

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN

**DOMESTIC**



AND



**FOREIGN  
POLICY**

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# What Is the Difference Between Domestic and Foreign Policy?



**Domestic policies** are the decisions a government makes inside its own country. These policies address the things that affect people's everyday lives, such as education, healthcare, transportation, taxes, and public safety. Domestic policy focuses on improving living conditions and solving problems at home within the country's borders.

**Foreign policies** are focused on how a country works with other countries around the world. It includes issues like diplomacy, trade agreements, military partnerships, and working with international organizations. Foreign policy helps guide how a nation responds to global challenges, interacts with other governments, and protects its interests abroad.

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Knowing the difference between domestic and foreign policy helps us see how leaders take care of needs at home while also working with other countries. Both types of policy are important for creating a safe, stable, and connected world.

**Can you think of a recent example of a domestic or foreign policy that affects people's lives?**

Source: <https://diplomacy.state.gov>

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