



## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - THE GEOPOLITICAL MODEL OF DOMINATION

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### Abstract

*The geopolitical position of state relative to other states or groups of states is based on the economic, financial and military status of the country. The United States will remain in human history as a great power, also the American supremacy has thus produced a new international order which not only imitates, but also institutionalizes beyond the borders of America, many features of the American system itself.*

### Keywords

Geopolitical position, domination, power, geostrategy

### 1. Introduction

The world system is a set of relations and inter-conditionings established between the existing states, at planetary level, continental or regional level, in various fields, in the form of collaborations or discipleship meant to build a functional system. There are two essential elements of this world system: the economic and the geopolitical system.

The economic system involves all economic relations, such as the financial and trade, taking place between different countries, resulting in final completion of the globalization process. The whole concerns all political relations established between the involved states, in order to support national, regional, zonal and global interests, interdependence relationships resulting from the respective member states' economic, financial, military, social, demographic potential, etc. The system is in fact a direct result of the economic development of the countries concerned.

The geopolitical position of state relative to other states or groups of states is based on the economic, financial and military status of the country. The geopolitical role and place of a state in the geopolitical world system is determined, inter alia on the overall development of the state, but also on a number of collateral elements, such as the potential of demography, the geographic position, the opening or access to the sea, the location of the state along major trade routes or the existence of underground resources, quantitatively diverse and well represented.

USA is a country as huge as a continent, with an area of 9.55 million kilometers and a population of over 300 million. By its longitudinal extension, United States benefit from an exit at the Pacific Ocean and the Atlantic Ocean, which facilitated through history not

only the trade and hence, economic development, but it shaped its geopolitical position in relation to other states such as the role held in the international arena. Meanwhile, the United States benefited from huge natural resources, which allowed it unprecedented economic development, supported by the fact that the state has the highest GDP in the world, almost. After the political developments that have marked the end of the twentieth century, the United States managed to become the sole world superpower leaving behind all other zonal powers, European or Asian. Its role in the global economic and geopolitical system is exceptional, very complex and that gives a special position in the international arena. This role is reflected in several areas considered vital for the existence of a state. Among them we mention the most important ones:

- hold the role of sole economic superpower, occupying the leading position in many areas of production;
- concentrates one third of the GDP of the planet;
- is the main consumer of the planet's resources;
- hold the largest military force in the world;
- hold the most important nuclear arsenal, used for the purpose of intimidation;
- is the global leader of the "free" world, focusing the political decisions represented at various political bodies such as the UN or NATO;
- hold the leading role in agricultural production in many industries (maize, sorghum, soy, cheese etc.), and in many industrial sectors (aluminum, synthetic rubber, non-ferrous ores, electricity, fertilizers, automobiles, consumer goods);
- achieved the highest revenues from tourism activity;
- hold the top spots in the productions of dozens of types of goods and products, some of which are considered strategic: oil, coal, natural gas, non-ferrous

ores of copper, lead, zinc, gold, silver, iron ore, but also for cement, steel alloyed and high-alloyed, vehicles, ships and aircrafts. United States are at the same time an important member, sometimes having veto power in many regional organizations, regional or international, in which it holds a special place: NAFTA, GATT, ANZUS, ASEAN, APEC, NATO, ASCE, OAS, UN.

USA are directly or indirectly involved in various conflict zones around the globe. They direct military presence in Iraq, Afghanistan and through various organizations of peacekeeping are involved in different regions of the world, such as former republics of Yugoslavia, Near and Middle East and in parts of Central and South America. The American military presence is visible in the Pacific, Southeast Asia and in Europe. Through its military potential, the United States assumed the role of global sheriff, engaging in any conflict zone where his political, economic and strategic interests require.

Being in constant competition with the US, another important pillar in international relations is the Russian Federation. Continuator of the former USSR, it manages, despite economic problems particular "generated by the transition to capitalism", to sum up a number of strengths which reinforce its geopolitical position in relation to other states. Through the fact that it has the largest area of territory, more than 17 million km, and a considerable number of inhabitants, nearly 150 million people, the Russian Federation holds a special geopolitical position, stretching virtually on two continents. All this territorial vastness of Russia brings a number of issues, such as ethnic and religious diversity, especially in the Asian region, which has often created serious problems that have threatened the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the state. Landforms diversity that exists across this country has immense natural riches, such as oil, coal, natural gas, iron ore and nonferrous, which support a diversified economy and industry. Natural resource potential is huge, but problems arise when they are capitalized, due to the political, social and economic instability in the last two decades. Despite these restrictions, the Russian Federation continues to obtain high yields in the areas of: electricity, aluminum, synthetic rubber, steel products, chemicals and even in areas considered strategic, such as uranium production.

The ethnic and religious diversity has brought on the political map of the Russian Federation, a number of unresolved territorial issues such as the situation in Chechnya or Dagestan, which joined complicated situations arising from the transition. Russian Federation still holds the majority of the former Soviet nuclear arsenal, which makes it an important partner at the negotiating table of military. Is a member, including in some cases with veto power, in many international, regional and zonal organizations, and is involved with

military forces in many regions of the globe. Some forecasts made by political analysts expected an increase in the geopolitical role of the state in the coming decades, once it exceeds the problems generated by the transition from communist to a democratic capitalist society.

It is well known that oil has dominated the geopolitics of the twentieth century, but also early this century, regardless of what was intended to be presented as evidence. In a world where oil provides 40% of the world's energy and 90% of fuel of transport means, geopolitics cannot ignore the premise that industrialized economies can at any time enter the "hunger of energy", which would trigger competitions with a high potential conflict for the existing reserves.

A brief overview of the main political players in the world, although in the geopolitics of oil would be more suitable the phrase "power centers", reveals differences between them, but also a common point. US, European Union and Japan are countries with advanced economies and developed national and international financial institutions, with stable and strong democratic societies, built on the principle of the rule of law and human rights. They also provide a higher quality of life for all indicators. China and India are countries with economies with an intense pace of development, financial stability, openness, societies undergoing modernization, though the traditions have a strong influence and the quality of life is far from that of the states in the first category. The common point of all these centers of power is the dependence, especially dependence on energy resources. Largely, this is the reality that shapes their geopolitical behavior and the content strategies.

A distinct place among the centers of power represents Russia. It meets the specific features of both of these categories, but what is radically different about it is that it is not dependent on natural resources, although the independence equally influences it and its geopolitics and strategy.

Under these conditions, the geopolitical oil concerns dominate world governments and manifest itself in many forms, from multilateral cooperation, investments in the field, technical assistance, auctions, financial and economic aid, privatization, preferential conditions etc., to form rather reminiscent of geostrategy, being dominated by the military component, threats and demonstrations of force, military presence and even armed violence.

Today, oil geopolitics' main actors are the US and Russia. Each of them demonstrates that they have developed sound policies and strategies in this area. Their goals are different, but fact that there is some complementarity between objectives makes, in the long

run, the two cooperating, of course, without excluding the competition for positions as favorable.

Leaders around the world try to persuade humankind that the only solution in establishing and maintaining "world peace" is creation of the New World Order, by uniting all the world superpowers. In fact, New World Order means massive population reduction plans, end of democracy and the destruction of the sovereignty of nations.

### 3. The imposition hegemony

Americans established hegemony in the Western Hemisphere, in the nineteenth century was an important feature of international politics ever since.

America's strategic expansion of coverage in Europe and East Asia, which occurred along with the Second World War was never restricted. It is noteworthy that more than fifty years after the end of the war and more than a decade after the Cold War, the United States remains a dominant strategic force.

The hegemony was born with humanity. But the current American supremacy is distinctive by its quick onset, the global scale and the manner of exercising. During a century, America was transformed - and was transformed by international dynamics - from a relatively isolated country in the Western Hemisphere into a power of such wealth and force of domination, unprecedented in human history. Of course Russia and China are powers who dislike the American hegemony, lacking the ability to send forces to great lengths to impose their political will because they are far behind America in terms of technology.

### 4. American world system

The American global power is exercised through a worldwide system of a particular American style mirroring the internal experience of the United States. The core of this internal experience is the pluralist character of American society and its political system.

The American public's attitude toward foreign expansion of American power was ambiguous. The public supported America's engagement in the Second World War, largely because of the shock of Japan's attack against the US base at Pearl Harbour. Employing the US in the Cold War was at first supported with more reluctance, until the Berlin Blockade and the Korean War, which followed. After the Cold War, the US posture in the role of world power did not produce the American public much joy.

Polls have shown that the public has a general preference for "sharing" global power with others, rather than exercising its monopoly. The American world system focuses on technical co-opting (as in defeated rivals - Germany, Japan, and later even Russia) to a much greater extent than they did the previous imperial

systems. Like them, it relies heavily on indirect exercising influence on elites in dependent countries and at the same time, takes a lot of advantage of the attraction exercised by its democratic principles and institutions. Like them, it relies heavily on indirect exercising influence on elites in dependent countries and at the same time, making a lot of attractions of its democratic principles and institutions. Cultural domination has been an underappreciated facet of American global power. Regardless of what might be thought of its aesthetic criteria, America's commercial culture exerts a magnetic attraction, especially for the youth of the world. This attraction could result in the appearance of the hedonistic lifestyle which it depicts. American movies and television programs cover three-quarters of the world market. American pop music is equally as dominant, while the way to eat and even dressing of the Americans are increasingly imitated worldwide. On the Internet the language used is English, and an overwhelming proportion of computer conversations also have the country of origin America. America finally has become a Mecca for those seeking advanced education, of which many, very gifted, never return home again.

In the era of the broadest spread of democracy as a form of government, the American political experience tends to serve as a standard for imitation. The attraction and impact of the American democratic political system were accompanied by growing attraction exerted by the entrepreneurial business model that emphasizes the global free trade and boundless competition. The American political democracy and economic development communicate a simple ideological message that attracts many: acquiring individual success enhances freedom, while generating prosperity. It is a doctrine that attracts the energetic, ambitious and very competitive. America is at the center of a universe in which everything is interconnected and in which power is exercised through negotiation, dialogue, disagreements or searches for formal consensus, even though that power, ultimately, originates from a single source, ie from Washington. The American supremacy has thus produced a new international order which not only imitates, but also institutionalizes beyond the borders of America, many features of the American system itself. These fundamental features are:

- A collective security system, including integrated command and armed forces (NATO, US Security Treaty - Japan etc.);
- Regional Economic Cooperation (APEC, NAFTA - the North Agreement - American Free Trade) and global cooperation specialized institutions (World Bank, IMF, WTO);

- Procedures that emphasize consensus-based decision making, even if dominated by the United States;
- Legal and constitutional structure of the world.

## 5. Conclusions

More than likely, the United States will remain in human history as a great power. This does not mean that it will cease the fight to gain world leadership, but it is hard to believe that any state will be able to obtain so much power, given that actors have multiplied and power is becoming more diffuse. In addition, America's hegemonic status is an obstacle to a sustainable international peace, since the clash of ethnic, religious and cultural extreme opposites collide, with no middle ground to be seen in the near future.

In conclusion, the military power doesn't define a high power, but a subtle power, formed by the economic, political, social and cultural directions a state chooses. Through this, a geopolitical dominant state succeeds to influence firstly, the thought of the economic leaders and of the population and lastly, of the political class.

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