

---

## *The Future of America Series*

The biggest issue facing America today is more thoughtful foreign and domestic policy in the wake of September 11.

Terrorism and policy against it have become a permanent feature of American life. If we view this struggle as a kind of hundred years war, it will be easy to push aside pressing domestic policy and economic needs.

But if we do not use unending war as a frame for effective policy, then we needn't use patriotism as an excuse for inaction on other fronts, that invest in the truly disadvantaged in America and throughout the world.

Can the world's only superpower find the wisdom to fulfill its potential, at home and abroad, becoming the guardian of uncorrupted democracy and global economic justice?

Can the fate of other superpowers in history persuade citizens and leaders in America today on the need for improved security and intelligence combined with enhanced international engagement?

Can America lead by a synthesis of traditional "hard" power and the "soft" power that derives from the international appeal of our institutions and values?

Can America's international soft power be made far more appealing to foreigners by our resolving the dilemmas of poverty, inequality, race, corruption and greed that challenge the nation from within?

Is not domestic policy therefore a powerful venue for foreign policy?

The Foundation is hosting an ongoing series of international forums on these themes, beginning in Paris, London, Washington, San Francisco and Beijing. Presentations are available on [www.eisenhower-foundation.org](http://www.eisenhower-foundation.org).

