<<美国研究读本(第二辑)>>

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内容概要

《美国研究读本(第2辑高等学校英语专业系列教材)》由梅仁毅主编,本书提供的是美国的基本框架, 是一些长久起作用的原则。

本书提供的是变化中的美国的一些突出方面,具有动态性质。

因为美国研究不仅需要了解一些本质性的东西,也需要了解这些东西在当今的现实中是如何表现的, 这就是与时俱进。

本书从美国国内政治、外交政策、经济发展、社会文化四个方面介绍美国进入21世纪以来发生的重大 变化。

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章节摘录

版权页: 插图: A brief glance further back in history identifies numerous other examples of serious Congressional quarrels with the Executive over foreign policy. Woodrow Wilson's failed effort to persuade the Senate to accept his League of Nations after the First World War is well known. In a less renowned case, William McKinley managed to annex Hawaii in 1898 only by transforming his treaty, which did not have the support of two-thirds of the Senate, into a joint resolution of Congress, which only required a majority vote. In August 1941, Franklin Roosevelt barely managed to persuade Congress to extend the draft by a vote of 203 to 202. A more balanced reading of history than that offered by the new myth suggests that Congressional deference to the Executive's foreign policy was the exception. Indeed, the period of special comity between the Executive and Congress on foreign policy was relatively brief, extending from 1941 to the mid-1960s. The unusual reserve of Congress during those years seemed to reflect in part the sense of members that Congress' actions on trade and security in the 1930s had led to disastrous consequences: they doubted themselves and the ability of Congress to make sound foreign policies. Even with this deference, the biographies of Secretaries of State George Marshall, Dean Acheson and John Foster Dulles are replete with incidents in which the Executive had to make special efforts, compromises and public campaigns to win Congressional support. And as the Congressional rejection of the new International Trade Organization in the late 1940s revealed, even the grand architects of America's post-Second World War strategy could not count on securing Congressional approval of all their initiatives. After the Executive demonstrated that it, too, could make dreadful mistakes in foreign policy, Congress moved aggressively to reclaim its place. As Richard Haass observed in 1979, Congress had not only revived its foreign-policy involvement during the previous decade but it had also changed the nature of its role. Before the Second World War-except for a few topics such as spending, tariffs and treaties-Congress usually contented itself with establishing general political parameters and expectations for America's international policies. Starting in the 1970s, Congress' interventions became more detailed and substantive.

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