Trade

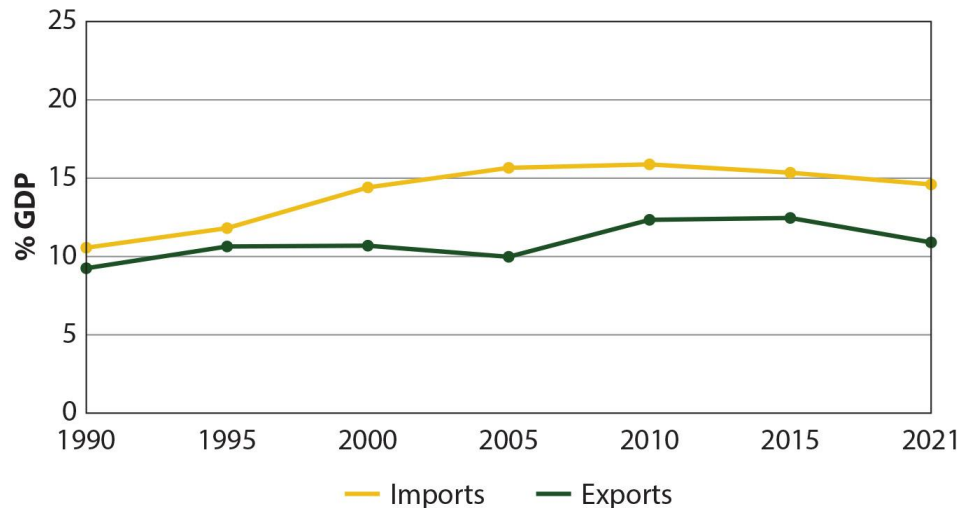
Benefits	Drawbacks
Increase in economic performance	Increase in jobs sent overseas
Global knowledge transfer	Harm to natural resources
More variety and lower prices for consumers	Potential overdependence on trade partners

There are both pros and cons to free trade, some of which are listed in this table.

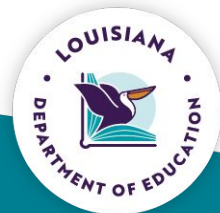


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U.S. Imports and Exports as a Percentage of Gross Domestic Product



This graph shows U.S. imports and exports as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP). Often considered an economic “vital sign,” a country’s GDP is the total value of goods and services produced within its borders.



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Freight transport via trucks and trains is a critical part of the U.S. economy. Changes in fuel prices or availability can have a ripple effect on prices in many other sectors.



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The U.S. government maintains a quota on imported sugar to encourage domestic sales and production. Here, sugarcane is harvested in south Louisiana.



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This World War I-era cartoon shows a gloved hand, adorned with the German eagle, carving up a map of the United States. The depiction of the German Empire as violent and greedy — reserving an enormous portion of the country “For Myself” — echoes popular sentiment in the United States following the discovery of the Zimmermann Telegram.

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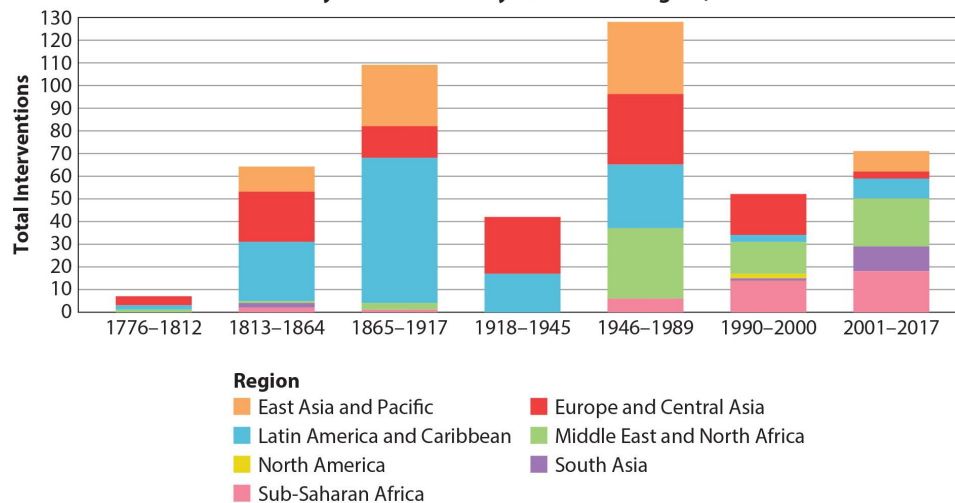


On December 8, 1941, the day after the Pearl Harbor attack, President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan. That declaration, which Roosevelt is shown signing, brought an abrupt end to a decade of American isolationism.



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U.S. Military Interventions by Period and Region, 1776–2017



This graph of historical U.S. military interventions — the use of military forces in another country's affairs — coincides with some of the major trends in U.S. foreign policy



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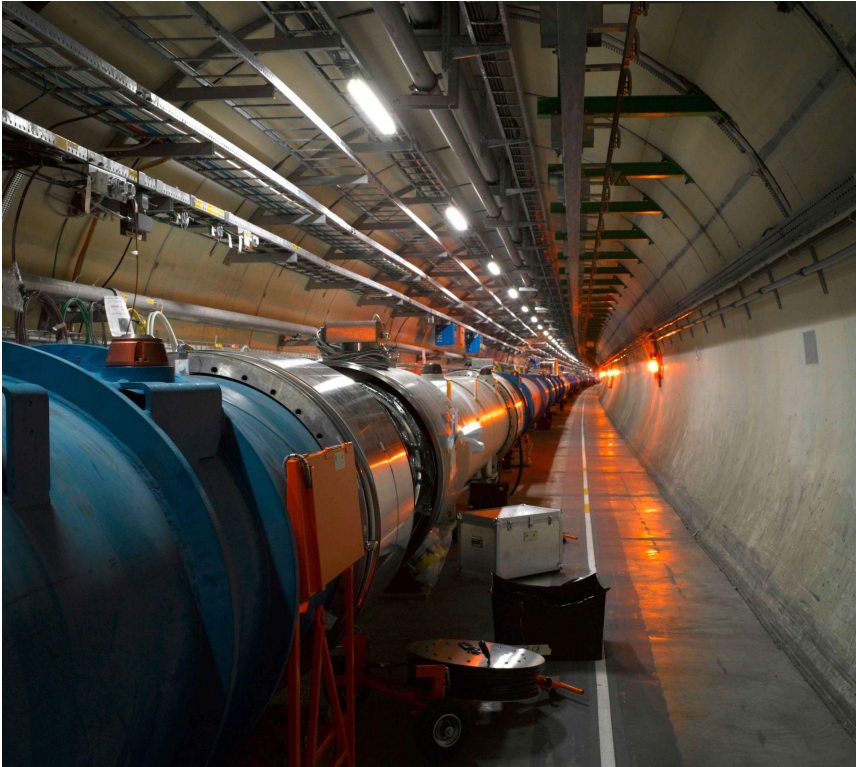
The United States allocates different amounts of aid money to different countries, with humanitarian aid — including food — and health care being the top spending categories. Most of this aid is managed by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).



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The instruments used in international physics research can be truly gigantic in both size and cost. The Large Hadron Collider, shown here, cost almost \$5 billion to build and occupies a tunnel seventeen miles (27 km) long.

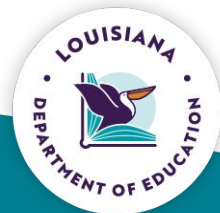


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International and Supranational Organizations

Organization	Purpose
International Monetary Fund (IMF)	Supports global economic growth and prosperity
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)	Cooperatively guarantees security and freedom
United Nations (UN)	Maintains international security and peace through diplomacy, cooperation, and protection of human rights
World Bank	Works to reduce poverty and build long-term economic growth
World Trade Organization (WTO)	Promotes trade in the interest of economic growth and increased standards of living

Over the past century, several international and supranational organizations have been established in the interest of global security, health, and prosperity.



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The multibuilding headquarters of the United Nations, which includes the General Assembly Hall shown here, is located in New York City. The physical site of the headquarters is owned by the UN, through a special-status agreement with the United States.



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