International Relations

Promote peace in an interdependent world by working cooperatively with other nations and strengthening international organizations.



United Nations

POSITIONS

LWVUS supports a strong, effective United Nations and endorses the full and active participation of the United States in the UN system, supporting UN efforts to; promote international peace and security, advance the social and economic well-being of the world's people, ensure respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, foster trust and cooperation among nations, protect the world environment, and achieve full and equal participation of women in all aspects of civil/political life.

Trade

LWVUS supports a liberal US trade policy aimed at reducing trade barriers and expanding international trade. Such a policy helps foster international cooperation, democratic values, and economic prosperity at home and abroad as well as benefiting consumers through lowered prices, expanded choice, improved products /services. LWVUS believes US trade policy should be based on the long-term public interest, not on special interests, and should advance the achievement of improving basic living standards, protecting the environment, respect for human rights, and improvement of labor conditions.





Arms Control

LWVUS believes that arms control measures are essential to reduce the risk of war and increase global stability. Toward that end, the US government should give the highest level of importance to arms control efforts that; limit or reduce the quantity of weapons, limit proliferation of prohibit first use of nuclear weapons, prohibit first use/possession of chemical, biological, and radiological weapons, prohibit explosive testing of nuclear weapons, and reduce tensions to prevent situations in which weapons might be used.

Military Policy and Defense Spending

LWVUS believes that the US government should seek to protect its interests at home and abroad through the use of nonmilitary measures, including diplomacy, mediation, and multilateral cooperation. These measures reflect the importance that the League attaches to US efforts to strengthen international organizations, reduce tensions among nations, and minimize the risk of conflict worldwide.





US Relations with Developing Countries

LWVUS believes that US interests in developing countries should reflect the reality of global interdependence. Paramount among these interests are reducing the risk of military conflict, promoting the sound management of global resources, protecting human rights, stimulating economic growth, and improving the quality of life in developing countries. US policies toward developing countries should not be based on maintaining preeminence, but rather on development assistance.