Global Discussion Questions

No decision in foreign policy is made in a vacuum, and the repercussions of any single decision have far-reaching effects across the range of strategic interests on the U.S. policy agenda. This Great Decisions feature is intended to facilitate the discussion of this year’s topics in a global context, to discuss the linkages between the topics and to encourage consideration of the broader impact of decision-making.

1. Consider “Outer Space” in the context of the “Quad Alliance.” As shown in both articles, geopolitical tensions are rising between the United States and China. What is similar about the power struggle in space and in the Pacific? How should the United States be responding to heightened tension in both of these realms?

2. Consider “Changing Demographics” in the context of “Drug Policy in Latin America”. How are the demographics of the United States impacted by the issue of drug related violence in Latin America? Is this a positive or negative change taking place?

3. Consider “Climate Change” in the context of “Industrial Policy”. How is President Biden’s push for increased government spending related to the fight against climate change? Should the government be taking an increased role in this fight?

4. Consider “Russia and the U.S.” in the context of “Myanmar and ASEAN”. How is Russia’s support for the military junta in Myanmar a result of U.S.-Russia tensions? What is the best way for the United States to respond to this new alliance?

5. Consider “Biden’s Agenda” in the context of the “Quad Alliance”. How does the revitalization of the Quad reflect President Biden’s foreign policy? What are President Biden’s goals when it comes to the position of the United States in global affairs?

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