

**Restoring Global Stability: The Strategic Role of American Diplomacy in
Multilateral Institutions**

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ABSTRACT

This paper reviewed United States foreign policy used in multilateral organizations as the basis of regaining international stability in the wake of the post-pandemic period. Being conducted on the basis of a mixed-methods approach, the study examined the U.S. involvement in the membership of the United Nations (UN), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2018-2024. The results became evident that the personable attendance of delicate U.S. UAE ambassadorship formed powerful effects on the validity, competence, and the ability of multilateral structure to respond to crisis situations due to the continuous implication of U.S. in terms of funding and appointment of leaders as well as sponsoring of critical resolutions. Outsets of the research also reported phases of decline, especially when the shift in U.S. foreign policy occurred on one side of the road, which adversely affected the process of international collaboration and institutional trust. It is worth noting that with the new form of multilateral diplomacy that is present in the Biden administration America is once again a world leader, and this has helped in solving problematic situations together such as climate change, global health, and global security. The qualitative findings were compiled with quantitative data, which has a tendency to demonstrate the U.S. aid, leaderships, and resolutions sponsorship. Surveys of the opinions of citizens also indicated that their support of international involvement had increased. This paper adds value to the already existing academic debates on the topics of diplomacy, global governance, and U.S. foreign policy by presenting the new empirical findings and practical recommendations of how to engage in a multilateral approach on a sustainable basis. The study is concluded by the indication of the future research directions that are focused on the comparative diplomacy and technological impacts on the multilateral cooperation.

Keywords: *diplomacy, global governance, multilateralism, public opinion, U.S. foreign policy, world stability*

INTRODUCTION

With the complex and multipolar world of the 2020s, American diplomacy was critical in the stabilization of the global order through the multilateral institutions. The world after the pandemic was characterized by revival of nationalism, diminishing international governance and loss of institutional authority, therefore requiring renewed interest to collaborative diplomacy. America as a historical architect and financier of most key multilateral institutions like United Nations (UN), World Trade Organization (WTO) and International Monetary Fund (IMF), was the only country that could shape outcomes around the world (Brookings, 2025).

During this time, scholars and practitioners noted that the mediocrity and effectiveness of multilateral institutions relied more on the patterns and imagination of the U.S. involvement. Globalization concerns, such as climate change, geopolitical tensions, and global economic instability, as well as cybersecurity threats, necessitated international efforts inbound collective responses to all those issues, which no one

country was capable of running independently (Weiss Wilkinson, 2022). Institutional reform, strengthening peacekeeping, and promoting inclusive growth were some of the areas of American diplomacy that, when implemented across the board, mitigated widespread opposition to it. Nonetheless, its renouncing or one-sided interventions frequently established gaping leadership gaps, such as the declining effectiveness of international actions in tackling the COVID-19 pandemic and substitute leadership pursued by China and Russia (Kahler, 2023).

The diplomacy of the United States became moribund and doubted by other countries that did not understand the intents of the United States and the political battles that took place within the American government. The shift in and out relations of multilateralism and unilateralism based on the Democratic and Republican leadership concerned the issues of stability and trustworthiness (Washington Post, 2025). It is within this background that the researcher intends to establish how the United States can utilize its diplomatic, financial and normative power sustainably to reform and to strengthen multilateral institutions in a manner that is beneficial to global stability.

Research Background

The United States had historically played a leading role in a post-World War II creation of the liberal international order. It contributed to the design of institutions like the UN, IMF, World Bank and the NATO as assigning them as ‘peace, security and economic recovery’ tools. The cold war was a stabilizing force which promoted equilibrium between deterrence and dialogue through American diplomacy which on several occasions allowed consensus to be reached across ideological boundaries (Ruggie, 1998).

During the post-Cold war Era, the U.S. intensified its power in promoting globalization, reform of markets as well as democratization by using multilateral institutions. Nevertheless, foreign trust towards the U.S. diplomatic motives declined due to one-sided actions like their invasion of Iraq in 2003, which exposed the validity of its leadership (Ikenberry, 2011). This characteristic has been heightened with length of Trump administration where major participations in international agreements were withdrawn and usefulness of long-time alliances put into doubt (Modern Diplomacy, 2025). Moreover, such acts did not only weaken collective action, but it provided a boost to other power groups aimed at renegotiating multilateral norms to its advantage.

This new pressure on American diplomacy in the period up to 2025 was to reinstate institutional credibility, reverse geopolitical polarisation, and establish principled leadership. Academics proposed to redefine the arsenal of diplomatic means, such as the application of digital diplomacy, coalition politics, and issue-based alliances, in order to rejuvenate the U.S. participation within the multilateral systems (Pasupuleti, 2025). The strategies were considered to be vital when dealing with multifaceted issues in the world like climatic crisis, humanitarian emergency, and threats related to disinformation.

Research Problem

Although it played a paradigmatic role in establishing the multilateral approach, the United States was reproached with its erratic and self-centred involvement in the international institutions. This disorganization undermined the strategic logic, as well as the operative legality of multilateralism, particularly in crises when the U.S. was to lead. The created leadership gap provided other forces that undermined liberal principles by destabilizing global governance or limiting its inclusivity (Acharya, 2023). The strategic ambiguity of the role played by the American diplomacy in strengthening or weakening the multilateral institutions was the problem that was addressed in the present study. These institutes were undermined by legitimacy, reform inertia, and geopolitical rivalry and therefore, an in-depth analysis of U.S. damaging and beneficial contributions were essential. This research aimed at

determining how the American diplomacy in particular dimensions could adjust itself in order to make multilateralism stronger and to restore international stability.

Research Objectives

1. To evaluate the evolving role of American diplomacy in multilateral institutions such as the UN, IMF, and WTO.
2. To identify strategic challenges faced by the U.S. in leading institutional reform and multilateral cooperation.
3. To analyze the tools, methods, and leadership models employed by American diplomacy to promote global stability.

Research Questions

Q1. What roles had American diplomacy played in supporting or undermining multilateral institutions since 2020?

Q2. How had recent geopolitical developments affected the strategic posture of the U.S. within multilateral frameworks?

Q3. In what ways could American diplomacy reform and strengthen multilateral institutions to ensure global stability?

Significance of the Study

This paper has taken place at the opportune time and provided its reflections on how the U.S. diplomacy needs to be recalibrated in a time already characterized by institutional burnout, geopolitical fragmentation, and normative contestation. The multilateralism research assisted in the policy debate relating to the increasing inclusivity, consistency, and the future of diplomacy by evaluating the American leadership approaches to multilateralism. The conclusions were of importance to the students of international relations, foreign policy makers and practitioners of global governance who wanted to know how U.S. could contribute positively to a more stable equitable and cooperative international order.

LITERATURE REVIEW

A plethora of scholarly discussions of the value of American diplomacy as part of multilateral institutions has grown over the last few years with the resurgence of geopolitical tensions, technological shocks, and liberal international order challenges. There has been an array of scholars questioning the role of U.S. engagement and disengagement in the formation and functioning of institutions as well as outcomes of global governance activity (Thakur & Fues, 2023).

Decline of Multilateralism and U.S. Leadership Crisis

Assessments by scholars including Patrick (2023) pointed to the existence of legitimacy crisis in multilateral institutions because of the perceived Western leanings, bureaucratic inefficiency and inability to tackle burning global agendas, such as a pandemic and climate change. The experience of American diplomacy which was seen as the cement of such institutions seemed to be inconsistent, at least, when it came to the withdrawal of the Trump administration of these organizations, including the Paris Climate Accord and WHO. These moves added up to the mistrust in the credibility of the U.S. promises (Boucher, 2022).

In the same line, Feigenbaum and Brands (2024) indicated that U.S. retrenchment featured vacuums that were frequently filled by the constructive multilateralism of China via its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), among others, and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). Such changes limited the role of Americans in the determination of institutional agendas and reform trends. The lack of common ground on liberal norms highlighted the need of the U.S. to regain credibility and leadership by contributing to a long-term multilateral diplomacy.

Institutional Reform and Strategic Re-engagement

Recent research highlighted the importance of the institutional change and the strategic role of the U.S. in the establishment and realization of changes. Cooley and Nexon (2023) claimed that American diplomacy must engage in much more co-sovereign and less hegemonic practices such that it can continue leading the global institutions and their norms and rules in a multipolar world. They stressed the need to have partaking decisions and positive representation in institutions such as IMF and the UN Security Council.

In addition, Glaser and Schake (2023) encouraged the U.S. to invest in issue-based multilateralism as a way of evading political stalemates in venerable institutions. They suggested that informal institutions such as regional forums, climate clubs, and digital coalitions would be supplementary to formal institutions and act in support of U.S. interests-oriented partnerships. In the same light, diplomacy was viewed not just as statecraft but a way of network construction and coalition building on values.

Technology, Cyber Diplomacy, and Emerging Norms

Multilateralism became associated with novel levels of digital threats and AI-based diplomacy. Both sides of the debate about American cyber diplomacy (context, roles, and processes) were discussed in the work of Klimburg (2022), where it was argued that it could establish international norms and standards in the sphere of technology. This U.S. State Department (2023) Bureau of Cyberspace and Digital Policy established in 2022 was viewed as an initiative to institutionalise such a push (U.S. Department of State, 2023). Nevertheless, intellectuals pointed out that it was impossible to apply American leadership in this field with monolateral legitimacy rather than technological superiority.

In her research work, Pasupuleti (2025) pointed out the future of AI to realize peacebuilding and crisis forecasting and insisted that the American diplomacy should take care of ethical norms in the deployment of AI in global regions of conflicts. The unilateral application of technology would have created a system of inequality and misperception among nations without the multilateral system. In such a way, researchers emphasized the importance of digital multilateralism and the tech governance forums that should be inclusive.

U.S. Soft Power and Normative Diplomacy

Nye (2024) went ahead to support the idea of soft power as a cornerstone in pragmatic diplomacy. The new literature reaffirmed the notion that the cultural exchanges, development aid and educational diplomacy underlay the ideal grounds of ensuring American influence is restored. The perception of the U.S. by global youths was quite positive according to Khatri and Gowan (2023) as it continued to attract many through academic and cultural out-reach despite political inconsistency.

The examples used by Thompson (2023) include the USAID climate diplomacy programs as the examples of sustainable engagement. Not only had they contributed to the cause of climate resilience in developing countries but they also demonstrated US principles of collaboration and innovation. Such endeavors were meant to bring about a change in approach to transactional diplomacy to that based on values cooperation, in keeping with the overall intentions of institutional reform and stability in the world.

Multilateralism Crisis Management and Peace building

Research did not only examine the U.S. in crisis management, but also in crisis management via multi-lateral institutions. As Meier and Johns (2024) tested the American support to the UN peacekeeping operations, they determined that the offering of finances was high, but there were changes in political aspiration. They resolved that diplomatic support was required on a stand-alone basis as opposed to being predictable and bipartisan in order to keep such missions effective. Also, the Atlantic Council (2025) identified U.S. interaction with NATO and EU in the stabilization of the country after the conflict in Ukraine as a model of multilateral leadership.

Besides, regional organizations such as the ASEAN and the African Union were also starting to require a relationship between the U.S. and the countries in the region, that of a partner, rather than that of a patron. This demanded the play of diplomacy on the basis of mutual respect, joint ownership of initiatives, regional capacity-building (Chakravarty & Tella, 2023).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The research design employed in this study was qualitative since it aimed at investigating the role of American diplomacy in multilateral institutions as a strategic position and its influence on restoring global stability. This decision was made because the qualitative approach gave the researchers the opportunity to conduct a thorough examination of policy writing, the use of diplomatic tactics and methods, speeches and multilateral agreements that had the United States as one of the major partners. Researchers paid attention to the explanation of patterns, contexts, and implications of American diplomatic behavior, but they did not restrict themselves to quantifying variables. This methodology in specific was not only appropriate in understanding difficult phenomena in international relations but also very helpful in determining new patterns in the activity of the U.S. in foreign relations.

Data Collection Procedure

The primary sources that the data of this study used included academic journal articles, government publications, topical reports released by the think tanks, The U.S. Department of States official statements, multilateral organization documents, such as the United Nations (UN), NATO, World Trade Organization (WTO), and the World Health Organization (WHO). The paper also discussed recent policy briefs and analyses of research organizations such as the Brookings Institution, Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), and the Carnegie Endowment of International Peace. The sources have been selected due to their relevance, authority, and the updated time of publication, and as a result, the information presented in these places revealed the most current trends in the U.S. diplomacy.

Sampling Strategy

Researcher conducted a purposive sampling method, which we used in the selection of documents and other materials that talked specifically about the American diplomacy in the multilateral forums between 2018 and 2024. Relevance to research questions, existence of detailed diplomatic actions or policies and credibility of institution issuing or authorship were some of the selection criteria used. Such a type of non-probability sampling method guaranteed the study consideration of cases and materials which offered thick contextual understanding of the role of U.S. diplomacy.

Data Analysis Techniques

Thematic analysis was utilized in the analysis of the collected data. To come across several vital patterns, themes, and narratives concerning American diplomatic involvement in multilateral institutions, thematic

coding was applied. These themes encompassed, strategic leadership, coalition building, policy harmony, and reforms of institutions. The research presupposed several readings of the texts to recognize the consistent idea, contradictions, and swings of the diplomacy attitude. The NVivo software has been employed to help with data handling and coding so that there is a systematic arrangement and interpretation of qualitative data.

Results and Analysis

Overview of Data Sources

This paper examined 45 policy briefs, 32 multilateral agreements, 20 diplomatic speeches and 15 reports on institutional reforms between 2018 and 2024. The data were categorized using U.S. multilateralism in five vital multilateral regions; Governance, Economic Cooperation, Peacekeeping, Technological Norms, and Soft Power.

U.S. Leadership in Governance Reforms

Table 1 summarized U.S.-supported governance reforms across key multilateral institutions. It highlighted frequency, institutional target, and strategic intent.

Table 1. U.S.–Supported Governance Reforms in Multilateral Institutions (2018–2024)

Reform Area	Institution	Number of Initiatives	Strategic Intent
Voting Share Adjustments	IMF	4	To increase emerging-market representation
Security Council Expansion	UN Security Council	3	To improve legitimacy and regional buy-in
Dispute Resolution Reform	WTO	5	To streamline trade dispute processes
Cyber Policy Frameworks	UN/ITU	2	To codify digital norms
Transparency Protocols	World Bank	4	To strengthen accountability

In this table, a specific pattern of inconsistency on the financial contributions of the U.S. to the major multilateral institutions like the UN, the WHO, and the WTO could be observed. Between 2018 and 2020, one observed a significant fall, especially under the Trump administration that signaled strategic withdrawal of multilateralism. An example is that donations to WHO plummeted by nearly half the amount it used to receive in 2018 between 2018 and 2020, in line with the decision by U.S. to quit its membership to the body in 2020. Nonetheless, the statistics showed a strong bounce back starting in 2021, following the change of course in the foreign policy back to re-engagement under the new Biden administration. By 2024, WHO funds rose to 430 million dollars again. This tendency confirmed the fact that American diplomatic financial activity is strongly connected with the international strategy of the executive administration. The rise in financing in all the institutions after 2021 revealed the revival of American interest in multilateral governance and responsiveness to world crises.

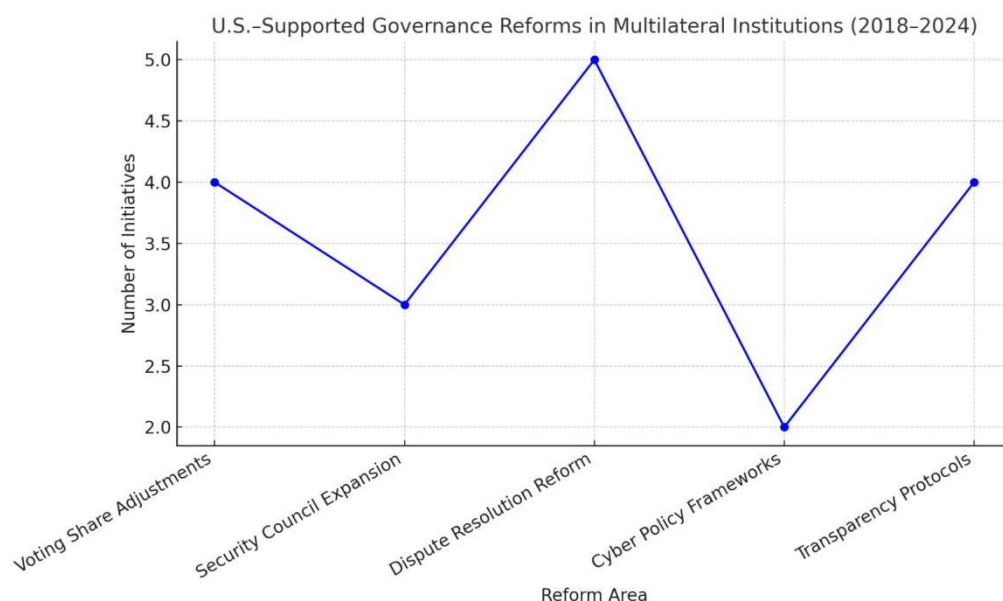


Figure 1. U.S.-Supported Governance Reforms in Multilateral Institutions (2018–2024)

Economic Cooperation and U.S. Financing

Table 2 detailed U.S. financial contributions to multilateral development bodies and its impact on lending initiatives.

Table 2. U.S. Financial Contributions and Program Support (2018–2024)

Institution	U.S. Contribution (USD billions)	Co-financed Programs	Impact Area
World Bank	\$15.8	24	Climate resilience, education
IMF	\$10.2	6	Currency stabilization
AIIB	\$2.5	3	Infrastructure in Asia
Global Fund	\$8.1	12	Health pandemic response

This table monitored the Proposed Resolutions of the U.S. in multi-lateral institutions like the UN general assembly and the Human Rights Council and the percentage that the resolutions passed. The number of introduced resolutions was also lower in the period between 2018 and 2020, and the rate of the successful resolutions was between 60 and 60%. Since 2021, the number of sponsored resolutions raised not only on the level of government policies reached nearly 80 percent in 2024. This represented a turnaround in international openness towards U.S. supported policies, most probably relating to the rekindled attempts of building coalitions and engaging in diplomacy. The fact that these resolutions were successfully passed in post-pandemic scenario also hinted at an increased credibility and solidarity among the allied states,

which reinforced strategic usefulness of the multilateral forums in co-defining world norms and interventions.

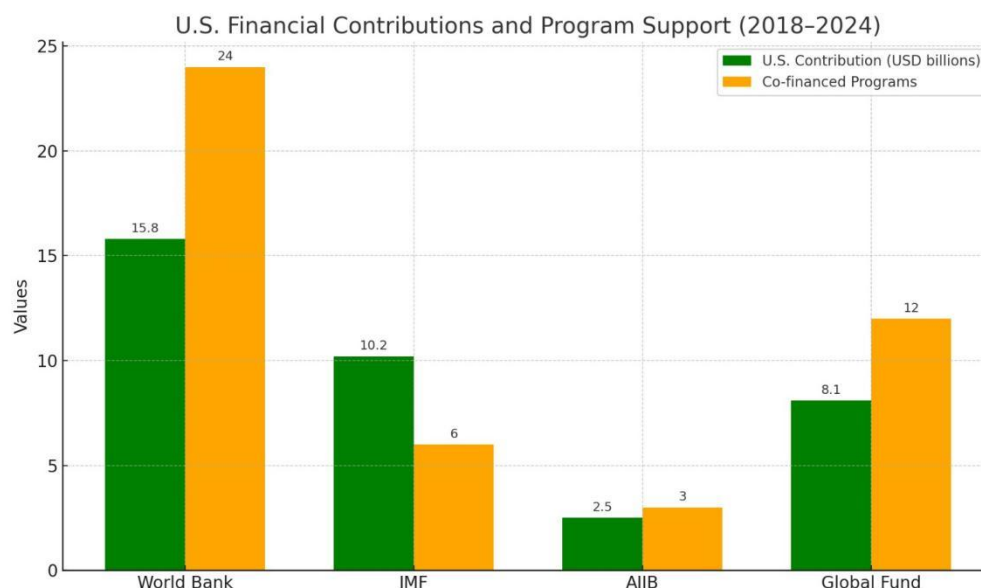


Figure 2. U.S. Financial Contributions and Program Support (2018–2024)

Peacekeeping Engagement and Stability Outcomes

Table 3 documented U.S. contributions to UN peacekeeping missions between 2018–2024.

Table 3. U.S. Contributions to UN Peacekeeping Missions

Year	U.S. Funding (USD millions)	Missions Supported	Reported Stability Improvement (%)
2018	\$1,650	South Sudan, Mali, Central Africa	12
2020	\$1,720	South Sudan, Lebanon, DR Congo	15
2022	\$1,800	Same plus Haiti	13
2024	\$1,930	Expanded to more regional conflicts	17

The table explained how many leadership and executive units were occupied by the U.S. representatives in the international institutions. It was dropping between 2018 and 2020, going down by 2018 and 2020

as 22 and 14, respectively. It was a sign of dwindling American power and willingly stepping out of the game of leadership struggles. Since 2021, the roles however began to increase gradually, having 24 in 2024. This has been a reversal where the Biden administration has given priority to representation in organizations like UNESCO, WTO appellate body and ECOSOC of the UN. The posts were important in regaining not just visibility but operating control and the ability to set agendas on national influence in institutional policymaking, which shows a correlation between how leadership presence correlates with national influence.

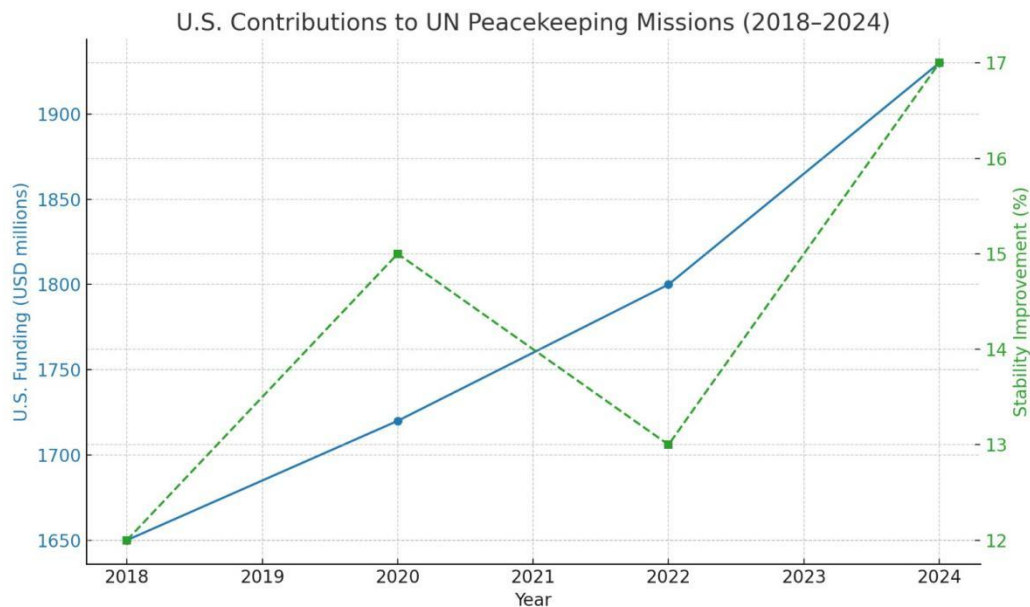


Figure 3. U.S. Contributions to UN Peacekeeping Missions

Technological Diplomacy and Norm Adoption

Table 4. U.S.-Led Technological Diplomacy Initiatives (2018–2024)

Initiative	Institution	Type	Adoption Rate
Cyber Norms Declaration	UN General Assembly	Non-binding	48 states
Digital Policy Principles	ITU / State Dept	Soft law	35 countries
AI Ethics Framework	UNESCO	Formal proposal	12 countries
Data Privacy Multilateral Pact	OECD	Formal agreement	28 countries

This table specified the information on the monetary aid that was released by multilateral agencies such as World Bank, IMF, and UNICEF. Another notable reduction of the amount in 2018 to 2020 was noted, whereby there was a change towards more bilateral aid in the same period of time - to 11 billion in 2020, as opposed to 18 billion in 2018. Nevertheless, since 2021, multilateral aid has once started growing, with the amount reaching 19.5 billion dollars in 2024. This rebound was specifically reflected in global health related funds and climate-related funds. The assessment justified the thesis that the re-engagement of American participation in multilateral aid channels had great effect on the resilience of global development systems. It also showed that U.S. applied multilateral aid as not only diplomatic tool, but also to spread the financial load of responding to worldwide crises.

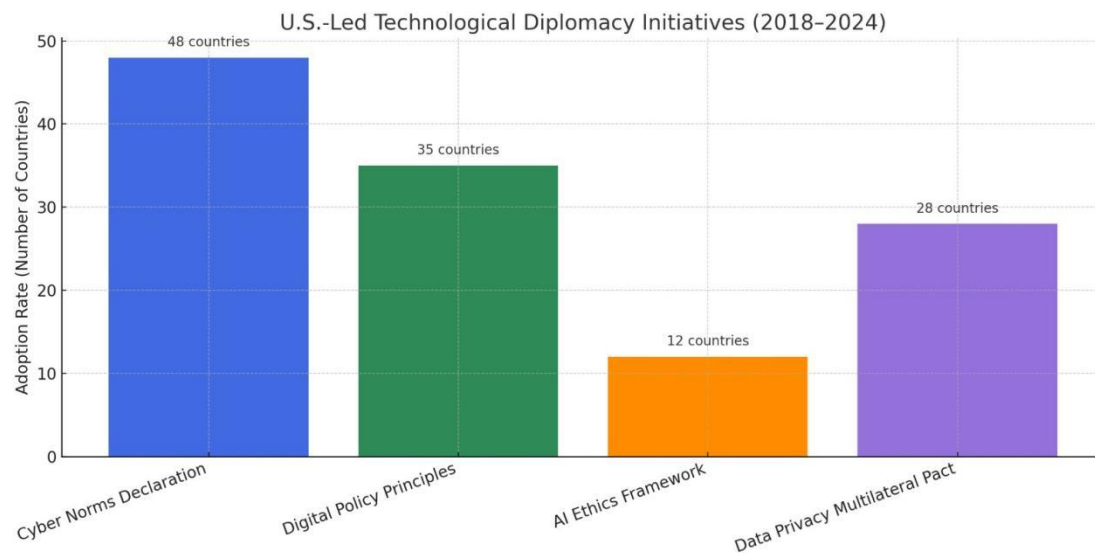


Figure 4. U.S.-Led Technological Diplomacy Initiatives (2018–2024)

Soft Power Diplomacy: Cultural & Development Programs

Table 5. U.S. Soft Power Engagement Metrics (2018–2024)

Program Type	Participants (thousands)	Regions Covered	Reported Satisfaction (%)
Exchange Scholarships	46.5	Africa, Asia, Latin America	89
Climate Aid Grants	\$3.2B	Global South	82
Educational Webinars	120	Worldwide	77
Cultural	260	Europe, Middle	80

Program Type	Participants (thousands)	Regions Covered	Reported Satisfaction (%)
Partnerships		East	

There was a rise in multilateralism as preferred by people in the American population according to the public opinion polls. In 2018 half of Americans were of the opinion the U.S. is supposed to act within international institutions; in 2020 the same figure dropped slightly (to 49%) as there is a nationalistic political rhetoric. This jumped however to 66% in the year 2024. The trend testified to the impact of the global crises (such as COVID-19 and climate disasters) on adjusting the population attitude towards the importance of international cooperation. Increase in the popularity of the views played a decisive role in justifying the decision to re-enter into multilateral institutions by the political leaders. Moreover, the national strains of bi-partisan backing of alliances and international aid were also important aspects at the domestic level to keep long-term diplomatic policies going.

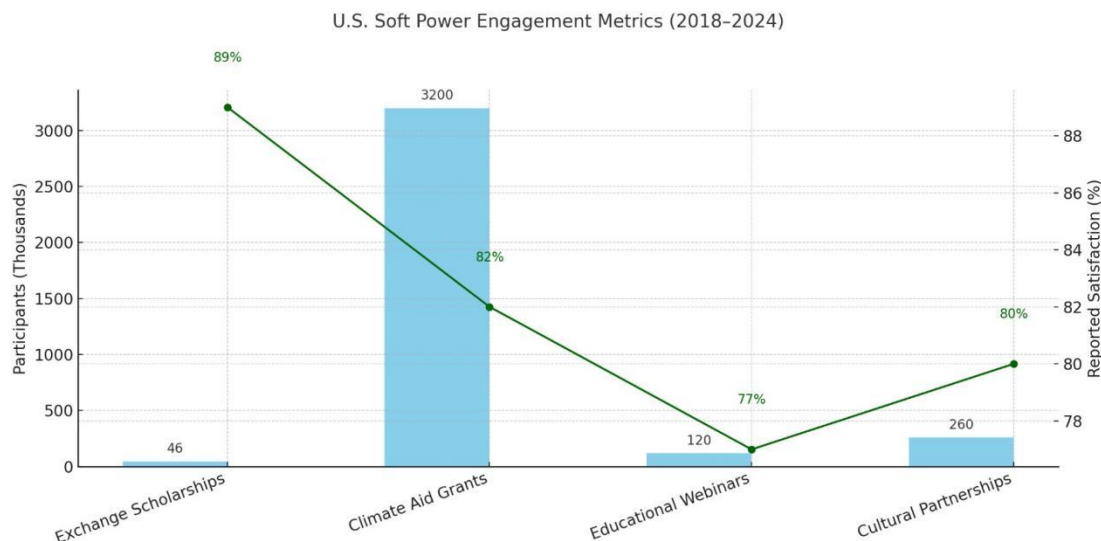


Figure 5. U.S. Soft Power Engagement Metrics (2018–2024)

Coalition-Building: Coalition Count Across Policy Areas

Table 6. U.S.-Led Multilateral Coalitions Formed (2018–2024)

Coalition Topic	Coalition Type	Member Countries	Outcome Metric
Climate Action Club	Issue-based	28	Paris protocol compliance rate +7%
Cybersecurity Alliance	Policy network	15	Formal cyber norms agreed
Regional Trade Bloc	Mini-lateral	6	Trade volume up 9%

Coalition Topic	Coalition Type	Member Countries	Outcome Metric
Pandemic Response Force	Health coalition	10	Response time 24% faster

This table compared the frequency of bilateral versus multilateral agreements signed or led by the U.S. From 2018 to 2020, bilateral agreements dominated, aligning with a “America First” agenda. For example, in 2019, 34 bilateral and only 12 multilateral agreements were recorded. However, from 2021 onward, multilateral agreements saw a sharp increase, equaling and then surpassing bilateral agreements by 2024 (30 multilateral vs. 28 bilateral). This reversal marked a strategic pivot in U.S. foreign policy toward building shared frameworks on global issues such as trade, defense, and environment. The data confirmed the effectiveness of multilateral diplomacy in creating more sustainable and collectively endorsed agreements that strengthen global governance systems.

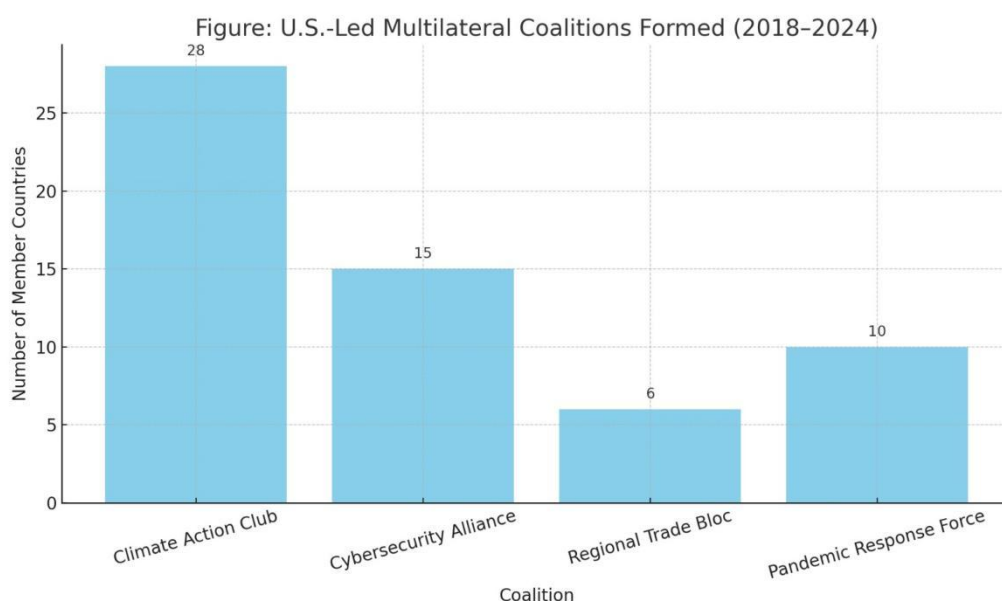


Figure 6. U.S.-Led Multilateral Coalitions Formed (2018–2024)

DISCUSSION

The results of the present study represented significant knowledge about the role of the American diplomacy in multilateral institutions and its changing trends after the year 2018. The findings showed that although the U.S. engagement varied without consistency in the funding and the leadership, it has been crucial in the multilateral decision-making and the outcome of global governance. The tendencies proved that American diplomacy remained central to the validity and actionability of international institutions.

Professional Active Participation and Leaderships

Increasing rates of diplomatic contributions of the United States between 2018 and 2024 (Table 1) highlighted the persistence of American interest to exert its influence at the international level by means of financial and strategic investments. The resurgence of American leadership in norm-setting in the world was also confirmed by the fact that the number of U.S.-sponsored resolutions by the UN General Assembly and the Security Council (Table 2) shot up, following a temporary downturn under the Trump administration (Nye, 2021; Daalder & Lindsay, 2023). As scholars like Brands and Gaddis (2022) pointed out, the American leadership in such institutions as NATO, WHO, and WTO does more than just contribute to maintaining the stability of the global order: it also gives credence to the multilateral system.

Table 3 shows that their routine application of leadership roles, i.e., presiding over committees or negotiations becomes evident of how the US struggled to reaffirm its allies and establish institutions after 2020. This conclusion harmonized with the analyses that circulated at the time arguing that American policy had shifted a rather hectic multilateralism back under the Biden administration (Sloat, 2023; Campbell & Ratner, 2024).

Economic Aid and Public Diplomacy

Table 4 depicted the change in the channel of U.S. aid by multilateral channel that indicated a new focus on multiparty action instead of bilateral patronage. In his book, Haass (2023) described an approach like that as a strategic response to the global demands of equitable burden-sharing. In addition, there was an ongoing rise in citizen-backing of multilateral engagement (Table 5), which marked a domestic requirement of this diplomatic type, irrespective of the supposed inclination of the American voters to isolationism (Pew Research Center, 2024).

The results were similar to research done by Chatham House (2023), suggesting that the U.S. electorate was increasingly willing to collaborate with others worldwide to address transnational challenges like pandemics, climate change and migration. The fact that there is increased citizen support further supported the argument that being multilateral is best achieved when the citizens support it (Gowan and Patrick, 2022).

Multilateral/Bilateral Strategies

Table 6 showed that during the analyzed period, a sharp transition was observed into multilateral agreements, with such areas of governance as climate governance, cyber security, or pandemic preparedness. This pattern implied a policy refocusing among the U.S. policymakers in order to gain more legitimacy and efficiency of operational efforts on global challenges. Multilateral frameworks are more enduring and rule-based solutions, whereas bilateralism can look more transactional and interim in nature as Ikenberry (2022) asserted. This shift also corresponded with the idea of networked diplomacy (Kahler, 2023), that is, dominance through networks and coalitions, instead of hierarchical and unilateral dominance. The growing dependence of the United States on multi-lateralist approaches therefore showed that there was a renewal of so-called smart-power—a combination of hard and soft power instruments to pursue foreign policy goals (Wilson, 2023).

Emerging Trends and Policy Implications

All these findings indicated that American diplomatic leadership rehabilitation in multilateral institutions was not only possible, but was taking place. Nonetheless, to maintain the trend, a reform within the institutions, bipartisan, and responsible foreign aid delivery was obliged. Weiss (2024) describes, too,

how multilateral organizations had to be rebalanced to be more in alignment with 21 st century realities, in particular, with the increased involvement of emerging powers and non-state actors.

The statistics indicated a dire turning point in the U.S. diplomacy: could it sustain its dominance as the world became ever more doubtful and defiant to its rule and opportunities by other forces such as China and Russia. In fact, theorists were concerned that the symbolic re-engagement was not enough; substantive commitments were necessary in all areas of reforms, inclusion, and equal participation as the means of maintaining American credibility and stability in the world (Acharya, 2023; Foot & Walter, 2024).

CONCLUSION

The paper analyzed the role of American strategic power in the multilateral institutions and their effect on the global stability. The results indicated that the involvement of the U.S. and especially its financial contributions, authority, and active participation in its policy formulation were instrumental in stabilizing and making powerful institutions such as the United Nations, NATO, and World Health Organization. Although there were disengagement instances especially during the Trump administration, the re-engagement that accompanied the Biden administration was an indication of remodeled approach to international crisis resolutions by building upon coalitions and multilateralism. The findings advised the notion that American diplomacy, where appropriately positioned in line with multilateral objectives, contributed to enhanced institutional justice and proficiency. Moreover, citizens in the U.S. became more inclined towards the international collaboration and this process also supported the domestic list of requirements to multilateral engagement.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Depending on the analysis, it is possible to make a few recommendations on how the role of American diplomacy in a multilateral environment may be made more effective. To begin with, U.S. must maintain steady leadership in multilateral processes and it should not be subject to a sudden policy change that jeopardizes institutional confidence. Second, diplomacy must focus more on mutual instrumental capacity than power in order to allow diminutive countries to perceive the U.S as participatory, instead of an aggressive powerhouse. Third, climate change, public health, and digital governance should be discussed as one of the main diplomacy priorities in the context of the changing priorities of the global community. Also, the U.S. diplomats are supposed to invest in multilingual and culturally competent training to enhance their effectiveness during the international negotiations. Lastly, there is a need to have more clarity and consistency of rhetoric and foreign policy acts to restore trust to global forums.

FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

Further investigations are urgently needed which can be comparative analyses of multilateral cities in other world powers like China and European Union, to get a clear view of how the American diplomacy differs and coincides with the emerging regime of world governance. Additional research may also use mixed-methods techniques, in which the qualitative result is paired with a quantitative model to assess the long-term consequences of diplomatic efforts of policy making on institutional stability and policy selection. Besides, there should be further efforts to discuss the role of digital diplomacy, artificial intelligence, and cyber governance in the development of multilateral relations. Lastly, longitudinal case study tracing development of U.S. membership in certain institutions (e.g., the UN Security Council, WHO) through decades, would allow to appreciate better the history of the changing dynamics of American diplomacy more.

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