

# Let's Understand and Dismantle the U.S.'s Militaristic Foreign Policy

The U.S.'s foreign policy has been very unjust and militaristic for many decades. It has caused many problems around the world. Also it has hurt the U.S. itself and the American people in many ways.

So why does the U.S. continue to have a foreign policy that relies so much on military violence, destruction and killing? What keeps this wasteful and counter-productive habit going?

**If we want peace, we must figure out the reasons why the U.S.'s militaristic foreign policy exists – and how to replace it with peace. The analysis below will help us do that.**

Organizers for nonviolence help people to define the particular kind of violence or injustice they want to end. They figure out what forces are keeping it in place, and how to reduce or eliminate those forces in order to stop the violence or injustice.

**Imagine the U.S.'s foreign policy as the big horizontal top part of an ancient Greek temple. Our foreign policy is propped up by a number of pillars, like the photo to the right and the diagram below:**



## The U.S.'s Militaristic Foreign Policy

Desire for U.S. empire and global dominance	American Exceptionalism	Systemic racism	The assumption that might makes right	The military-industrial complex's economic and political power	"Us" vs. "Them" Use raw military power.	What else?			
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### How to dismantle the U.S.'s militaristic foreign policy:

- (1) Identify the pillars that actually do support and prop up the U.S.'s militaristic foreign policy. Five pillars are labeled above. What additional pillars can we identify? Write them in the blank spaces above.
- (2) Deal separately with **each specific** pillar. For **each** pillar we will analyze, strategize, and organize how to effectively weaken or remove that particular pillar.
- (3) When we have weakened or removed enough pillars, the militaristic foreign policy will collapse.
- (4) In doing this work we will reach out to wider and wider concentric circles of **strategic allies** (those who agree with our goals) and **tactical allies** (those who share a common interest in weakening or removing that particular pillar).
- (5) Simultaneously start **building fair, just, effective alternatives** to replace the pillars, so we can create and prop up a **new peaceful foreign policy** that will better serve the American people and other people on Planet Earth.