



## CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

### BARACK OBAMA ON SMART POWER

“Meeting the challenges of our time cannot be the work of our military alone—or the United States alone. It requires all elements of our national power, working together, and in concert with allies and partners.” *(Remarks on National Security Spending, January 2012)*

“My national security strategy recognizes development not only as a moral imperative, but a strategic and economic imperative.” *(Remarks at Millennium Development Goals Summit, September 22, 2010)*

“The United States has been, and will remain, the global leader in providing assistance.” *(Remarks at the Millennium Development Goals Summit, September 22, 2010)*

“We can unleash the change that reduces hunger and malnutrition. We can spark the kind of economic growth that lifts people and nations out of poverty. This is the new commitment that we’re making. And I pledge to you today that this will remain a priority as long as I am United States President.” *(Remarks at the Symposium on Global Agriculture and Food Security, May 18, 2012)*

“No other nation has made the advancement of human rights and dignity so central to its foreign policy. And that’s because it’s central to who we are, as Americans. It’s also in our self-interest, because democracies become our closest allies and partners.” *(Air Force Academy Commencement Speech, May 2012)*

“We will support policies that lead to strong and stable democracies and open markets, because tyranny is no match for liberty.” *(State of the Union, January 2012)*



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### JOE BIDEN ON SMART POWER

"We need to make global development and diplomacy a priority in our international lives." *(Remarks at Center for US Global Engagement Annual Conference, July 15, 2008)*

"For over the past 40 years, the political propaganda in this country has led American people to believe that somewhere between 20 and 30 -- and some of you say 40 percent -- of our entire budget goes to foreign aid. Seriously, you think I'm kidding. Well, folks, the entire budget makes up less than 1 percent of our whole budget. If only every other 1 percent was as productive as you are." *(Remarks on the 50th Anniversary of USAID, November 4, 2011)*

"We'll draw upon all the elements of our power -- military and diplomatic, intelligence and law enforcement, economic and cultural -- to stop crises from occurring before they are in front of us. In short, we're going to attempt to recapture the totality of America's strength, starting with diplomacy." *(Remarks at 45th Munich Security Conference, February 7, 2009)*

"To meet the challenges of this new century, defense and diplomacy are necessary. . . We also need to wield development and democracy, two of the most powerful weapons in our collective arsenals. Poor societies and dysfunctional states, as you know as well as I do, can become breeding grounds for extremism, conflict and disease. Non-democratic nations frustrate the rightful aspirations of their citizens and fuel resentment." *(Remarks at 45th Munich Security Conference, February 7, 2009)*