

# The President & Foreign Policy

## Goal 1

- Nation's overall plan for dealing with foreign nations is foreign policy
- Basic goal of our foreign policy is national security
- This is the ability to keep the country safe from attack or harm
- This is the primary goal that all others rest upon

## Goal 2

- Second key goal is international trade
- Trade with other nations is vital for economic growth and prosperity
- Markets are created for American products
- Jobs are created for American workers

# The President & Foreign Policy

## Goal 3

- The 3<sup>rd</sup> goal is to promote world peace
- Wars can disrupt trade and endanger US national security
- When there is peace, we are not drawn into wars
- Peace also helps markets become stable for economic growth

## Goal 4

- The 4<sup>th</sup> goal is to promote democracy around the world
- This also promotes basic human rights in other nations
- This was the goal of President Woodrow Wilson after World War I
- This was also the goal of President Harry Truman after World War II

# The President & Foreign Policy

## Goal Assistance

- The president has a large bureaucracy to help promote the goals
- These include the State Department, CIA, Defense Department, and NSA
- Agencies provide the president with information
- They also carry out presidential decisions around the world.

## Goals in the Branches

- Foreign policy powers are divided between the Legislative and Executive
- President carries out wars, but Congress can declare
- President commands ambassadors, Congress must approve of them
- President is in charge of the military, Congress approves the money for it

# Tools of Foreign Policy

## Creating Treaties & Executive Agreements

- Formal agreements between two or more nations are treaties
- Most treaties are defensive in nature and nations pledge support if attacked
- NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) was founded after WW2
- US, Canada, and most of Europe

## Creating Treaties & Executive Agreements

- The Senate has the power to approve a treaty by a 2/3 vote
- Wilson's Treaty of Versailles after WW1 was not approved by the Senate
- He wanted to create a League of Nations, and the US was worried of another war
- President can get around the Senate with Executive Agreements

# Tools of Foreign Policy

## **Appointing Ambassadors**

- An ambassador is an official representative of a nation's government
- There are about 150 ambassadors
- We only send them to nations where we recognize their government
- If we feel that government obtained power illegally, we do not send an ambassador

## **Foreign Aid**

- Money for food, military assistance, or other supplies
- Meant to assist other nations in times of trouble or prevent conflict
- The American Relief Administration sent millions to Europe after WW1 to help feed the nations
- The Marshall Plan at the end of WW2 helped rebuild Western Europe

# Tools of Foreign Policy

## International Trade

- President can make agreements and rules concerning products traded
- Trade sanctions are used to punish another nation
- An embargo is an agreement among a group of nations to stop trading with another
- Congress can also create tariffs or free trade zones (like NAFTA)

## Military Force

- Presidents can use the military to enforce foreign policy decisions
- Washington used troops to put down the Whiskey Rebellion in 1794
- Clinton ordered terrorist facilities taken out in Afghanistan in 1998
- GW Bush ordered US forces to invade Iraq and take down the government of Saddam Hussein in 2003