

Case Study#1 Understanding America's role in world politics

February 20, 2019

Due: Upload your answer file in the form of a simple Word document to Canvas by **Friday, February 22, 2019 before class starts** (just pick one group member to upload the file on behalf of the entire group).

Assignment: We have spent the first week of the semester broadly covering the history of U.S. foreign policy. We have also identified several key problem areas that complicate America's foreign policy process. These include both "challenges" the U.S. faces today and several problems that are seemingly embedded in the makeup of America's political system and culture—what Hook calls the "Paradox of World Power".

The goal of this case study is to connect Hook's argument with the readings for today's assignment and explain how the paradox is implicated in the contested relationship between the U.S. and what some call the "liberal (rule)-based international order".

To complete the assignment, you will need to do the following:

1. Read the two articles: Gideon Rose "The Fourth Founding: The United States and the Liberal Order" *Foreign Affairs* (Canvas); [Michael Anton "America and the Liberal International Order" *American Affairs*](#)
2. Answer the following questions:
 - a. Hook argues that a central problem of the U.S. foreign policy process is that Americans (both policymakers and the general population) are torn over **how** their country should interact with the rest of the world. Hook then goes on to identify two broad "camps" (or positions) on the issue. What are these two? Briefly describe the central claims of each side and how they relate to one another (Remember we talked about how people today don't really talk about it in these terms anymore but use different designations. You can mention these here as well).
 - b. Provide a historical example that highlights how the U.S. shifted its foreign policy in response to these two diverging camps; moving from one position to the other over time.
 - c. Explain how the Rose and Anton readings relate to this debate. Can you identify arguments that connect directly to the two camps Hook mentions? And what is each author saying about the relationship between the US and the liberal world order (or liberalism in general)? (Make sure you tell us what the liberal international order actually is!)
 - d. Bringing all this together, tell me which position is more sensible in your opinion. It's okay if your group cannot agree on this, in that case you can just give me a pro and con argument for each side.
3. Upload your answer to the Canvas site under the assignment tab. An online submission option will be available. Only one of your group members needs to submit the form, but make sure that **all your names are listed at the top of the document!**
4. Get ready for our check-out session on Friday and make sure you come prepared to answer a brief quiz about the material and rate the performance of your group members. Good luck!