

“When to Go to War”: How US Military Decisions are Really Made

By [Washington's Blog](#)

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Here's how the U.S. actually makes decisions on when to go to war:

First. Decisions are made based – not upon defense – **but upon gaining economic and geostrategic advantage.**

For example, America has a policy of [using the military to contain China's growing economic influence](#) – and of considering [economic rivalry to be a basis for war](#).

And many recent battles are really [pipeline wars](#).

Second. A massive [propaganda](#) and [demonization](#) campaign is launched in order to drum up support for the war.

There doesn't need to be a shred of truth underlying the campaign. The p.r. flacks just have to come up with [catchy slogans](#), and the mainstream megaphone is guaranteed to [trumpet it into every living room](#) in America.

Third. We pull the trigger, reap whatever economic/geo-strategic benefits are to be gained, and ignore the rest.

If this sounds over-the-top, remember that reducing terrorism and increasing our national security is pretty straightforward. It's not rocket science.

The fact that we're doing the [exact opposite](#) shows that there are other motives in play.

Postscript: I'm not picking on the U.S. I would imagine that all late-stage empires make decisions of war and peace the same way.

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