

National Security Strategy of the United States of America, November 2025: Will It Succeed in Halting Decline and Collapse, or Will It Hasten Them?

(Translated)

Ustadh Nasr Abu Ibrahim

<https://www.al-waie.org/archives/article/20171>

Al Waie Magazine Issue No. 474 - 475 - 476

Thirty-Ninth Year, Rajab - Sha'ban - Ramadan 1447 AH

corresponding to January - February - March 2026 CE

On December 5, 2025, Trump announced to the public the new “National Security Strategy of the United States of America,” submitted to the US Congress. Anyone who looks at it will find that, in its essence and origins, it did not differ from its predecessors, even if it differed in methods, or in the extent of the malice and tyranny of the president’s personality, whether he was from the Democratic Party or the Republican Party.

Trump, whose personality is characterized by excessive arrogance, a lust for power, a love of spectacle, a lack of wisdom, and a tendency towards domestic conflicts and the elimination of opponents, all while in a state of euphoria, aims to maintain American global leadership and halt America's decline through blatant and undisguised slogans such as “**America First**” and “Peace Through Strength.” He even goes so far as to insult his allies without any pretense. This is what Trump explicitly stated in his strategic document, saying, “The goal of this strategy is to tie together all of these world-leading assets, and others, to strengthen American power and preeminence and make our country even greater than it ever has been.”

The National Security Strategy of the United States of America, November 2025, accordingly, establishes the objectives and priorities for achieving American values and outlines the US policy based on maintaining and consolidating American global leadership.

The purpose of publishing the strategy to the US Congress, and consequently to the public, is to prioritize threats, and set objectives that achieve national interests, as perceived by the new administration, and that achieve global leadership and American dominance.

With Trump’s “America First” and “Make America Great Again” slogans, he has brought about a shift in the priorities for achieving these objectives and in defining American interests that maintain American leadership, enhance its global dominance, and prevent the emergence of any power that rivals the United States.

This document differs from its predecessor in its definition of American interests. While previous strategies cloaked these interests in the language of partnership, values, and the international order, the 2025 document abandons this veneer, replacing it with a direct discourse based on explicit self-interest.

Here, we examine the most prominent aspects of the new US National Security Strategy 2025, which formed the basis of the US National Defense Strategy 2026, published this month (January).

These are its key points:

1. Absolute Military Superiority:

This involves maintaining a strong and modern nuclear deterrent, protecting America by building the “Golden Dome for the American homeland,” using nuclear and other military capabilities, ensuring military readiness, developing robust cyber defenses, and pursuing and neutralizing “Islamist terrorists” capable of attacking the US homeland.

2. Securing the Borders and Controlling Immigration Flow:

This aims to keep immigration levels to a minimum, especially from the Muslim World, to prevent any threat to the social fabric of America, whether to the white race or the American way of life.

3. American Spiritual and Cultural Revival

This involves re-promoting a discourse of national pride, upholding the traditional family, and rejecting perceived foreign liberal values.

4. Reviving the American Defense Industrial Base

This is part of a broader national industrial revival.

The strategy views adherence to the doctrine of globalization and free trade as a mistake, arguing that it has weakened the American middle class and industrial base.

This signifies the end of globalization, the rules of which were established by America through the World Trade Organization and free trade policies, in favor of protectionism and prioritizing the national economy over foreign interests with other countries.

5. Economic Supremacy

This is to be achieved through economic security, balanced trade, securing access to supply chains and vital materials, revitalizing the industrial base, including defense industries, achieving energy dominance, protecting and developing American hegemony in the financial sector and its national currency, the dollar, and maintaining continuous technological leadership, particularly in artificial intelligence and advanced technologies. America believes that the current conflict revolves around dominance over energy production sources, industrial and technological capabilities, and innovation potential.

6. Firmly Defending American Interests in the Western Hemisphere

This involves ensuring military and commercial access to vital locations, particularly the Panama Canal, the Gulf of America, and Greenland.

The US National Security Strategy clearly demonstrates a strong focus on the Western Hemisphere, which it considers an American sphere of influence, through:

Reviving the Monroe Doctrine of 1823 in a Trumpian version that establishes a transatlantic buffer zone, preventing Europe from exerting influence in the Southern Hemisphere.

Completely excluding China and Russia from establishing a military presence, or controlling strategic assets, within the Western sphere.

Expanding economic influence through tariffs and incentives, and using military force if necessary.

Accordingly, Trump asked Canada to join the US as its 51st state and threatened Panama to cancel its agreements with China, which Panama subsequently did. On January 3, 2026, he also attacked Venezuela, bombing its capital, Caracas, and arresting its president, Maduro, and his wife, in an act of arrogance reeking of traditional, abhorrent colonialism! He called this treatment of the Western Hemisphere the "The Trump Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine." Trump even extended his threats to Greenland, a territory belonging to Denmark, a NATO member.

7. Confronting the Islamic Ideological Threat

This threat is being addressed globally and even within the United States. On December 20, 2025, the US Director of National Intelligence, Tulsi Gabbard, stated: "this Islamist ideology is a direct threat to our freedom because at its core it is a political ideology that seeks to create a global caliphate."

Trump's Middle East strategy states, "that the region not be an incubator or exporter of terror." In their malicious interpretation, this means Islam and Islamic ruling governance, as

declared in the 2026 US National Defense Strategy, which states, “The Department’s priority in Africa is to prevent Islamic terrorists from using regional safe havens to strike the U.S. Homeland... We will simultaneously seek to empower allies and partners to lead efforts to degrade and destroy other terrorist organizations.”

This means that, in their view, the danger lies in the Islam practiced in the Islamic region, whose people are Muslims striving to establish their own state, liberate their lands from American and Western hegemony, overthrow their puppet regimes, and eliminate the Jewish entity.

8. Maintaining American Hegemony over the Middle East

It includes preventing any hostile state from controlling its resources and waterways, threatening energy supplies, or becoming a breeding ground or exporter of terrorism against American interests or American territory, and ensuring the security of Israel.

It has been stated that In the US National Security Strategy, “We want to prevent an adversarial power from dominating the Middle East, its oil and gas supplies, and the chokepoints through which they pass while avoiding the ‘forever wars’ that bogged us down in that region at great cost” and “We also have a clear interest in expanding the Abraham Accords to more nations in the region and to other countries in the Muslim world.”

So, in order to achieve its interests, America declares its partnership with dictatorial regimes in the Middle East, especially the Gulf states, and refrains from imposing democratic values by force as long as they serve American interests, or from waging what it calls failed "nation-building" wars, and confronting threats on both the ideological and military levels with these countries.

The US National Security Strategy 2025 states: “Middle East partners are demonstrating their commitment to combatting radicalism, a trendline American policy should continue to encourage. But doing so will require dropping America’s misguided experiment with hectoring these nations — especially the Gulf monarchies — into abandoning their traditions and historic forms of government. We should encourage and applaud reform when and where it emerges organically, without trying to impose it from without. The key to successful relations with the Middle East is accepting the region, its leaders, and its nations as they are while working together on areas of common interest.”

As for the US National Defense Strategy 2026, it states “It does not conflate Americans’ interests with those of the rest of the world... Nor does it see implanting our way of life by force as necessary. It does not seek to solve all the world’s problems.”

Therefore, the United States wants to dominate the Middle East, viewing it as both a source and destination for international investment, in sectors far broader than oil and gas, including nuclear energy, artificial intelligence, and defense technologies. It also seeks to advance other economic interests, whether to secure supply chains or to promote opportunities for developing friendly and open markets in other parts of the world, such as Africa. Washington is also pushing regional partners, including Israel and its allies in the region, to bear the brunt of the greater responsibility for managing their regional security; allowing Washington to direct its resources towards other strategic challenges, and for the United States not to bear long-term military commitments in them.

9. Preserving Europe’s Freedom and Security

This is whilst restoring European civilization’s self-confidence and the identity of the West.

America believes that Europe faces the risk of “civilizational erasure” due to the threat of ideological transformation caused by immigrants, and these risks threaten to dismantle NATO.

The US National Security Strategy 2025 states, “this economic decline is eclipsed by the real and more stark prospect of civilizational erasure. The larger issues facing Europe

include activities of the European Union and other transnational bodies that undermine political liberty and sovereignty, migration policies that are transforming the continent and creating strife, censorship of free speech and suppression of political opposition, cratering birthrates, and loss of national identities and self-confidence. Should present trends continue, the continent will be unrecognizable in 20 years or less. As such, it is far from obvious whether certain European countries will have economies and militaries strong enough to remain reliable allies.”

Trump is currently working to support right-wing parties, a stance echoed by the US Vice President, who has also declared his support for right-wing parties. The National Security Strategy states, “We will oppose elite-driven, anti-democratic restrictions on core liberties in Europe, the Anglosphere, and the rest of the democratic world, especially among our allies.”

The US is working to ensure that Europe takes responsibility for its own security and bears the increased costs and burdens. This impacts European countries and reduces economic growth.

The US wants European efforts to be focused on internal security. The US National Security Strategy 2025 states, “We count among our many allies and partners dozens of wealthy, sophisticated nations that must assume primary responsibility for their regions and contribute far more to our collective defense.”

10. Increased Burden Sharing with Allies

Demanding that they bear their fair share of the defense burden. The US National Security Strategy 2025, under the subheading “Burden-Sharing and Burden-Shifting,” obligates NATO countries to allocate 5% of their GDP to defense. This means shifting the burden onto allies, rather than the United States, which feels stretched thin and unable to shoulder the burden given its economic crises. Furthermore, it implies a willingness to fight to the last American soldier.

11. Russia Is Not an Existential Threat

The document argues that Russia no longer poses an existential threat, but is merely an adversary with whom understanding is possible. The best course of action, it suggests, is to contain Russia through negotiations and minimize direct confrontation.

12. Deterring China in the Indo-Pacific Region

This is to be through force, not confrontation, by adopting a strong negotiating position. The United States is working to deter China, but not through direct confrontation in the Indo-Pacific region. Instead, it is employing force, pushing its allies to increase their strength and shoulder the burden, and to be the ones to confront China, such as South Korea, Japan, Australia, and other countries, within the alliances the US has established in the region, in anticipation of simultaneous wars in multiple locations.

The US National Security Strategy 2025 states: “Given President Trump’s insistence on increased burden-sharing from Japan and South Korea, we must urge these countries to increase defense spending, with a focus on the capabilities—including new capabilities—necessary to deter adversaries and protect the First Island Chain. We will also harden and strengthen our military presence in the Western Pacific, while in our dealings with Taiwan and Australia we maintain our determined rhetoric on increased defense spending.”

This enables the US to target the Chinese influence that China has built through its Belt and Road Initiative, concessional economic aid, as loans, various investments, land acquisitions, and trade partnerships with countries around the world; to disrupt these projects, prevent their progress, and end their influence by targeting their locations, whether in the Southern Hemisphere, Africa, the Middle East, the Arctic, or the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

The US is working to prevent China from occupying Taiwan or controlling the Taiwan Strait, as well as preventing it from weakening American hegemony over the financial sector, the dollar, and the energy market.

13. Weakening the Influence of International Institutions and Organizations

This is to achieve American interests. The US is reshaping international alliances outside of international organizations. Previously, it relied on these institutions to achieve American hegemony. Today, with the rise of opposing forces on the international stage, it sees the commitment of these institutions as contingent on the extent to which they serve its interests. If the commitment of these institutions, conflicts with its interests, it withdraws from them or launches a fierce attack against them. This is what it is doing with international law.

The US National Security Strategy 2025, in its statement on the negative impact of international institutions, states, “Our elites badly miscalculated America’s willingness to shoulder forever global burdens... they lashed American policy to a network of international institutions, some of which are driven by outright anti-Americanism and many by a transnationalism that explicitly seeks to dissolve individual state sovereignty.”

This allows the US to exploit the need of other countries for aid to secure deals and exert control and dominance over nations and rare minerals. The US National Security Strategy 2025 further states: “The United States should transition from an aid-focused relationship with Africa to a trade- and investment-focused relationship, favoring partnerships with capable, reliable states committed to opening their markets to U.S. goods and services. An immediate area for U.S. investment in Africa, with prospects for a good return on investment, include the energy sector and critical mineral development. Development of U.S.-backed nuclear energy, liquid petroleum gas, and liquified natural gas technologies can generate profits for U.S. businesses and help us in the competition for critical minerals and other resources.”

14. Realignment Through Peace

“Realignment Through Peace,” by ending conflicts and wars, so that America can control resources, open new markets, new opportunities, or gain new influence in those regions.

Pursuing peace agreements under presidential leadership, even in peripheral regions and countries, is an effective means of increasing stability, enhancing U.S. global influence, realigning nations and regions with our interests, and opening new markets.

U.S. National Security Strategy 2025: Conclusion

A review of the U.S. National Security Strategy 2025, as well as the National Defense Strategy 2026, reveals significant challenges facing the United States, both domestic and foreign. America is experiencing decline and faces a threat to its hegemony: an ideology originating in the Muslim World. The Islamic ideology is the only ideology in the world today that challenges and poses a threat to America and its global interests.

America views the conflict with China as a technological and industrial struggle, as well as a rising economic and military challenge. In its conflict with Islam, it is losing because Islam possesses a powerful appeal. In its conflict with Muslims, wars have drained the US economically, morally, and in terms of its international standing. Added to this is the corruption of Western civilization and the exploitation by greedy capitalists who seek to advance their interests at the expense of their people, waging wars that have brought them devastation and triggered financial crises, **causing American debt to balloon to nearly \$40 trillion.**

America is working to stem the bleeding of its economy by revitalizing it through supporting its industrial base and bringing companies and factories back to the United States. This clashes with rising wages, especially for skilled workers. Its other measures are fraught with significant obstacles and challenges, such as strengthening financial markets, maintaining the dollar’s hegemony as a reserve currency and a reliable benchmark for pricing and financial transactions, reducing the trade deficit with competitors, controlling

supply chains and Rare Earth Elements (REES), dominating the energy market, and adopting protectionism to stimulate domestic trade and manufacturing, disregarding the principles of free trade and economic globalization. Achieving all this is neither easy nor readily attainable.

Therefore, it employs military force and the threat of its use to achieve its objectives, adhering to the principle of "Peace Through Strength." It resorts to economic coercion as a weapon after failing with soft power, striking indiscriminately and without restraint. Whether friend or foe, enemy or ally, what matters to the United States is achieving its interests, maintaining its international leadership and hegemony, and preventing any other nation from surpassing it. It disregards the rules of international law, and the prevailing international relations between states, as well as the principle of state sovereignty, which it worked to establish after World War II, if these conflict with its interests.

It is reviving the old forms of colonialism and the control of former empires. It has disregarded international institutions and organizations, withdrawing from more than sixty organizations because it sees them as obstacles to achieving its interests. It is weakening the influence of the United Nations, and working to form alternative alliances to achieve its goals. It is also exacerbating and deepening domestic divisions through changes in government institutions, targeting political opponents within the United States, and fueling racism against Afro-American people and immigrants. Furthermore, the dominance of Democrats and liberals, with their deviant social views, has intensified the spread of deviance, the chaos of pornography, the weakening of the family, and the decline in birth rates. The United States lacks a culture to address these ills.

Trump's domestic reforms, his foreign recklessness and arrogance, and his cowboy-like behavior will not solve America's problems or save it from a resounding collapse. In doing so, America is dismantling its own foundations, deepening its domestic crises, and inevitably opening itself up to foreign crises as a result of this reckless, bullying behavior. This will only increase its enemies and adversaries, and will intensify the desire to break free from American hegemony, both among the strong and the weak. This will leave America drained in the foreign arena, and riddled with domestic decay, leading to its downfall even at the height of its military power. History provides ample examples of this; it simply needs someone to knock it down, and then the knives will multiply to tear it apart. This is Allah's Way (Sunnah) with tyrants and the arrogant, those who assert, "Who is mightier than us in strength?" and those who became arrogant and oppressive, for Allah (swt) is Ever Watchful.

America's strategy aims to prevent Islam from coming to power, and it is working to combat those striving for the Khilafah (Caliphate). However, the Will of Allah (swt) prevails, and His Promise is true and certain. America will witness from those doing good deeds to establish the Khilafah what will displease it, thwart its schemes, and end its leadership and hegemony over the world, precisely what it has been warning against: **a Khilafah on the Method of the Prophethood.**

Allah (swt) said, ﴿وَأَوْرَثْنَا الْقَوْمَ الَّذِينَ كَانُوا يُسْتَضْعَفُونَ مَشْرِقَ الْأَرْضِ وَمَغْرِبَهَا الَّتِي بَارَكْنَا فِيهَا رَبِّكَ وَتَمَّتْ كَلِمَتُ رَبِّكَ﴾ **“And We caused the people who had been oppressed to inherit authority in the eastern regions of the land and the western ones, which We had blessed. And the decree of your Lord was fulfilled for Banu Israeel because of what they had patiently endured. And We destroyed all that Pharaoh and his people were producing and what they had been building”** [TMQ Surah Al-A'raaf: 137].