

# BIDEN ADMINISTRATION RELEASES ITS NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY (NSS): A COMPARISON

**AMERICA FIRST**



**AMERICA LAST**

Trump Administration's 2017 NSS

Biden Administration's 2022 NSS

## KEY PILLARS

- **America First.**
- **Principled realism and sovereignty of nation-states define the relations between countries.**

- **Rejection of America First.**
- **Idealist vision, which takes a globalist perspective on relations between nations.**

## IDENTIFYING THREATS TO THE HOMELAND

- Prioritizes China as the preeminent national security challenge to the United States.
- Secures the border to protect American communities from cartels and human traffickers. Enforces immigration laws inside the U.S.
- Targets radical Islamist terrorism at the source.

- Prioritizes climate change as the main challenge to U.S. national security, calling it "the existential challenge of our time."
- Fails to address the border crisis and introduce a solution in its discussion of quickly processing migrants apprehended at the southern border.
- Focuses on violent domestic extremism as a threat to American democracy; no mention of radical Islamist extremism as a preeminent threat to the homeland.

## APPROACH TOWARD CHINA

- Designates China as the leading national security challenge today.
- Holds China accountable for trade violations.
- Places direct responsibility on China for their intellectual property theft of American research as well as their production and distribution of fentanyl.

- Acknowledges China is the biggest "geopolitical challenge," but its focus is on how the U.S. can "coexist peacefully" with China at the expense of American interests.
- Shows willingness to overlook China's trade violations to preserve collaboration with China on climate change.
- Fails to place direct culpability on China for their intellectual property theft of American research as well as their production and distribution of fentanyl.

## DEALING WITH IRAN

- Rejects the flawed approach of the Iranian nuclear deal and works with partners in the Middle East to deny Iran nuclear weapons.
- Directly addresses and challenges Iran's state sponsorship of terrorist organizations and threats against Israel.

- Uses a failed diplomatic approach to ensure Iran does not acquire nuclear weapons.
- Fails to mention Iran's sponsorship of terrorism or its threats against Israel.

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**HANDLING RUSSIA**

- Challenges Russia's energy dominance by securing American energy independence and exporting U.S. energy to our allies.
- Works with allies to counter Russian aggression and deter offensive actions from Russia.

- Reduces Europe's dependence on Russian fossil fuels by prioritizing green energy alternatives in Europe and developing global climate infrastructure.
- Introduces approach of "constraining" Russia versus deterrence and containment.

**REORIENTING DIPLOMACY**

- Refuses to cede America's sovereignty and interests to multilateral institutions, particularly those that provide a platform for America's adversaries.
- Invest in multilateral institutions to reap a tangible benefit to the American people and advance their interests.

- Prioritizes America's engagement and investments in multilateral institutions, even if they are coopted by America's adversaries.
- Invest in multilateral institutions to serve globalist interests, most notably climate change.

**SUPPORTING THE MILITARY**

- Strengthens America's military force by renewing the focus of the military's training and strategic investments.

- Embraces diversity, equity, and inclusion in social engineering as a top priority over increased investments to modernize and strengthen our military.

**ENERGY**

- Secures American energy independence by empowering market-based competition and success to realize economic benefits for the American people.
- Unleashes America's energy dominance to deter adversaries, fortify allies' energy sources, and strengthen the American economy.

- Seeks to push out fossil fuels from the marketplace and engineer a costly transition to green energy, regardless of the impact on energy prices and security.
- Prioritizes collective green energy initiatives with the EU, UN, and among allies that harm energy security at the cost of the American taxpayer.

**ECONOMIC & TRADE POLICY**

- Promotes America First trade agreements that reduce barriers, address imbalances, open markets, and achieve reciprocity between nations.
- After signing agreements, vigorously enforces them to stop cheating and defend U.S. interests.
- Promotes fiscal responsibility and eliminates reckless government overspending.

- Relies increasingly on multilateral globalist agreements that take tax, spending, and regulatory decisions out of the hands of sovereign countries.
- Prioritizes maintaining the status quo at existing multilateral institutions even when they do not effectively punish cheaters.
- Increases government spending, taxes, and borrowing from abroad.

**AMERICA FIRST IS NOT AMERICA ALONE. AMERICA FIRST PROTECTS THE SOVEREIGNTY OF OUR NATION AND CITIZENS FIRST.**