# THE USA IN THE WORLD AFTER 1991

# **Introduction**

Today the USA is both a leading economic and diplomatic power

The end of the Cold war in 1991 has been a turning point in US diplomacy :

The USA said it won the Cold War It asserted as a world leader on the international stage both as an economic and diplomatic power.

But This leadership was soon questioned as still is today

#### I/ A new watchdog of the world 1991-2001

Quickly after the end of the Cold War, the USA took action to show its power in the "New World Order"

#### A/ In the (first) Gulf war

The president was George H Bush. 1988-1992

Saddam Hussein's Iraq invaded its neighbor state Koweit. G.Bush called on the UNO He proposed the USA to lead UN military forces in OPERATION DESERT STORM in AUGUST 1990

It ended with a victory in FEBRUARY 1991: Kuwait was freed

#### Why did the USA go into Iraq?

# To secure Gulf oil resources On behalf of multilateralism On behalf of the Manifest destiny To show its power in the new world order

#### DOC> New world order

(President Bush's speech to Congress, March 6, 1991).

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The recent challenge could not have been clearer. Saddam Hussein was the villain, Kuwait the victim. To the aid of this small country came

5 nations from North America and Europe, from Asia and South America, from Africa and the Arab world, all united against aggression.

Our commitment to peace in the Middle East does not end with the liber-

I ation of Kuwait. So tonight let me outline four key challenges to be met. This does not mean stationing US ground forces on the Arabian

10 Peninsula, but it does mean American participation in joint exercises involving both air and ground forces. It means maintaining a capable US naval presence in the region, just as we have for over 40 years. Let it be clear: our vital national interests depend on a stable and secure Gulf.

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AS and the missiles used to deliver them.

Until now, the world we've known has been — a world of barbed wire and concrete block, conflict and cold war.

Now, we can see a new world coming into view. A world in which there is the very real prospect of a new world order. In the words of Winston

Churchill, a "world order" in which "the principles of justice and fair play... protect the weak against the strong..."

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#### In 1993, Bill Clinton (Democrat) takes over from him and enforces a different diplomacy

#### **B/ Clinton's enlargement policy 1992-2000**

-He kept a diplomacy based on dialogue to preserve peace and tried to broaden alliances

-US troops were sent through NATO forces in Yugoslavia in 1994-95 and he helped in the **DAYTON AGREEMENTS** (Ohio) in 1995 to end the war in Bosnia

-US troops were also present in the KFOR in Kosovo (province of Serbia) in 1999 (Kosovo independent in 2008)

-Clinton helped in the rapprochement between ARAFAT and YITZHAK RABIN for a cease-fire in Palestine <u>OSLO</u> <u>AGREEMENTS</u> in 1993 But in the early 2000's the US power will be questioned and US diplomacy will be totally changed

#### II/ The impact of 9-11 2001

## A/ What happened?

- 4 hijacked planed crashed:
  - 2 on the twin towers in New York
  - 1 on the Pentagon
  - 1 crashed in a field in Pennsylvania after the passengers tried to stop the terrorists (White House? Capitol?)
- Al Qaida a terrorist islamist group based in Afghanistan claimed responsibility for the attacks.
- It was led by Osama Bin Laden a Saudi billionaire

#### **B/ What was the president's reaction?**

The president was the republican George W Bush (2000-2004-2008)

He first sent troops in Afghanistan <u>with the UNO</u> support in 2001 in a "crusade against terrorism"

His diplomacy became aggressive: he called islamist states as well as enemies of the USA the "**ROGUE STATES**" and claimed he wanted to fight **the "outpost of tyranny**" along the **AXIS OF EVIL.**  In the USA, the ones suspected of backing terrorism were sent to **Guantanamo** in Cuba (State Prison) where they were badly treated sometimes while awaiting trial !

In the USA denunciation was encouraged through the **PATRIOT ACT.** 

There was a climax of **Islamophobia** 

#### WHAT DOES G.W.BUSH WA?NT TO DO AFTER THE 9/11?

#### President Bush's State of Union address, January 29th 2002.

« [...] We last met in an hour of shock and suffering. In four short months, our nation has comforted the victims, begun to rebuild New York and the Pentagon, rallied a great coalition, captured, arrested, and rid the world of thousands of terrorists, destroyed Afghanistan's terrorist training camps, saved people from starvation, and freed a country from brutal oppression. [...] The last time we met in this chamber, the mothers and daughters of Afghanistan were captives in their own homes, forbidden from working or going to school. Today women are free and are part of Afghanistan's new government. [...]

Our second goal is to prevent regimes that sponsor terror from threatening America or our friends and allies with weapons of mass destruction. [...] States like these, and their terrorist allies, constitute an axis of evil, arming to threaten the peace of the world. [...] They could attack our allies or attempt to blackmail the United States. In any of these cases, the price of indifference would be catastrophic. [...] Our war on terror is well begun, but it is only begun. [...]

My budget includes the largest increase in defence spending in two decades because while the price of freedom and security is high, it is never too high. Whatever it costs to defend our country, we will pay. »

Speech to the Congress delivered by the American president Georges Bush (2000-2008), January, 29<sup>th</sup> 2002.

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Then he asked for an invasion of Iraq in 2003

He suspected Iraq to have **MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS** as well as hosting terrorists

He asked the UNO which refused so he sent US troops without the UNO's consent

This is a **UNILATERAL POLICY** 

In Europe France and Germany refused to help him out but Spain and the UK accepted.

The "so called" mass destruction weapons were never found

This led to a growing **anti-Americanism** 



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#### C/ What were the consequences?

-there was a growth of anti Americanism (also by anti globalization activists) all over the world (Middle East, Venezuela, Cuba, North Korea...)



Document: "What a differ 2002



O 2002 TRATLE POST-INTELLIGENCER. THRONE WARNA SERVICES

# III/ Obama and a return to a multilateral co-operation 2008-2016

#### A/ The USA out from war

-He called on a withdrawal from Iraq and Afghanistan

-He had plans to close Guantanamo in 2009 but the American Congress blocks funds to shift prisoners

#### **B / The need for a world diplomatic governance**

Obama's state of the Union Address May 25th 2012

(...)Just as jobs and businesses can now race across borders, so can new threats and new challenges. No single wall separates East and West. No one rival superpower is aligned against us.

And so we must defeat determined enemies, wherever they are, and build coalitions that cut across lines of region and race and religion. And America's moral example must always shine for all who yearn for freedom and justice and dignity. And because we've begun this work, tonight we can say that American leadership has been renewed and America's standing has been restored.

Look to Iraq, where nearly 100,000 of our brave men and women have left with their heads held high. (Applause.) American combat patrols have ended, violence is down, and a new government has been formed. The Iraq war is coming to an end. (Applause.)

Of course, as we speak, al Qaeda and their affiliates continue to plan attacks against us. Thanks to our intelligence and law enforcement professionals, we're disrupting plots and securing our cities and skies. We've also taken the fight to al Qaeda and their allies abroad. In Afghanistan, our troops have taken Taliban strongholds and trained Afghan security forces (...)

This is just a part of how we're shaping a world that favours peace and prosperity. With our European allies, we revitalized NATO and increased our cooperation on everything from counterterrorism to missile defence. We've reset our relationship with Russia, strengthened Asian alliances, built new partnerships with nations like India.

(...)Our troops come from every corner of this country -- they're black, white, Latino, Asian, Native American. They are Christian and Hindu, Jewish and Muslim. And, yes, we know that some of them are gay. Starting this year, no American will be forbidden from serving the country they love because of who they love. (Applause.) It is time to leave behind the divisive battles of the past. It is time to move forward as one nation.

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#### IV/ Trump to power 2016-2020

#### A/ TRUMP'S DOCTRINE

4 guidelines:

- "The great power competition" replaced the "crusade against terrorism"

-His famous slogan "America first" promotes unilateralism and nationalism. Ex: Out front TAFTA, Paris Climate Accords, Pact with Iran...

-Disengagement In the Middle East and Africa to focus on Asia and the competition with China

-The desire to make former rivals into RESPONSIVE STAKEHOLDERS)( partenaires responsables) : It failed totally

Obama was awarded the Nobel peace prize in October 2009

He is very famous for delivering a speech in The Cairo in June 2009 entitled " a new beginning"

He promised in his campaign in 2008 to adress the Muslims from a Muslim country

So he kept his promise showing his desire to lower the tensions between the USA and the Muslim world after 9/11

In his speech he never mentioned the word "terrorism"

This speech played a huge part in his Nobel prize award

#### **B/ RELATIONS US CHINA**

2008 China becomes the largest holder of US debt before Japan

2010 China becomes the second largest economy

2011: In the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, U.S. President Barack Obama announces the United States and eight other nations have reached an agreement on the Trans-Pacific Partnership to counter China

2012 The United States and its allies in the WTO oppose China's quota for rare metal exports saying it violates international trade norms, forcing multinational firms that use the metals to relocate to China. Tensions rise.

2012 Blind Chinese dissident Chen Guangcheng escapes house arrest to the U.S. embassy in Beijing. U.S. diplomats negotiate an agreement with Chinese officials to go to the US but AS A STUDENT and not as an ASYLUM SEEKER

2013 U.S. President Barack Obama hosts Chinese President Xi Jinping in California

2014 On the sidelines of the 2014 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, U.S. President Barack Obama and Chinese President Xi Jinping issue a joint cooperation on climate change, pledging to reduce carbon emissions.

2017 President Donald J. Trump welcomes China's Xi Jinping for a two-day summit in Florida

2018 The Trump administration announces higher tariffs on Chinese imports, worth at least \$50 billion, in response to what the White House alleges is Chinese theft of U.S. technology and intellectual property.

Later in 2018 U.S. Vice President Mike Pence delivers a speech marking a significant hardening of the United States' position.

August 2020: Actions to fight some so-called Chinese espionage: closing down of Chinese embassy in Houston.

From early in this administration, President Trump has made our relationship with China and President Xi a priority. Over the course of the past two years, our President has forged a strong personal relationship with the President of the People's Republic of China, and they've worked closely on issues of common interest, most importantly the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

But I come before you today because the American people deserve to know that, as we speak, Beijing is employing a whole-of-government approach, using political, economic, and military tools, as well as propaganda, to advance its influence and benefit its interests in the United States.

In our National Security Strategy that the President Trump released last December, he described a new era of "great power competition." In this strategy, President Trump made clear that the United States of America has adopted a new approach to China. We seek a relationship grounded in fairness, reciprocity, and respect for sovereignty.

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Beijing now requires many American businesses to hand over their trade secrets as the cost of doing business in China. It also coordinates and sponsors the acquisition of American firms to gain ownership of their creations. Worst of all, Chinese security agencies have masterminded the wholesale theft of American technology — including cutting-edge military blueprints. And using that stolen technology, the Chinese Communist Party is turning plowshares into swords on a massive scale. Over the past 17 years, China's GDP has become the secondlargest economy in the world. Much of this success was driven by American investment in China. And the Chinese Communist Party has also used an arsenal of policies inconsistent with free and fair trade, including tariffs, quotas, currency manipulation, forced technology transfer, intellectual property theft, and industrial subsidies that are handed out like candy to foreign investment.

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Beijing is also using its power like never before. Chinese ships routinely patrol around the Senkaku Islands, which are administered by Japan. China's aggression was on display this week, when a Chinese naval vessel came within 45 yards of the USS Decatur as it conducted freedom-of-navigation operations in the South China Sea, forcing our ship to quickly maneuver to avoid collision. Despite such reckless harassment, the United States Navy will continue to fly, sail, and operate wherever international law allows and our national interests demand. We will not be intimidated and we will not stand down. (Applause.) Today, China has built an unparalleled surveillance state, and it's growing more expansive and intrusive – often with the help of U.S. technology. What they call the "Great Firewall of China" likewise grows higher, drastically restricting the free flow of information to the Chinese people.

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(...)And when it comes to religious freedom, a new wave of persecution is crashing down on Chinese Christians, Buddhists, and Muslims. Last month, Beijing shut down one of China's largest underground churches. Across the country, authorities are tearing down crosses, burning bibles, and imprisoning believers. And Beijing has now reached a deal with the Vatican that gives the avowedly atheist Communist Party a direct role in appointing Catholic bishops. For China's Christians, these are desperate times. Beijing is also cracking down on Buddhism. Over the past decade, more than 150 Tibetan Buddhist monks have lit themselves on fire to protest China's repression of their beliefs and their culture. And in Xinjiang, the Communist Party has imprisoned as many as one million Muslim Uyghurs in government camps where they endure brainwashing.

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(...) In fact, China uses so-called "debt diplomacy" to expand its influence. Today, that country is offering hundreds of billions of dollars in infrastructure loans to governments from Asia to Africa to Europe and even Latin America. Yet the terms of those loans are opaque at best, and the benefits invariably flow overwhelmingly to Beijing.

(...)Now these are only a few of the ways that China has sought to advance its strategic interests across the world, with growing intensity .But those days are over.

At President Trump's direction, we're implementing tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese goods, with the highest tariffs specifically targeting the advanced industries that Beijing is trying to capture and control. And as the President has also made clear, we will levy even more tariffs, with the possibility of substantially more than doubling that number, unless a fair and reciprocal deal is made. (Applause.) (...) In fact, China uses so-called "debt diplomacy" to expand its influence. Today, that country is offering hundreds of billions of dollars in infrastructure loans to governments from Asia to Africa to Europe and even Latin America. Yet the terms of those loans are opaque at best, and the benefits invariably flow overwhelmingly to Beijing.

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remember that "Competition does not always mean hostility," nor does it have to. The President has made clear, we want a constructive relationship with Beijing where our prosperity and security grow together, not apart. But our message to China's rulers is this: This President will not back down. (Applause.) And we will continue to stand strong for our security and our economy, even as we hope for improved relations with Beijing. Our administration is going to continue to act decisively to protect America's interests, American jobs, and American security. As we rebuild our military, we will continue to assert American interests across the Indo-Pacific.

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2018 Meng Wanzhou, one of Huawei leaders, is arrested in Canada at the United States' request for violating trade sanction against IRAN.

China sued the USA for boycotting the use of Huawey equipment in the USA.

January 2020 President Trump and Chinese Vice Premier Liu He sign an agreement The deal relaxes some U.S. tariffs on Chinese imports when China buys an additional \$200 billion worth of American goods

February 2020: COVID pandemic raises tensions: leading officials in both China and the United States blame the other side for the pandemic.

July 2020: Trump orders to close China's consultate in Houston, saying it's a place for spying the USA

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