



U.S. Actions to Promote Democracy

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The United States is promoting democracy and related attributes around the world. Based on U.S. practices, the following refinements must be transmitted to make the policy effective.

1. After the first democratic election, the legislature chosen must be taught how to institute gerrymandering to prevent too much turnover in subsequent elections.
2. If the countries being targeted for democratic deepening establish an election-monitoring institution, they should give control to partisan politicians because they are the best judges of political behavior. (Key Mexican political parties are only now learning this lesson as legislative changes are being proposed by the key political parties to conform to this advice.)
3. The most secure legislative technique for making appropriations is to slip in self-interested earmarks in the middle of the night and thereby avoid bitter public debates.
4. Encourage techniques to lengthen electoral campaigns in order to maximize the amount of money required to get elected and thereby weed out the paupers.
5. It is best to disproportionately lower taxes on the wealthy because the beneficiaries will later finance your political efforts.
6. Increase the share of national income that goes to capital even if it is not used to increase investment because that gives you many more wealthy supporters.
7. Allow legislators to determine their own salaries because they know best what they require.
8. Do not hold elections on a Saturday or Sunday because too many voters will show up.
9. Use voting machines that do not facilitate recounts lest challenges multiply.
10. Appoint political allies to key positions and diplomatic posts regardless of their competence to leverage your power.
11. A single-payer health-insurance system is socialized medicine and that is wrong even if it provides superior health care at lower cost than private, for-profit systems.
12. When there is bad news during external conflicts, obfuscate.

13. When money is thrown uselessly at a problem close to the leader's heart, the best solution is to throw more money at it.
14. A specific example of this is to build more jails for petty narcotics offenders.
15. Complain about the growing cost of oil imports, but avoid effective measures to reduce gasoline consumption lest you offend important vested interests.
16. In developing bio-substitutes and additives for gasoline, focus on costly products that reward those interests that support your leadership.
17. Maintain quantitative restrictions and high taxes on food and agricultural imports lest the land values of your supporters stop rising.
18. Do little to manage the cost of medicines because poor people lack the financial means to provide much support for your leadership in any event.
19. Make more guns available to the population as a safety measure.
20. When both immigrants and their employers violate the law, punish the workers.
21. If you join with the United States in its external conflicts, you will get support even if you find you must stifle democracy to remain in power.
22. If you do not agree with the U.S. congress or president, you will not be given favorable treatment even if your country is a democracy.

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