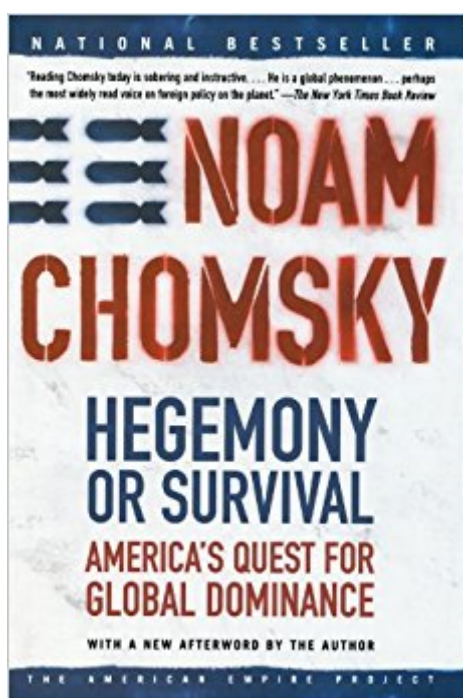


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# Hegemony Or Survival: America's Quest For Global Dominance (American Empire Project)



## Synopsis

"Reading Chomsky today is sobering and instructive . . . He is a global phenomenon . . . perhaps the most widely read voice on foreign policy on the planet." -The New York Times Book Review

An immediate national bestseller, *Hegemony or Survival* demonstrates how, for more than half a century the United States has been pursuing a grand imperial strategy with the aim of staking out the globe. Our leaders have shown themselves willing-as in the Cuban missile crisis-to follow the dream of dominance no matter how high the risks. World-renowned intellectual Noam Chomsky investigates how we came to this perilous moment and why our rulers are willing to jeopardize the future of our species. With the striking logic that is his trademark, Chomsky tracks the U.S. government's aggressive pursuit of "full spectrum dominance" and vividly lays out how the most recent manifestations of the politics of global control-from unilateralism to the dismantling of international agreements to state terrorism-cohere in a drive for hegemony that ultimately threatens our existence. Lucidly written, thoroughly documented, and featuring a new afterword by the author, *Hegemony or Survival* is a definitive statement from one of today's most influential thinkers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Noam Chomsky is considered the father of modern linguistics. In this richly detailed criticism of American foreign policy, he seeks to redefine many of the terms commonly used in the ongoing American war on terrorism. Surveying U.S. actions in Cuba, Nicaragua, Turkey, the Far East and

elsewhere over the past half a century along with the modern American war in Iraq, Chomsky indicates that America is just as much a terrorist state as any other government or rogue organization. George W. Bush's 2003 invasion of Iraq drew worldwide criticism, in part because it seemed to present a new philosophy of pre-emptive war and an appearance of global empire building. But according to Chomsky, such has been the operating philosophy of American foreign policy for decades. Opponents of the Bush administration's tactics consistently point out how the American government supported Saddam Hussein for many years prior to the 1990 invasion of Kuwait (pictures of Donald Rumsfeld shaking Saddam's hand are easy to come by) as a means of pointing out how the United States is happy to fund despots when it's in American interests. But Chomsky, armed with extensive historical notation, takes this notion further, arguing how the repression of other nations' citizenry is, in fact, the very reason Americans support certain foreign leaders. The charges made throughout the book are severe, as are the dire consequences he posits if current trends are not reversed, and Chomsky is no more likely to make friends or gain supporters from the mainstream now than he's ever been. But *Hegemony or Survival* is relatively dispassionate. Instead of relying on camp or shock value or personal attacks as some of his contemporaries have done, Chomsky drives his well-supported points steadily forward in an earnest and highly readable style. --John Moe --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

In this highly readable, heavily footnoted critique of American foreign policy from the late 1950s to the present, Chomsky (whose 9-11 was a bestseller last year) argues that current U.S. policies in Afghanistan and Iraq are not a specific response to September 11, but simply the continuation of a consistent half-century of foreign policy-an "imperial grand strategy"-in which the United States has attempted to "maintain its hegemony through the threat or use of military force." Such an analysis is bound to be met with skepticism or antagonism in post-September 11 America, but Chomsky builds his arguments carefully, substantiates claims with appropriate documentation and answers expected counterclaims. Chomsky is also deeply critical of inconsistency in making the charge of "terrorism." Using the official U.S. legal code definition of terrorism, he argues that it is an exact description of U.S. foreign policy (especially regarding Cuba, Central America, Vietnam and much of the Middle East), although the term is rarely used in this way in the U.S. media, he notes, even when the World Court in 1986 condemned Washington for "unlawful use of force" ("international terrorism, in lay terms" Chomsky argues) in Nicaragua. Claiming that the U.S. is a rogue nation in its foreign policies and its "contempt for international law," Chomsky brings together many themes he

has mined in the past, making this cogent and provocative book an important addition to an ongoing public discussion about U.S. policy. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

If only we had been listening to this guy for decades!

Contents: 5 stars  
Readability: 2 stars  
Length: too long for the message and contents  
Feelings and Emotion while reading: helplessness, disgust, disappointment  
This is a dry and very repetitive book. Every few pages you think you have already read this page! I wish someone can take this book and put it in simple language in no more than 100 pages. I know Chomsky is not a missionary so he will not make it easily accessible to the masses. But if we care for our country let someone become a missionary and transform Chomsky in to everyday reading. Now for my puzzlement of the whole American Foreign Policy over the last 100 years or so as pointed out by Chomsky with events, evidence, quotes, and references. People have routinely accepted that college campuses are hot bed of liberal left, elitist attitudes. What I am puzzled about is when these same people go to State Department, national think tanks, become advisers to the Presidents and so forth - what comes over them overnight to turn in to "one of them?". It is beyond me why the national policies have been the way they have been with all intelligentsia on campuses. I think the answer lies in Prof. Zimbardo's Stanford prison experiments. He showed that the power over others makes the gentlest soul in to a monster! It is human psychology. I think all young liberal elitists when they reach the corridors of Washington power become Zimbardo's monster prison guards! Chomsky doesn't tell us how to change the system - he eloquently points out that the system is very old and surviving just fine across all party rules in Washington. From that reading the situation seems utterly hopeless. Hugo Chavez may have done us Americans a favor by increasing sales of Chomsky in Washington power circles. This book should be made a required reading for entering State Department.

This was a good read that offers a sobering perspective to most of the hyperbole heard in the media today. I would definitely recommend this book to any critical thinker seeking insight to the "whys" behind many of the policies implemented.

Excellent condition, however, some of them were late in delivery. Also, in order to check each item at reception, I would recommend to those senders to always put their name and address and control # inside order to verify amount charged and billed. Thank you, Michel JAMET

I'm not a fan of writing lengthy book reviews. I enjoyed this book. If you've never read Noam before, this is as good a place to start as any. He references things that are a little obscure so you'll have to do some research to fill in the blanks; but other than that, it's mostly great.

great book

My husband really enjoys his books.

A real eye opener, it maybe from 2004 but still totally relevant to what is happening today!!!

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