

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
Ministry of Higher Education
and Scientific Research
University of 8 Mai 1945 GUELMA



وزارة التعليم العالي
والبحث العلمي
جامعة 8 ماي 1945 قالمة

*The Doctoral Training Committee in the Department of
English Language organise:*

*The First Research Seminar for the Benefit of Doctoral
Students entitled:*

*The Intellectual and Ideological
Underpinnings of United States
Foreign Policy*

05-06 November 2023



*Chaired by:
Dr. Amina M'li*

*Room:
BiB01*



Preamble:

The United States' foreign policy has been shaped by a complex interplay of intellectual and ideological currents, reflecting the nation's historical development and responses to global challenges. The intellectual underpinnings of US foreign policy have drawn from a diverse array of political thought, influencing the nation's approach to diplomacy, security, and international relations.

One foundational element is the concept of American exceptionalism, which posits that the United States has a unique and distinct mission in the world. Rooted in a sense of moral duty and destiny, this idea has shaped American perceptions of its role in promoting democracy, freedom, and prosperity on a global scale.

Throughout its history, the US has grappled with various ideological frameworks in crafting its foreign policy. In the aftermath of World War II, the emergence of the Cold War led to the dominance of containment as a guiding principle. The ideological struggle against communism became a central tenet, influencing policy decisions and alliances. This period also witnessed the rise of liberal internationalism, which advocated for international cooperation, institutions, and the spread of democratic values.

The neoliberal turn in economic thinking, particularly during the late 20th century, brought market-oriented policies to the forefront of US foreign policy. The promotion of free trade, open markets, and economic liberalization became key objectives, reflecting a belief in the benefits of globalization and free-market capitalism.

The post-Cold War era saw a shift in focus to issues of human rights, humanitarian intervention, and the promotion of democracy. The concept of "democratic peace theory" gained prominence, suggesting that democracies are less likely to go to war with one another, influencing US support for democratization efforts around the world.

In the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, the War on Terror became a defining feature of US foreign policy. This period saw a renewed emphasis on security, counterterrorism efforts, and the use of military force to combat perceived threats to national security.

It is important to note that these intellectual and ideological underpinnings are not mutually exclusive, and US foreign policy often reflects a pragmatic blending of various ideas in response to changing global circumstances. The ongoing evolution of these underpinnings continues to shape how the United States engages with the world, balancing its national interests with the promotion of values it deems central to its identity as a nation.

The ideological underpinnings of United States foreign policy from 2015 onward have been characterized by a notable shift in priorities and approach. The election of Donald Trump in 2016 marked a departure from traditional foreign policy norms, with the "America First" agenda becoming a defining principle. This nationalist stance emphasized prioritizing US interests over global commitments, leading to a reassessment of alliances, trade agreements, and international institutions. Economic nationalism took centre stage, manifested in trade renegotiations and tariff disputes, particularly with China. The emphasis on counterterrorism



and national security persisted, maintaining a focus on addressing global threats. A recalibration of alliances, with an emphasis on burden-sharing, and a heightened emphasis on great power competition, notably with China, reflected a strategic reorientation. Despite these shifts, human rights and democracy promotion continued to be integral to US rhetoric and actions. The subsequent transition to the Biden administration in 2021 witnessed a partial return to multilateralism, reaffirmation of traditional alliances, and an increased focus on global challenges such as climate change. This evolving ideological landscape underscores the dynamic nature of US foreign policy responses to changing global circumstances in Europe and Middle East.



Schedule of the First Research Seminar on:

*The Intellectual and Ideological Underpinnings of
United States Foreign Policy*

Sunday 05 November 2023 (10:00-12:00)

Chair: Dr. Amina M'fili

Presenters	Title	Time
Bouguerra Noor El Houda	US Humanitarian Intervention in Libya and Non-Intervention in Syria (2011)	10:10
Younes Meriem	US Involvement in Somalia: from a humanitarian intervention to an interminable war (1992-1994)	10:25
Himri Roumayssa	The Religious Narrative of US Foreign Policy in the Aftermaths of Al-Aqsa Flood Operation (2023)	10:40
Meciad Meriem	Analysing the International Relations in the MENA Regions: a case study of US involvement in Libya (2011)	10:45



Monday 06 November 2023 (11:00-13:00)

Chair: Dr. Amina M'fili

<i>Presenters</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Time</i>
Allag Samah	US Foreign Policy towards Iran and its Nuclear Program: Accusations and Sanctions	11:40
Boubedra Meryem	US Foreign Policy towards the Zionist - Palestinian Conflict (2023)	11:55
Larafa Rahma	Double Standards in US Foreign Policy: a comparative analysis of human rights violations in: Russia - Ukraine"; 'Palestine – Zionist Entity' (2023)	12:10
Korichi Rabie	US Policy towards China: Reasons behind Tensions and Implications	12:30