

A Common Sense Agenda for a Changing World



We Have Changed the World

George Bush has led the world through dramatic changes — dictators have fallen and communist regimes were dismantled. Citizens long dominated by totalitarian governments have embraced the principles of democracy. The entrepreneurial spirit, formerly repressed by a system of rigid controls, is unfolding across the landscape of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Republics. As a result, new markets have opened for American products, U.S. defense costs have been reduced, and the horrifying threat of nuclear devastation has been abated.

Foreign Policy Victories = A Better America

"For over 40 years, the United States led the West in the struggle against Communism and the threat it posed to our most precious values. This struggle shaped the lives of all Americans. It forced all nations to live under the specter of nuclear destruction. That confrontation is now over....Every American can take pride in this victory."

— President George Bush

- The dissolution of the Soviet Union means a reduction of the nuclear threat to America.
- The lowered risk of nuclear war means fewer American tax dollars for defense.
- A united democratic Germany has meant a reduction in the need for a costly American military presence.
- New free-market economies in formerly communist nations will expand America's markets.
- Preservation of the principles of international law, and a speedy defeat of aggression in the Persian Gulf stands as a deterrent to other would-be aggressors.
- Negotiation of an increase of support payments by host nations for U.S. defense services will reduce America's defense costs.
- Establishment of cooperation with Vietnam to investigate reports of live Americans and account for all our soldiers missing in action.

U.S. Exports = American Jobs

- President Bush knows that our economic future depends on our ability to compete in a global marketplace.
- Every billion dollars in exports sustains more than 20,000 jobs.
- Since the President took office, U.S. exports are at an all-time high. Overall U.S. exports have soared as people all over the world are buying American. America is first in exports in the world with exports totalling over \$422 billion in 1991. This means over 2 million American jobs.
- The President is opening markets to American goods around the world:
 - Canada and Mexico: President Bush is working to conclude a North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with Canada and Mexico. Trade liberalization with Mexico has already doubled U.S. exports to Mexico since 1986. This has already created 264,000 American jobs, and this number will continue to grow.
 - Japan: In the past four years, exports to Japan have increased 30 percent while imports have increased only 3 percent. Agreements have been reached to strengthen American companies' foothold in the areas of technology, construction services, forest products, paper goods, glass, computers and auto parts.
 - Asia: Exports to this region now account for 30 percent of all our exports, and the President's policies have enabled U.S. companies to take full advantage of this burgeoning market.
 - Latin America: From 1989 to 1991, U.S. exports to Latin America surged by almost one-third, from \$49 billion to \$63 billion. That means 700,000 new jobs for American workers.
 - Former Soviet states and Eastern Europe: As these newly formed countries develop free market economies, their citizens will demand the high-quality goods produced in America. Meeting this demand will mean hundreds of thousands of American jobs.

On Tuesday, January 28, 1992, in his State of the Union address, President Bush affirmed to the nation that, 'although yesterday's challenges are behind us, tomorrow's are yet to be born.'

In the past three years, President Bush has lead this country through a flurry of historic change. What we dared to dream in the last 50 years has become reality. Under the leadership of President Bush there is, today, one pre-eminent power in the world, a peaceful and free nation: the United States of America. But these historic changes didn't happen by chance. It took the dedication of a President who could implement his foreign policy initiatives without the obstruction of partisan politics.

Yet challenges remain, and President Bush continues to focus on the problems closest to home. The President has outlined a set of revolutionary reforms — a common sense agenda. The President is taking initiatives to spark an economic revival for all Americans. He is proposing reforms in education. And he intends to give more Americans hope through home ownership.

President Bush is dedicated to change. Step by step, he and his administration will continue to fight for a Republican agenda. And together, under Republican leadership, we will enter the 21st century with progress, prosperity and the promise of a peaceful tomorrow.

Vision for Domestic and Social Change

"We are going to lift this nation out of hard times inch by inch and day by day, and those who would stop us had best step aside."

— President George Bush

Education

- The President proposed an education reform plan, America 2000, that would move America toward achieving the national education goals.
- The President promoted market-oriented competition among schools through parents' choice of public, private or parochial schools for their children.
- President Bush proposed the largest funding increase in history for Head Start, a comprehensive program that serves low-income preschoolers.

Economic Growth

- The Bush administration held consumer inflation to 3.1 percent in 1991, the lowest rate since 1967.
- Interest rates are at their lowest levels in two decades.
- The President has asked for a cut in the capital gains tax but Congress says no.
- President Bush proposed comprehensive reform of the banking system.
- President Bush promotes welfare reform that gives incentive to save, work and become independent.
- The President continues to promote enterprise zones to attract investment and create jobs in urban areas.
- President Bush promotes reducing the burden of payroll tax compliance costs on small businesses.
- The President proposed the HOPE initiative, allowing home ownership to public housing tenants.

Drugs and Crime

- The President developed and implemented a National Drug Control Strategy that has reduced drug use.
- The President achieved unprecedented cooperation from many nations to reduce the drug supply.

- The administration expanded federal prisons, increased the number of law enforcement officers and proposed a comprehensive crime control package.

Courts and Legal Reform

- The President promoted reform of America's legal system to reduce the amount of litigation and to increase American competitiveness.
- The President nominates appointees at all levels who respect traditional interpretation of the Constitution.
- President Bush remains a steadfast defender of the sanctity of human life, including that of the unborn. He has proposed restoring and doubling the special needs adoption tax deduction.

Environment and Energy

- The President proposed, negotiated and signed a new Clean Air Act, which halves acid rain emissions and decreases toxic air pollutants.
- The President established a moratorium on off-shore oil and gas drilling along many areas of U.S. coastline.
- President Bush developed a National Energy Strategy to increase energy efficiency, improve conservation and reduce American dependence on foreign energy sources.

Health Care Reform

- President Bush proposed a market-based plan to reform the U.S. health care system by making health care more affordable and available.
- To contain health care costs, the President proposed giving states incentives to reform malpractice laws and limiting mandated benefits imposed on states.

Returning Accountability to Government

- The President proposed making the legislative branch subject to civil rights, government ethics, minimum wage and freedom of information laws for the first time.
- President Bush promotes congressional term limits.