

# Keeping America Safe

## What Is Our Greatest Threat?

## How Should We Respond?

You may also fill out this questionnaire online: [www.nifi.org/questionnaires](http://www.nifi.org/questionnaires)

NOW THAT YOU'VE HAD a chance to participate in a forum on this issue, we'd like to know what you're thinking. Anonymous responses will be included in summary reports on the forums and in research to help us better understand how people are thinking about current issues.

**Do you favor or oppose each of these actions?**

|   | Strongly Favor           | Somewhat Favor           | Somewhat Oppose          | Strongly Oppose          | Not Sure                 |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Sharply cut military spending and use the savings on domestic needs such as health care, infrastructure, education, and job training EVEN IF other countries like China and Russia are improving their weapons and military readiness. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Join international free trade agreements so American companies can operate and sell products more easily in other countries EVEN IF some US industries face tougher competition and end up laying off workers.                         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Reduce our financial commitment to NATO and other military alliances unless our allies pay more of the costs EVEN IF this ends up unraveling agreements that have bolstered peace in Europe and elsewhere since World War II.          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. The United States should advance American values such as democracy and human rights through diplomacy, foreign aid, and intervention where necessary EVEN IF this risks offending vital allies like Saudi Arabia and Turkey.           | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**For questions 5-8, let us know which statement comes closer to your view. If you're not sure, please let us know.**

5. In a dangerous world, spending on military preparedness should be our top priority. Our weaponry and troop strength should be unsurpassed.
- VERSUS:**  
Diplomacy and arms reduction should be our top priority. Getting into a continual arms race with our adversaries makes the world even more dangerous.
- OR:**  
Not sure
6. The United States should use military force in the world's hot spots only in collaboration with others—we shouldn't be going it alone.
- VERSUS:**  
The United States should take quick and strong action where needed based on its own assessments and judgments. Our willingness to act helps preserve our safety and power in a dangerous world.
- OR:**  
Not sure
7. The US benefits from nuclear arms control agreements like the ones we've had with Iran and Russia because they have slowed the spread and development of nuclear arms.
- VERSUS:**  
Nuclear arms control agreements like the ones we've had with Iran and Russia have put us at risk. These countries can't be trusted and are almost certainly cheating.
- OR:**  
Not sure

# QUESTIONNAIRE

8. Tariffs and other trade restrictions benefit the US economy because they protect American companies from unfairly low-priced products coming from abroad.

**VERSUS:**

Tariffs and other trade restriction harm the US economy because other countries just retaliate, which sets off trade wars nobody ever wins.

**OR:**

Not sure

9. How much disagreement was there about this issue in your forum?  
 A lot of disagreement       Some disagreement       Hardly any disagreement at all

Why did you answer the way you did? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Did you talk about aspects of the issue you hadn't considered before?  Yes       No

If so, please explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Were there ideas or proposals that you tended to favor coming into the forum that you now have second thoughts about?

Yes       No

If so, please explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. What could citizens, working together, do in their own communities to address this problem? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. Not including this forum, how many National Issues Forums have you attended?

0       1-3       4-6       7 or more       Not sure

14. Are you male or female?  Male       Female       Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

15. How old are you?

17 or younger       18-30       31-45       46-64       65 or older

16. Are you:  African American       Asian American       Hispanic or Latino  
 Native American       White/Caucasian       Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

17. Where do you live?  Rural       Small Town       Large City       Suburb

18. What is your ZIP code? \_\_\_\_\_ What state do you live in? \_\_\_\_\_

19. Were you born in the United States?  Yes       No

20. What issue would you like to see covered in a future forum? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please give this form to the moderator, email to [forumreports@nifi.org](mailto:forumreports@nifi.org), or mail to:  
National Issues Forums Institute, 100 Commons Road, Dayton, Ohio 45459.**

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