

2025

# National security strategies



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8-12-2025

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

If you have seen the video above, you have realized that the **new U.S. national security strategy is disruptive**. It is short, concise and changes the paradigm in force until Donald Trump took over the White House.

However, the document reveals that the West, taken as a whole, **might be focusing on wrong issues** related to the stance of the United States government.

Western media are highlighting the so-called **retreat of the United States**, while that retreat should be understood as a **reshuffle of U.S. interests**. What the West means is that the U.S. is leaving Europe behind. And that is true, but **it doesn't mean the first power is willing to close-up itself like a fan**.

Globalisation remains a constant, whether embraced or criticised, and **the United States is neither abandoning nor rejecting it**.

We have gone through some of the main National Security strategies in the world, such as the French, the German, the British and the Spanish, and compared them with that of the United States.

## 2. COMPARING THE EUROPEANS

First, the European strategies compared among themselves are **relatively similar** although some differences must be highlighted.

**All of them rely on NATO** but with different approaches. The French maintain their nuclear power out of the control of the organisation but put it to its service. The British, however, state that the nuclear power is integrated in the defence capabilities of the organisation.

Spain regards NATO and the EU as its main political and defence shield before the rest of the world. Germany regards itself in a crisis and its effort regarding its defence will be a priority.

And **China is both, a threat, and a need**, for all of them. Spain gives the lightest treatment. All of them state that reluctance with China must be a requirement but trade and relationship is another, too. Germany promotes de-risking, France depicts China as a competitor, but blocking should be avoided and Spain (although aligned with the EU) regards

itself as a mediator. Britain is more reluctant and highlights the security issues that China raises.

British are more vocal regarding **migration control** and all of them in different degrees regard **Russia as an aggressor**. All of them depict it as a threat (acute, main, etc.) but Spain simply states it will support the EU diplomatic efforts.

The only country which outlines a strategy for the **Indo-Pacific** is France.

And **climate change** is also mentioned. For some is an existential threat and for others is a risk multiplier.

So, more or less, the continent and the British Isles convey similar messages.

### 3. COMPARED WITH THE U.S.

There are many differences. **Europe is not an important ally for the U.S. anymore**, militarily. Economically and culturally remains an asset.

Trump is reshaping his military and moving it to the **Asia-Pacific region**. **Trump is anticipating a war with China**. It will not take place any time soon, but **confrontation is unavoidable**.

At the Pentagon, there is a watch which counts the time left for 2027. That is the year when the Pentagon has forecasted that **China will be ready to try something in Taiwan**.

That anticipated confrontation **shapes the U.S. policy and politics**, although its allies in Europe don't even mention it. Trump is aware that the U.S. is currently too engaged with China. Debt, trade, rare earths, and other topics oblige the country **to decouple from China first**. And then, hostilities can be amplified.

**Main frictions with Europeans** will be related to any agreement which would benefit China in any way. It will also be harder for Europeans to implement their presence in Latin America, as Trump has designed it to be **China's replacement for U.S. corporations**. And this will be **difficult for countries whose governments don't align with Trump's interests** in the region and elsewhere.

It explains the experiment Trump is carrying out at the Caribbean with **Venezuela**. If all goes well, Colombia will

follow suit. Milei's Argentina, on the contrary, can expect full support from Washington.

China will face hardship to get agreements in Latin America and its desire for **securing maritime routes** (by buying, building, or managing ports all over) will be another disputing issue for China and for governments willing to deal with China.

Spain, due to its historical ties with Latin America, will also face troubles, **especially Spanish corporations established in the continent long ago** (banking and energy).

The U.S. will be generous with those Europeans which keep a favourable trade relationship with them, especially regarding the weapons market.

## 4. CONCLUSIONS

Over four million scenarios have been analysed (3<sup>14</sup>). Seventeen different topics referenced in the U.S. national security strategy have been confronted with the national security strategies of Spain, France, Great Britain, and Germany.

The aim is to determine **how different, how far away those positions are from each other**. It would serve as an indication of the likelihood of misunderstanding between European governments and Trump.

The result shows that **the incumbent Spanish government is the most likely to be in trouble with the US**. Unsurprisingly, **the U.K. remains the best positioned** to keep a smooth understanding with its offshoot.

A	B	A>B	B>A	A=B
Spain	France	0.000000	99.988898	0.011102
Spain	Germany	0.000000	100.000000	0.000000
Spain	UK	0.000000	100.000000	0.000000
France	Germany	12.133614	85.619852	2.246533
France	UK	0.000000	100.000000	0.000000
Germany	UK	0.000000	100.000000	0.000000

Germany is most of the times in better shape before Trump than France. Actually, **Germany outranks France in 85% of the scenarios.** France surpasses Germany only in 12% of the situations.

What remains clear is that in order to counter any negative action from the U.S. or even to prevent it, **members of the EU must remain together and act as a block.** The British government can weather Trump with ease.