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America is Great

Die USA sind großartig

About/Über

TWT

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TWT Gazette

The United States of America is Great

Calling it "The Greatest Nation on Earth" however is neither humble and well educated nor right as such superlatives to easily give way to nationalism and extremism. It also implies that people of other nations automatically could be inferior to the USA, which is against true US values and among many other issues is not in the good spirit of the universal UN Declaration on Human Rights to which also Americans subscribe

Calling the USA the greatest nation on earth may have become sort of fashion and on first sight might seem patriotic but on better reflection it reminds more of a misdemeanor counterproductive to American interests in the rest of the world. Trusting and constructive interaction with others are easier achieved on an equal footing than in a top-down fashion.

Probably no other country in the world in modern history has captured the dreams and imagination of people in such positive and spirited way like the United States of America. It is the global epitome of the land of the free and the land of the brave as it says in its national anthem. Its constitution from it's first version in 1789 and up-to-date after 27 amendments always has been and remains a constitutional role model of all times.

The blend of its people, their entrepreneurial spirit, productivity

and sense of justice have made America great; - a greatness, which is more than the sum of its achievements, resources and power.



The USA is great because over time by achievement it has become a most respected nation and leader among other nations. Though not the only factor it was the US industry, which during the Second World War decisively helped to thoroughly destroy fascist systems and liberate so many countries and people around the world.

Latest since then, the US defined the vision of a Liberal Rules World Order and took the leadership to promote and protect worldwide the ideas in essence of freedom, democracy, justice and market economy.

Together with its friends and allies it won at the end of the 1980's the ideological competition with world communism and for one brief moment in time in the 1990's it seemed that the globe on a large-scale basis could be ready to unite behind US and western values.

9/11 is the symbol for America's and the West's greatest failure and the beginning of - at least partially – a wrong self-conception in Washington politics and with many US citizens. The self-declared "War on Terror" which in hindsight better would have been a criminal case to be handled by police, intelligence

and special units made US millennium politics to resort domestically as well as abroad to executive measures which too often ignored and actually infringed core American moral values as to leave the global good respect levels for America unscathed.

A great nation like the USA with its liberal ideas and values always had and always will have its share of enemies just like many other free democracies. It is comprehensible that the experience of 9/11 was traumatic for the majority of US citizens just like for many people around the globe. US reactions are up to date understandable but the US continuous Government policies' focus based on the "Authorization for Use of Military Force against Terrorists" should not lead to paranoia against everyone and all. A political philosophy which discriminates opposing views and which considers anyone who does not share the same views is like a self-fulfilling prophecy.

The USA definitely for the second half of the 20th century and despite unsuccessful political and military campaigns was longtime the closest to being the moral compass of the world. This also because America always emanated an atmosphere of principle openness and trust toward friends and counterparts.

Its "War on Terror" actions have destroyed much from this aura. "To Make America Great Again", greater than anyway it already is, the Washington-Elite should better rethink its attitude and policies especially also in the foreign arena. In any neighborhood neither the big mouth nor the bully gains respect. Being authentic and humble earns true respect.

This does not mean that the USA should give up its defenses and legitimate pursuit of a world order it believes in.

It only seems from the outside smarter to maybe rethink the offensive and in many cases destructive and open-end intervention policies.

To often in the past years it has become transparent to all and everyone not only domestically but worse also abroad that US Government policy decisions no longer were well thought through and that the American nation too often has been led into a quagmire because of the lack of a plan for resolution in the aftermath of executive (often military) actions.

America and the world also in the future can benefit from the American dream and role model.

The USA however should rethink its promotion approach without the need to compromise on its legitimate security and other national interests.

Any nationalist parole contradicts the above original American values, which is why any talk for the US being the Greatest Nation on Earth in itself is counterproductive to America's respect and standing in the world.

It contradicts the very core meaning of what the US stands for internationally.

It is fully legitimate that the USA wishes to spread its sphere of influence by promoting and exporting American values and its system.

Maybe the success of President Trump's election campaign has to do much with Americans being tired of the continuous "War on Terror" efforts of the previous administrations without delivering transparent decisive results for the US and its standing in the world.

Each lengthy and unsuccessful US campaign has rather weakened than strengthened America's reputation abroad.

The intensive global terrorist threat of course is objective and nobody would suggest to not engage to counter it. The past US strategy and tactics however have not only fought terrorism but due to the lack of political concepts behind the fighting have contributed also to intensify despise and hate to everything American and Western.

Due to the lack of investment into the competition of ideas and ideologies the perception of the USA and the West in many parts of the world including Russia has changed from golden to grey and dark.

Michael Kennedy described already in a 1993 work "the clash of (different) civilizations". On the other hand one historic principle is that conflicts ultimately cannot be resolved militarily but always only diplomatically.

Part of President's Trump "MAGA" opportunity is to change US policies away from confrontation and military adventures to again more cooperation and business based on a balanced and not only one-sided benefit approach incluing worldwide investment into more quality industries, work places and products compared to only bigger production volumes with less profit and low qualities.

To develop the world does not need one superpower and the rest to become dependent or failed states.

We need America to be great and again to shine golden, just as we need other nations and societies to strive for greatness in peace through fair cooperation and partnership. *Dirk P. Schneider*

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