

What were the key elements of the policy of deterrence and containment during the...

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DETERRENCE AND CONTAINMENT DURING COLD WAR The policies of deterrence and containment are the most talked about subject in the international politics. It is because the policies as were sketched during the world war are still being implemented in international politics. In order to come across the impact of these policies on the international politics, it is important to understand the elements that have led to the sketch of these policies during the cold war. This paper aims to evaluate key elements that have to find out their effectiveness and cost.

In basic terms, it should be noted that the policy of deterrence is basically a threat by one party to convince another party to halt evil actions that could become harmful for international peace. It should be noted that the era of cold war was greatly depending upon deterrence (Wilson 1962).

Considering Containment during cold war, it can be said United States had to implement the policy of containment to make sure that communism does not spread among other countries. The implementation of the policy of containment and deterrence was followed by United States during the cold war due to the threat of being threatened by communism (Hunter 1998).

It should be noted that adherence of United States with the theory of containment during the cold war allowed intervention activities in Vietnam. Similar instance was noted at the Central America and Grenada. This shows the effectiveness of the key elements and theories as practically implemented. This is the key element that led to the implementation of these policies during cold war (Ray 2004).

United States noticed that the influence of European counterparts was increasing with every passing day. United States was actually being pushed

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to defeat as the Vietnam havoc was basically because of communism spread. Thus, policy of containment was implemented to contain communism to their respective origin country (Gladdis 2005).

The policy of containment is also referred as the foreign policy of United States with other countries which that were noted as potential to harm United States. However, the cost involved throughout this foreign implication was relatively high. There was a risk of military attack by other activities despite undertaking deterrence (Ray 2004).

The cost was high in terms of finance as the capital of European Union and United States was used to buy arms to compete with the forces in order to stay stabilized. The cost of humanity is another aspect that should be noted. However, it has been noted that implication of the policies allowed the United States to get away with the risk of being attacked by military of other countries but it cost almost sole capital of United States (Gladdis 2005). Thus, through the analysis of above discussion it could be said that the policies of deterrence and containment led United States through the intervention activities during cold war. The process of deterrence as a threat to other countries for any military act to halt their non-peaceful activities proved effective for United States. But the cost was relatively higher than the accomplishment made. The sole capital of United States was used to buy arms which drastically pushed their economic situation towards an inverse form.

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