

National Defense Position Statement
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I believe that a strong national defense – a strong military – is essential for both the survival of the country and the best way to decrease the likelihood of being attacked or threatened IN ANY WAY. If we are even perceived as being a weak nation militarily, then that will make an attack or threat on our country IN ANY WAY even more likely. These days, in addition to defense by conventional means, a good national defense means energetically increasing our development and deployment of electronic means to combat any type of electronic attack – both on the new “battlefield” and on our everyday infrastructure.

I see a strong national defense as a deterrent, an effective means to avoid conflicts in the first place. This deterrent would be a result of actually having the capacity to defend the country from an attack of any kind. Being prepared to defend ourselves is a reasonable objective. Doing otherwise, e.g., by reducing our military effectiveness (and advertising it to the world!) is ensuring even greater problems in the future. The reality is that some people in the world want to either control us or kill us. Not recognizing that fact or only acting halfheartedly on that fact is naïve and dangerous to the country.

I believe there must be a commitment to a philosophical approach of having a strong military and the commitment to military budgets that support such a strong national defense so that the thought of doing us harm does not even enter the minds of our potential enemies.

I see national defense as the basic, fundamental responsibility of the federal government. If we do not have a secure country, then all our other worthy aspirations for our society are doomed from the start. A miscalculation of “already having enough” without further development for the future is shortsighted and a disastrous approach for the future of the country.

Having a strong national military is consistent with the valid position of self-defense - and is not the same as proving aggressive intent. Any reasonable person does not want a war – but some things are worth fighting for and doing what can be done in providing a deterrent to war.