

# Global problems facing America's next president

From a resurgent Russia and nuclear ambitious Iran to globalisation, energy prices and climate change, the world has an enormous stake in who wins the U.S. presidential race in November



**John McCain**

Republican

At age 72, the Arizona senator would be oldest man elected to a first term as president



**Barack Obama**

Democratic

47-year-old Illinois senator says he can "break partisan logjams" and unite the country

■ **Russia:** West should respond to occupation of Georgia by rejecting Russia's entry into **World Trade Organization**, excluding Russia from **G8** – group of eight highly industrialized states – and possible fast-track admission of Georgia and Ukraine into **NATO**

■ **Iran:** Escalate economic sanctions. Refuse to rule out military action to prevent Iran from building nuclear weapons

■ **Iraq:** Open-ended military involvement. No timetable for withdrawal of U.S. troops

■ **Israel and Palestine:** Continue America's long-standing support for Israel. Supports construction of West Bank separation wall

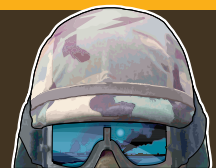
■ **Americas:** Maintain Bush administration's **Plan Colombia** and **Mérida Initiative** to fight drugs and violence. Favours securing U.S. borders with barriers. Illegal immigrants in U.S. should be put on **path toward citizenship**

■ **Globalisation:** Strongly committed to **NAFTA – North American Free Trade Agreement**. Engage in global efforts to reduce trade barriers. Export-driven growth is way to counter credit crunch and devaluation of dollar

■ **Oil shock:** Lift ban on offshore drilling for oil and gas. Build 45 new nuclear power plants by 2030. Energy conservation is "**a critical national goal**"

■ **Climate change:** Will consider U.S. joining global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions if China and India also join

## FOREIGN POLICY



## MIDDLE EAST



## LATIN AMERICA



## ENERGY PRICES



■ **Russia:** Georgia conflict could have been avoided by preemptively working with Russia. Washington and Moscow must grasp opportunities to avoid creating possibility of future conflict

■ **Iran:** Would meet Iranian leaders without preconditions – favours "**aggressive personal diplomacy**" and tough sanctions as primary means to prevent nuclear-armed Iran

■ **Iraq:** Withdraw U.S. troops within 16 months, re-deploy some of those troops to Afghanistan

■ **Israel and Palestine:** Possible U.S. role in Israeli-Palestinian peacemaking. Backs Israel's decision not to negotiate with **Hamas**

■ **Americas:** Proposes **New Partnership for the Americas** to apply common standards of democracy, security and poverty relief in both U.S. and rest of Western Hemisphere. Path to earned citizenship for undocumented workers

■ **Globalisation:** Vows to renegotiate **NAFTA**, opposes **Central American Trade Agreement**. Enforce existing trade agreements to ensure fair trade has tangible benefits for American workers, not just for corporate profits

■ **Oil shock:** Plans to end U.S. reliance on imported oil within 10 years by tapping oil stockpiles, developing hybrid cars and renewable energy sources

■ **Climate change:** Will lead global effort to combat climate change with 80% cut in U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by 2050

## POLL OF POLLS

**44.0%**

**McCain**

**Obama**

**45.7%**

Average of CNN, USA Today/Gallup, ABC News/Washington Post, Gallup Tracking, Rasmussen Tracking, FOX News, CBS News/NY Times, NBC News/Wall Street Journal, LA Times/Bloomberg, Reuters/Zogby, Quinnipiac, Battleground, August 10-24

Sources: OnTheIssues.org, Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, RealClearPolitics.com

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