

Background Information

Purpose Analyze the historical actions of the United States in response to conflicts around the world and craft a set of guidelines to help guide Congressional decisions about future interventions in global conflicts.

Time 3 hours

Questions When and how is it beneficial for the United States to intervene in international conflicts?
What are the consequences of intervention?

Resources [A Chronology of U.S. Military Interventions -- From Vietnam to the Balkans](#)

Supporting Documents:

- Intervention Historical Analysis Chart
- Argument Framing Tool
- Editing Checklist for Written Tasks
- Written Task Rubric
- Project Reflection Questions

Summary Use what you have learned about historical conflicts to craft a set of guidelines that articulate when and how the United States should intervene in conflicts around the world. Present these guidelines in the form of a proposal to a Congressional committee.

Introduction

The role of the United States in conflicts around the world has varied throughout history, depending on the nature of the conflict and the peoples involved, the domestic political climate, the economic impact of intervention, and the actions of other nations and international organizations. Decisions about military, political, and economic intervention in conflict are often controversial, and Congress might benefit from clearer guidelines around when and how intervention is appropriate. In this project, you'll use lessons from past conflicts and interventions to help guide future decision-making about the United States' response to challenges around the world.

Assignment Instructions

Step 1: Complete the US Intervention Historical Analysis Chart.

- a) Review the content from this course, and draw on prior knowledge and additional research as needed. Use the Resources section of this guide to find additional information. If you have not already completed the pre-project written assignment, make sure to do that now.
- b) Consider a variety of types of interventions, including military interventions, diplomatic measures, and economic sanctions.

Step 2: Develop a set of guidelines for Congress that define when and how the United States should intervene in international conflicts.

- a) Write two to three guidelines for each type of intervention (military, economic, and diplomatic).
- b) Support each guideline with a detailed argument that draws from historical events. This additional text should include evidence from the past, from the content in this course, and from outside sources.
- c) In the supporting text for each guideline, make sure to address any potential counter-arguments that opponents to the guideline might present. Use the Argument Framing tool to help you.

Step 3: Review and revise the guidelines document.

- a) Use the Written Task Project Rubric and the Editing Checklist for Written Tasks to ensure that your work is high-quality and meets the assignment criteria.

Step 4: Complete the Project Reflection Questions.

Step 5: Upload and submit the following completed documents:

- a) Intervention Historical Analysis Chart
- b) Argument Framing Tool
- c) Guidelines and Arguments
- d) Project Reflection Questions