

Andrew Yang



“My first principles concerning foreign policy are restraint and judgment – we should be very judicious about projecting force and have clear goals that we know we can accomplish.” — Andrew Yang

At a Glance

Andrew Yang is an American entrepreneur who gained notoriety within the political sphere due to his work for various start-up companies such as Manhattan Prep and Venture For America. In 2015, Yang was honored by the Obama Administration as a “Presidential Ambassador for Global Entrepreneurship.” You can find his thoughts, comments, and plans on issues of war and peace below.

Ending Endless Wars

- Per Yang’s campaign website, he would “sign a repeal to the [Authorization for the Use of Military Force] AUMF, returning the authority to declare war to Congress, and refuse to engage in anything other than emergency military activity without the express consent of Congress.”
- One of the reasons that the 2001 and 2002 AUMF’s are still being used as a legal justification for military action is because there are no sunset provisions included in their language. If elected, Yang would push for a constitutional amendment that would require automatic sunset periods for laws unless they are evaluated by Congress and renewed.
- In May of 2019, Yang signed on to the “End The Forever War” pledge, stating, “We’ve continued in a constant state of war for the last seventeen years, and it has cost us tremendously in American lives as well as billions of dollars that could have been used to help families here at home.”

Nuclear Weapons

- Yang believes that having the power to launch a nuclear weapon shouldn't be something left to the President alone. He believes that there should be a chain of command that can verify a nuclear decision. "A decision to launch nuclear weapons is too important to rest in any individual's hands. We should ensure that any such decision is verified by the vice president or, if he or she is unavailable, the White House Chief of Staff."
- According to his campaign website, Yang is looking to invest in counterproliferation efforts, including buying nuclear grade weapons materials from other countries for "exorbitant prices."

Iran

- Like many of his Democratic counterparts, Yang is critical of President Trump's handling of Iran, saying, "Escalating tensions with Iran are a massive move in the wrong direction – the American people have very low desire for another conflict in the region. I would re-enter the multilateral 2015 Iran agreement with the UK, France, Russia, and Germany and pursue diplomatic solutions."

Pentagon Spending & Diplomatic Funding

- Yang would redirect around \$60 billion from the Pentagon budget to a new "domestic infrastructure force" that he calls the Legion of Builders and Destroyers. The Legion would be tasked with a number of national infrastructure improvement projects and would have jurisdiction over local infrastructure regulators.
- He would appoint a Secretary of Cybersecurity in order to combat the growing online threats to American national security.

- According to his campaign website, an Andrew Yang Administration would undergo regular audits of the Department of Defense.
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Korean Peninsula

- Following President Trump's historic handshake meeting with Kim Jung-Un at the Korean demilitarized zone, [Yang tweeted](#), "Anything that improves the political climate on the Korean peninsula and engages North Korea on its nuclear program is a good thing."
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Israel/Palestine

- He [has said](#), "Israel is a very, very important ally of the U.S. Certainly some of the actions that are being taken there are deeply problematic and run afoul of some of the standards that we'd like to see countries meet. I'd be hesitant to say that they are in violation of those standards."