

<<美国对外政策的政治学文献选读>>

图书基本信息

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前言

The purpose of this anthology , or collection of readings , is to provide students with information and knowledge that allows them to arrive at a strong understanding of the complex politics of U.S. foreign policy. The composition of this anthology is such that it can be used to accompany a textbook , replace a textbook entirely , or be used in conjunction with other books , as the instructor sees fit. Although the book is intended primarily for an undergraduate audience , the collection of readings is also suitable for graduate courses. A great deal of thought has gone into constructing this anthology based on the following ideas. First , the anthology provides a large selection of readings. The intent is to include readings that provide comprehensive coverage of U.S. foreign policymaking and which maximizes choices for the instructor. The readings are basically organized into two major parts : first , beginning with the president , the focus is on governmental institutions and the policymaking process; this is followed by a focus on how the larger society and domestic politics affect the government and foreign policy process. I make no presumption that all of the readings are to be used. In fact , I assume that each instructor might use only a part of the whole , organized in the way each instructor deems best. This is the intent of a large-sized and versatile volume— to accommodate the preferences and tastes of different instructors and courses. Second , the anthology provides a diverse and kaleidoscopic set of readings. In order to maximize student learning , it consists of a broad selection of material representing different genres of readings , thus providing different perspectives and interpretations from a variety of sources. Some of the readings are more scholarly (such as , in *International Studies Quarterly* or *Presidential Studies Quarterly*); others are more policy-oriented (such as , in *Foreign Policy* and *World Policy Journal*); others are more intellectual and journalistic in their orientation (such as , in *The New Republic* and *The New York Times Magazine*); and some are excerpts from original government documents (such as the National Security Act of 1947 or the Curtiss-Wright Supreme Court decision). Some are longer; some are shorter. Some are classics; others are more contemporary pieces. A diverse mixture of readings maximizes the acquisition of information , knowledge , and understanding of the politics of U.S. foreign policy , and should stimulate interest and readability. Third , the anthology includes readings that evoke a strong sense of the politics involved in the making of U.S. foreign policy. Students need to have a feeling for and a comprehension of the politics involved in the foreign policy process , both within the government and throughout society. They need to learn who the players are and how they operate , interact , conflict , win , compromise , and lose. They need to understand the dynamics involved in the use of power , as well as the language of politics and the symbols invoked that make it such a political , complex , and messy process. The shorter , more intellectual and journalistic readings , in particular , provide such a perspective.

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内容概要

美国在世界上的巨大影响使美国的外交政策成为世人持续关注的一个焦点。美国外交政策到底是如何制定的?美国政府的哪些机构和部门在外交决策过程中起主要作用?美国行政当局和立法机构之间的相互关系是如何影响美国的外交决策的?美国的价值观、选举、利益团体和大众媒体对美国外交决策到底有何影响?这些都是那些希望了解美国外交决策的人需要认真思考的问题。

由美国南卡罗莱纳大学教授杰里尔·罗赛蒂(Jerel A. Rosati)主编的这本《美国对外政策的政治学文献选读》(Readings in the Politics of United States Foreign Policy)收集了关于美国外交决策的论文和文章数十篇, 这些文章从外交决策过程到外交决策机构, 从行政当局在外交决策中的地位和作用到立法机构对外交决策的牵制和影响, 从美国社会中不同团体的价值取向对外交决策的规范到不同利益团体的政治运作对外交决策的冲击, 洋洋洒洒, 数十万言, 对美国外交决策进行了全面的介绍和分析。

该书共分两个主要部分: 政府与外交政策制定过程和国内政治对外交决策的影响。第一部分收入的文章涉及总统、国家安全委员会和主要外交决策人、外交机构、立法机构以及立法机构和行政当局之间的关系。

第二部分收入的文章主要涉及美国公众的信仰、选举和利益团体政治、大众媒体等因素对外交决策的影响。

由于美国外交决策备受关注, 介绍和分析美国外交决策的文章和书籍多如牛毛。尽管如此, 纵观该书, 我们仍可以发现以下几个特点: (1)系统全面; (2)多层次、多角度; (3)重点着墨于影响外交决策的政治因素; 以及(4)通过两个历史案例说明和强调美国外交决策中的政治因素。

首先, 编者收集的文章比较系统、全面地介绍和分析了美国外交决策的各个方面, 其中包括美国总统、行政当局主要职能部门和国会任在外交决策过程中的作用, 总统、国会关系和宪法对外交决策的影响, 公众舆论、选举政治、利益团体政治、大众媒体对外交政策的影响等等。

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A continuation of this trend, alarmed voices have pointed out, would push the U.S. national debt to around \$13 trillion by the year 2000 (fourteen times the debt in 1980) and the interest payments on the debt to \$1.5 trillion (twenty-nine times the 1980 payments). In fact a lowering of interest rates could make those estimates too high, but the overall trend is still very unhealthy. Even if federal deficits could be reduced to a "mere" \$100 billion annually, the compounding of national debt and interest payments by the early twenty-first century would still cause unprecedented sums of money to be diverted in that direction. The only historical examples that come to mind of Great Powers so increasing their indebtedness in peacetime are France in the 1780s, where the fiscal crisis finally led to revolution, and Russia early in this century. Indeed, it is difficult to imagine how the American economy could have got by without the inflow of foreign funds in the early 1980s, even if that had the awkward consequence of inflating the dollar and thereby further hurting U.S. agricultural and manufacturing exports. But, one wonders, what might happen if those funds are pulled out of the dollar, causing its value to drop precipitously? Some say that alarmist voices are exaggerating the gravity of what is happening to the U.S. economy and failing to note the "naturalness" of most of these developments. For example, the midwestern farm belt would be much less badly off if so many farmers had not bought land at inflated prices and excessive interest rates in the late 1970s. The move from manufacturing into services is understandable, and is occurring in all advanced countries. And U.S. manufacturing output has been rising in absolute terms, even if employment (especially blue-collar employment) in manufacturing has been falling—but that too is a "natural" trend, as the world increasingly moves from material-based to knowledge-based production. Similarly, there is nothing wrong in the metamorphosis of American financial institutions into world financial institutions, with bases in Tokyo and London as well as New York, to handle (and profit from) the heavy flow of capital; that can only increase the nations earnings from services. Even the large annual federal deficits and the mounting national debt are sometimes described as being not very serious, after allowance is made for inflation; and there exists in some quarters a belief that the economy will "grow its way out" of these deficits, or that government measures will close the gap, whether by increasing taxes or cutting spending or both. A too hasty attempt to slash the deficit, it is pointed out, could well trigger a major recession.

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