



DOMESTIC POLICY

1. Wow! That's a lot of issues. Luckily for us, we can organize these issues into two major groups: domestic issues (or domestic affairs) and foreign issues.
2. The U.S. government makes policies about both domestic issues and foreign issues. Domestic policy? Foreign policy? What does it all mean?!?
3. In this video, and the other video in this series, we will explore the differences between domestic and foreign policy, some of the key people involved in making policy and some of the issues related to both domestic and foreign policy.
4. After watching the two videos in this module:
 - ◆ You will be able to recognize the difference between foreign and domestic policy.
 - ◆ Identify some of the issues related to domestic and foreign policy.
 - ◆ And Define the national interest and identify the means available to the national government to pursue the national interest.We've got some work to do... so let's get started!
5. Let's begin with domestic policy. Domestic policy is the nation's plan for making rules and laws that affect people in the United States. The main goal of domestic policy is to help and protect the people within our country.
6. Who is involved in making domestic policy? Let's take a look at the U.S. Constitution. Remember that the U.S. Constitution provides the structure of the United States' government and assigns government powers to each branch. Article I explains the powers of the legislative branch, or Congress. Congress is responsible for making national laws in the United States. These laws impact the citizens, and non-citizens, living in the United States.
7. Congress is not alone in making domestic policy. The executive branch, the president, vice president and executive departments, are in charge of executing or implementing the laws.
8. Domestic policy covers a wide range of areas, including education, the economy, taxes, social welfare, and health care.
9. Let's take a closer look!
10. Social welfare means that the government provides help to those in need. The government has economic programs for mothers with children, people who are unemployed, and people who are disabled. For example, the Social Security program was started in 1936 to help the elderly by providing them with a monthly income after they retire.

11. The government is also involved with health care. Medicare was started to help the elderly pay for the medical care and medicine they need and often cannot afford. Medicaid was started to help the poor pay for medical care and medicine they need and often cannot afford.
12. The federal government also focuses on improving education. The government provides money for a variety of programs that help students and teachers at all levels of education. One example of a federal education policy is the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, passed under President Johnson, which provided teacher training and ensured that all students had equal access to education.
13. Let's check in- Question: Can you define the goals and objectives of domestic policy? What are some of the issues related to domestic policy?
→ ANSWER TO QUESTION
14. Great job! What about foreign policy? How does the U.S. relate to other countries? Be sure to watch the other video in this module to learn about it!