

## Foreign Policy, Economic, Military, and Security Factors<sup>2</sup>

In addition to a potential conflict between national and international security goals, objectives, benefits, and costs, there will be occasions on which there will be real and potential conflicts among the foreign policy, economic, military, and security factors under consideration with reference to an agreement or measure. In evaluating the agreement, policy-makers will need to decide on the relative importance of the various factors.

1. The agreement must be weighed in terms of its consistency with the country's near-term and long-term foreign policy objectives.
  - To what degree is the agreement consistent with these objectives?
  - What are the current and desired relations with individual countries, regional organizations, and international bodies? How does the agreement further these desired relations?
  - Is there public support (or lack thereof) for foreign policy activities and objectives or goals? Will the public understand and support the agreement? More specifically, if the agreement involves peace enforcement or other measures entailing conflict resolution by military force, is the projected level of military casualties compatible with the public's sensitivity to casualties? Are there ways to minimize the casualties which should be incorporated in the agreement?
  - Are there basic inconsistencies among the country's foreign policy objectives which affect the agreement? For example, does the foreign policy objective of nonproliferation conflict with the sale of arms and the transfer of technology? If so, which is the dominant consideration? Is this dominant consideration furthered by the agreement?
  - How do foreign countries, including allies, view or respond to the country's foreign policy activities? What foreign reactions will the agreement elicit?
2. The impact--both real and perceived--of the agreement on the country's domestic economy must be weighed.
  - Will the agreement save money which can be used for other important national interests?
  - What is the impact of the agreement on trade with individual countries, regions, and in the international market?
  - What will be the short-term and long-term economic gains or losses from implementing the agreement?
  - Will the agreement impose unwarranted or heavy burdens upon private companies, such as loss of propriety information, invasion of privacy, or financial costs?

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<sup>2</sup> The questions in this section can be applicable to one or more of these categories.