

Political Leadership Matters

Political leaders matter – they determine the allocation of power and money through governmental policies, establish partnerships with other stakeholders (legislators, business, advocate groups) and make decisions that can have a major effect on a nation's well-being and its citizens.

The qualities of effective leadership include courage, strength, the ability to communicate effectively, knowledge, judgment, integrity, and interpersonal skills. A particularly important quality is vision, along with the power to implement that vision.

Winston Churchill - established himself as a great government leader when he served as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom during the Second World War. He was a voice of reason rallied the nation to fight Nazi Germany.

Ronald Reagan - skillfully addressed American issues of economic stagnation, unemployment and national defense concerns. As a leader he led the way for massive nation income tax reform and accommodated the nation's longest recorded period of prosperity without signs of economic recession or depression. His high levels of charisma and bold personality made Reagan an ideal role model for the American public, allowing him to lead the nation in a positive direction

John F. Kennedy - his strength of character and patient leadership influenced the entire nation through his memorable speeches and massive economic plans. His leadership qualities also helped his administration to focus firmly on pursuing peace with the Soviet Union. In particular, Kennedy will forever be remembered for his collected and self-possessed response to the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962.

Dwight D. Eisenhower - leadership was also key in safely navigating the early days of the Cold War and keeping the world free of widespread nuclear warfare. Eisenhower continued his leadership legacy, cautioning that the current trend of long-running military expenditures would eventually threaten the world with potential destruction. As a forward thinking, Eisenhower always focused on leading his people towards a future that accounted for future generations.

William J. Clinton - his political strategies and executive leadership capabilities were considered to be truly world-class. Clinton is credited with creating more than 22 million jobs, leading the American people into the longest economic expansion in United States history.

Recep Tayyip Erdoğan – President of Turkey. In over 20 years of rule he has led Turkey from being a secular nation to a religious one. Has subverted both the legislature and judicial systems. Jailed and fired hundreds of thousand of his citizens for unfounded subversive activities against the country.

Narendra Modi – India Prime Minister. Elected in 2013 he has shifted India from a democratic country to autocracy. Has advocated and pushed legislation denying basic human rights to the 200 million Muslim Indian citizens.

Viktor Orbán – Hungarian Prime Minister - Won his 4th straight election with his fourth straight supermajority in parliament that allows him to amend the constitution at will. All watchdog agencies have rated Hungary ruled by autocracy.

How would you rate Biden's leadership?

How would you rate Trump's leadership?

What qualities do you look for in a leader?

Are there any other U.S. politicians you see as good leaders?

Would Germany be different if Hitler never existed?