

# International Conflict Advisory Committee

Dealing with  
international conflicts  
and incidents

## Benchmarks

SS.7.C.4.3 Describe examples of how the United States has dealt with international conflicts.



F . L . R . E . A

**FLOR**  **DA**  
Law Related Education Association, Inc.

# Review: What are the goals and objectives of foreign policy?

The Department of State has four main foreign policy goals:

- Protect the United States and Americans;
- Advance democracy, human rights, and other global interests;
- Promote international understanding of American values and policies; and
- Support U.S. diplomats, government officials, and all other personnel at home and abroad who make these goals a reality.

# Dealing With International Conflicts

- Diplomatic talks
    - Conflict resolution
  - Peacekeeping efforts
  - Humanitarian efforts
  - Banning trade (embargo)
  - Military action
- 

In most situations, international conflicts are approached in this order: **international conflicts**- begin with **diplomatic talks** and progressing to **military action** if needed.

# Diplomacy

The art and practice of conducting negotiations and maintaining relations between nations; skill in handling affairs without arousing hostility



The Deputy Chief of Mission Virginia Blaser chats with Karamajong Warriors (State Department image, Embassy Kampala).

# Peacekeeping Efforts

- United Nations Peacekeeping helps countries torn by conflict create conditions for lasting peace.
- Peacekeeping is not only to maintain peace and security – it also:
  - Facilitates the political process,
  - Protects civilians,
  - Assists in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants;
  - Supports the organization of elections,
  - Protects and promotes human rights and
  - Assists in restoring the rule of law.

# Humanitarian Aid

- Humanitarian assistance is generally accepted to mean the aid and action designed to:
  - Save lives;
  - Alleviate suffering and maintain and protect human dignity during and in the aftermath of man-made crises and natural disasters; and
  - Prevent and strengthen preparedness for the occurrence of such situations.



<http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/humanitarian/>

# Embargos and Sanctions

## Embargo

- Governmental restriction of trade; official ban on trade or other commercial activity

## Sanction

- An action that is taken or an order that is given to force a country to obey international laws by limiting or stopping trade with that country, by not allowing economic aid for that country, etc.

# Military Action

- Military action can include:
  - Sending in troops for peacekeeping efforts in order to provide support and maintain security
  - Providing troops to assist an existing military effort
  - Enacting blockades, or stopping people or supplies from entering or leaving a port or country
  - Declaration of war on another country





You will now be on an International Advisory Committee where you will learn about an international conflict/incident and provide an advisory opinion on how the U.S. should handle the situation.

**YOU'RE THE COMMITTEE!**

# World War I

During WWI, the United States officially declared war on Germany in 1917.



Source: Flagg, James Montgomery, Artist. I want you for U.S. Army: nearest recruiting station / James Montgomery Flagg. ca. 1917. Image. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/96507165/>.

# World War II

“Yesterday, December 7, 1941—a date which will live in infamy—the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan...

I ask that the Congress declare that since the unprovoked and dastardly attack by Japan on Sunday, December 7, 1941, a state of war has existed between the United States and the Japanese Empire.”

# Korean War

The President authorized military intervention on behalf of South Korea (Republic of Korea) by sending in Air Force missions, a Naval blockade, and ground support under the direction of General MacArthur.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNE 30, 1950

At a meeting with Congressional leaders at the White House this morning, the President, together with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, reviewed with them the latest developments of the situation in Korea. The Congressional leaders were given a full review of the intensified military activities.

In keeping with the United Nations Security Council's request for support to the Republic of Korea in repelling the North Korean invaders and restoring peace in Korea, the President announced that

- ① he had authorized the United States Air Force to conduct missions on specific military targets in Northern Korea wherever militarily necessary, ② and had ordered a Naval blockade of the entire Korean coast.
- ③ General MacArthur has been authorized to use certain supporting ground units.

- ① authorized by SCS message of Thursday evening
- ② not actually authorized by SCS message until Saturday, 1 July
- ③ ④ Airia units, + combat units in Pusan area authorized Thurs evening;  
⑤ 1. RET to combat area authorized in early Friday telecon;  
⑥ 2. Dis to Japan authorized by SCS message of 1:22 pm. est. 30 June.



# Bay of Pigs

The failed military strike in the Bay of Pigs was a controversial and hotly debated move by the United States, as evidenced in the memo for the President.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 8, 1961

~~TOP SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR

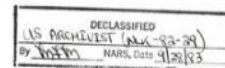
THE PRESIDENT

When you have your meeting this afternoon on Cuba, I think you will find that there is a divergence of view between State on the one hand and CIA and Defense on the other. Defense and CIA now feel quite enthusiastic about the invasion from Guatemala -- at the worst they think the invaders would get into the mountains, and at the best they think they might get a full-fledged civil war in which we could then back the anti-Castro forces openly. State Department takes a much cooler view, primarily because of its belief that the political consequences would be very grave both in the United Nations and in Latin America. I think they will urge careful and extended diplomatic discussions with other American states, looking toward an increasing diplomatic isolation of Cuba and the Dominican Republic before any drastic action is taken. This divergence of view has not been openly and plainly considered in recent task force discussions, as I understand it. Therefore, you are quite likely to hear it in quite fresh form this afternoon.

Dick Goodwin has been in on most of the Cuban discussions, and he and I join in believing that there should certainly not be an invasion adventure without careful diplomatic soundings. We also think it almost certain that such soundings would confirm the judgment you are likely to hear from State.

McG. B.

~~TOP SECRET~~



# Cuban Missile Crisis

The Cuban Missile Crisis was an example of the use of diplomatic negotiations to prevent what many people feared would be a nuclear war.

The U.S. also used strategies like blockades and embargoes to force negotiations.





# Vietnam War

The military action taken in the Vietnam War (conflict\*) was controversial on the home front as casualties mounted to more than 3 million people, among those 58,000 Americans.

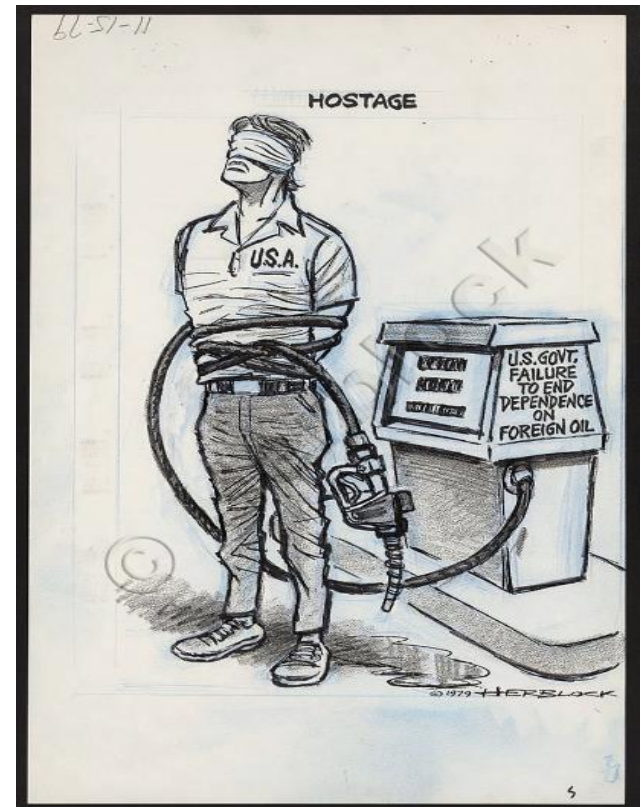


Source:

[https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/haventohome/timeline/images/\\_cards/1970\\_075\\_card.jpg](https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/haventohome/timeline/images/_cards/1970_075_card.jpg)

# Iran Hostage Crisis

The Iran Hostage Crisis was an example of diplomatic negotiations to release the hostages while not creating hostilities.



Source: Hostage, 1979. Graphite, porous point pen, ink, and opaque white over blue pencil underdrawing. Published in the Washington Post, November 15, 1979. Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress (54.00.00). LC-DIG-ppmsca-21949

[https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/herblock/ItGetsIntoEverything/Assets/21949v\\_enlarge.jpg](https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/herblock/ItGetsIntoEverything/Assets/21949v_enlarge.jpg)



# Gulf War I

“At my direction, elements of the 82d Airborne Division as well as key units of the United States Air Force are arriving today to take up defensive positions in Saudi Arabia. I took this action to assist the Saudi Arabian Government in the defense of its homeland. No one commits America's Armed Forces to a dangerous mission lightly, but after perhaps unparalleled international consultation and exhausting every alternative, it became necessary to take this action.”

# Second Gulf War

In addition to military action in the Second Gulf War, humanitarian efforts were also a focus in rebuilding a country torn by war and political struggle.



U.S. soldiers assisting displaced Iraqi civilians.  
*Mace M. Gratz/U.S. Department of Defense*

# Checking for Understanding

A country with very strong economic ties to the United States is allowing human rights violations to take place. Based on U.S. foreign policy, which is an appropriate first response?

- A. Initiate a trade ban.
- B. Initiate public protests.
- C. Initiate diplomatic talks.
- D. Initiate a military operation.