

U.S. Foreign Policy:

Congress and the Executive Branch

Overview:

Students will complete a worksheet with scenarios, identifying and explaining the role of Congress and the executive branch in each scenario.

Length:

One class.

Materials:

* [What Roles Do Congress and the Executive Branch Play in U.S. Foreign Policy?](https://world101.cfr.org/foreign-policy/us-foreign-policy/what-roles-do-congress-and-executive-branch-play-us-foreign-policy) (World101)
* Worksheet (attached)

Instructional Plan:

1. Have students read “What Roles Do Congress and the Executive Branch Play in U.S. Foreign Policy?”
2. Have students complete the attached worksheet, alone or in small groups.

After reading the scenario, identify who has a role in that scenario. If the executive branch has a role, place a check in the Executive box. If Congress has a role, place a check in the Congress box. If both have a role, check both boxes. Then explain what role they play.

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| Scenario | Executive | Congress | Explain |
| Increasing the budget for the department of state |  |  |  |
| Declaring war against another country |  |  |  |
| Launching missiles at a military installation in another country |  |  |  |
| Making someone the new secretary of defense |  |  |  |
| Negotiating a treaty with a group of other countries |  |  |  |
| Levying sanctions against a particular country |  |  |  |
| Joining a treaty in order to make it legally binding |  |  |  |
| Giving orders to the military |  |  |  |