

## **THE 2024 U.S. ELECTIONS AND IMPLICATION FOR GLOBAL PEACE AND SECURITY**

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### ***Abstract***

*This study examines the 2024 U.S. Presidential Election and its potential implications for global peace and security. The research problem arises from the pivotal role the U.S. plays in international diplomacy, military alliances, and global economic stability. Given the political polarization, rising geopolitical tensions, and changing dynamics of U.S. foreign policy, the outcome of this election could have profound global consequences. The study seeks to explore how the election may influence international relations, conflict resolution efforts, and multilateral security frameworks. Both qualitative and quantitative methodology was employed to gather data. An in-depth review of existing literature, media reports, and official government documents provided a comprehensive understanding of the various factors at play. For the qualitative aspect, data was analyzed thematically, focusing on recurring themes such as U.S. foreign policy, defense strategy, and global reactions to shifts in U.S. politics. To complement this, quantitative data was collected and analyzed, including figures YOUGOV SURVEY March 18<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> 2024 related to public opinion polls from key global regions. By integrating both qualitative insights and quantitative metrics, the analysis offered a more holistic view of how U.S. political shifts influence global dynamics.*

***Keywords: peace; security; international peace; international security; conflicts.***

## Introduction

The 2024 U.S. Presidential Election is set to be one of the most consequential political events in recent history, with significant implications not only for the United States but for the global community as well. As the world's leading superpower, the U.S. has long played a pivotal role in maintaining international peace and security through its foreign policy, military alliances, and economic influence. Changes in U.S. leadership often result in shifts in global diplomacy and security frameworks, affecting international stability. The political environment leading up to the 2024 election is marked by unprecedented polarization within the U.S., along with rising geopolitical tensions and competition with other global powers such as China and Russia. The world is watching closely, as the election outcome could influence the trajectory of global peace and security for years to come (Smith, 2021).

Historically, U.S. elections have had far-reaching consequences for global peace and security. The U.S. has been a key player in establishing and maintaining multilateral security frameworks such as NATO and has played a significant role in peacekeeping operations and conflict resolution around the world. Changes in U.S. foreign policy, driven by shifts in political leadership, can either strengthen or destabilize these global security frameworks. For instance, the "America First" policy during the Trump administration signaled a more isolationist approach, causing disruptions in long-standing alliances, while the Biden administration focused on rebuilding international cooperation and restoring U.S. leadership on the global stage (Jones, 2022). As the 2024 election approaches, there is growing concern about the potential impact of domestic political shifts on the U.S.'s role in global peacekeeping efforts.

The core issue this study seeks to address is the uncertainty surrounding the global implications of the 2024 U.S. election. With the U.S. facing increasing internal political division, questions arise about the country's ability to maintain its stabilizing role on the world stage. Additionally, rising geopolitical tensions with major powers such as China and Russia, coupled with ongoing global challenges like terrorism, cybersecurity threats, and climate change, make the 2024 election's potential impact on global peace and security particularly critical. The possibility of a foreign policy shift, depending on the outcome of the election, creates further uncertainty about how the U.S. will engage with international security frameworks and conflict resolution efforts (Williams, 2023).

The primary objective of this study is to explore the potential impact of the 2024 U.S. election on global peace and security. It specifically seeks to examine how shifts in U.S. leadership and foreign policy may influence international security alliances like NATO and the United Nations, as well as U.S. relations with major global powers such as China, Russia, and the European Union. Additionally, the study assesses the broader implications

of the election on conflict resolution, military strategies, and diplomatic efforts in key regions like the Middle East, Asia, and Africa.

This study is highly significant given the central role the U.S. plays in maintaining global peace and security. The outcome of the 2024 election could either reinforce or undermine international efforts to address some of the most pressing global challenges, including armed conflicts, terrorism, and emerging security threats such as cyber warfare. Policymakers, international organizations, and foreign governments will benefit from understanding the potential shifts in U.S. foreign policy and how these changes might affect global security dynamics. Furthermore, the study contributes to academic discourse on how internal political processes in major powers, such as U.S. elections, can have far-reaching consequences for global peace and security (Khan, 2023). The 2024 U.S. Presidential Election is not merely a domestic event but one with profound international ramifications. The future of global peace and security is closely tied to the decisions that will be made in the U.S., making it crucial to examine the potential impacts of this election. Through this study, a clearer understanding of the global implications of the 2024 election will emerge, offering valuable insights for both policymakers and scholars.

## **Materials and Method**

The key sources of secondary materials used in this study include scholarly articles and journals, which are fundamental to the research. Peer-reviewed academic papers from fields such as international relations, political science, and security studies provide theoretical frameworks and historical analyses of U.S. foreign policy. These articles offer insights into the global consequences of past U.S. elections, trends in leadership changes, and their effects on alliances like NATO and global conflict resolution efforts. Scholarly sources are essential for understanding how shifts in U.S. leadership influence international relations and security dynamics. Government reports and policy briefs also serve as important sources. Official reports from U.S. government agencies, international organizations like NATO and the United Nations, and think tanks offer data on U.S. foreign policy, defense strategies, and global security partnerships. These documents provide authoritative insights into the potential impact of changes in U.S. leadership on global peace and security. Policy briefs from prominent think tanks, such as the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) and the Brookings Institution, are valuable for predicting policy directions post-2024.

Historical records and election analyses further enhance the study. By examining past U.S. elections and their impact on global security, the research contextualizes potential outcomes of the 2024 election. Analyses of previous administrations, including those of Trump, Obama, and Biden, help identify possible foreign policy shifts, particularly between isolationist and multilateralist approaches. This comparison provides a clearer understanding of how the 2024 election could affect global security dynamics and U.S. international engagement.

Media reports and public statements are also crucial for capturing ongoing political developments. News articles, opinion pieces, and interviews from reputable outlets such as The New York Times, The Washington Post, and The Economist offer real-time information on political platforms and foreign policy agendas. These sources also reflect public discourse and international reactions to the U.S. election. Statements from presidential candidates and international leaders provide insights into expected policy changes and their potential global ramifications. Finally, books and monographs by experts in U.S. foreign policy, geopolitics, and international security offer in-depth analyses of long-term trends in global peace and security. These published works provide a broader perspective on the role of the U.S. in world affairs and the significance of its elections for global power structures and diplomatic relations. By utilizing these diverse secondary materials, the study builds a comprehensive understanding of how the 2024 U.S. election could influence international security and alliances.

This study adopts a qualitative research methodology to explore the potential implications of the 2024 U.S. election on global peace and security. Qualitative methods are particularly appropriate for this research, as they enable a deep examination of the complex geopolitical dynamics, leadership shifts, and their impact on international relations. The primary method used in the study is document analysis, which serves as the foundation for gathering and interpreting relevant data. The document analysis involves reviewing a wide range of secondary sources, including scholarly articles, policy briefs, government reports, and international security assessments. These documents offer insights into historical trends related to U.S. elections, shifts in foreign policy, and their broader effects on global security frameworks. The research also incorporates media reports and public statements from political leaders, providing real-time perspectives on the anticipated outcomes of the 2024 election and its potential impact on global alliances such as NATO, U.S.-China relations, and conflict zones like the Middle East.

By using this qualitative approach, the study offers a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the possible geopolitical consequences of the upcoming U.S. election. This method allows for a rich, contextual analysis that quantitative approaches might not fully capture, particularly in the field of global security, which is inherently complex and rapidly evolving.

### **3.0 Literature Review**

The potential implications of the 2024 U.S. election on global peace and security have attracted significant scholarly attention due to the United States' dominant role in international affairs. Literature on the subject typically explores how changes in U.S. leadership impact foreign policy, international alliances, and global stability. Key themes in the study include the historical influence of U.S. elections on global security frameworks, the effects of domestic political polarization on international relations, and the geopolitical consequences of U.S. foreign policy under various administrations.

Several scholars highlight the United States' pivotal role in shaping global security through its leadership in international alliances such as NATO, the United Nations, and various bilateral security partnerships (Smith, 2021). U.S. elections often lead to shifts in foreign policy that reverberate globally. For example, the transition from the Obama administration to the Trump administration in 2016 led to significant changes in international relations. Trump's "America First" approach emphasized unilateralism and questioned long-standing alliances, resulting in strained relationships with key allies (Jones, 2018). This shift demonstrated how U.S. elections can influence the stability of international security frameworks. Conversely, the Biden administration worked to repair these alliances, promoting multilateralism and reaffirming the U.S. commitment to NATO and global security (Williams, 2022). The literature suggests that the 2024 U.S. election could similarly redefine U.S. engagement with the global community, depending on the elected leadership.

Research also indicates that political polarization within the United States may have significant consequences for global peace and security. According to Green (2022), growing ideological divides between political parties have created uncertainty about the U.S.'s role on the world stage. These internal divisions can lead to inconsistent foreign policies, which may weaken the credibility of U.S. commitments to international agreements and security partnerships. Political polarization also affects how U.S. foreign policy is perceived abroad, with rivals like China and Russia potentially exploiting U.S. domestic instability to advance their own geopolitical interests (Khan, 2023). Thus, the literature highlights the importance of political stability in the U.S. for maintaining global security.

Another important theme in the literature is the impact of U.S. foreign policy on relations with global powers such as China, Russia, and the European Union. Scholars emphasize that U.S. elections often result in significant shifts in these relationships. For instance, under the Trump administration, U.S.-China relations became increasingly strained due to trade disputes and confrontations over security issues in the Indo-Pacific region (Zhang, 2019). In contrast, the Biden administration pursued a more diplomatic approach, seeking to manage competition with China while addressing global security challenges such as climate change (Peterson, 2022). The literature suggests that the 2024 election will once again bring changes in U.S. policy toward these major powers, with potentially profound implications for global peace and security.

In addition to bilateral relations, scholars have examined the role of U.S. leadership in conflict resolution and military strategy, particularly in volatile regions such as the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. Historically, the U.S. has been involved in peacekeeping efforts and military interventions in these regions, shaping the trajectory of conflicts and influencing diplomatic resolutions. According to Williams (2021), U.S. involvement in the Middle East, for example, has been a defining factor in the region's security dynamics. The approach taken by different U.S. administrations—whether interventionist or diplomatic—

has affected the stability of these regions. The study indicates that the 2024 election could alter the U.S.'s strategy in conflict regions, potentially impacting ongoing efforts at conflict resolution and peacebuilding.

Finally, recent studies focus on how emerging global challenges such as cybersecurity threats, climate change, and pandemics are reshaping the global security landscape. U.S. elections play a critical role in determining the country's approach to these transnational threats. For instance, under the Biden administration, climate change was elevated as a key security issue, with efforts to rejoin international agreements such as the Paris Accord and invest in global climate initiatives (Thomas, 2021). Future administrations may prioritize these challenges differently, influencing the global response to these security threats. As the literature shows, the 2024 U.S. election will likely shape not only traditional security concerns but also new, emerging threats that transcend national borders. The study demonstrates that U.S. elections have far-reaching implications for global peace and security. The shifts in foreign policy that accompany leadership changes can impact international security alliances, relations with global powers, and strategies for managing conflict and transnational threats. As such, the outcome of the 2024 U.S. election is expected to have profound consequences for the global security landscape.

## Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework for analyzing the implications of the 2024 U.S. election on global peace and security is grounded in several key theories in international relations and political science. These theories include **Realism**, **Liberalism**, and **Constructivism**, each offering distinct perspectives on how U.S. leadership changes may affect global security dynamics.

**Realism** emphasizes the anarchic nature of the international system, where states act primarily in their self-interest to ensure survival and power. Realist theorists argue that U.S. foreign policy decisions, particularly during elections, are driven by national interest and power considerations. According to Morgenthau (1948), the pursuit of power is the primary motive behind state behavior. The transition of power in the U.S. may lead to shifts in military strategy and alliances, particularly in relation to adversarial states like China and Russia. For instance, under a realist lens, a more aggressive foreign policy from a newly elected administration could escalate tensions in critical regions, thereby impacting global peace and security (Waltz, 1979).

**Liberalism**, in contrast, emphasizes the role of international institutions, cooperation, and the interconnectedness of states. Liberal theorists argue that the U.S. plays a crucial role in fostering global stability through multilateralism and diplomatic engagement. According to Keohane and Nye (1977), international institutions help mitigate anarchy by facilitating cooperation and promoting peace. The 2024 election could thus redefine U.S. engagement with international organizations such as the United Nations and NATO, potentially

strengthening or undermining these alliances. If the elected administration prioritizes multilateral cooperation, it may lead to enhanced global security frameworks and collaborative approaches to conflict resolution (Ikenberry, 2011). Conversely, a unilateral or isolationist stance could hinder efforts to address pressing global challenges, such as climate change and terrorism, which require collective action.

**Constructivism** provides an additional lens through which to view the implications of the 2024 election. This theory focuses on the influence of ideas, beliefs, and identities in shaping state behavior. Constructivists argue that U.S. foreign policy is not solely driven by material interests but is also significantly influenced by the values and identities of political leaders (Wendt, 1999). As such, the election outcome may reshape the ideological narrative surrounding U.S. foreign policy, affecting how the U.S. perceives its role in the world. For instance, a shift in leadership could result in a renewed emphasis on human rights and democratic values in U.S. foreign policy, impacting relations with authoritarian regimes and influencing global perceptions of U.S. leadership (Risse, 2000). This theoretical perspective highlights the importance of understanding how the identities and values of U.S. leaders may shape international norms and influence global peace and security dynamics.

In fact, the theoretical framework for this study draws on Realism, Liberalism, and Constructivism to analyze the potential implications of the 2024 U.S. election on global peace and security. By incorporating these theories, the study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of how shifts in U.S. leadership and foreign policy may influence international relations, security alliances, and conflict resolution efforts.

## Findings and Discussion

### Potential Impact of an Isolationist or Nationalists Agenda on U.S. Global Engagement and International Organizations

The 2024 U.S. presidential election is poised to have significant implications for global peace and security, as the country plays a central role in international politics. The election outcome will likely shape U.S. foreign policy, military engagements, and international alliances, all of which have a profound impact on global stability. If the election favors a candidate with a more isolationist or nationalist agenda, it could lead to a reduction in U.S. involvement in international organizations, such as the United Nations or NATO. This shift could weaken global efforts to manage conflict, address climate change, and promote multilateralism, potentially leading to a more fragmented and unstable international order.

Conversely, if the election brings to power a candidate who prioritizes international cooperation and diplomacy, it could bolster global peace initiatives. A commitment to upholding alliances and fostering dialogue with other major powers like China, Russia, and

the European Union would help address global security concerns, including arms control, cybersecurity, and counterterrorism efforts. Moreover, the U.S.'s approach to critical regions like the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and the Indo-Pacific will directly affect conflicts and geopolitical tensions. Ultimately, the 2024 U.S. election will determine whether the U.S. continues to act as a stabilizing force on the global stage or moves toward a more inward-focused stance that could create power vacuums and heighten international security risks.

## **Discussion on the major findings**

The major findings regarding the 2024 U.S. election and its implications for global peace and security can be categorized into two main scenarios: one where the U.S. adopts an isolationist stance, and another where it embraces international cooperation and diplomacy.

If the U.S. election results in the victory of a candidate with an isolationist or nationalist agenda, several significant shifts in global peace and security could occur. The United States might reduce its engagement with key international organizations like the United Nations (UN), NATO, or World Trade Organization (WTO), which would diminish its influence in maintaining global order. This could weaken collective security efforts, such as conflict resolution initiatives, peacekeeping operations, and cooperative actions against global challenges like terrorism or climate change. Furthermore, reduced U.S. involvement could create a power vacuum, enabling other nations, such as China or Russia, to assert greater influence in regions where the U.S. traditionally held sway. This shift may lead to increased geopolitical competition, escalating tensions in already volatile areas such as the South China Sea, Eastern Europe, or the Middle East.

Additionally, an isolationist U.S. might reduce its military presence in regions of strategic importance, which could embolden authoritarian regimes and non-state actors. Without a strong U.S. commitment to international security frameworks, adversarial nations may feel less constrained, potentially leading to regional conflicts or an arms race in areas like nuclear proliferation. This scenario could erode long-standing alliances, destabilize global trade systems, and create a fragmented international environment where conflict resolution becomes more challenging.

On the other hand, if the 2024 election results in a government that prioritizes international diplomacy and multilateralism, the U.S. could play a more stabilizing role on the global stage. Strengthening relationships with allies, investing in international organizations, and actively engaging in global issues such as climate change, cyber security, and arms control would promote international cooperation. A U.S. administration that supports diplomatic efforts to ease tensions with major powers like China and Russia would help mitigate risks of conflict in contentious regions. Diplomatic engagement in hotspots like the Middle East, especially with nations like Iran or North Korea, could help de-escalate nuclear tensions and foster peace initiatives.

Furthermore, a U.S. commitment to humanitarian aid and development projects, particularly in conflict zones and unstable regions, would support global efforts to address the root causes of violence and extremism. Such an approach could improve global security by addressing poverty, inequality, and governance issues that often lead to instability. A pro-diplomacy administration might also enhance collaboration on counter-terrorism, reducing the threats posed by global terrorist networks and rogue states.

#### **Data Representation of 2024 US Election and its implication on Global Peace.**

The random sample selection was based on age, gender and education. The poll was conducted on 18<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2024. Among 2,217 US adults. Respondents were selected based on US adult base age

The margin error is for the overall sample is approximately (2%). Most Americans think there will be probably be war or not or definitely not ever end to war. Using the 2024 Election, do you think there will ever be a time in the world, when there will be no war and military conflict? (0)

#### **Indicators**

1.  = There definitely will.

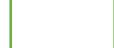
2.  = There probably will

3.  = Don't know

4.  = There probably will not

5.  = There definitely will not

#### **US ADULT**

				
13	16	10	31	31

AGE					
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18-24	13	29	14	25	17
25-39	19	26	14	24	17
40-59	12	11	11	30	37
60+	9	39	-	43	-

<b>GENDER</b>					
MEN	14	17	7	25	32
WOMEN	11	15	13	32	29

SOURCE: YOUNG GOV SURVEY March 18<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> 2024

From the first data, the result shows that about three in ten Americans (25%) think definitely or probably that there will be a time on the planet where there will be no war including (13%) who say it will definitely happen. Six in ten (62%) have an opposing view including three in ten (31%) who say this will definitely will not happen. Young adults are significantly more optimistic on the question than older Americans. Under-44 of adult think there will be a time where there will be no war.

The category of adults who think there will be war in 50 years are age 60 above. While (39) say probably there will be war, (9) say definitely it will. Making a total of 48 as against 42 who say there will be no war.

#### 2024 vote preference.

<b>Joe Biden</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Donald Trump</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>46</b>

Finally on the vote preference, the survey show that Donald Trump supporters are more likely than Biden supporters to say the world will be less peaceful in 50 years (46% vs. 36%).

From the research so far, more Americans expect the world to become less peaceful than those who think it will become more peaceful. Therefore the 2024 US election is not just high – state domesticated but could be a major implication for global peace.

## **Conclusion**

The findings suggest that the 2024 U.S. election will have far-reaching consequences for global peace and security. An isolationist U.S. would likely destabilize key international security frameworks, heighten geopolitical tensions, and create a more fragmented world. In contrast, a U.S. that embraces diplomacy and multilateral engagement could reinforce global stability, promote peaceful conflict resolution, and strengthen international cooperation. The outcome of the election will determine whether the U.S. acts as a force for unity or division on the global stage, directly influencing the future of global peace and security.

## **Recommendations**

To ensure the United States remains a stabilizing force for global peace and security after the 2024 election, a recommitment to multilateralism and international institutions is essential. The U.S. should strengthen its engagement with organizations like the United Nations (UN), NATO, and the World Trade Organization (WTO), which provide frameworks for addressing global challenges such as conflict resolution, climate change, and trade stability. Active U.S. participation in these institutions ensures a collective approach to managing global threats, reinforcing international cooperation and security.

Building and maintaining strong alliances is equally critical. The U.S. should prioritize its partnerships with key allies such as the European Union, Japan, and South Korea. These alliances are fundamental for managing regional tensions, particularly in the Indo-Pacific and Eastern Europe, where rising geopolitical threats could destabilize global peace. Enhanced diplomatic and military collaboration with allies will help deter aggression and maintain a balanced global power structure.

Diplomatic engagement with adversaries must also be a priority. The U.S. should keep communication channels open with major powers like China and Russia, as well as with regional actors such as Iran and North Korea. Negotiation and diplomacy are crucial for resolving conflicts and reducing the risk of escalation. The U.S. should lead arms control and nuclear disarmament initiatives while using diplomatic avenues to manage disputes and avoid military conflict.

Conflict prevention and peacebuilding initiatives should receive greater attention in U.S. foreign policy. Supporting humanitarian aid, governance reforms, and development projects in fragile states can address the root causes of instability, such as poverty and inequality. Increased U.S. involvement in conflict prevention, especially in regions like Africa and the Middle East, will contribute to long-term global peace and reduce the likelihood of violent conflict.

Given the growing significance of cybersecurity and terrorism threats, the U.S. must strengthen global cooperation in these areas. Partnering with international allies to enhance cybersecurity measures, share intelligence, and coordinate counterterrorism efforts is critical to addressing evolving security threats. By focusing not just on military responses but also on tackling the underlying causes of extremism, the U.S. can more effectively combat global terrorism.

Lastly, climate change is an emerging threat to global security, and the U.S. must lead in global climate action. By committing to reducing emissions and supporting international climate initiatives, the U.S. can mitigate security risks caused by environmental degradation, such as resource conflicts and mass migration. Promoting sustainable development and addressing climate-related risks will play a vital role in fostering global peace and stability.

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