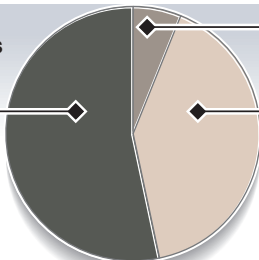


How U.S. diplomats see the world

Classified documents made public by the whistle-blowing website WikiLeaks provide a rare glimpse of a superpower's view of the world

Leaked cables from
United States embassies
Total: 251,287

Confidential: 133,887



Secret: 15,652

Unclassified: 101,748



■ **Russia:** Describes Russian President **Dmitry Medvedev's** partnership with Prime Minister **Vladimir Putin** as playing "**Robin to Putin's Batman**"



■ **Germany:** Describes Chancellor **Angela Merkel** as someone who "**avoids risk and is seldom creative**" – and foreign minister, **Guido Westerwelle**, as arrogant



■ **Italy:** Prime Minister **Silvio Berlusconi**

described as "**feckless, vain, and ineffective**" as a leader, also "**physically and politically weak**"

■ **Saudi Arabia:** In 2008 **King Abdullah** urges U.S. to attack Iran to destroy its nuclear programme, advising Washington to "**cut off the head of the snake**"

■ **Afganistan:** Communiqués claim President **Harmid Karzai** is "**driven by paranoia**"

■ **France:** President **Nicolas Sarkozy** "**has a**

thin-skinned and authoritarian personal style" and is seen as an "**emperor with no clothes**"

