

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

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## International Security

The global economic crisis negatively affected the U.S security as it exposed serious flaws in the system of economic interchange and dependency the U.S built after the World War II. This is based on the fact that economic crisis diminished weak appetite of allies and friends to either increase or maintain their current levels of expenditures on security, apart from providing coalitions in security operations. This is because the global economic crisis has declined due to drops in their exports. The U.S security allies have also used economic constraints as an excuse for not doing more for the common defence. As an effect, the U.S is bearing heavier burdens in defending the world's interest at the time it is having fewer resources to do so. As an effect, the defence spending priorities are being affected by the redistribution<sup>1</sup>.

Power states like Russia and China have complex relationship with the U.S as neither of them are an outright adversary as allies nor partner. In particular, China holds more power as compared to the U.S economy as a result of trade surplus with the U.S and the vast dollar holdings, resulting from weak American economy resulting from global economic crisis. As an effect, Russia and China have ended up creating huge foreign reserves with the aim of using them to attain higher returns to deal with the impacts of economic crisis by increasing their direct foreign investments. This threatens the U.S security system due to shift in power to the East, hence weakening the U.S dollar<sup>2</sup>.

In general, global economic crisis is the greatest setback to the U.S security. This is because it jeopardizes the country's social and political stability, apart from eroding widespread consensus market capitalism by negatively affecting commercial prospects. This has undermined the U.S prestige influences that complicate U.S diplomacy along with security relationships<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Tellis, Ashley. 2009. The Global Economic Crisis and U.S. Power. In Tellis, Ashley., Marble, Andrew. & Tanner, Travis. *Strategic Asia 2009-10: Economic Meltdown and Geopolitical Stability*. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. National Intelligence Council. 2008. *Global Trends 2025: A Transformed World*.

<sup>3</sup> Cronin, Patrick. 2009. *The Global Redistribution of Economic Power*.

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