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**The Development of National Security Policy in the USA:
A Historical-analytic Analysis
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Abstract

The concept of national security in the United States of America has often been linked to the activity of maintaining territorial integrity and ensuring military, political, economic, scientific and technological supremacy over other nations. The scope of this concept has been expanding overtime to address new areas of vital interest to the country. At the dawn of independence, the main concern was to preserve the nation unity, to defend it against foreign threats, to secure individual liberties and to insure domestic tranquility across the country. At the political level and because it is blessed by two oceans on the east and west coasts along with two benign neighbors in Canada and Mexico, the new rising nation built its policy upon the principles of isolationism and remoteness from world conflicts. During the Cold War era, the concern of American national security shifted towards the protection of the 'Free World' against the spread of communism and to building military alliance against Warsaw Pact countries. After the disintegration of the USSR and the waning of the Cold War in the late eighties, the United States seemed to be entering a period of ensured safety. Nevertheless, the 9/11 attacks soon reoriented USA policy towards interventionism and regime change policies as well as to taking preemptive and preventive actions against hostile enemies. This paper intends to trace the development of the concept of national security policy in the USA, and to examine how this policy has contributed to the US supremacy over world nations.

Keywords: Foreign Policy - Interventionism - Isolationism - National Security - Regime Change