

**Ahmed Draia University, Adrar Faculty of Letters and Languages  
Department of English Letters and Language**



**USA Foreign Policies during Donald Trump  
Administration(2017-2021)**

**Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for a Master's  
Degree Literature and Civilization**

**Presented by:**

Rania Chouiref

**Supervised by:**

Dr.Mohammed Yaichi

**Board of Examiners**

**Chairperson:**

**Supervisor and Rapporteur:** Dr. Mohammed Yaichi

**Examiner:**

**Academic Year: 2021 – 2022**

الجمهورية الجزائرية الديمقراطية الشعبية

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Ministry of Higher Education and  
Scientific Research  
University Ahmed Draia of Adrar  
The central library



وزارة التعليم العالي والبحث العلمي  
جامعة أحمد درايا - أدرار  
مصلحة البحث البيблиوغرافي

## شهادة الترخيص بالإيداع

انا الأستاذة: د. محمد عيسى  
المشرف مذكرة الماستر الموسومة بـ: U.S Foreign Policy during Trump  
Administration (2017 - 2021)

من إنجاز الطالب(ة): م. ش. ش. ش.

و الطالب(ة):

كلية: الآداب واللغات

القسم: اللغة الإنجليزية

التخصص: حضارة وأدب

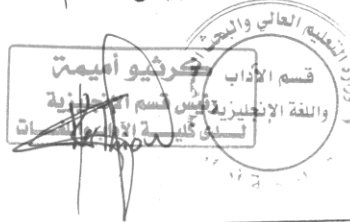
تاريخ تقييم / مناقشة: 2022/05/22

أشهد ان الطلبة قد قاموا بالتعديلات والتصحيحات المطلوبة من طرف لجنة التقييم / المناقشة، وان المطابقة بين  
النسخة الورقية والإلكترونية استوفت جميع شروطها.  
ويمكنهم إيداع النسخ الورقية (02) والإلكترونية (PDF).

- امضاء المشرف:

أدرار في: 2022/05/22

مساعد رئيس القسم:



ملاحظة: لا تقبل أي شهادة بدون التوقيع والمصادقة.

## **Dedication**

This work is dedicated to my dear parents, brothers Haithem, Mohammed, Rayan, and my dear sister Manel for their support to me along my years of study. I dedicate this work to my family, my colleagues in the English Department and all my friends, especially Rekaï Della. Thank you all.

## **Acknowledgements**

First of all, my thanks to Allah who gave me the power to accomplish this work. A special thanks to my supervisor, whom I see as a role model, and thanks for his guidance, academic support and soft-spoken advice. In addition, I would like to thank all the teachers I encountered along my years in the English department.

## **Abstract**

This dissertation tries to look at the essence of American society and foreign policy from a global viewpoint. The foundation aim of this paper is to uncover the truth about the character of US global politics as the world's only hegemonic force now, which employs in- instrument of war as the primary means of achieving its key foreign policy objectives. The study's key finding is that warfare has always been an important part of American culture, dating back to the founding of the United States in 1776. This is a direct result of the existence of the US economic system, which is accompanied by a consumerist mindset in American society.

**Key Words:** US, Trump Administration, war, imperialism, global politics, international relations, foreign policy

## ملخص

تحاول هذه الرسالة النظر إلى جوهر المجتمع الأمريكي والسياسة الخارجية من وجهة نظرة عالمية. يتمثل الهدف الأساسي لهذه الورقة في الكشف عن حقيقة طبيعة السياسة الأمريكية العالمية باعتبارها القوة المهيمنة الوحيدة في العالم في الوقت الحالي والتي تستخدم أداة الحرب كوسيلة أساسية لتحقيق أهداف سياستها الخارجية الرئيسية .

النتيجة الرئيسية للدراسة هي أن الحرب كانت دائماً جزءاً مهماً من الثقافة الأميركية ويعود تاريخها إلى تأسيس الولايات المتحدة هذه نتيجة مباشرة لوجود النظام الاقتصادي الأمريكي المصحوب بعقلية استهلاكية في المجتمع الأمريكي.

## **Résumé**

Cette thèse tente d'examiner l'essence de la société américaine et de la politique étrangère d'un point de vue global. L'objectif fondamental de cet article est de découvrir la vérité sur le caractère de la politique mondiale des États-Unis en tant que seule force hégémonique du monde à l'heure actuelle, qui utilise des instruments de guerre comme principal moyen d'atteindre ses principaux objectifs de politique étrangère. La principale conclusion de l'étude est que la guerre a toujours été une partie importante de la culture américaine, remontant à la fondation des États-Unis en 1776. C'est un résultat direct de l'existence du système économique américain, qui s'accompagne d'un état d'esprit consumériste dans la société américaine.

**Mots clés:** États-Unis, Amérique, guerre, impérialisme, politique mondiale, international relations, politique étrangère

## Table of Contents

Dedication.....	II
Acknowledgments.....	
VIII	
Abstract .....	
VIII	
Table of Contents.....	VIII
General Introduction .....	1
Chapter One: The Trump Administration First Policies their impact on the Globe Economy 2017-2018.....	5
Introduction.....	6
1.1 Withdrawal of the USA from TPP Organization (2017).....	6
1.2 The Effect of Leaving the Paris Agreement on Environments.....	11
1.3 The Endless Rivalry Between Qatar and Saudi Arabia.....	14
Conclusion.....	17
Chapter Two: Donald Trump Trade War against China and Asian Countries	
From 2018 to 2019.....	20
Introduction.....	21
2.1 Accepting the invitation of Kim Jong Un for Dialogue (2018).....	22
2.2 China Trade War.....	23
2.3 The US Military Strikes on Bashar al Assad's Regime (2018).....	26
2.4 Withdrawal from Iran Nuclear Agreement.....	28
2.5 Announcing Jerusalem as the Capital of Israel.....	30
2.6 Supporting Nicolas Maduro in his Military Coup in Venezuela.....	31
Conclusion .....	31
Chapter Three: US Foreign Policies Issues under Donald Trump	
Administration from 2019 to 2021.....	33
Introduction.....	34



<b>3.1 Imminent War between the USA and Iran.....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>3.2 Visiting North Korea.....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>3.3 The USA Withdrawal from Syria.....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>3.4 The Assassination of Qasem Soleimani by the US.....</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Conclusion .....</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>General Conclusion .....</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>ملخص.....</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Works Cited.....</b>	<b>49</b>



# General Introduction

---

## General Introduction

This dissertation is about US foreign policies during the Donald Trump administration; it studies his stiff policies toward other countries in particular, China and Iran. Many Americans citizens supported him since they saw him protecting the US economy and political interests. This research then is divided into three chapters to cover the most important corners of Trump's policies according to chronological order.

The research aim of this dissertation is to examine the US foreign policy during the Donald Trump Administration and analyze every hidden aspect of his policy. The research methodology is based on a historical approach, which focuses on the period trump was President of the United States from 2017 to 2021. Additionally, I study several books that interpreted Donald Trump foreign policies such as *Fire and Fury*, *Unhinged*; those books interpret Donald Trump foreign policy and give insightful meaning behind every policy he takes.

This research thesis aims to answer the following questions: what are the objectives of the US foreign policies? How did war in Iraq and Afghanistan affect the US foreign policy in the Middle East? Why are Donald Trump's policies very protective and stiff toward other countries? Why are the US foreign policies based toward Saudi Arabia and Israel?

The elected president's style and personality were the first signs of a coming change in America's global stance. Donald Trump had never held public office. Doing real estate deals and watching reality TV shows had honed his leadership skills. Even though he ran as a Republican, he was not a member of the party. As a result, he had few political debts. His personality, combined with his one-of-a-kind rise to the presidency, was crucial—by both his supporters and detractors. Claims that he was unfit for office became a staple of

## General Introduction

---

national and foreign political debate. All of this contributed to both optimistic and pessimistic hopes that he would change American foreign policy. The predictions were correct in several ways. Trump's views were long held and remained unchanged. He believed that the United States was frequently too weak in its Cold War prosecution. He ran a full-page advertisement in the New York Times in 1987, criticizing Ronald Reagan's "Weakness."

Trump's foreign policy followed nationalist foreign policy objectives. This nationalism can also influence foreign policy outcomes as nationalist factions within the government jockey for power. Nationalism always narrows the conceptual boundaries of foreign policy; they prioritized bilateral relations over multinational agreements this was shown in Trump's foreign policies when he withdrew from the Trans-Pacific Partnership organization and Paris Agreement. Trump's promotion of economic nationalism as a way of reclaiming America's lost riches also set him apart from the Cold War shadow. The West's power in that fight, and thereafter, at least until the Great Recession of 2008, was built on the remarkable economic engines of free trade and globalization. Trump resisted. These engines had propelled Tokyo and Beijing's rise, but they had left the American middle class jobless and hopeless. Because of the "carnage" that Bill Clinton's NAFTA had caused at home, he renegotiated it. For similar reasons, he backed away from the Obama negotiated Trans-Pacific Partnership. His trade war with China, which he started in July 2018, was his signature foreign policy. Again, this was a stance he had hinted at since the 1980s and one that was out of the ordinary. He is not alone in his use of trade as a platform for power politics. However, it exemplifies a president who saw victory in purely financial terms.

The vocabulary of values and ideology, which had been so important in his predecessors' rhetoric, was largely abandoned. Greatness resulted from obtaining the best

## General Introduction

---

deal, not from advancing noble causes. Trump called George W. Bush "stupid" for believing in America's ability to transform entire civilizations.

With the sanctions that the US has imposed on countries such as Venezuela, Iran, Russia to pursue its goals on the world stage, the US also has a wide range of diplomatic options to exert pressure on any other country that does not follow its principles including the cultural influences often called soft power, plus its economic might.

This paper attempts to examine US foreign policy during Trump administration through using historical approach, beginning with his first policies, which included withdrawing from major global treaties while adopting isolationist, non-interventionist, and protectionist views toward traditional allies in the first chapter. Economic policies aimed at China and European countries like France and Germany, such as implementing high tariffs are discussed in this chapter. Finally, the third chapter, which discusses US foreign policy in the Middle East and North Korea, starts by visiting North Korea leader Kim Jun-un and assassinating Qasem Soleimani.

The first chapter tackles the Donald Trump's first policies and their impact on the global economy between 2017 to 2019. His first action was withdrawing from Trans-Pacific Partnership, which was an organization designed specifically to exclude China and decrease its influence in Asia. Trump's second policy was leaving Paris' agreement. This means a lot to the Trump administration since he does not want to lose jobs related to oil and gas industries. The third policy was supporting Saudi Arabia against Qatar because he thinks Qatar supports terrorism in the Middle East. Finally, this chapter shows the first crack in the Donald Trump policies, how he supports his statement, which is America First.

The second chapter tackles Donald Trump trade war against China and Asian countries from 2018 to 2019. This chapter mainly focuses on China being potential threat to

## General Introduction

---

the American interest and businesses. With China, strategically dominating industries such as the rare earth industries, manufacturing, technical services, China export are more than 558billion to the US. As a result, there is a huge trade imbalance with the US trade with China. The other part of the chapter focuses on political issues in Asia, such as Iran's Nuclear Program and the war in Syria, announcing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

Third chapter tackles the US foreign policies issues under Donald Trump Administration from 2019to 2021. This chapter focuses on Iranian and the US crisis, both countries who are having a big influence in the Middle East, with both of them having multi military bases in the region. The war between them escalates after the assassination of Qasem Soleimani by the USA.

**Chapter One:**

**The Trump Administrations First Policies their Impact on the Globe  
Economy Between (2017to 2018)**

US foreign policy during Donald Trump presidency was mostly very stiff and protective against any country even if it was an ally; Donald Trump is acting to support his statement, which is America first. The issue though is that when you look underneath all of that, it is actually clear for Donald Trump his worldview is transactional if countries pay a lot of money US will help them, but if they did not pay then, the American would not help them.

Since many American citizens support his idea and his mindset, he had an easy game of sorts to introduce laws or order attacks against those who are a threat to the United States. However, consider that every action Trump is taking, might it be against Syria or in favor of Israel, it may lead to consequences in the geopolitical area. If we look at the fact that of all the things a president can and cannot do in foreign affairs related to foreign policy is the area where he has the freest hand, he does not need the approval of other politicians (*The President's Power in the Field of Foreign Relations* 52).

### **1.1. Withdrawal of the United States from Trans- Pacific Partnership (2017)**

The TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) is a massive trade agreement between 12 countries, all of which touched the Pacific Ocean. The US spearheaded was designed specifically to exclude China as a way for America to increase its political influence in the region through trade and over time strengthen ties with other countries, reducing the entire regions reliance on China. (Chow et al.43).



The deal, though, was caught up in anti-trade sentiments expressed by both candidates in the presidential election; CFR invited the presidential candidates challenging Trump Administration. Now it is dead in the water before being ratified, leaving Asian countries scrambling to work out their trade deals with each country in TPP and with the US allowing China to move in and fill the gap.

A meeting at the APEC summit in Peru among the TPP signatories that was not planning to pull out because of economic reasons. They are talking already about the renegotiating of that single clause to remove the 85 percent requirement so there could be TPP 2.0, which does not regard US as a member in it. But many of the things as noted by The US reporters negotiated the TPP are basically driven by US interests ,so the countries that signed up to the TPP many of them signed up for things that would not have signed up for. If the United States was not a negotiating member, so it is hard to see how the present member TPP could survive at Donald Trump's threat since most of them assume the deal is now dead (Quyen24).

Regardless, just as Donald Trump administration heightens fears of a trade war by imposing steel and aluminum tariffs on countries like Japan since it is the head of the line. They signed a revamped version of the TTP in Santiago, Chile, sending a powerful message that free trade can and will go ahead without the United States. (Quyen 25)

The comprehensive and progressive trans-Pacific partnership or TPP 11 includes Canada, Mexico, Japan, Malaysia, Australia, Peru, New Zealand, Chile, Brunei, Singapore and Vietnam. In a deal that will dramatically lower tariffs and trade barrier between the signatories, together, they cover 500 million people in the most dynamic region of the world economy, which includes more than 13percent of global gross domestic product (GDP), worth more than 10trillion dollars (Deborah Elms 4).

With the US, it would have been 40 percent, but the new TTP attracts potential new member, like South Korean, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand. They also expected Donald Trump to walk away from the North American trade deal, a move that will end the flow of goods tariff-free between the US Canada and Mexico.

On the other hand, countries as South Korea, which was not signed up with TPP, was not worried about free trade movement in the Pacific Ocean. Because they already have a direct bilateral free trade agreement with the United States and one with the European Union, those are the two of its biggest markets. There are two big markets are Japan and China and it been working on trying to hammer out trade deal with them (Mireya Solis 6).

Some people think the US is giving up influence in the pacific region to China but on the contrary, since Trump`s strategy is not an anti- trade or anti-business strategy. In fact, in some ways he is going to be extremely helpful, especially to the most reckless and the damaging businesses of the fossil fuel industry and the financial industry big pharmaceuticals (Daniel C.K. Chow 2).

Donald Trump Administration does not believe in this deal being far enough to the interests of those big corporations, which are something most of US citizens were campaigning against it. There were many reasons for the defeat of this treaty and hundreds of thousands of grassroots activists who have been campaigning against this treaty for the last four years, before Donald Trump had even heard about it.

The countries that were benefiting from TPP the most probably is Japan because it does not have a bilateral free trade agreement with the United States. Since it is the second-largest trading partner with the United States and the third largest economy in the world, so

---

Japan being part of the TPP changed that as well (*Japan Looks to Trans-Pacific Partnership to transform its Economy 2*)

If we look at countries that might lose the most in relative terms, Vietnam which is one of the poorest member of the TPP 12. Many thought it would get foreign direct investment, particularly in clothing and apparel and auto parts that would have traditionally gone to Thailand and other countries. Malaysia, as mentioned by New York Times Magazine that does not have a bilateral free trade agreement with the United States either ,it seeks to negotiate one and that failed so those probably the three countries that were the strongest supporters in Asia of the TPP .

There was been a lot of public disaffection with these kinds of big deals is not just the TPP that is facing opposition (Heath, March 2017). There seems to be global growing public resentment over these big multinational trade deals. Some of them conducted in secret and made without citizen input. This is one of the big complaints deals, including North American Free Trade Agreement NAFTA. Moreover, some as being opposed to see the transatlantic trade and investment partnership (TTIP) or undermining the rights of workers and some, including Donald Trump say international trade deals actually killed job in US.

Secrecy is a huge thing, so with the multilateral trade deals TPP and TTIP, there is very little public information. Not just talking about tariffs packages, most people think of trade deals as countries try to reduce tariffs on both sides so that goods can flow more easily, but with TPP. Looking at what are called non-tariffs barriers, and that is regulation essentially that goes to the heart of whether a government can enact laws without being challenged by big business over food standards quality for example over how they should run public services (Miles , Ian).

Therefore, the deference with the TPP and the past trade deals is it goes really to the heart of democracy. US government cannot enact laws in a way that will not be required by big investors because the big investors are putting cigarettes in plain packages that damage profits and is increasingly to people that with these big trade packages. Nothing is more important than the right to suppose it right to make profits. it seems to come above the human right and the ability to fight climate change and the ability to provide affordable medicine to people.

Usually these big multilateral trade deals actually empower the big companies and reduce the influence of individual government on the sovereignty of a particular country and that, of course, effects upon these trade deals are often inordinately complex. The deal between South Korea and United States or China, for example, is 1,100 pages. Imagine the TPP deal is two or three times bigger. If countries open these issues for conversation for debate at every single point, those countries simply would never have trade deals (“The Real Impact of Trade Agreement“).

Some of this stuff simply has to be worked out by lawyers, this actually how parliamentary procedure works in many democracies in the United States congressional representatives rarely read the entire piece of legislation that is voted on. This could rather insist on ripping these things open and debating on piece-by-piece and the legislative process in many of the American states would not occur.

Second, there are interstate dispute mechanisms for these things where states can bring their concerns and complaints decisions can be a somewhat hammered out the whole point is to rather create common standards. Therefore, the movement of goods and services is easier. It is unnecessarily to throw regulatory standards at corporations. It is generating a

sort of simplicity between states so that goods and services can move (“The Real Impact of Trade Agreement”).

These kinds of deals like TPP are so much suspicion, trade deals give and take, that is why they are so long and complicated. In addition, if one of those stages of negotiation, giving, and taking is open to the public process in each country, and then they would not get any trade deals. One reason that having regional trade deals or bilateral ones is the global WTO (World Trade Organization) system broke. Therefore, is not working so countries must shift to less optimal in terms of size. So if they want trade deals with more than tariffs they going to accept a level of transparency or not having them at all (“The Real Impact of Trade Agreement”).

## **1.2. The Effect of Leaving the Paris Agreement on Environments**

The implication of Donald Trump action can lead to many consequences since US is already facing the effect of climate change just last year US witnessed one of the strongest fire blaze threatens over 1,000 houses in California, people are facing displacement, storms are getting even more severe(“NBC News”).

First, there are two major points, which are the policy of mechanism and the scientific rational that is behind the Paris Accord, which is about a long –term accumulation of greenhouses gasses in the atmosphere. That has resulted from industrialization and energy use that is accumulated and that is causing a climate threat.

This has been long recognized in the scientific community that it is the accumulation of greenhouse gases is because of the industrial countries like the USA, Japan and China. This means that as a society addressing the problem by figuring out ways to reduce the

green houses may help weather conditions. Furthermore, about 20 years ago, the UN came together and formed what is called the UN framework convention on climate change. That says by figuring out what to do about anthropogenic climate change. Where that process has led is to the Paris agreement, which was an agreement by 195 countries to take action and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. The United States is the world's largest economy and the second largest emitter of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. By stepping aside from the Paris Agreement and the commitment there of, that leaves a significant hole in the global efforts to reduce greenhouse gases and climate change risks. This means a lot to Trump administration since his supervisor's advice him about the agreement and not participate in it, in order not to lose jobs, and with policy efforts in Washington and other parts in the United States in terms of how they are going to address the climate change. (Ilja35).

It was clear from Trump Administration policies already those they were going to cancel many of things the Obama Administration had put in place to meet the targets of the Paris record. Therefore, there may not be much of a change in terms of what the policy on the ground will be. Nevertheless, it leaves that hole in the Paris Agreement of the United States, second largest emitter.

Global leadership on this global problem, for the first time, relies on the young generation for issues like Global Warming. The US will not be part of the design of a solution to a great problem like this. Moreover, for foreign businesses, whom are not part of the design of the markets that will create as we move towards cleaner technologies because relying on clean energy can take time and a lot of money from those investors. There also is a loss of some of the structure in the Paris Agreement put into place to

address this issue. As it has been mentioned before, 195 nations are part of the agreement. Each has offered what they thought they could do to make reductions (Ilja37).

However, the key to the Paris Agreement was universal participation. Everybody makes a commitment. In addition, there was a change in process to allow the nation to get down the path to where they need to go in their greenhouse gas admissions. The Paris was not possible without Kyoto Protocol that did not have universal participation and was dead before the arrival in Washington. Therefore, the Paris Accord itself designed with Washington in mind and that sort of almost the ironic part about it. Even, India and China both took strides to make reduction themselves, and sort of tried to take the issue away from the political debate in Washington. However, the United States is stepping away. The entire world seems to swing back and forth between taking action on climate change and that real question of whether this is a change that lasts past the Trump presidency (Ilja38).

In fact, the steps that the United States has to take to withdraw, slights the United States officially withdraw in 2020. Therefore, they have put this issue forward on the ballot of the next presidential election. The United States withdraw from Paris Agreement brings the issue about what the mission is at duke of trying to advance the accessible, affordable and reliable clean energy system. In addition, that mission is completely undeterred by what has happened in the White house in a declaration by Trump administration (Ilja40).

According to Donald Trump, the Paris Agreement would not bring any benefits to the US, especially in economy and trade fields. United States heavily supports industries such as oil and gas; they are one of the important vessels of American economy. The international mining giant Peabody Energy uploaded the president`s move:

Peabody believes that the prior Paris Accord could not have followed without substantially affecting the U.S economy,

increasing electricity on families and businesses, and requiring the power sector to rely on less diverse and more intermittent energy sources. (William Brangham).

The United States criticized by its own allies for not taking part in this agreement since it is the biggest emitter of greenhouse gases in the world and the reason behind that is linked to petrodollar policy. Petrodollar policy is a state when world countries cannot buy oil with other currencies.

### **1.3. The Endless Rivalry between Saudi Arabia and Qatar Leading to Infinite Problems in the Middle East**

The previous chapter deals with the Paris Agreement and how the United States did not want to take part in the agreement because of its reliance on oil. As we know, the Middle East is a region full of gas, oil, and Saudi Arabia is the biggest contributor to this industry. Therefore, the US supports Saudi Arabia decisions even if they are not similar to its ideology. On the other hand, Qatar is a small country and is not an important trade partner like Saudi Arabia. The commerce between those two countries is very limited. Therefore, it did not surprise many politicians that the US was already biased toward Saudi Arabia.

Both countries have some kind of hostility toward each other since Saudi Arabia did not approve of the foreign policies of Qatar. On the other hand, Qatar did not want to change its policies. Therefore, Qatar must have some disadvantages, like making friends with every country, even opening trade relations with Israel, or proving ties with Iran, which is Saudi Arabia's archrival, or hosts a big American air base (Alberto244).



Qatar starts a satellite network Al-Jazeera to protect soft power in the region. Al-Jazeera started in 1996; it headquartered in Doha Qatar. It became the most important channel in the Arab speaking countries with various languages; mainly the vast majority of its viewers are from the Middle East. The Saudis and other Sunni Arab nation's governments view Al-Jazeera reporting as politically motivated in causing instability in the region. In fact, the 2011 Arab Spring reported by Al-Jazeera. Arab Spring was a series of anti-government protest that was aimed to bring down long-term dictators who ruled these countries for a long time. The Arab Spring was a prodemocracy protest sponsored by the Western Countries with the aims of changing the regime and extending their political influence in the Arab World, during the Arab Spring Movement, Saudi Arabia was not immune to it after all the Saudi Arabian royal family practically runs the entire country. So naturally, any kind of spark from the Arab Spring movement or pro-democracy movement can also cause instability in Saudi Arabia. All what was needed is a tool to spread information widely, and Al-Jazeera was already doing that (Alberto245).

As a result, in 2011 a small region in Saudi Arabia near the eastern province of Qatar was a massive pro-democracy protest erupted and went on for almost a decade this region primarily occupied by Shias and the majority in Saudi Arabia are Sunni Muslims. Therefore, the Saudis and other Sunni Arab nation's governments view Al-Jazeera reporting as politically motivated for its interests causing instability in the region and blamed Qatar for causing Arab Spring pro-democracy protests (Alberto245).

Middle East countries are aware of the fact that Saudi Arabia and Iran do not get along. They are enemies and both are very strong neighbors in the Middle East and them constantly fighting for regional dominance. The fight between Saudi and Iran is often

called as the cold war of the Middle East. In the whole Middle East, where the countries have Shia or Sunni majorities. They all look toward Iran or Saudi Arabia for support and guidance (McLean, Charles A. 17).

In addition, that Saudi Arabia is home to the birthplace of Islam, so naturally the monarch of Saudi Arabia sees himself as the leader of the Muslim world. Qataris are largely Sunni Muslims, now the question is why Saudi and other Sunni Arab countries have problems with Qatar. The answer to this is that Qatar is little liberal in trade business with Iran and Iranian are benefiting from trade deals with Iran (Carnegie Endowment For International Peace) .The rest of the Golf countries demanded that Qatar should cut ties with Iran and shut down its TV network Al-Jazeera. They also demanded Qatar to cut ties with many rebels groups like the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, Islamic state Al-Qaeda and Hezbollah (Patrick, Alex13).

All these rebel groups anti-western Shia and as well as Sunni groups who have designated as a militant group by the western power or by, the Saudis particularly designed to dominate countries governments. In 2011, the Arab Spring happened. Al –Jazeera, who has the biggest platform in the region, caused destabilization in the Middle East by supporting the rebellious groups. For Qatar, it is an opportunity because they align most Arab autocrats with Saudi Arabia. Therefore, it will weaken their authority and dominance in the Middle East. Whenever they feel that, they threaten by Qatar, Saudis jump in some places like Tunisia and Libya, cutting each back opposing political party and being more violent with Qataris. In Libya, they are rival groups. The worst rivalry is in Egypt cutting back of some Muslim brotherhood, which wins the presidency, but Saudi Arabia backs the Egyptian military, which takes in a coup (*The Qatar Crisis*4).

Qatar big campaign collapsed in 2013, it is always faced bunches of losses and the Amir stepped down passing power to a young son who had less experience. Donald trump really surprised everybody when he backed the Saudis on twitter saying:

Extremism and all references were pointing to Qatar. Perhaps this will be the end to the horror of terrorism.

Qatar`s economy and securities are in peril, with several Arab countries banning any relations with them. Even the United States turned their back on Qataris, whom they have a huge military base in their soil. Furthermore, for the United States opposing Qatar overnight, it sent a troubling message to other allies they have to wonder when President Trump turns on them next (*The Qatar Crisis*6).

## **Conclusion**

Having seen all the previous policies that Were Implemented by Donald Trump proves that his behavior is unpredictable, and an example of that is Qatar, who was an ally to the United States and even had many airbases in the region, it was an unprecedented move by the United States to block Qatar. Second, withdrawing from TTP, which was a profitable deal for the United States, allowed it to control the geopolitical region that is close to China and the South China Sea through trade. Partly as a result, many of the world`s rougher neighborhoods- from the Persian Gulf countries like Iran, who developed their nuclear programs and strengthened their position in Middle East, especially in Iraq and Syria, to the South China Sea by creating various conflicts between China and the ASEAN countries.

All these regional flashpoints have deep local roots, but uncertainty about American policies is adding to the sense of the stability. Iran, for instance, the Trump Administration seemed to pursuing a clear, if risky, policy.

The uncertainty that begins in the Oval Office spread around the world, creating weaves of instability and trouble spot thousands of miles away. From 2017-2018, the United States unilaterally declared withdrawal from several international treaties, June 2017 –from the Paris Agreement on climate change, May 2018- the United States withdrew from the Iranian Nuclear Deal (JCPOA), October 2018- withdrawing from the intermediate –range Nuclear Force Treaty (INF), withdrawing from all these international treaties caused a deterioration in US relations with its allies. That resulted in tensions between the US and the European countries, which support these treaties.

Unlike Obama, Trump places emphasis on the rivalry with China in terms of global politics. This confrontation is carried out via both economic and political means, most of Trump policies in Asia related to China at some point, some of the American allies in Asia did not get along with each other, like South Korea, and Japan and both of them relies heavily on China. In matter of security and economy since they are geographically, close to China more than the United States. It unlikely that they may do anything against it.

The degree to which Trump has followed through with his promise to change US foreign policy was still up for discussion. According to most people surveyed, Trump has fulfilled his campaign promises since taking office. The United States withdrawal from several multilateral agreements, including the Paris Climate Accords, the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, cited as evidence (JCPOA). As Trump's trade wars with China and the EU, as well as his continuing support for illiberal regimes, provide evidence.

Stressing how similar the Trump administration is to its predecessors. By pointing to Trump's swift retreat from his NATO criticisms and recommitment to America's conventional alliances. Similarly, point out that Trump re-engaged diplomatically with North Korea after some initial inflammatory rhetoric. Rather than leaving Afghanistan, the US stayed. Trump increased the number of US troops stationed there, and despite his warm words for Russian President Vladimir Putin, there had been no progress with Russia.

Overall, there is a great deal of disagreement about whether Trump has changed US foreign policy. Of course, this is partly because a complete evaluation of an administration's effect requires time. While temporal factors play a role, there are other variables at play as well.

The vast majority of recent research, in particular, lacks clear and/or thorough engagement with theory and methods. A lot of the study is based on cherry picking various bits of empirical evidence with no specific theoretical or methodological basis. How can they have a substantive debate about whether Trump has changed US foreign policy without first addressing how to identify and quantify transition and continuity, for example? The outcome is a deafening debate in which academics talk over each other rather than to each other, in which the context for arguments about progress or continuity is hazy, and in which the logic, and knowledge, being lost.

**Chapter Two:**

**Donald Trump Trade War against China and Asian Countries from  
(2018to 2019)**

With China, being the number one trade partner of the United States with a grand total of roughly 737 billion dollars in goods and services, the United States has become more and more dependent on China. China exports almost 558 billion to the United States, while the United States exports only about 179 billion to China. Therefore, there is huge trade imbalance between the US and China (*Office of the United States Trade Representative*).

The United States considers China a threat because of its strong economy. In the last decade, China GDP growth was over 8%, surpassing the United States, and it is expected that, China will overtake the USA as the biggest economy in the world in 2028 because of COVID-19 effect on the American economy. (BBC) China's economic rise has been dramatic. In 1978, China's GDP at market prices was just 6% of America. In 2020, it had grown 66%, when considering local spending power; China has already overtaken the US. After joining the World Trade Organization in 2001, China became an economic superpower. Nevertheless, people had expected the country to become more like a Western capitalist economy, which did not happen. America claim China achieved its growth by not playing fair. The Trump Administration has been using tariffs or taxes on imported goods to force the Chinese to change their ways and reduce the trade imbalance between the two countries. The United States imposed a tariff on China hoping that it would badly affect the Chinese economy but this scenario was unlikely to happen since China had a huge amount of money, such as the over three trillion in dollar- denominated reserves that it could theoretically get rid of, causing tremendous damage to many of the US companies.

With the US citizen's full reliance on cheap Chinese products or services makes them enthralled about having to pay more for US products that are highly expensive, interconnected nature of today's global economy (Maj Gen 5, 11).

For China, strategically dominating key industries such as the rare earth industry is necessary to the US economic sectors, including defense, manufacturing, transportation, finance and insurance, technical services. The situation is far more complex than it seems, and the ideal scenario would revolve around diplomatically negotiating a way out of this mess (Nabeel, Lalitha 3).

## **2.1 Accepting Kim Jong Un Invitation for Dialogue 2018**

Trump accepting the invitation of Kim Jong Un was probably one of the unprecedented things since both of them exchange insult and threats of nuclear war before. Nevertheless, in an unprecedented step, president Trump and Kim Jong Un has agreed to talk it out. In addition, if the North Koreans were serious about doing the denuclearization, it could be a big step forward (Gi-Wook). Both countries never had a summit before, so this was an enormous deal for Trump for being the first American president to visit North Korea. <sup>1</sup>Kim Jong Un previously said that he would never give up on his nukes but during his conversation with Trump he said that he has freeze the nuclear test, the Whitehouse

---

<sup>1</sup> Kim Jong-Un is a North Korea politician serving as supreme leader of North Korea since 2011 and the leader of the workers party of Korea (WPK) since 2012.



said that the meeting was happen in the end of May, but there were no set date or location (Gi-Wook, Rennie<sup>35</sup>).

The dialogue was meant to get North Korea from its shell since it did not have any relations with any country, not even China and Russia, and it was an opportunity for Kim Jong Un, who rarely leave the country to ease the tension between North Korea and the United States. Yet there is no concrete evidence that North Korea was going to remove any nuclear weapons or nukes from its soil because it was the only thing that made North Korea a strong country with a nuclear deterrent( Gi-Wook, Rennie 36).

## **2.2 China Trade War**

From the Chinese perspective, the trade war officially started on July 6, 2018: The US imposed a 25 percent tax on goods imported from China worth \$34 billion. The Chinese are in a panic, even though the greatest trade war in history is not the one that started by President Trump, but the one that took place in the 1930s (Dorcas, Alexander).

Many Chinese experts have compared the trade war to the first and second Opium Wars, which took place between the United Kingdom and China in the nineteenth century. British politicians wanted free trade with Chinese without tariffs, and the war ended when they signed a treaty that allowed the British free trade in the country with full exploitation.

Prior to permanent normal trade relations (PNTR), US imports from China faced the low import tariff rates available to most other US trading partners who were WTO members. However, because the US government classified China as a non-market

economy, access to those low rates required annual re-approval by the president, which Congress could overturn. Importantly, if an annual renewal were to fail, US tariffs on most Chinese imports would have increased substantially, from 4% to 37% for the average manufacturing industry (Eddy, Sofia4).

According to Chinese economists and experts, this current situation would not change even if there were other presidents who differed from Donald Trump (Eddy). Aggressive and hurried policies would remain because China was an economic threat to the interests and hegemony of the United States. However, a trade war between the USA and China would force the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) to change its economic policies and system. Eventually, both countries needed to agree to reduce the high tariffs. Reducing those tariffs did not mean that the trade war had ended. Donald Trump said that the Chinese are intentionally devaluing their currency (Eddy). As a result, their commodities are very cheap, causing damage to the American economy, as many factories have closed because of this. Because their commodities are very cheap, any country could afford to buy them (Eddy, Sofia14).

Trump also claim that the Chinese were stealing intellectual property from US companies, and the explanation for this is that nobody forced those companies to invest in China. They went to China on their own volition, because Chinese markets were the world is largest. Many of these foreign companies operate independently; the Chinese government directs them (Daniel, Donald 1).

The trade war between China and America moved to the high-tech field, with the United States' trade war continuing against China, banning several products like Huawei and TikTok from its market and asking NATO allies and Five Eyes Partners, namely the UK, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, to follow its steps (Daniel, Donald 6).

The first violation committed by the United States is the prohibition of Huawei from exporting US software or chips based on US design. Before the coming of China, America could control the global economy through its control of finance, like banks, payment systems, investment funds, and insurance. In addition, the US could control the world economy through technology since it possesses some of the biggest tech companies in the world like Microsoft, Facebook, Amazon, Intel, and Apple, both in terms of intellectual property and in terms of critical equipment in producing microchips (Sajjad, 22).

The trade sanction that was passed on China was illegal according to the World Trade Organization. Organization's rules it is clear why the United States did not support the World Trade Organization and it even refused to settle any new nominations to the dispute settlement tribunal. Moreover, since the dispute settlement body did not work because of the United States, China could not bring the illegal US sections to the WTO.

If China and Huawei control 5G technology, then they would have an advantage over the United States soon, and it would end the dominance of the US in technology that has lasted more than two decades. China is expected to benefit from the 5G market, including installation and network equipment, which is expected to reach 48 million by 2027 and is

expected to generate millions of dollars of economic output over the course of the installation of 5G networks (Sajjad, 23).

5G nowadays only available in the big cities or the urban areas, the fifth generation networks expected to be available in 2022 and it would widen the availability of high speed-speed internet beyond these limits. The areas that benefited most from the fifth generation were self-driving cars and the internet of things (IOT) which befitted Chinese in safety and security, customer experience, business efficiency, quality, these gadgets would communicate with one another over wireless internet. 5G would help us, for example, in traffic light, water and sewage systems in the future "smart cities», improving efficiency and maintaining the physical infrastructure of electricity (Sajjad 23).

While Huawei was not the only company that produces 5G equipment , the other major players in 5G were Samsung ( South Korea), Nokia (Finland), Ericsson (Sweden), and ZTE (China), while the US had no major player in the field. With US dominance in the software, America could attack Huawei since it fully relies on the Android program. Although (SMIC) which was owned by China the fifth largest silicon exporter, but Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corp. was only a fraction of the size of TSMC (Melanie, Jordan1).

### **2.3 The US Military Striking Bashar al Assad's Regime 2017-2018**

The US launched missile strikes on Syria in response to the Assad regime's gas attack. US President Donald Trump, who had previously criticized the Obama Administration for intervening in Syria, ordered a massive military strike against Syria.

Many Republican senators supported Trump's move, like Marco Rubio, who was a Republican senator from Florida. He thought it was an attack that had a strategic aim, such as degrading Assad's capability to continue to attack his own people (Carla). One reason that made Trump intervene in Syria was Russia. Russia supports Bashar al-Assad's regime and sells weapons to him, which makes him able to fight terrorist attacks like ISIS. It also supported his stay in power. Russia was benefiting from Syria's markets by selling weapons to the Bashar al-Assad regime. The second reason was Iran. Bashar al-Assad allowed Iran to have a military base in Syria, which was going to threaten US allies in the region. Because of this, it forced the Americans to intervene in Syria. (Carla and Christopher1)

The Obama administration made one of the most unsuccessful deals in its history of ruling, which was allowing Russia and Iran to take over Syria because the US was not in the business of intervening. Ironically, a couple of years later, Obama ended up intervening in Syria to fight ISIS.

All the negotiations between Russia and NATO happened without the consultation of one Syrian person. An agreement between Iran and Russia about the Syrian civil war was kept secret. Iran ordered the Iraqi government to open its banks to ISIS and pretended they had stolen. Let alone the huge fleet of armed vehicles that the Iraqi government gave to ISIS, the Syrian crisis has become very complex with the intervention of many foreign countries that seek its benefits. (Andrew) Obama left his office with plenty of problems in Syria, such as the terrorist militias from both sides, the Iranian and the ISIS side. The only solution that could save Syria from its crisis was the removal of the Basher-al Assad

regime, which was neither the solution for the Russian administration nor the US administration (Andrew, Nicole1).

## **2.4 Withdrawal from Iran Nuclear Agreement**

In 2018, the US announced its withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). Which was an agreement between Iran and powerful European countries and China in order to reduce their nuclear capabilities. The US even went further to threaten European countries like France and Germany with sections if they ever trade with Iran. Trump sought that Iran's nuclear agreement was a bad deal since it did not address Iran's nuclear weapons and missile programs. Donald Trump's foreign policy has been marked by significant aggression and hatred toward Iran (Stephen1).

Since the United States pulled out of the agreement, the US stated that it was going to restore the sanctions. The United Nations sent a clear message to Trump's administration, saying that he cannot make laws while ignoring the other countries who signed the agreement and the international community in favor of his own unilateral approach. The international community was clearly against Trump's move, stating that it was not the right of the United States to take the UN to its own unilateral policy and impose sanctions that were lifted as part of a deal that the United States had already violated (Stephen 2).

Many European countries, like Germany and France, criticized the US for not preserving the deal. The United States was going back to the snapbacks, as they were the most difficult to understand and contained potentially problematic areas of ambiguity. The

Trump administration saw the deal as the worst agreement ever negotiated by an American president (Stephen3). However, the domestic context is as important as the international one. Even the staunchest US allies in the United Nations were met with rejection by US sanctions (Stephen3).

## **2.5 Announcing Jerusalem as the Capital of Israel 2017**

In early December 2017, Trump administration announced Jerusalem as the capital of Israel without paying attention to the international communities. The vast majority rejected his decision, as 128 countries voted against him in the United Nations. His declaration set a severe backlash not only from the Arabic world but also from all over the globe ("Congressional Research Service"3).

Jerusalem is one of the world's most important cities, as well as one of its oldest, it is so rich with historical significance, particularly the Abrahamic religion- Islam, Christianity, Judaism. Trump Administration was clearly biased toward Israel, so Palestinians had little chance or power at the negotiation table.

The United States was already biased toward Israel before even Trump came to the office, but its support did not show directly. The US was the first country to recognize Israel's independence in 1948. It is often recognized as a close ally, and therefore, the US supports Israeli political policies, in addition, it was once the largest arms supplier to Israel. Many Arab countries were war- torn because of civil wars or economic mismanagement. The majority of Arab leaders believed that cooperation in the peace process was critical to

their ability to counter Iran. The Palestinians are becoming increasingly isolated, with no strong allies to defend them ("Congressional Research Service" 4).

The reason Trump made this decision was primarily to get support from his white religious base, since most of them were evangelicals who believed God gave Israel to the Jews. In addition, most of the people who supported him in his campaign for election were rich Jewish investors. Moreover, the vast majority of Americans believed Israel was the only country with a belief of 62%, while Palestinians had 15%, 11% had no opinion, and 3% believed in both countries (Smith).

## **2.6 Supporting Nicolas Maduro in His Military Coup in Venezuela 2019**

Demonstrating in Venezuela started from being peaceful to becoming violent very quickly; people shouted in the street. However, many people supported Maduro because the so-called "democratic opposition" was perceived as way worse than Maduro. For almost 20 years, the brand of the Venezuelan government had been sticking it to the United States. This was a perfectly valid approach politically, and it won votes in Latin America for some very good historical reasons. Moreover, since Venezuela's main industry was selling petrochemicals to the United States, which was the country that Venezuela antagonized the most, the US had used its full dirty tricks against Venezuela's usually democratically elected government. Attempted coups, sanctions, banking, and the US's dominant legal and financial position in the world and region have all been used against Venezuela ("Congressional Research Service" 10).



They used these strategies against other countries that did not follow American interests and policies. Chavez and Maduro let the US dig their country into the ground exceptionally quickly. For 40 years, the US has been using the same range of tools against Iran, and much more extensively. Nevertheless, they certainly did a much better job of keeping the US out of their country and out of their region than Maduro did(*Venezuela: U.S. Sanctions* ).

Moreover, Iran is doing it with the same vulnerability to the oil prices that Venezuela has. Nicolas Maduro and, and Chavez before him were bad at foreign policies with other countries, especially United States. They pick fight with United States and they lost, even though oil prices at record highs for most of their time in power. Over the past two years, Maduro's failure has discredited every cause he has supported (*Venezuela: U.S. Sanctions* 4).

## **Conclusion**

In many of his past initiatives, Donald Trump attempted to increase the number of voters in the United States in many of his past initiatives. He sought to gain the approval of America's white class, since it was this class that elected him president. In addition, to gain their vote, he laid out his vision of "America First," which means that American citizens and workers were first in everything related to foreign affairs, taxes, and immigration.

In the four years of his rule, despite some breakthroughs, he left the international organizations weakened, like the TPP, and he even threatened to leave NATO, leaving the US isolated from its closest allies. Starting in 2018, his administration released three separate rounds of tariffs, drifting the wave of emotion and hate outrage that voters had regarding the notion that China was "stealing American jobs".

The Trump Administration tried to raise tariffs so Chinese products became expensive. As a result, American citizens would not be able to buy them. In doing so, Trump was hurting the Chinese economy, whose GDP growth decreased from 6.9% to 6% (Johnson). Trump was concerned that China would dethrone the United States in the economy because its GDP growth exceeded that of the United States three times over.(Johnson)

Trump was a dealmaker, not an idealist. He did not care that China violated human rights or engaged in censorship. Those things did not directly affect America. Trump did not care about the "One China Policy". It was the only advantage. If he proposed a hypothetical deal, state-run Chinese media would provide favorable coverage of Donald Trump and China would stop overproducing steel (a step they have already moved towards in recent years). In Trump's mind, it is less expensive for America and good for American steel. Trump did not really care about that, especially not to the degree Obama and Clinton did (Boot).

**Chapter Three:**

**USA Foreign Policies Issues under Donald Trump Administration from  
2019to2021.**

The popularity of Donald Trump decreased starting in 2019. The US administration faced many issues, such as the Iranian crisis and the assassination of Qasem Soleimani by the US, almost a third world war was about to start (Collina). He encouraged cultural war, stoked racial division such as the situation of George Floyd, a Black man who died after a police officer knelt on his neck. Trump called the protestors who were trying to get justice for his death “thugs”.

Another reason his popularity has decreased is that he praised leaders who were completely the antithesis of the values that the US wanted to promote. He favored Russian President Vladimir Putin and the Turkish president, Tayyip Erdogan, and he met with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. These were all leaders who were viewed as manipulative dictators by many Americans.

Another factor was excluding the United States from any significant involvement in the promotion of human rights around the world, such as the Yemen crisis. Another internal difference was that he did not advocate in the United States for decent human rights. He aggressively handled anti-racial discrimination demonstrations while ignoring the racial disparity that existed between Americans of various ethnic backgrounds.

During the last month of Trump's presidency, a series of internal issues rose to the surface, such as George Floyd's case, where most Americans who have different ethnic backgrounds saw his statements and views as racist, with favoritism and bias toward the rich white class and business executives. They also criticized Trump for mismanagement of the coronavirus. His carelessness helped the spread of the virus, causing a huge death

toll in the US, surpassing China, which was the birthplace of the virus. His popularity decreased in a short time because of his carelessness and promotion of self-interest, such as his next reelection that took place in 2020. These factors appeared to be the key elements in his failure to be reelected (Rainie, Perrin).

### **3.1 Imminent War between the US and Iran**

The Middle East is a region of alliances divided between two big military powers, the United States and Iran. However, the United States had multiple military bases in the region, and its allies included Israel, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and the other Gulf States. President Assad's regime in Syria, Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Houthi forces in Yemen, and elements of the Iraqi administration. Iraq also has a strategic partnership with China and Russia, but it was limited to Qatar and Oman. Four decades ago, Iraq invaded Iran. Half a million people on both sides were killed, and the truce was eventually agreed upon in 1988. Iran retook most of its territory (Kenneth 3).

Iran has regularly used its proxy forces in Yemen, Syria, Iraq, and Lebanon to attack their allies and US interests after the storming of the US Embassy in Baghdad. The tension between the United States and Iran had been rising ever since the US tore up the multilateral deal on Iran's nuclear program in 2019. Since then, the US has imposed harsh sanctions on the Iranian economy. On June 20, Iranian forces shot down a US military drone. The White House then called off the airstrikes against Iran. This came after accusations and denials over recent attacks on Japanese and Norwegian tankers in the Persian Gulf. The Trump administration contended it was international airspace, which they turned Iran disputes and, reportedly, the drone ID the transponder off in violation of

international aviation rules, and its wreckage landed within Iran's territorial waters (Kenneth 6).

### **3.2 Trump Visiting North Korea**

Kim Jong Un, who was considered the convener of the worker party in North Korea and the convener of state affairs, was a 30-year-old general who had shown strength in the past after the death of his father, Kim Jong Un, emphasized atomic weapons as the cornerstone of his national defense strategy. Under his watch, North Korea has sharply pursued the purpose of placing a nuclear warhead on an ICBM capable of striking the continental United States. After the press conference ended, Choe Son-Hui, a senior North Korean diplomat, declared that North Korea had added a few sites for uranium enrichment several kilometers from Yongbyon:

Regarding the Yongbyon area, the proposal we put out this time, as our Foreign Minister had stated – we have made a historic proposal for the permanent disposal of the whole of the Yongbyon nuclear complex, and within that, all of the plutonium and uranium facilities, including all nuclear facilities altogether in the presence of US experts. In return, we have demanded – as our Foreign Minister has stated – of the sanctions resolutions, the five sanctions related to the people's livelihood and the civilian economy we asked to be lifted. (Sigal, 15)

Donald Trump emphasized that if China refused to allow close commerce between entities and North Korea, the Trump government would use other alternative authorities that could make it challenging those entities to deal in US dollars. However, such methods may not be useful because of the restricted influence of small Chinese banks and front corporations on the US financial system. (Britannica) The DPRK Foreign Ministry advocate put it this way on June 4, 2019:

The DPRK remains unchanged in its stand and will to cherish and implement in good faith the June 12 DPRK-US Joint Statement personally signed by the supreme leaders of the DPRK and the US at the first-ever DPRK-US summit

talks. However, if the U.S., a dialogue partner, fails to carry out its obligation and keeps resorting to anti-DPRK hostile policy, the fate of the June 12 DPRKUS Joint Statement will not be promising. Whether the June 12 DPRK-US Joint Statement will remain effective or turn out to be a mere blank sheet of paper will now be determined by how the US would respond to our fair and reasonable stand. ( Sigal 26)

Both presidents agreed to work toward denuclearization by signing a joint document that includes a pledge to work toward complete decolonization of the Korean peninsula. The deal between North Korea and the USA is like the Iranian nuclear deal. However, there must be so many steps in order to achieve the same result as Iran Nuclear Deal.

Both presidents held their first historic summit in Singapore on June 12, 2018.(Shin , Holland) President Trump and the convener Kim Jong Un reached a comprehensive, in-depth, and sincere exchange of opinions on the issues related to the establishment of new U.S.-DPRK relations. (“The Document Trump and Kim Jong Un Signed”) First Vice Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui sounded optimistic about resuming US-DPRK working level talks, as promised in Panmunjom:

I think the US has since had enough time to find the calculation method that it can share with us. We have willingness to sit with the US side for comprehensive discussions of the issues we have so far taken up at the time and place to be agreed late in September. I believe that the US side will come out with a proposal geared to the interests of the DPRK and the US and based on the calculation method acceptable to US. ( Sigal 38)

Since both countries did not have diplomatic relations before, they exchanged opinions about building a lasting, effective, and peaceful democratic system on the Korean Peninsula. It convinced both Presidents that the establishment of new U.S.-DPRK relations would contribute to the peace and prosperity of Korean Peninsula and the world (Leif-Eric103). The majority of American politicians were understandably focused on the end of their self-imposed moratorium on ICBM and nuclear tests as they saw a new page of relations between the two countries:

In the past two years alone when the DPRK took preemptive and crucial measures of halting its nuclear test and ICBM test-fire and shutting down the nuclear-test ground for building confidence between the DPRK and the US. The US, far from responding to the former with appropriate measures, conducted tens of big and small joint military drills which its president personally promised to stop and threatened the former militarily through the shipment of ultra-modern warfare equipment into South Korea, he said. The US also took more than ten independent sanctions measures only to show before the world once again that it remained unchanged in its ambition to stifle the former, he said. He stressed that under such condition, there is no ground for us to be unilaterally bound to the commitment any longer ... (Sigal45)

In recognition that mutual trust between countries could promote Korean Peninsula denuclearization, North Korea promised in return not to threaten US allies, including Japan and South Korea, by launching a rocket near their territories. Having the knowledge that the US-DPRK summit is the first-ever connection between both countries, it is still considered the highest level of diplomatic relations between both countries. It came with great significance in overcoming decades of tensions and hostility and opening doors to a new future (Hyung).

### **3.3 The US Withdrawal from Syria 2019**

Many politicians believe that the USA's withdrawal from Syria was a complete failure, like Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. The USA left the ground to the Russian, Iran, and Bashar al-Assad regimes, leaving its allies in the Middle East without protection. The interventionism of the United States was failing. This has been the reality of the United States since the invasion of Iraq. The USA was still facing the disastrous consequences of that invasion (Cambridge University143).

The United States used all direct and indirect means to dethrone the Bashar al-Assad regime, but it failed to do so. The US boosted the emergence of the Islamic State because it put pressure on Damascus and because it justified the entry of the US. Turkey also tried to



justify its entry into Syria through funding Islamic State with multiple trucks conveyed oil from different regions of Syria. Terrorism was used as a tool by the United States in its foreign policy against Syrian forces (Marcus).

After the failure of the Free Syrian Army, which was owned by the US, the Americans looked for another means to destabilize Syria. They gave the militias a new name, Syrian. Democratic Forces (SDF), and encouraged the idea of a unified Kurdish country. Meanwhile, in Turkey, which had the largest Kurdish community, most Kurds wanted to have their rights within Turkey, which was the same situation as in Syria, and they formed a political party that united progressives of all ethnicities. President Trump spoke by phone with his Turkish counterpart, Recep Tayyip Erdogan:

The United States Armed Forces will not support or be involved in the operation, and United States forces, having defeated the ISIS territorial 'Caliphate,' will no longer be in the immediate area.(Sterling)

The Kurds were defending their own interests; they did not care about the country that they were cooperating with as long as it served their community, or their own benefit. There were two parties trying to use each other (Cambridge University, 144).

### **3.4The Assassination of Qasem Soleimani by U.S**

General Qasem Soleimani was a senior Iranian commander and one of the most powerful figures in the Iranian military. He was the most influential military figure in the Middle East. He was killed in an airstrike on the Baghdad international airport in Iraq, at the direction of President Trump (Luca 3).

The US assassinated Qasem Soleimani because of his serious effect on the Middle East. He helped in the spread of the Iranian ideology. Trump wanted to reassert American military dominance in order to increase his chances of reelection. Before Soleimani was

assassinated, the US predicted that Soleimani was preparing for an imminent attack in the region. With the assassination of Soleimani, the US could do whatever they wanted in the Middle East since Soleimani had a significant network of influence in the region (Clayton<sup>2</sup>). Zarif said that the US should take all the responsibility for its action against Iran and bear the consequences of its rogue adventurism:

The US' act of international terrorism, targeting & assassinating General Soleimani—The most effective force fighting Daesh (ISIS), Al Nusrah, Al Qaeda et al—is extremely dangerous & a foolish escalation. The US bears responsibility for all consequences of its rogue adventurism,” tweeted Javad Zarif, foreign minister of Islamic Republic of Iran (Sanchez<sup>1</sup>).

He hinted that Iran would take complete measures against the US allies in the future, like The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Israel, and Iran would weaken the influence of the Americans in the region (Tuqa).

Many countries criticized the Trump Administration's move, like France, Germany, and Russia, describing it as reckless and unprecedented and saying it may cause a potential massive war in the region since Iran is a powerful country in the Middle East and has nuclear weapons. In the year two thousand twenty, presidential candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders added:

“When I voted against the war in Iraq in 2002, I feared it would lead to greater destabilization of the region. That fear unfortunately turned out to be true,” Sen. Bernie Sanders tweeted. “The U.S. has lost approximately 4,500 brave troops, tens of thousands have been wounded, and we’ve spent trillions. Trump’s dangerous escalation brings us closer to another disastrous war in the Middle East that could cost countless lives and trillions more dollars. Trump promised to end endless wars, but this action puts us on the path to another one.”(Sanchez<sup>2</sup>)

Soleimani was in charge of expanding Iran’s military influence in the greater Middle East, helping keep Syrian Bashar al-Assad in power in expanses of spreading Shia in Syria. Iran’s response was to launch missiles at US bases in Iraq. There were no casualties. The

action benefited both the Iranian regime to save face and the Iranian people. Protests against a US war with Iran take place all over the world, and they were trending on Twitter and social media for days ("Daily Time").

## **Conclusion**

Trump's foreign policies during his four years in the White House were not necessarily chaotic. However, it was difficult to make a clear judgment about his foreign policies by saying they were all good since his priority was the interests of the US ("Foreign Policy of the Donald Trump Administration"). Through his presidency, Trump tackled many of the most important issues, such as the US trade war with China that led the world into an economic depression that affected Europe, Asia, and North America.

The last card of Trump's foreign policy was North Korea; he tried to come to an agreement with North Korea for the denuclearization of the peninsula. In addition, his relationship with the Russian president made many American politicians and citizens question whether his election was meddled in by the Russians. Trump could not keep up with the Russians in their foreign policy; they could get their hands on Syria and cooperate militarily with China and Iran.

This chapter focuses on the mismanagement of US foreign policy during the Trump administration, in particular the Syrian crisis. He was forced to leave Syria after his defeat against Russian forces, unable to dethrone the Bashar al-Assad regime. The second reason is his stance against Iran, first withdrawing from the JCPOA agreement and later assassinating Qasem Soleimani, causing nearly a war between those two nuclear powers.

Then there was the president's character and personal qualities. As jurist Robert Ingersoll said, when referring to Abraham Lincoln's integrity, "most people could bear adversity." Nevertheless, if they wish to know what a man really is, give him power. "It shows in the way he handles international crises. On the issue of character, President Trump got low scores.

### General Conclusion

A poll measured Donald Trump's popularity in 2020, with the majority 57.9% approving and 38.2% disapproving of his foreign policy ("Foreign Policy of the Donald Trump Administration"). In view of Trump's record in the White House, it was unlikely to figure out that Trump's policies of the last year would be the same policies next year he was unpredictable. He might accept a cosmetic trade move by China and declare it a big win for the US economy.

Many Americans criticize Trump's move to meet with Kim Jong Un, as it was a step without concrete will for denuclearization in order to describe his policies as successful. The reason he was not re-elected for the second round was because he neglected his internal policies and focused only on foreign policies when COVID-19, according to the US Trump Administration, did nothing to stop the spread of the deadly illness. The American response has been inconsistent, incompetent, highly politicized, and both erratic and lacking any empathy toward the American people or those they would infect around the world as time unfolds. Trump has threatened his allies many times that he might begin a US military withdrawal from Europe ("Foreign Policy of the Donald Trump Administration").

The four years of Trump's in office saw the persistence of shocking policies from his withdrawal from the Paris Agreement on climate change, which started with the participation of more than 196 countries; they aimed to decrease emissions in the air. If NATO countries did not increase the money budget for the US, Trump threatened that he would withdraw from NATO and reshuffle US troops from Europe, leaving Europe weaker against Russia. In 2018, his administration released three separate rounds of tariffs. The

## General Conclusion

---

Trump administration has since slapped tariffs on hundreds of billions of dollars' worth of Chinese goods, blocked Chinese high-tech companies and tried to convince allies to ban Chinese telecom giant Huawei from their 5G network bailouts. In 2020, the Trump administration completed diplomatic normalization agreements signed between Israel, Bahrain, and the UAE, and later Sudan and Morocco, which were part of a larger goal to grow a regional coalition against Iran.

In-depth exploration and analysis of Trump's four years in authority resulted in division in the United States, with rising racial tension and a decrease in world trade aimed at his dispute with China. In the international field, he withdrew from multinational organizations; he imposed tough new immigration laws; and expanded his relationship with Israel. Therefore, his four years in power were really unfavorable and unpredictable.

## Works Cited

- Ajami, Riad A. "US-China Trade War: The Spillover Effect." *Journal of Asia-Pacific Business*, vol. 21, no. 1, 26 Dec. 2019, pp. 1–3, [10.1080/10599231.2020.1708227](https://doi.org/10.1080/10599231.2020.1708227). Accessed 2 Mar. 2020.
- Al-Mawali, Nasser. "Intra-Gulf Cooperation Council : Saudi Arabia Effect." *Journal of Economic Integration*, vol. 30, no. 3, 15 Sept. 2015, pp. 532–552, [10.11130/jei.2015.30.3.532](https://doi.org/10.11130/jei.2015.30.3.532). Accessed 2 Oct. 2020.
- Aldien Saed Ammar. QATAR: A NEWBEGINNING FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW IN THE MIDDLE EAST.
- Blackwill, Robert D. *Trump's Foreign Policies Are Better than They Seem*. New York, Ny, Council On Foreign Relations, 2019.
- Crowley, Meredith A. *Trade War : The Clash of Economic Systems Endangering Global Prosperity*. London Cepr Press, 2019.
- Hill Matthew & Hurst Steven (2020): *presidency TheTrump: continuity and change in US foreign policy*, *Global Affairs*, DOI: [10.1080/23340460.2020.1726788](https://doi.org/10.1080/23340460.2020.1726788)
- Iwanowski, Zbignev. "Venezuela: Systemic Crisis and Civil-Military Relations." *IBEROAMERICA*, no. 3, 2021, pp. 147–168, [10.37656/s20768400-2021-3-07](https://doi.org/10.37656/s20768400-2021-3-07). Accessed 8 Nov. 2021.
- James West Davidson, et al. *Experience History : Interpreting America's Past*. New York, Ny, Mcgraw-Hill Education, 2019.

- Kakar, Fazal Rehman. "Qatar Diplomatic Crisis." *Global Foreign Policies Review*, vol. II, no. I, 30 Dec. 2019, pp. 1–7, [10.31703/gfpr.2019\(ii-i\).01](https://doi.org/10.31703/gfpr.2019(ii-i).01). Accessed 13 Oct. 2021.
- Kenneth Katzman, Kathleen J. McInnis, Clayton Thomas. , May 8, 2020" U.S.-Iran Conflict and Implications for U.S. Policy", Congressional Research Service, <https://crsreports.congress.gov/R45795>
- Litwak, Robert, and Woodrow Wilson. *Preventing North Korea's Nuclear Breakout*. Washington, Dc, Wilson Center, 2018.
- Liu, Kerry. "Chinese Manufacturing in the Shadow of the China-US Trade War." *Economic Affairs*, vol. 38, no. 3, Oct. 2018, pp. 307–324, [10.1111/ecaf.12308](https://doi.org/10.1111/ecaf.12308). Accessed 19 May 2019.
- Loh Pei Ying. 1 May 2018 "Why is naming Jerusalem the capital of Israel problematic" Kontinentalist, <https://www.kontinentalist.com/stories/why-is-naming-jerusalem-the-capital-of-israel-pro>
- Lynch. *In the Shadow of the Cold War: American Foreign Policy from George Bush Sr. To Donald Trump*. Cambridge University Press, 2019.
- National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, Congress. Gov <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/iran-nuclear-deal-why-trump-us>
- Negri Alberto. (2018) *Gulf Regional Crisis: Qatar-Saudi Arabia Rivalry, Tensions within the Gulf Cooperation Council*. Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI), Milan
- Purkayastha Prabir , August 13, 2020 . *Why 5G is first stage of US-China*



*telecommunication war, Asia Times.*

“Qatar and the Arab Spring.” *Middle East Policy*, vol. 22, no. 4, Dec. 2015, pp. 153–154, [10.1111/mepo.12165](https://doi.org/10.1111/mepo.12165).

Roland Gérard. *Development Economics*. London New York Routledge, 2016.

Sigal Leon (2020) Paved with Good Intentions: Trump’s Nuclear Diplomacy with North Korea, *Journal for Peace and Nuclear Disarmament*, 3:1, 163182, DOI: 10.1080/25751654.2020.1751549

Sonali Kolhatkar. January 17, 2020 ”Three Reasons Why Trump Ordered Soleimani’s Killing“, *Common Dreams*,  
<https://www.commondreams.org/views/2020/01/17/three-reasons-why-trump-ordered-s>

“Turkey wants US to end support for Kurdish militants in Syria: Minister”, Jul 30, 2019  
[https://parstoday.com/en/news/west\\_asia-i107675turkey\\_wants\\_us\\_to\\_end\\_support\\_f](https://parstoday.com/en/news/west_asia-i107675turkey_wants_us_to_end_support_f)

Verrastro Frank. June 14, 2017. ” *Qatar Crisis: Turmoil in the GCC*”, *CSIS US Foreign Policies in Donald Trump’s Era*.

Zhang, Angela. *CHINESE ANTITRUST EXCEPTIONALISM : How the Rise of China Challenges Global Regulation*. S.L., Oxford Univ Press, 2021.