

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project

Base Nation: How US Military Bases Abroad Harm America and the World – American Empire Project

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project is a critical topic that delves into the extensive network of US military bases scattered across the globe and their profound implications. While these bases are often portrayed as strategic assets promoting global security and American interests, the reality is far more complex. The sprawling presence of these bases has significant consequences—not only for host countries but also for the United States itself and the broader international community. Exploring this “base nation” phenomenon reveals how America's military footprint contributes to geopolitical tensions, economic costs, and social injustices under the guise of an American empire project.

The Vast Network of US Military Bases: What Does “Base Nation” Mean?

When discussing “base nation,” we refer to the United States’ global infrastructure of military installations located beyond its borders. Currently, the US operates hundreds of bases in dozens of countries, ranging from massive air and naval facilities to smaller outposts. This extensive network reflects America's strategic priorities formed after World War II during the Cold War and persists today with shifts in global power dynamics.

Historical Roots of the American Military Base Empire

The spread of US military bases abroad began in earnest after World War II, as America sought to contain Soviet influence and protect vital interests. Bases in Europe, Asia, and later the Middle East became footholds for power projection. Over time, these bases have evolved from temporary wartime necessities into permanent fixtures, symbolizing a form of modern imperialism often called the “American empire project.”

Strategic Justifications vs. Real-World Impact

Officially, these bases serve to deter aggression, support allies, and respond quickly to crises. However, the strategic benefits come with hidden costs. The presence of US troops and infrastructure can provoke resentment, destabilize local politics, and entangle America in conflicts far from its shores. The “base nation” concept highlights how this militarized global posture can backfire, undermining genuine security.

How US Military Bases Abroad Harm America

It might seem counterintuitive that US bases overseas could harm America itself, but the consequences are multi-faceted and significant.

Economic Burden and Opportunity Costs

Maintaining a global network of bases requires enormous financial resources. According to various estimates, billions of dollars annually go toward personnel, infrastructure upkeep, and operations abroad. These costs divert funds from critical domestic needs like education, healthcare, and infrastructure development. In effect, America pays a premium to sustain a military empire that provides diminishing returns in terms of security and influence.

Perpetuation of Endless Wars

US military bases act as launchpads for military interventions and prolonged conflicts. The presence of bases in volatile regions often escalates tensions, making diplomatic solutions harder to achieve. This cycle fuels what some critics term the “military-industrial complex,” where defense contractors and political interests benefit from continuous warfare, while ordinary Americans bear the brunt through loss of life and economic strain.

Damage to America’s Global Reputation

While US bases abroad are meant to enhance security, they can also tarnish America’s image internationally. Incidents involving misconduct by stationed troops, environmental damage, and perceived infringements on sovereignty stir anti-American sentiments. This erosion of goodwill complicates diplomatic relations and undermines efforts to build cooperative global partnerships.

The Global Consequences of the American Base Nation

The effects of US military bases ripple far beyond American borders, impacting host nations and the broader international order.

Political and Social Disruptions in Host Countries

Many countries hosting US bases experience significant social and political challenges.

Local populations often protest against bases due to noise pollution, environmental degradation, and cultural clashes. In some cases, bases become flashpoints for political instability or nationalist movements that demand greater autonomy and respect for sovereignty.

Environmental Impact of Overseas Military Installations

US bases abroad frequently cause environmental harm, including pollution of land and water, deforestation, and habitat destruction. Military activities such as live-fire drills and waste disposal practices have led to long-term ecological damage in host communities. This environmental footprint is often overlooked but contributes to global sustainability concerns.

Fueling Geopolitical Tensions and Rivalries

The presence of American bases in sensitive regions like the Middle East, East Asia, and Eastern Europe exacerbates geopolitical rivalries. Countries like China, Russia, and Iran perceive US bases as strategic threats, prompting arms races and proxy conflicts. This dynamic contributes to global instability and raises the risk of unintended military confrontations.

Rethinking the American Empire Project: Alternatives to Base Nation Strategy

Given the extensive drawbacks associated with the US military base network, reimagining America's global role is essential for a more peaceful and sustainable future.

Prioritizing Diplomacy Over Military Presence

Reducing reliance on overseas bases and focusing on diplomatic engagement can help resolve conflicts without resorting to military force. Investing in international institutions and conflict prevention mechanisms offers a path toward cooperative security that respects sovereignty and human rights.

Embracing Defense Realignment and Cost Reduction

A strategic realignment that closes unnecessary bases and reallocates resources to domestic priorities can relieve economic pressures. Streamlining military commitments allows the US to maintain essential defense capabilities without overextending itself globally.

Supporting Host Nations and Local Communities

Where military presence remains necessary, improving transparency, environmental stewardship, and community relations can mitigate negative impacts. Collaborative agreements that address local concerns foster goodwill and reduce tensions between American forces and host populations.

Understanding the Base Nation Phenomenon Through a Broader Lens

The concept of “base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project” invites us to critically examine the underlying assumptions about power, security, and global leadership. It challenges the notion that military dominance equates to peace and prosperity, highlighting instead the complexities and contradictions of maintaining an empire in the modern age.

This topic also encourages dialogue about the ethical dimensions of foreign military presence, the balance between national interests and global responsibility, and the need for innovative approaches to international relations. By looking beyond military might, America and the world can explore more equitable and effective ways to ensure security and justice.

In the end, the story of America’s “base nation” is a cautionary tale about the costs of unchecked militarism and the importance of striving for a more balanced and humane global order.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main argument of 'Base Nation' regarding US military bases abroad?

'Base Nation' argues that the extensive network of US military bases around the world harms both America and other countries by perpetuating imperialism, draining national resources, and fostering global resentment.

How do US military bases abroad negatively impact American taxpayers?

US military bases overseas require significant funding for maintenance and operations, leading to high military spending that diverts resources from domestic needs such as education, healthcare, and infrastructure.

In what ways do US bases abroad contribute to global instability?

US military bases can provoke local and regional tensions, fuel anti-American sentiment, and sometimes serve as launch points for military interventions, which can destabilize regions rather than promote peace.

How does the presence of US military bases abroad affect the sovereignty of host countries?

The presence of US bases often undermines the sovereignty of host nations by limiting their control over their own territory and sometimes enabling US military actions without local consent.

What environmental concerns are associated with US military bases overseas?

US bases have been linked to environmental damage, including pollution, habitat destruction, and contamination of local water and soil, negatively impacting the health and livelihoods of local populations.

How does the American Empire Project view the global military footprint of the United States?

The American Empire Project critiques the US's global military footprint as a form of imperialism that prioritizes military dominance over diplomacy, often undermining global stability and justice.

What alternatives to maintaining numerous US military bases abroad does 'Base Nation' propose?

'Base Nation' suggests reducing the number of overseas bases, focusing on diplomatic solutions, and reallocating military expenditures towards domestic priorities and international cooperation.

Why is it important to reexamine the role of US military bases overseas according to critics like those in 'Base Nation'?

Reexamining the role of US bases is crucial to addressing the ethical, financial, and geopolitical costs they impose, promoting a foreign policy that fosters peace, respects sovereignty, and serves the interests of both Americans and global communities.

Additional Resources

****Base Nation: How US Military Bases Abroad Harm America and the World – American Empire Project****

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project serves as a critical lens through which to examine the extensive global footprint of the United States military. The sprawling network of US bases scattered across continents represents one of the most significant manifestations of American power projection. Yet, these installations, often presented as strategic assets for national security and global stability, also spark intense debate regarding their broader implications. This article delves into the multifaceted consequences of US military bases abroad, scrutinizing their impact on America's domestic interests, international relations, and the geopolitical landscape shaped by what scholars and critics term the "American empire project."

The Scope of US Military Presence Overseas

The United States operates approximately 750 military bases in over 80 countries, ranging from large facilities in Germany, Japan, and South Korea to smaller outposts in Africa and the Middle East. This unprecedented global footprint is unparalleled in modern history and forms a central pillar of American defense strategy. These bases are often justified as necessary for rapid deployment capabilities, deterrence against adversaries, and support for allies.

However, the sheer scale of this overseas presence raises questions about its sustainability and consequences. The financial burden alone is staggering; estimates suggest the annual cost of maintaining these bases runs into tens of billions of dollars, contributing to the US defense budget's ballooning size. This expenditure competes with domestic priorities such as infrastructure, healthcare, and education, thereby sparking debate over the opportunity costs inherent to sustaining an extensive base network.

Strategic Objectives and the Concept of Base Nation

The term "base nation" refers to countries hosting foreign military installations, often under agreements that grant the United States significant operational freedom. These arrangements are part of the broader American empire project—an informal system through which the US exerts influence without traditional colonial control.

Strategically, bases serve several functions:

- Force projection to deter or respond to regional threats.
- Intelligence gathering and surveillance operations.
- Support for military logistics and joint training exercises with allied nations.

- Political leverage over host nations through military cooperation agreements.

While these objectives align with American global leadership aspirations, they also entangle both the US and host countries in complex political dynamics, often breeding resentment and resistance.

Negative Impacts on America

Economic Costs and Domestic Priorities

Maintaining military bases worldwide requires substantial funding, which critics argue diverts resources from pressing domestic needs. The 2023 Department of Defense budget exceeded \$800 billion, with a significant portion allocated to overseas operations and base upkeep. This financial commitment has been criticized for limiting investment in infrastructure, social programs, and innovation.

Moreover, the military-industrial complex thrives on continuous overseas presence, potentially perpetuating a cycle of conflict and interventionism. Some analysts contend that the base system incentivizes prolonged military engagements, rather than diplomatic solutions, thus affecting national security in a counterproductive manner.

Security Risks and Blowback

Paradoxically, US bases abroad can increase security risks. High-profile attacks on American bases, such as those in Iraq and Afghanistan, demonstrate that overseas installations can become targets for insurgents and terrorist groups. Such attacks not only endanger American personnel but can also provoke retaliatory cycles of violence, complicating counterterrorism efforts.

Furthermore, the presence of US bases may fuel anti-American sentiment in host countries, undermining America's image as a promoter of democracy and human rights. This backlash can manifest in diplomatic strains and complicate cooperation on broader security issues.

Implications for Host Nations and Global Stability

Sovereignty and Political Tensions

For host countries, accepting US military bases often involves trade-offs between

sovereignty and security guarantees. While some nations view American presence as a deterrent against regional adversaries, others perceive these bases as infringements on their autonomy.

In some cases, base agreements enable the US to operate with limited oversight, raising concerns about violations of local laws and norms. Instances of environmental damage, accidents, and alleged misconduct by military personnel have sparked protests and diplomatic disputes, straining bilateral relations.

Environmental and Social Consequences

US military bases abroad have been linked to significant environmental degradation. Activities such as weapons testing, waste disposal, and infrastructure construction contribute to pollution and habitat destruction. For example, the contamination of water supplies near bases in Okinawa, Japan, has been a persistent issue, affecting local communities' health and livelihoods.

Socially, the influx of foreign troops can alter local economies and cultures, sometimes exacerbating inequality or fueling social tensions. The presence of bases also attracts illicit activities, including black markets and human trafficking, further complicating host societies' challenges.

Geopolitical Ramifications and the American Empire Project

Perpetuation of Global Power Imbalances

The extensive US base network embodies the reach and influence of the American empire project, a term used to describe the United States' informal dominance over global affairs through military, economic, and cultural means. While not a traditional empire, this system relies heavily on military bases as instruments of control and influence.

By maintaining bases in strategically important regions, the US shapes local power dynamics and constrains the policy options of other states. This often provokes rival powers such as China and Russia to respond with their own military expansions, fostering an environment of strategic competition and instability.

Challenges to Multilateralism and Diplomacy

The reliance on military bases can sometimes undermine diplomatic initiatives. Host countries may feel compelled to align with US policies due to military dependencies, limiting their ability to act independently or mediate conflicts. Additionally, base-related

controversies can hinder broader international cooperation on issues like trade, climate change, and regional security.

This military-centric approach contrasts with calls for more inclusive and cooperative global governance frameworks, raising questions about the long-term efficacy of the American empire project in a multipolar world.

Alternative Perspectives and Potential Reforms

Some defense analysts argue that US bases abroad play an indispensable role in deterring aggression and maintaining global order. Proponents highlight their utility in rapid humanitarian responses, disaster relief, and coalition-building.

Nevertheless, growing voices advocate for a reassessment of the overseas base strategy, emphasizing:

- Greater transparency and accountability in base agreements.
- Enhanced cooperation with host nations to address environmental and social impacts.
- Shifting focus towards diplomatic conflict resolution and reducing reliance on military force.
- Reallocating defense spending to balance domestic needs with international commitments.

Such reforms could mitigate some of the harms associated with the current base system while preserving essential security functions.

As the global geopolitical environment evolves, the future of US military bases abroad will likely remain a contentious subject, reflecting broader debates about America's role in the world and the consequences of its enduring empire project.

[Base Nation How Us Military Bases Abroad Harm America And The World American Empire Project](#)

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project: **Base Nation** David Vine, 2015-08-25 American military bases encircle the globe; from Italy to the Indian Ocean, from Japan to Honduras. The far-reaching story of the perils of the U. S. military bases and what these bases say about America today.

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project: [Base Nation](#) David Vine, 2015-08-25 From Italy to the Indian Ocean, from Japan to

Honduras, a far-reaching examination of the perils of American military bases overseas American military bases encircle the globe. More than two decades after the end of the Cold War, the U.S. still stations its troops at nearly a thousand locations in foreign lands. These bases are usually taken for granted or overlooked entirely, a little-noticed part of the Pentagon's vast operations. But in an eye-opening account, *Base Nation* shows that the worldwide network of bases brings with it a panoply of ills—and actually makes the nation less safe in the long run. As David Vine demonstrates, the overseas bases raise geopolitical tensions and provoke widespread antipathy towards the United States. They also undermine American democratic ideals, pushing the U.S. into partnerships with dictators and perpetuating a system of second-class citizenship in territories like Guam. They breed sexual violence, destroy the environment, and damage local economies. And their financial cost is staggering: though the Pentagon underplays the numbers, Vine's accounting proves that the bill approaches \$100 billion per year. For many decades, the need for overseas bases has been a quasi-religious dictum of U.S. foreign policy. But in recent years, a bipartisan coalition has finally started to question this conventional wisdom. With the U.S. withdrawing from Afghanistan and ending thirteen years of war, there is no better time to re-examine the tenets of our military strategy. *Base Nation* is an essential contribution to that debate.

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project: *Overseas Bases and US Strategy* Jonathan Stevenson, 2022-08-01 Overseas military bases have been the bedrock of the United States' ability to project military power, exert political influence and deter potential adversaries since the Second World War. But fatigue with America's 'forever wars', as well as more nuanced financial and strategic reasons, has inclined the public and policy community to favour reducing US global military activities and overseas presence. In this Adelphi book, Jonathan Stevenson argues that this desire does not necessarily translate into sound strategy. Overseas bases are a key element of the reassurance required to resurrect and bolster America's reputation among its allies and adversaries. Meanwhile, strategic imperatives and geopolitical realities impose restraints in every theatre. The fluidity prevailing in the Middle East and Indo-Pacific counsels maintaining forward-deployed forces there at roughly the current level. Russia's confrontational posture towards NATO and invasion of Ukraine, as well as NATO's short- and medium-term reliance on US capabilities, require the American presence in Europe to increase and expand eastward. The US should not commit itself to a foreign policy that is heavy on forward-deployed military power and light on diplomacy. But paradoxically, reducing forward military presence may not be consistent with a policy that is less focused on military power as a means of achieving stability and security.

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project: *Militarization and the American Century* David Fitzgerald, 2022-01-13 Taking American mobilization in WWII as its departure point, this book offers a concise but comprehensive introduction to the history of militarization in the United States since 1940. Exploring the ways in which war and the preparation for war have shaped and affected the United States during 'The American Century', Fitzgerald demonstrates how militarization has moulded relations between the US and the rest of the world. Providing a timely synthesis of key scholarship in a rapidly developing field, this book shows how national security concerns have affected issues as diverse as the development of the welfare state, infrastructure spending, gender relations and notions of citizenship. It also examines the way in which war is treated in the American imagination; how it has been depicted throughout this era, why its consequences have been made largely invisible and how Americans have often considered themselves to be reluctant warriors. In integrating domestic histories with international and transnational topics such as the American 'empire of bases' and the experience of American service personnel overseas, the author outlines the ways in which American militarization had, and still has, global consequences. Of interest to scholars, researchers and students of military history, war studies, US foreign relations and policy, this book addresses a burgeoning and dynamic field from which parallels and comparisons can be drawn for the modern day.

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project: Censored 2019 Mickey Huff, Andy Lee Roth, 2018-10-02 "For more than forty years, Project Censored has been our watchdog on the establishment media, casting its eye on how the information that we receive--and don't receive--shapes our democracy. We need it more than ever today!" —Christopher Finan, Executive Director, National Coalition Against Censorship (NCAC) THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE STORIES PRESENTED IN CENSORED 2019: --"Open-Source" Intelligence Secrets Sold to Highest Bidders --ICE Intends to Destroy Records of Inhumane Treatment of Immigrants --Indigenous Communities around World Helping to Win Legal Rights of Nature --FBI Racially Profiling "Black Identity Extremists" --The Limits of Negative News and Importance of Constructive Media DID YOU KNOW THAT SINCE 1998 THE US GOVERNMENT SPENT \$21 TRILLION IT CAN'T ACCOUNT FOR? Or that Internet co-ops are mobilizing poor communities to resist net neutrality rollbacks? How about the health risks of wireless tech that cell phone companies have covered up, or the opiate crisis that Big Pharma knowingly unleashed? Haven't heard the news? Neither did the rest of the world. That's because these and countless other news items are suppressed or ignored by our nation's "free press" every day. For the past forty-three years, Project Censored has been unearthing the buried stories that corporate media deem unfit to print—and debunking the "fake news" governments and corporations use to consolidate their power—to promote well-informed citizen action and critical media literacy. This year's Project Censored yearbook features: -- "Vetting Free Speech" by Sally Gimson, Layli Foroudi, and Sean Gallagher -- "#TimesUp: Breaking the Barriers of Sexual Harassment in Corporate Media for You and #MeToo" by Julie Frechette -- "Data Activism through Community Mapping and Data Visualization" by Dorothy Kidd -- "How Mainstream Media Evolved into Corporate Media" by Peter Phillips -- "Campus-Newsroom Collaborations" by Patricia W. Elliott -- "The Public and Its Problems" by Susan Maret Plus Junk Food News, News Abuse, and Media Democracy in Action. In a time of decline in the rule of law and democratic safeguards, Project Censored offers a constructive alternative to the "fake news" blues, holding the corporate media to account for its negative bias, propaganda for wealth and power, and outright censorship.

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project: The Future of U.S. Empire in the Americas Timothy M. Gill, 2020-03-12 With the rise of President Trump, many are coming to question where the United States (U.S.) is headed and, whether we might witness an imperial decline under Trump. Social scientists largely recognize the contemporary hegemonic position of the U.S. at the global level, but questions persist concerning the future of the U.S. Empire. With the Trump Administration at the helm, these questions are all the more salient. Drawing on the expertise of a panel of contributors and guided by Michael Mann's model of power, this book critically interrogates the future of U.S. global power and provides insights on what we might expect from the U.S. Empire under Trump. Recognizing that U.S. imperial power involves an array of sources of power (ideological, economic, military, and political), the contributors analyze the Trump Administration's approach towards nine countries in the Western Hemisphere, and five sets of global policies, including inter-American relations, drugs, trade, the environment, and immigration. Each case presents a historical look at the trajectory of relations as they have developed under Trump and what we might expect in the future from the administration. The Future of U.S. Empire in the Americas will be of great interest to students and scholars of U.S. foreign policy, Foreign Policy Analysis, political sociology, and American politics.

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project: Geofusion: Mapping Of The 21st Century Norbert Csizmadia, 2020-03-26 Geofusion is an exciting journey around the main issues of the 21st century. This is a book with roadmaps that show the complexity of our world, the interconnections between places, people, schools of thoughts, and disciplines. Starting with a geographical frame of reference, readers are taken through the global geo-economic trends and likely future scenarios as well as the driving forces of the new world economy. The book points to the importance of cities as the power centers for the multidimensional global network of the 21st century. Geofusion is a thought-provoking guidebook to our

interconnected world.

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project: American Exceptionalism Ian Tyrrell, 2022-01-19 A powerful dissection of a core American myth. The idea that the United States is unlike every other country in world history is a surprisingly resilient one. Throughout his distinguished career, Ian Tyrrell has been one of the most influential historians of the idea of American exceptionalism, but he has never written a book focused solely on it until now. The notion that American identity might be exceptional emerged, Tyrrell shows, from the belief that the nascent early republic was not simply a postcolonial state but a genuinely new experiment in an imperialist world dominated by Britain. Prior to the Civil War, American exceptionalism fostered declarations of cultural, economic, and spatial independence. As the country grew in population and size, becoming a major player in the global order, its exceptionalist beliefs came more and more into focus—and into question. Over time, a political divide emerged: those who believed that America's exceptionalism was the basis of its virtue and those who saw America as either a long way from perfect or actually fully unexceptional, and thus subject to universal demands for justice. Tyrrell masterfully articulates the many forces that made American exceptionalism such a divisive and definitional concept. Today, he notes, the demands that people acknowledge America's exceptionalism have grown ever more strident, even as the material and moral evidence for that exceptionalism—to the extent that there ever was any—has withered away.

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project: America after Empire Berch Berberoglu, 2022-11-09 After the end of America's longest (20-year) war in Afghanistan and Iraq that cost more than \$6 trillion and nearly half a million lives, what does the future hold for America and the American people in the 21st century? In this timely and important book, Berch Berberoglu provides an eye-opening account of the history of the American Empire from its inception to the present, with prospects for its future. Examining the worldwide expansion of the American Empire over the course of its turbulent history in great detail, Berberoglu assesses America's imperial legacy in a sober way, highlighting its failure to come to terms with the enormous cost of this adventure in imperial overreach. But Berberoglu sees light at the end of the long, dark tunnel, when the American people will awaken and lead the way to a new America after empire in the coming decades of the 21st century.

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project: Expanding US Military Command in Africa Tshepo Gwatiwa, Justin van der Merwe, 2020-12-23 This book discusses the systematic expansion of the United States Africa Command (AFRICOM) across the continent of Africa. This book posits that AFRICOM expansion in Africa is part of a broader system of accumulation based on a government-business-media (GBM) complex. Applying the concept at both structural and descriptive levels, the GBM complex is a function of the synergy between the state's quest for power, businesses' need for expansion, and the informational and hegemonic functions of media actors. The United States' GBM complex in Africa is supported—and in some locations spearheaded—by its military, with dispossessing effects on local actors. Drawing from African case studies, analytical accounts and empirical case studies, this book explores AFRICOM's role within this broader strategy. The volume maps both the methods and the scope of this expansion, as well as local resistance to this process, and comprises perspectives from the five regions of Africa, key sub-regional organizations and voices from Africa's regional hegemons. This book will be of much interest to students of security studies, strategic studies, African politics and International Relations.

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project: The Military and the Market Jennifer Mittelstadt, Mark R. Wilson, 2022-10-11 Throughout its history, the U.S. military has worked in close connection to market-based institutions and structures. It has run systems of free and unfree labor, taken over private sector firms, and both spurred and snuffed out economic development. It has created new markets—for consumer products, for sex work, and for new technologies. It has operated as a regulator of industries and

firms and an arbitrator of labor practices. And in recent decades it has gone so far as to refashion itself from the inside, so as to become more similar to a for-profit corporation. The *Military and the Market* covers two centuries of history of the U.S. military's vast and varied economic operations, including its often tense relationships with capitalist markets. Collecting new scholarship at the intersection of the fields of military history, business history, policy history, and the history of capitalism, the nine chapters feature important new research on subjects ranging from Civil War soldier-entrepreneurs, to the business of the construction of housing and overseas bases for the Cold War, to the U.S. military's troubled relationships with markets for sex. The volume enriches scholars' understandings of the depth and complexity of military-market relations in U.S. history and offers today's military policymakers novel insights about the origins of current arrangements and how they might be reimagined. Contributors: Jessica L. Adler, Timothy Barker, Patrick Chung, Gretchen Heefner, Jennifer Mittelstadt, A. Junn Murphy, Kara Dixon Vuic, Sarah Jones Weicksel, Mark R. Wilson, Daniel Wirls.

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project: The Democracy That Never Was Gary Teeple, 2025-02-28 Liberal democracy is usually treated as an independent variable, as possessing the absolutes of democratic rule. Its variable forms, changing principles and practice, and conscious destruction by its own advocates, in particular the United States, however, suggest that it is not what it appears to be. This book argues that it is a dependent variable, the political form required by the changing configurations of national capital and their countervailing forces. The forms of liberal democracy have always shifted in concert with the mode of production as their premise. The absolutes of liberal democracy, the author contends, have never been anything but the abstracted principles of the marketplace. Their nature has now become especially visible for what they have been because the premise as national capital development has changed, leaving liberal democracy as a form without its original content, and its present content out of keeping with a national jurisdiction. As a political form, it persists, but its role has been transformed from the regulation of national capital accumulation to the enforcer of the demands of global configurations of capital. It is a role that its citizens implicitly understand, as revealed in widespread political cynicism, decreasing electoral participation, and declining legitimacy that require ever greater measures of deceit from political leaders and increased means of coercive social control, including militarized police forces and pervasive electronic surveillance. There can be no going back to the stage of national politics because the neoliberal content of liberal democratic policies represents the necessities of global capital. And it is the contradictions of global capital that define the character of early 21st century political conflict.

base nation how us military bases abroad harm america and the world american empire project: In Search of Monsters to Destroy Christopher J. Coyne, 2022-12-08 Imperialism and militarism build empires, not liberalism. So says Christopher Coyne, Senior Fellow at the Independent Institute and professor of economics at George Mason University, in this eye-opening, must-read book on America's recent foreign policy failures. The attempt by the United States since 9/11 to establish liberal political regimes in the Middle East and in the mountains of Afghanistan was doomed to fail. And the logic is simple: illiberal means can lead only to illiberal ends. What else are the hundreds of thousands of dead and mutilated civilians the US military left behind, from 2003 to 2021, in these regions? The destroyed ancient cultures and nearly obliterated nation-states? Coyne also points out that the illiberal perpetrators also can end up, not only nearly bankrupt and humiliated, but also profoundly less secure. If we do not absorb these hard truths, says Coyne, the rest of the twenty-first century will be a repeat of its bloodstained, unstable beginning. But Coyne is no isolationist. A vocal champion of global engagement, Coyne insists there are workable, proven alternatives to imperialism, militarism, and empire—ones, deeply rooted in human experience, that preserve freedom, promote security, and foster mutually enriching friendship among the nations of the earth. Read *In Search of Monsters to Destroy*, and you'll never look at the nation state or international relations the same again.

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project: The Guise of Exceptionalism Robert Fatton, 2021-04-16 The Guise of Exceptionalism compares the historical origins of Haitian and American exceptionalisms. It also traces how exceptionalism as a narrative of uniqueness has shaped relations between the two countries from their early days of independence through the contemporary period. Exceptionalism is at the core of every national founding narrative. It allows countries to purge history of injurious stains, and embellish it with mythical innocence and claims of distinction. Exceptionalism also builds the bonds of solidarity that forge an imagined national fellowship of the chosen, but it excludes those deemed unfit for membership because of their race, ethnicity, gender, or class. Exceptionalism, however, is not frozen. As a social invention, it changes over time, but always within the parameters of its original principles. Our capacity to reinvent it is dependent on the degree of hegemony achieved by the ruling class, and if this class has the infrastructural power to gradually co-opt and include the groups it had once excluded.

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project: The United States of War David Vine, 2021-09-07 2020 L.A. Times Book Prize Finalist, History A provocative examination of how the U.S. military has shaped our entire world, from today's costly, endless wars to the prominence of violence in everyday American life. The United States has been fighting wars constantly since invading Afghanistan in 2001. This nonstop warfare is far less exceptional than it might seem: the United States has been at war or has invaded other countries almost every year since independence. In The United States of War, David Vine traces this pattern of bloody conflict from Columbus's 1494 arrival in Guantanamo Bay through the 250-year expansion of a global U.S. empire. Drawing on historical and firsthand anthropological research in fourteen countries and territories, The United States of War demonstrates how U.S. leaders across generations have locked the United States in a self-perpetuating system of permanent war by constructing the world's largest-ever collection of foreign military bases—a global matrix that has made offensive interventionist wars more likely. Beyond exposing the profit-making desires, political interests, racism, and toxic masculinity underlying the country's relationship to war and empire, The United States of War shows how the long history of U.S. military expansion shapes our daily lives, from today's multi-trillion-dollar wars to the pervasiveness of violence and militarism in everyday U.S. life. The book concludes by confronting the catastrophic toll of American wars—which have left millions dead, wounded, and displaced—while offering proposals for how we can end the fighting.

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project: At War with Women Jennifer Greenburg, 2023-02-15 At War with Women reveals how post-9/11 politics of gender and development have transformed US military power. In the mid-2000s, the US military used development as a weapon as it revived counterinsurgency in Iraq and Afghanistan. The military assembled all-female teams to reach households and wage war through development projects in the battle for hearts and minds. Despite women technically being banned from ground combat units, the all-female teams were drawn into combat nonetheless. Based on ethnographic fieldwork observing military trainings, this book challenges liberal feminist narratives that justified the Afghanistan War in the name of women's rights and celebrated women's integration into combat as a victory for gender equality. Jennifer Greenburg critically interrogates a new imperial feminism and its central role in securing US hegemony. Women's incorporation into combat through emotional labor has reinforced gender stereotypes, with counterinsurgency framing female soldiers as global ambassadors for women's rights. This book provides an analysis of US imperialism that keeps the present in tension with the past, clarifying where colonial ideologies of race, gender, and sexuality have resurfaced and how they are changing today.

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project: Censored 2018 Mickey Huff, Andy Lee Roth, Project Censored, 2017-10-03 [Censored] should be affixed to the bulletin boards in every newsroom in America. And, perhaps, read aloud to a few publishers and television executives.--RALPH NADER The annual yearbook from Project Censored features the year's most underreported news stories, striving to unmask censorship, self-censorship, and propaganda in corporate-controlled media outlets. Featuring the top 25 most

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project: *International Studies* Stanley Toops, Mark Allen Peterson, Walt Vanderbush, Naaborle Sackeyfio, Sheldon Anderson, 2021-09-28 This book provides a much-needed classroom text in international studies that is genuinely interdisciplinary in its approach. International Studies focuses specifically on five core disciplines; history, geography, anthropology, political science and economics, and describes them in relation to one another, as well as their individual and collective contributions to the study of global issues. The expert authors also emphasize the continuing importance of area studies within an interdisciplinary and global framework, applying its interdisciplinary framework to substantive issues in seven regions: Europe, East Asia and the Pacific, South and Central Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, Latin America and North America. This new edition has been completely updated and substantially revised with two new chapters on Media, Sovereignty and Cybersecurity and Sustainable Development. This disciplinary and regional combination offers a useful and cohesive framework for teaching students a substantive and comprehensive approach to understanding global issues.

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project: *Historia de la sociedad presente* José Manuel Azcona Pastor, Miguel Madueño Álvarez, 2024-02-29 El mundo actual se estremece: las guerras latentes y los efectos de la competencia entre estados; una acelerada yuxtaposición de hechos y consecuencias que antes de concluir han dejado de ser noticia; una tecnología que supera todas las expectativas de la ciencia ficción; y una globalización perniciosa que alienta el flujo de capitales, pero limita el de las personas. Nuestro mundo no es, en realidad, muy diferente al que nos precedió, pero quizá nos resulta más complicado entenderlo sin la perspectiva que ofrece el tiempo. En *Historia de la Sociedad Presente. El Mundo y sus desvelos desde 1990*, se reúnen los elementos de la sociedad y la historia del tiempo presente en un ejercicio de transversalidad en el que todos los aspectos, los mínimos detalles de la historia local o la microhistoria, son tan importantes como los grandes procesos que han movido a la humanidad en su continuo devenir. Por ello, se presenta esta obra que apuesta por una amplia variedad temática, con sus distintas variantes, englobando tres principales áreas: el ámbito global, la perspectiva sectorial y una parte dedicada a la España actual, descendiendo así desde lo genérico hasta lo específico sin olvidar diferentes áreas y procesos que se escapan de la generalidad.

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project: *As entrevistas de Putin* Oliver Stone, 2017-11-10 Oliver Stone realizou uma série de entrevistas com o presidente russo Vladimir Putin, que vieram a se tornar o documentário *The Putin Interviews*. Neste livro, o leitor terá a oportunidade inédita de saber um pouco mais sobre o homem por trás do cargo de presidente, sobre suas responsabilidades, suas preocupações — das mais banais até aquelas que têm impacto na vida de milhares de cidadãos ao redor do planeta —, suas relações familiares, seu passado como agente da KGB e mesmo suas expectativas pessoais diante de conflitos bastante complexos. A partir da linha biográfica de Vladimir Putin, o público será capaz de se informar sobre inúmeros marcos da história da Rússia e sobre as relações internacionais muitas vezes conturbadas do país. Putin também fala sobre sua ascensão ao poder e detalha seu vínculo com os presidentes Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Barack Obama e Donald Trump.

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