What are examples of Actors in the International System? US, Iraq

What is structure? set of properties or arrangements that connect and order the actors in the system. Structure allocates power among actors and shapes how they interact with each other, often by rewarding or penalizing certain types of behavior.

How does Structure shape behavior in the international system? Iran had sanctions placed on it by the US, eventually leading to Iran Nuclear accords

How does the collective action problem illustrate the importance of thinking systemically? In Iran Nuclear accords, we may have bettered relations with Iran, but pissed off the Saudis, as well as other actors involved in the sanctions of Iran, since if we can trade with them, why can our allies not?

**What is Foreign Policy?**

Actions (tweets) and statements of the govt of the US that are directed that are directed to some foreign audience(Federal Government)

Designed to shape beliefs, capabilities, interests and actions/behavior of their targets.

Country-Geographic State-political entity

Actions (often statements) undertaken by US federal Government directed toward some foreign audience

Foreign audiences: other govts, international organizations, nonstate actors (citizens)

Phone call from trump in Taiwan (one china policy, 1979), china condemned America, Trump retracted by calling China back.

Targets: Private citizens or Orgs outside of US

**What is Foreign Policy (ctd)?**

Beliefs as organizing ideas that foreign possess of American interests and their expectations of future American actions, shaping targets beliefs

Cold War example: peace rests on stability of beliefs about deterrent (nuclear) threats, made it clear we would nuke each other

Driving on the right side of the road

Capabilities

As the relative balance of military power between two pol orgs

Shapes bargaining leverage (and ability to get what want) in a political dispute

Example: war as tool of FP to degrade/limit capabilities of other state (or isis), preventing iran from having this power (nukes)

Target Interests:

As what states want (territory, wealth, nukes, democracies)

Target interests shape scope of political conflict with US – Are they congruent? Conflictual (Iran Nukes)?

US FP (use of foreign aid or reduction of trade barriers) often directed at changing interests of other state (or people within it)

Actions:

Device to alter behavior of other states

Example: sanctions against Russia designed to pressure Putin to halt support of separatists in Ukraine

**The Foreign Policy Bureaucracy in the United States (executive primarily)?**

State Department- Passports, negotiates arms control agreement, free trade agreement

Sec. of State – Rex Tillerson, can broker peace with Israel

Defense Department – armed forced (duh), headed by a civilian, works with joint Chiefs of Staff (top milt officials), maintain global order (6th street)

Sec. of Defense - James Mattis, retired marine corp general, is a civilian, but needed a special waiver from congress (<7 years).

Treasury Department along with Federal Reserve – monetary policies, unique because it had domestic responsibilities (taxes, govt bills, recently-borrowing (chinese))

Cia – Mike Pompeo

Directorate of National Intelligence- dan coats, post 9/11 creation, centralize intelligence (shapes believes, Iraq war)

National Security Advisor (national security counsel) - H R McMaster, coordinates all foreign policy agencies within exec. Branch, was Mike Flynn (Russian Ambassador connections), condeleeza rice for bush, first to brief pres, unique because not subject to senate confirmation

UN Ambassador – Nikki Haley, publicly clashed with trump, at odds with Russia, against trump

**What is the National Interest?**

Set of political, economic, social or moral goals possessed by US

Guide policy

Emerge from and define collective identity of Americans

Compatibility set potential for conflict/cooperation with other states (allies/common Iran/increase nukes)

Dimensions of interests: security (Russia threatening Ukraine, Al Qaeda), economic, ideational (values, base our national identity, promote democracy)

Subject to domestic political conflict, so institutions important role in determining (Corps v Unions, use of military force (Isolationists))

Bush – protect from terrorism interest (reasons were pol alienation, disenfranchisement), surrender to democracy- preventing terrorists attacks at home

**The Bush National Security Statement (Sept 2002, Bush Doctrine, Axis of Evil)?**

Fear that terrorist and rogue states would get nukes, because they are more likely to use them

Written as a run-up to Iraq War - Prepatory Document, Document of preemption, best def is a good off, equating terrorists with states that harbor them

Warning to Iran/Iraq/N Korea

Clear statement of American FP interests- responsibility to protect homeland, then freedom

Statement that threat environment has changed - deterrence wont work, willingness to strike first (most controversial, are we more aggressive to world (overreacting?)), commitment to fight AIDS, we will go alone if necessary, but emphasizes NATO

Tries to influence beliefs

Reforming foreign policy bureaucracy

**Donald Trump’s Speech to Joint Session of Congress and the American National Interests**

Trump V Bush:

Like Bush, Trump sees terrorism as the primary security threat facing the US

However, his approach focuses on restricting immigration to prevent potential terrorists from coming to the US (7 majority Muslim countries)

Trump is also skeptical of military intervention and regime change, which was the primary instrument to combat terrorism in Bush Admin

Chuck Todd tried to force trump to say middle east would be better with Saddam/Gaddafi

What is foreign policy?

What are the differences among the beliefs, capabilities, interests, and actions (behavior) of political actors?

What are the main components of foreign policy bureaucracy in the United States?

What is the National Interest?

Bush NSS (2002)

What are central components/foundational arguments?

What are the major threats to American interests that it identifies?

How did 9/11 change the national security threats facing the us?

Trump on threats and American nation Interests

How does President Trump see the nature of the security threat presented by terrorism?

How does Trump’s counter-terrorism strategy differ from President Bush?