Generic Negative: Hegemony

By “Coach Vance” Trefethen

**Resolved: The United States Federal Government should considerably reduce its military commitments**

Generic Negative against any case reducing US military commitments. "Hegemony" (he-GEM-oh-nee) is leadership, or direction, where other nations do things our way because we have the most influence and power in the world. It allows many things to function and maintains a higher level of world peace and stability than would be possible without it. Reducing US military commitments means reducing US leadership in the world. If that happens, bad guys (like Russia and China) will gain influence and the world will be much worse off.  
When to run this brief: When you don't have enough specific "on case" evidence or arguments to fill the 1NC or 2NC.  
How to run this brief: You don't need to read every card in the brief every time you use it (although you could if you wanted to). All the arguments in this brief are Disadvantages, so signpost to the judge that you are running one or more disadvantages based on loss of US hegemony. Pick one or two cards from the "Links to Everything" and explain how the AFF plan links to the issues raised in that evidence. Read one or two of the "Brinks to Everything" to show how right now is a critical time NOT to be cutting US military commitments, since it could push us over the brink of losing US hegemony in the world. Then pick the specific example(s) you want to argue that best apply to the case, and pick the specific pieces of evidence that best fit. You don't have to read all of them, just pick the ones that best fit your situation and that you have time to fit into your 8 minute speech. Worst case (if none of the specific examples seem to fit very well) you can read the generic links, generic brink, and impacts and skip the specific examples.  
Be sure to leave a minute or two at the end of the speech to read at least one of the "Impact" cards, because a Disadvantage doesn't matter and is not a voting issue in the round until someone gets hurt by an impact. The same generic Impact cards at the end of the brief will apply to any of the "Specific Example" scenarios. The Russia scenario also has its own specific impact card that applies only to it.

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Generic Negative: Losing US Hegemony

LINKS TO EVERYTHING

Disregarding our allies weakens US hegemony because we need them to maintain global leadership

Ashley Tellis 2020 (Tata Chair for Strategic Affairs and a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He is also a counselor at the National Bureau of Asian Research and the research director of the Strategic Asia Program) 4 May 2020 "COVID-19 Knocks on American Hegemony" <https://carnegieendowment.org/2020/05/04/covid-19-knocks-on-american-hegemony-pub-81719>

This disregard for the alliance system that the United States has carefully nurtured now for over half a century is grounded fundamentally in a failure to appreciate its importance for both the effectiveness and the legitimacy of American primacy in international politics. All previous administrations intuitively understood the benefits that the alliances provided in material, institutional, and ideational terms and consequently sought to preserve, if not actually deepen, them. The Covid-19 pandemic ordinarily would have stimulated the United States to lead a collective response, if not globally, then at least involving its allies and partners because this crisis was both genuinely transnational and immediately affected U.S. interests as well those of its closest friends in Europe and Asia.

US should be increasing, not decreasing, its commitment to allies right now. It's essential to maintaining US hegemony

Ashley Tellis 2020 (Tata Chair for Strategic Affairs and a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He is also a counselor at the National Bureau of Asian Research and the research director of the Strategic Asia Program) 4 May 2020 "COVID-19 Knocks on American Hegemony" <https://carnegieendowment.org/2020/05/04/covid-19-knocks-on-american-hegemony-pub-81719>

But even as it attends to the business of internal regeneration, Washington must double down on its alliances and partnerships. Only this U.S.-led confederation contains the preponderance of the global product that will durably immunize the “strategic West” against any future challenges emanating from China or other rivals. Preserving American hegemony over the long term thus must begin with consolidating Washington’s leadership within the largest single bloc of material power in order that it may be effective beyond. Ensuring this outcome requires the United States to take seriously—and deepen meaningfully—the special geopolitical ties it has nurtured throughout the postwar period, which would among other things enable it to better shape the world’s engagement with China to advance its own interests.

Russia and China both would like to stop US hegemony

Marta Rodriguez Martinez 2015 (MA in journalism, globalism and media) Dec 2015 THE SINO-RUSSIAN AXIS AGAINST THE US HEGEMONY - An approach to the power political strategies and world order policies of China and Russia within a world in power transition <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/316989287_THE_SINO-RUSSIAN_AXIS_AGAINST_THE_US_HEGEMONY_-_An_approach_to_the_power_political_strategies_and_world_order_policies_of_China_and_Russia_within_a_world_in_power_transition/link/591c1b880f7e9b7727d9f00b/download>

Russia and China share the strategic goal of challenging the US hegemony in favor of a more multipolar world in which they can hold the dominance of their regions. Although several challenges lie ahead, they have already started to forge financial, military and institutional strategic ties to balance the US hegemony and bring a multipolar world in the long run.

Reducing US forces deployed overseas makes America weaker

Bruce Klingner 2019 (specializes in Korean and Japanese affairs as the senior research fellow for Northeast Asia at Heritage Foundation) 26 Nov 2019 Don’t break alliances over money <https://www.heritage.org/defense/commentary/dont-break-alliances-over-money>

Reducing U.S. forces deployed overseas would: make America weaker on the world stage; drive a wedge between Washington and its allies in Asia and Europe; risk triggering stronger actions by North Korea, China, and Russia; and exacerbate already growing concerns in Seoul and Tokyo about the continued viability of the United States as an ally.

BRINKS TO EVERYTHING

Global order is in crisis, multiple trends make the international system fragile, and US leadership is in danger of retreat

Prof. [Alexander Cooley and Prof. Daniel H. Nexon](https://www.foreignaffairs.com/author) 2020. (COOLEY is Claire Tow Professor of Political Science at Barnard College and Director of Columbia University’s Harriman Institute. NEXON is an Associate Professor in the Department of Government and at the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University) July/Aug 2020 “How Hegemony Ends” <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/united-states/2020-06-09/how-hegemony-ends>

Multiple signs point to a crisis in global order. The uncoordinated international response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the resulting economic downturns, the resurgence of nationalist politics, and the hardening of state borders all seem to herald the emergence of a less cooperative and more fragile international system. According to many observers, these developments underscore the dangers of U.S. President Donald Trump’s “America first” policies and his retreat from global leadership.

SPECIFIC EXAMPLES/LINKS

1. China

Link: US and China are in a struggle for international dominance. China threatens US hegemony

Ashley Tellis 2020 (Tata Chair for Strategic Affairs and a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He is also a counselor at the National Bureau of Asian Research and the research director of the Strategic Asia Program) 4 May 2020 "COVID-19 Knocks on American Hegemony" <https://carnegieendowment.org/2020/05/04/covid-19-knocks-on-american-hegemony-pub-81719>

After almost two decades of conflicted hesitancy, the United States finally acknowledged that it is involved in a long-term strategic competition with China. This rivalry, almost by definition, is not merely a wrangle between two major states. Rather, it involves a struggle for dominance in the international system, even if China as the rising power disavows any such ambition. China’s very ascendancy—if sustained—could over time threaten the U.S. hegemony that has been in place since the end of World War II. It is this reality of unequal growth—which has nourished China’s expanding influence and military capabilities—that lies at the root of the evolving rivalry.

Link: China is growing its military, intends to become a challenger to American power, and not just in East Asia

Dr. Kim R. Holmes 2015 (PhD in history from Georgetown Univ.; formerly worked for the Defense Policy Board, the U.S. defense secretary’s primary resource for expert outside advice; and public member of the U.S. delegation to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) 3 June 2015 China prepping for regional hegemony <https://www.heritage.org/asia/commentary/china-prepping-regional-hegemony>

The Chinese government is putting its money where its mouth is. It announced a 10 percent increase of the military budget for 2015. That would make China the second-largest military spender in the world. Increases in defense spending have been outpacing GDP growth rates for years, and although China’s defense spending is still far below America’s, it is growing while the U.S. is cutting its defense expenditures. All of this adds up to a bold new role for China’s armed forces. Long thought to be content with the mere defense of its mainland territory, China is clearly staking a larger claim for itself. It is striving to become the dominant military power in East Asia for sure, but also, in the long run, a rival challenger to American military power.

Brink: US on the brink of losing East Asia hegemony to China

Prof. Jennifer Lind 2018 (associate professor of government at Dartmouth Univ.) “Life in China’s Asia What Regional Hegemony Would Look Like” <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/china/2018-02-13/life-chinas-asia>

For now, the United States remains the dominant power in East Asia, but China is quickly closing the gap. Although an economic crisis or domestic political turmoil could [derail China’s rise](about:blank), if current trends continue, China will before long [supplant the United States](about:blank) as the region’s economic, military, and political hegemon.

Link: China wants Asia hegemony, wants to replace U.S. in the region

Prof. Oriana Mastro 2019 (Assistant Professor of Security Studies at Georgetown Univ) “The Stealth Superpower” <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/china/china-plan-rule-asia> Jan/Feb 2019

China has no interest in establishing a web of global alliances, sustaining a far-flung global military presence, sending troops thousands of miles from its borders, leading international institutions that would constrain its own behavior, or spreading its system of government abroad. But to focus on this reluctance, and the reassuring Chinese statements reflecting it, [is a mistake](about:blank). Although China does not want to usurp the United States’ position as the leader of a global order, its actual aim is nearly as consequential. In the Indo-Pacific region, China wants complete dominance; it wants to force the United States out and become the region’s unchallenged political, economic, and military hegemon. And globally, even though it is happy to leave the United States in the driver’s seat, it wants to be powerful enough to counter Washington when needed.

Link: China gaining Asian regional hegemony leads to gaining global hegemony, replacing USA

Min-Hyung Kim 2019 (Department of Political Science and International Relations, Kyung Hee University, South Korea) 4 Feb 2019 “A real driver of US–China trade conflict: The Sino–US competition for global hegemony and its implications for the future” <https://www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/ITPD-02-2019-003/full/html>

Although China repeatedly claims that it does not seek to replace US hegemony in the world, its behavior revealed by the initiatives of the BRI, the AIIB and Made in China 2015 illustrates that its ultimate goal is to be a global hegemon. This is not surprising because all the rising powers in history invariably sought to first dominate the region they are situated ([Mearsheimer, 2011, 2014](about:blank#ref031%20ref032)) and expand their power globally ([Gilpin, 1981](about:blank#ref012)).

Link: China wants Indo-Pacific hegemony, wants to replace U.S. in the region

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2. Middle East

Link: Withdrawal of US from Middle East is a mistake. Creates instability and threatens US security.

Seth Cropsey & Gary Roughead 2019 (**Seth Cropsey** is a senior fellow at Hudson Institute and former deputy undersecretary of the U.S. Navy. Retired Adm. **Gary Roughead** is the Robert and Mary Oster distinguished military fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, and former U.S. chief of naval operations) 17 Dec 2019 "A U.S. Withdrawal Will Cause a Power Struggle in the Middle East" <https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/12/17/us-withdrawal-power-struggle-middle-east-china-russia-iran/>

While some strategically minded thinkers, such as Andrew Bacevich, advocate redeploying U.S. assets in the Middle East to the Pacific, as opposed to the comprehensive retreat their more isolationist counterparts espouse, the general message remains the same: That there is no longer much value in securing geographically strategic points in the Middle East, and that U.S. security does not depend on it. This perspective is mistaken. Foreign Policy’s Dec. 13 article “[RIP the Carter Doctrine](https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/12/15/carter-doctrine-rip-donald-trump-mideast-oil-big-think/)” is correct that a stable Persian Gulf benefits the United States indirectly, by safeguarding a global economic and security interest in the steady supply of Middle East energy. In a parallel but opposite direction, an unstable Middle East benefits Russia’s interest in higher energy costs.

Link: Withdrawal from the Middle East guarantees loss of US hegemony and rise of hostile powers

Seth Cropsey & Gary Roughead 2019 (Seth Cropsey is a senior fellow at Hudson Institute and former deputy undersecretary of the U.S. Navy. Retired Adm. Gary Roughead is the Robert and Mary Oster distinguished military fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, and former U.S. chief of naval operations) 17 Dec 2019 "A U.S. Withdrawal Will Cause a Power Struggle in the Middle East" <https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/12/17/us-withdrawal-power-struggle-middle-east-china-russia-iran/>

The United States still retains strong interests in the Middle East. These include the untrammeled flow of oil to allies in Europe and Asia, the defense of democratic Israel, the security of NATO allies bordering the Mediterranean, and preventing conflict between regional powers. If the United States withdraws from the region and hands the responsibility of those issues to another power (or set of powers), it will certainly give rise to another hegemonic power in the region that is hostile to U.S. interests. Such a change would copper-fasten the United States’ loss of great-power status.

Link: Russia and China will expand power in the Mediterranean

Seth Cropsey & Gary Roughead 2019 (Seth Cropsey is a senior fellow at Hudson Institute and former deputy undersecretary of the U.S. Navy. Retired Adm. Gary Roughead is the Robert and Mary Oster distinguished military fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, and former U.S. chief of naval operations) 17 Dec 2019 "A U.S. Withdrawal Will Cause a Power Struggle in the Middle East" <https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/12/17/us-withdrawal-power-struggle-middle-east-china-russia-iran/>

Regardless of these factors, Russia will still bid for control of the Mediterranean Sea, which the United States will be hard-pressed to counter, particularly if China can manipulate its European economic partners into limiting or expelling the U.S. Navy from its Mediterranean bases. If that happens, Washington will have to fight its way back into the region for the first time since World War II.

Link: Unstable Middle East, without US presence, leads to: 1) jihadist attacks on the West 2) increased power for Russia and China

Seth Cropsey & Gary Roughead 2019 (Seth Cropsey is a senior fellow at Hudson Institute and former deputy undersecretary of the U.S. Navy. Retired Adm. Gary Roughead is the Robert and Mary Oster distinguished military fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, and former U.S. chief of naval operations) 17 Dec 2019 "A U.S. Withdrawal Will Cause a Power Struggle in the Middle East" <https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/12/17/us-withdrawal-power-struggle-middle-east-china-russia-iran/>

An increasingly fractured and war-ravaged Middle East would spawn more jihadist organizations, and the West would be their primary target. Absent a reliable U.S. presence, Saudi Arabia and perhaps even Israel would increasingly turn to Russia and China as great-power guarantors, leaving U.S. officials in the unfortunate position of hoping polar ice will melt quickly enough to allow unrestricted year-round access over the Arctic, diminishing the importance of the Mediterranean.

3. Russia

Link: Allies turn to Russia as US hegemony weakens. Commitments must take into account Russia's expanding power

Seth Cropsey & Gary Roughead 2019 (Seth Cropsey is a senior fellow at Hudson Institute and former deputy undersecretary of the U.S. Navy. Retired Adm. Gary Roughead is the Robert and Mary Oster distinguished military fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, and former U.S. chief of naval operations) 17 Dec 2019 "A U.S. Withdrawal Will Cause a Power Struggle in the Middle East" <https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/12/17/us-withdrawal-power-struggle-middle-east-china-russia-iran/>

The strength of hegemonic powers waxes and wanes, and allies respond accordingly. In 2018, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe made the first visit to China by a Japanese leader in seven years. There, he and Chinese President Xi Jinping agreed to elevate bilateral relations. Although Benjamin Netanyahu was first elected prime minister of Israel in 1996, he only visited Russia for the first time during his third term, in 2013. (He did not serve as prime minister during the decade from 1999 to 2009.) Since then he has been to the country 11 times, indicating that staunch allies that had previously relied on the United States for security now sense the need to open lines of communication with its adversaries. The United States should reexamine its global commitments, especially those in the eastern Mediterranean, with a view to Russia’s expanding power.

Russia is more than just a rival to the U.S.; they are becoming an enemy

Prof. Daniel Byman 2018 (professor at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service ; research director and senior fellow at the Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution.) 11 Apr 2018 LAWFARE, “Pushing Back Russia in the Middle East: A Thought Experiment,” <https://www.lawfareblog.com/pushing-back-russia-middle-east-thought-experiment>

Russia is increasingly emerging as an enemy of the United States, not just a rival. Although President Trump generally seems to oppose any attempt to confront Russia—with the exception of a tweet this morning in which he warned the Kremlin to “get ready”—it’s worth considering how a more strategically minded administration might do so, particularly in the Middle East, where Moscow has vastly expanded its influence. During the height of the Cold War, the United States reflexively opposed the Soviet Union and the spread of communism. In addition to shoring up allies in Europe and Japan, the United States often sought to hinder or roll back Moscow’s influence in parts of Africa and Asia, regardless of the minor strategic significance of the areas in question. In the Middle East, the U.S. opposition to the Soviet Union often manifested in efforts to sway and topple governments in Iraq and Syria and a competition for influence in Egypt, among other locations. At the Cold War’s end, the Soviet Union maintained some interest in and influence over Algeria, Iraq, Libya, Syria and South Yemen (the last of which would soon enter history’s dustbin). Yet for the most part, the United States had run the board, with close partnerships with key states such as Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Morocco, and Egypt as well as Israel and Turkey, the region’s military powerhouses.

Link: Russia exploits US unreliability in the Middle East, provides weapons quickly upon request

Dr. Nikolay Kozhanov 2018 (visiting lecturer in the political economy of the Middle East at the European University at St Petersburg; PhD in the economic security of the Middle East from St Petersburg State University) Russia and Eurasia Programme | February 2018 Russian Policy Across the Middle East Motivations and Methods <https://www.chathamhouse.org/sites/default/files/publications/research/2018-02-21-russian-policy-middle-east-kozhanov.pdf>

In other words, Russia exploits the shortcomings of Western policies in the Middle East. Thus, the US reluctance to protect Mubarak compared with the support Moscow provided to Assad encourages regional powers to consider Russia a more reliable partner. The fast dispatch of weapons to the Iraqi authorities in 2014 when they badly needed new equipment to fight a rising ISIS (while the US-led Western states were only thinking about whether and how they should help the Iraqi army) served to demonstrate Russia’s responsibility to an ally. The US and EU decision to limit weapons exports to Egypt in 2013 was one of the reasons behind the rise in sales of Russian arms in the region.

Link: Russian influence and prestige worldwide grows as they succeed in the Middle East

Public Radio International 2017. “Russia’s influence in the Middle East is growing” 14 Dec 2017 <https://www.pri.org/stories/2017-12-14/russia-s-influence-middle-east-growing>

Russia now has a naval base in the Mediterranean in Tartus, a warm-weather port in Syria. It also has an airbase nearby. Now there’s talk of the Russian air force securing basing rights in Egypt. It already has access to an Iranian base. But this Russian effort in the Middle East is not so much about hard power, says Tharoor. “For Putin,” he explains, “it’s all about domestic optics more than anything else. He has staked his political legitimacy on being this world-historic figure who’s returning Russia to prominence on the world stage.”

Link: Blocking Russia in the Middle East is key to maintaining US leadership as a great power

Steven A. Cook 2018 (senior fellow for Middle East and Africa studies at the Council on Foreign Relations) 16 March 2018 FOREIGN POLICY “Russia Is in the Middle East to Stay” <https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/03/16/the-middle-east-needs-a-steady-boyfriend/>

If the United States is, as Secretary of Defense James Mattis averred in January, in a new era of great power competition, it is time the United States treated the situation as seriously as it is. Putin must be disabused of the notion that the Middle East is the most propitious place to begin weakening the West and the United States. Americans once before contained and rolled back Moscow’s influence in the region; there is no reason to believe that they cannot do it again — but only if they have the wisdom to recognize what is important in the world right now and the collective stomach to meet the challenge.

Impact: US forces at risk. US pullback increases Russian power and puts US forces at risk. Example: Egypt

David D. Kirkpatrick 2017 (**Kirkpatrick—**International correspondent based in the London bureau of the NY Times. From the beginning of 2011 through the end of 2015 he was the Cairo bureau chief. He was a Washington correspondent and a national correspondent, based in NY. Before joining The Times in 2000, he served as a fact checker for The New Yorker, a reporter for The Wall Street Journal and a contributing editor for New York magazine. **Contributors**: Andrew **Higgins** (graduated from Cambridge University with a master’s degree in Oriental Studies and also attended Middlebury College, where he studied Russian and Arabic), reporting from Moscow, Nour **Youssef** (reporter in the Cairo bureau of The NY York Times. Previously, she worked as a freelance reporter for The Associated Press, The Guardian and Mada Masr, an independent Egyptian news outlet) from Cairo, and Eric **Schmitt** (senior writer covering terrorism and national security for The NY Times.) from Washington) 30 Nov 2017, NEW YORK TIMES, “In Snub to U.S., Russia and Egypt Move Toward Deal on Air Bases,” <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/30/world/middleeast/russia-egypt-air-bases.html>

“Power abhors a vacuum and when the United States pulls back we can’t be under the impression that the world is going to stand by and wait for us,” said Matthew Spence, a former deputy assistant secretary of defense for Middle East policy under the Obama administration, which faced similar criticism for its policy toward the region. “The danger, and the reality, is that other countries will take advantage of the opportunity presented when America chooses to pull back.” In practical terms, the presence of Russian jets in Egypt would raise concerns about the operational security of American military personnel and require coordinating with American military planes in the same airspace. “It’s a major problem for the United States-Egypt defense relationship,” said Andrew Miller, a former senior State Department official who is now at the Project on Middle East Democracy.

IMPACTS TO EVERYTHING

Impact: Apocalyptic consequences if we lose US hegemony

Brook Manville 2018 (principal of Brook Manville LLC, consulting on strategy and organization) 14 Oct 2018 “Why A Crumbling World Order Urgently Needs U.S. Leadership” FORBES [https://www.forbes.com/sites/brookmanville/2018/10/14/why-a-crumbling-world-order-urgently-needs-u-s-leadership/#2bb8912f2e61](about:blank#2bb8912f2e61) (brackets added)

The botanical metaphor in [Brookings Institution Senior Fellow Robert] Kagan’s book title began our recent conversation. “We’ve been living in a tranquil garden of largely peaceful practices and liberal expectations across much of the world, ignoring the dark forces of jungle multiplying under the rocks. If we don’t defend civilization’s cultivation—especially American’s guarantee of peace and economic integration across the world—the toxic creatures and weeds will roar back.” Thus [China’s determined military rise](about:blank), [Russia’s continuing aggressions](about:blank), [fiery authoritarians on the march in so many once democratic countries](about:blank). [**END QUOTE]** As [Brookings Institution Senior Fellow Robert] Kagan continued, “[Trump has been damaging the system](about:blank)—he too seems to have forgotten what good it has delivered—but actually America’s desire for maintaining the global order has been diminishing for years. After [the dissolution of the Soviet empire in the 1990s](about:blank), people talked about [‘the end of history”](about:blank)—that America didn’t have to worry anymore about war or aggression. History doesn’t end, it simply paused. [**He goes on later in the same context to say QUOTE:]** The ugliest aspects of human nature are surging again.”  
**Vanishing Leadership, Vanishing Peace**  
Kagan’s apocalyptic message, repeated [in other recent writings](about:blank), is lucid and terrifying, all the more devastating for its relentless use of history. It’s a footnoted plea that “we’ve seen this movie before.” He reminds us that Americans have frequently turned away from defending world order, with regrettably familiar outcomes: to be dragged in later at greater cost (e.g. [helping to stop Hitler earlier might have prevented World War II](about:blank)); or, simply hoping that “the problem would go away,” to watch it get ten times worse (e.g. [Obama’s policy in Syria](about:blank)). Kagan acknowledges that America has sometimes misstepped (e.g. Viet Nam, Iraq), but he still argues that overall our foreign engagement has produced more peace and prosperity than not. “History shows,” he summarized, “that world order has never been achieved without some constructive force to keep the peace. The relative harmony and fair play we’ve created in the modern world will vanish if the U.S. forsakes international leadership.”

Impact: World peace & prosperity at risk without US influence. US hegemony is key to global peace & prosperity

Capt. M. V. Prato 2009 (United States Marine Corps,Command and Staff College, Marine Corps Combat Development Command,Marine Corps University) “The Need for American Hegemony” <http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a508040.pdf>

The world witnessed a vast shift in the polarity of geopolitics after the Cold War. The United States became the world’s greatest hegemon with an unequalled ability to globally project cultural, political, economic, and military power in a manner not seen since the days of the Roman Empire. **[END QUOTE]** Coined the “unipolar moment” by syndicated columnist Charles Krauthammer, the disparity of power between the U.S. and all other nations allows the U.S. to influence the world for the mutual benefit of all responsible states. Unfortunately, the United States is increasingly forced to act unilaterally as a result of both foreign and domestic resentment to U.S. dominance and the rise of liberal internationalism. [**He goes on to conclude later in the same context QUOTE**:] The United States must exercise benevolent global hegemony, unilaterally if necessary, to ensure its security and maintain global peace and prosperity.

Works Cited

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