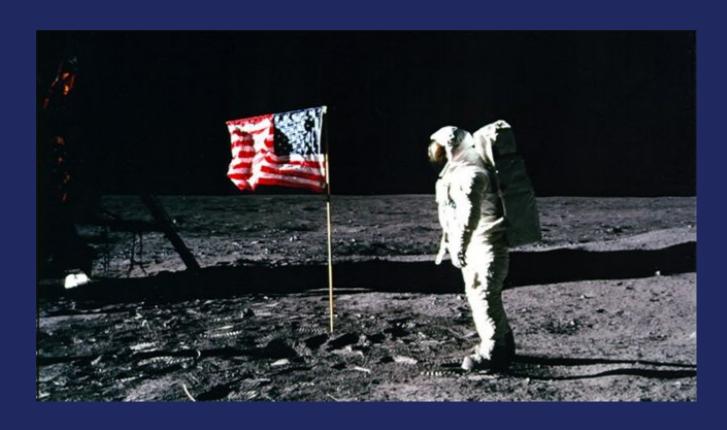
# The United States of America as a Global Power



# Why is the United States a Global Power?

- Economic power
- Military power
- Geopolitical power
- Political power
- Cultural power



### **Economic Power**

The American economy remains the bedrock of the global financial system



#### **Economics**

- From 1872 to 2015 (142 years), the U.S. remained the world's largest economy
- As of 2015, \$17.4 trillion (China \$17.6 trillion)
- Per capita income \$53,001 (compared to China \$11,868)



#### Economics

- Over 80% of all financial transactions worldwide are conducted in dollars, as are 87% of foreign currency market transactions
- First World trade profile (massive exports of consumer and technology goods and imports of natural resources)
- By 2013 the world's leader for FDI at 180 billion dollars, almost twice its nearest competitor
- 2015 Unemployment rate 5%

# Military Power

The U.S. military dominates across land, sea, air and space



# Military

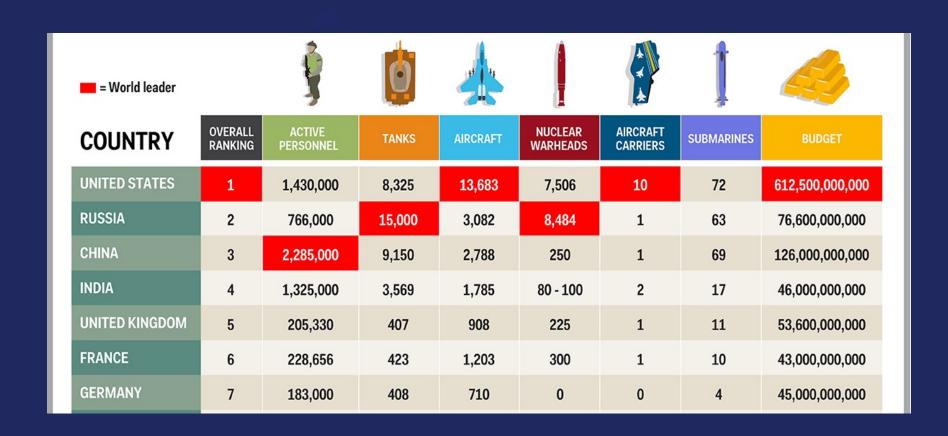
- The U.S. defense budget is \$612 billion
- The United States spends more money on defense than the next ten highest spending countries combined
- The US accounts for 37% of global military spending, and spends more than four times what China, the world's No. 2 spender, does on its military



## Military Cont.

- Biggest conventional military advantage is its fleet of 19 aircraft carriers, compared to 12 carriers operated by the rest of the world combined
- The United States has by far the most aircraft of any country, cuttingedge technology
- The world's largest nuclear arsenal

# Military Cont.



## F-35 Program



- World's most expensive weapon program
- 400 Billion
- 15 years to develop
- 2, 457 Planes 159 Million per plane
- Lethal and versatile aircraft of the modern era
- Advanced stealth capabilities, radar-jamming abilities, supersonic speed, extreme agility and state-of-the-art sensor fusion technology

## Geopolitics

Americans are not only important because of who they are, but because of where they live.



## Geopolitics

- The Greater Mississippi Basin together with the Intracoastal Waterway has more kilometers of navigable internal waterways than the rest of the world combined
- The Midwest is both overlaid by this waterway and is the world's largest contiguous piece of farmland
- The U.S. Atlantic Coast possesses more major ports than the rest of the Western Hemisphere combined

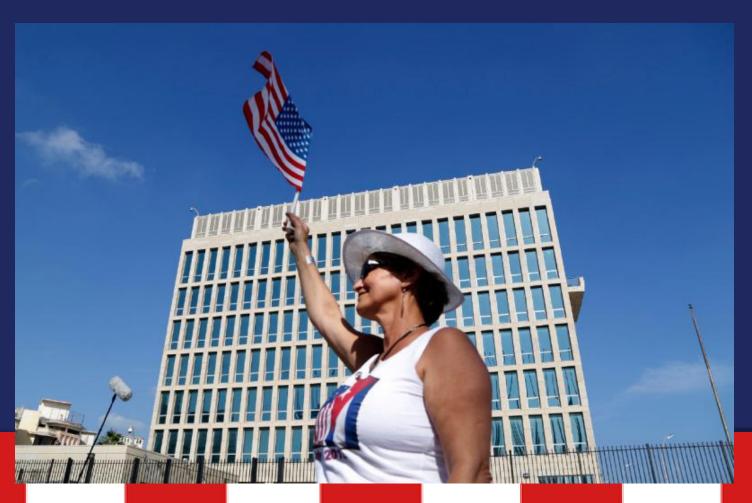


## Geopolitics Cont.

- Two vast oceans insulated the United States from Asian and European powers, deserts separate the United States from Mexico to the south, while lakes and forests separate the population centers in Canada from those in the United States
- The United States has capital, food surpluses and physical insulation in excess of every other country in the world by an exceedingly large margin

## Political Influence

For many people around the world, America remains the ideal place to start a new life



#### Political Influence

- Oldest written working national constitution in the world, as well as strong institutions and rule of law to accompany it
- World's longest functioning democracy
- Greatest soft power (diplomacy) in the world by far
- For the U.S., foreign aid is an effective way to cement its political clout globally



#### Political Influence Cont.

- In 2013, \$32.7 billion in financial assistance; second was the UK at \$19 billion
- The numbers show the enduring attraction of this system: 45 million people living in the U.S. today were born in a foreign country

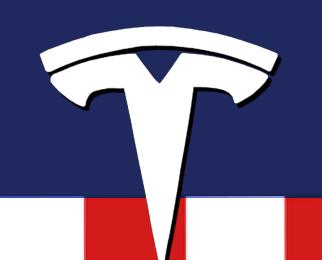


## Innovation

The United States leads the world in high technology





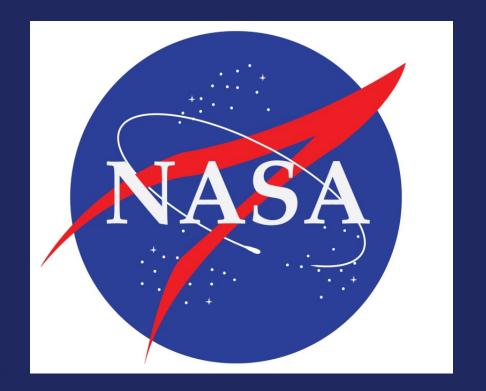






#### Innovation

- Silicon Valley
- Of the 9 largest tech companies in the world, 8 are based in the U.S.
- For decades America worried about energy dependency, yet today America is the world's No. 1 producer of oil and natural gas



#### Innovation Cont.

- Research universities and scientific institutions are best in class, allowing the nation to focus its ingenuity where it's needed most
- Spends money to keep its comparative advantage intact: 30% of all research and development dollars are spent in the U.S.



# Culture and Lifestyle







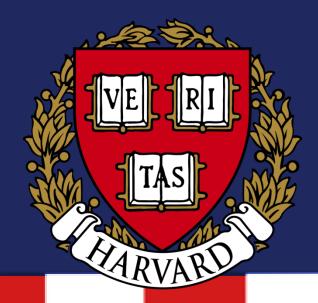




# Culture and Lifestyle

- The movies (Hollywood)
- Higher education (17 of the top 20 universities in the world in Shanghai's Jaotong University survey)
- The United States still receives far more immigrants each year (1 million) than any other country in the world





## The United States is a Global Power



When you combine America's strength across the board in economics, military, geopolitics, political influence and innovation, it is no wonder that the U.S. enjoys its privileged position in the world today.

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