

## Amy Klobuchar



***“This president is literally, every single day, 10 minutes away from going to war, one tweet away from going to war...I don’t think we should be conducting foreign policy in our bathrobe at 5 in the morning,” — Senator Amy Klobuchar***

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### **At a Glance**

Amy Klobuchar became Minnesota’s [first female senator](#) in 2007, winning her election by a landslide and famously getting \$17,000 in donations from calling up ex-boyfriends – she has visited each of her state’s 87 counties since. Labeling herself the “senator next door,” she points to the 24 bills of hers that have become law under this administration as evidence of her bipartisanship.

She states that President Trump’s approach to foreign policy oftentimes places us on the brink of war and believes we deserve better. Her foreign policy record in office generally aligns with the diplomatic path.

The Senator has [made clear](#) during her campaign that she would change things: “I don’t think we should be conducting foreign policy in our bathrobe at 5 in the morning,” You can find her thoughts, comments, and plans on issues of war and peace below.

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### **Ending Endless Wars**

- Running up to her 2006 Senate win, Klobuchar [heavily criticized](#) the Iraq War, rightly pointing out that it “fomented terrorism” and calling for diplomatic solutions: “While I support the invasion of Afghanistan, I disagreed with the decision to invade Iraq.” “This war has basically devolved into a civil war. We have to realize that this solution isn’t going to be more boots on the ground, it’s going to be a diplomatic and political solution. This war, as of Thanksgiving, will have lasted longer than World War II. So I believe that we need to bring people together and help this country to come up with a diplomatic and political solution in addition to giving them the

tools that they need.” She also opposed President Bush’s plans for troop surges in Iraq, and consistently voted against escalation.

- Since the start of Saudi Arabia’s brutal assault on Yemen, Sen. Klobuchar has [consistently voted](#) to block U.S. arms sales to kingdom. She also supported legislation directing President Trump to withdraw U.S. military support for the war in Yemen, [expressing](#) that she was “deeply concerned that the President continues to ignore human rights violations, the suppression of dissent, and the deaths of thousands of civilians in Yemen in order to maintain good relations with the Saudis.”
- On the other hand, she has taken hawkish stances occasionally. She [supported](#) the ill-fated intervention in Libya, justifying it because it had international involvement. She also [endorsed](#) arming of Syrian rebels and [advocated for](#) the establishment of no-fly zones there. A few months ago, she [voted in opposition](#) to Trump’s proposed withdrawal of troops from Syria, as well.

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## **Nuclear Weapons**

- When asked about a U.S. policy of no first use at a July event, Klobuchar [responded](#) that she would “look at the Senate bill.”
- She [joined in calling](#) on President Trump to preserve the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty after his announcement to abandon it.
- In 2010, Sen. Klobuchar was one of the 71 Senators who [voted for](#) the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START), and has since [called on](#) President Trump to extend the agreement before its expiration.

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## **Iran**

- Klobuchar [rightly fears](#) that the “Administration’s reckless policies increase the risk of armed conflict” with Iran and “isolate the U.S.”

She makes it very clear that President Trump “can’t draw us into war” without Congressional authorization.

- She was an early supporter of the Iran Nuclear Agreement, publicly defending it as the best option in an [op-ed](#) titled “Why I Am Supporting the Iran Nuclear Agreement” shortly after it was presented to Congress. She favors [reentering the agreement](#), though she referred to the deal as imperfect and said “I would have worked to get longer sunset periods, and that’s something we can negotiate to get back in the deal” at the first Democratic debates.
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### **Pentagon Spending & Diplomatic Funding**

- Despite voting against this year’s bloated Pentagon budget, Klobuchar has consistently voted in favor of previous defense spending bills, including the behemoth \$717 billion [bill of 2019](#).
  - She [has vowed](#) to “invest in diplomacy and rebuild the State Department,” and “believes that we need to stand strong — and consistently — with our allies.”
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### **Korean Peninsula**

- Klobuchar [has expressed](#) willingness to negotiate with North Korea on denuclearization and said it’s “always good to talk to people when you’re dealing with something so important as nuclear weapon[s]...” but is [concerned](#) that this administration’s approach has no clear focus, goals, or path and President Trump “keeps having these summits and meetings that really don’t produce anything.”
  - She [implied](#) “we should be upping the sanctions and putting more pressure on Kim Jong Un” in response to the recent rounds of missile tests.
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## Israel/Palestine

- Earlier this year, Klobuchar [denounced](#) Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's political alliance deal with the extremist, anti-Arab Otzma Yehudit party, and [recently said](#) his talk of annexing the Golan Heights and settlement policies are "setting us back" on the path to a two-state solution for Israelis and Palestinians, which she supports.
- She [joined in opposing](#) the Trump administration's decision to cut off aid to the West Bank and Gaza.
- In moves that live up to her [title](#) of "champion of the U.S.-Israel alliance" by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), Klobuchar: [boasts about](#) her steadfast support of military aid for Israel, which includes a massive 2016 deal for \$38 billion over 10 years; [calls](#) the boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS) movement harmful and [voted](#) for anti-BDS legislation; and [supported efforts](#) to denounce the Obama administration's abstention on a U.N. Security Council resolution critical of Israeli settlements in 2017.