

Masaryk University

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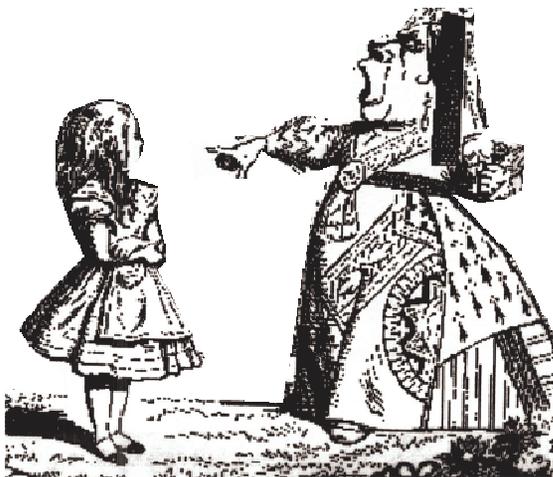
U.S. National Security Policy
& the Elements of Nat'l
Security Policy

What is “National Security?”
What are its components?
How wide-ranging is the term?

... Predicting Nat'l Security Policy

Understanding the 90% on the bottom from the 10% on the top

“I hold that man is in the right who is most closely in league with the future.” –Norwegian Playwright, Henrik Ibsen



“There is no use trying,” said Alice, “one cannot believe impossible things.” - Lewis Carroll

“But, how do you tell?” Richardson



Concepts for Nat'l Security Policy Analysis

National Security Policy Precedents

National Security Policy-Making

National Interests

Vital Interests

Domestic Politics

Policy legitimacy

National Power

National Security Policy – Our Working Definition

“The pattern of government decisions & actions intended to counter perceived threats to America’s national interests, and especially America’s vital interests.”

Key Questions for the Course

What are America's "national interests?"

What are America's "vital interests?"

Who determines American "national interests?" "Vital interests?"

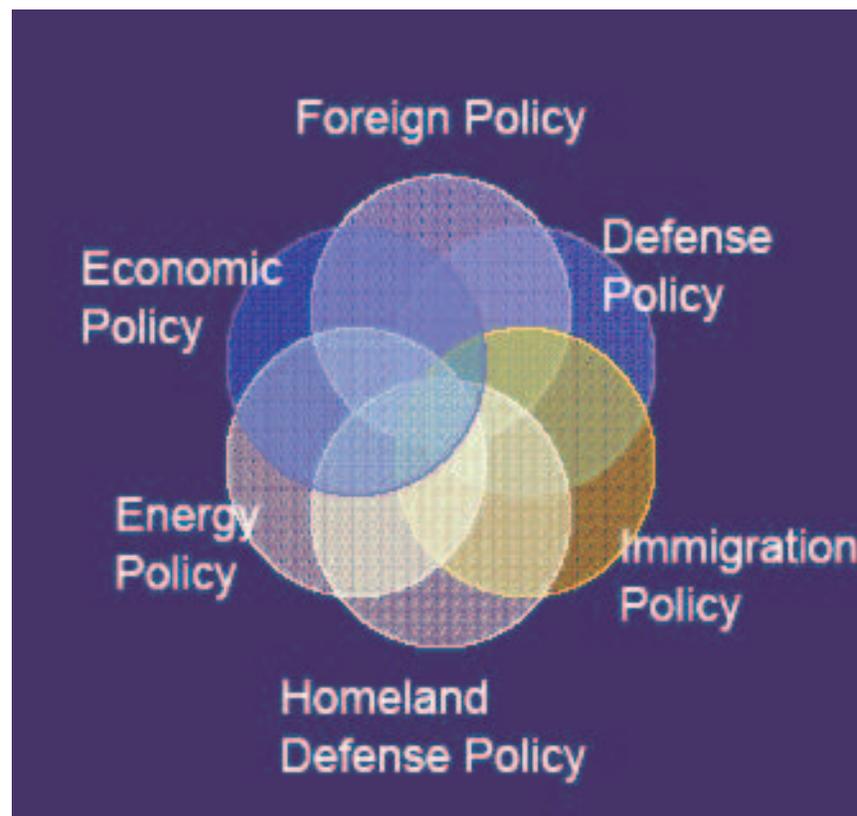
Key Questions for the Course:

Who and what
threatens those
interests?

How do we determine
threats?

What actions should we
take to protect those
interests?

Who determines
priorities?



Further Definition of US National Security Policy (USNSP)

Pattern of government decisions & actions intended to counter perceived threats to America's national interests

$$\text{Policy} = \sum_{\text{time}} \sum_{\text{players}} \text{decision, laws, rules, actions}$$

History matters

Prior decisions matter

Prior actions/inactions

Prior events, precedents