



**CANDIDATE
BACKGROUND**



MITT ROMNEY ON SMART POWER

“In a world in which we can encounter both regional and global challenges, America must act decisively to build and exercise greater soft power. It is relatively inexpensive, it can help us promote freedom, and it may spare us from the tragedy and cost of armed conflict.” (*No Apology*, 2010)

“The United States will apply the full spectrum of hard and soft power to influence events before they erupt into conflict...The tools of ‘hard’ and ‘soft’ power must work together to be effective. They are complements not substitutes for one another.” (*Campaign foreign policy white paper*, October 2011)

“Greater market access across the continent for U.S. businesses will bolster job creation in Africa as well as in the United States.” (*Campaign website*)

“America is a compassionate nation. It has been – and must continue to be – a beacon of hope for innovative research and support as we seek to overcome the global challenge of AIDS.” (*Statement on the opening of AIDS Conference*, July 2012)

“ ‘Soft power’ is real power. America must capitalize on the appeal of liberty, free enterprise, and our historical generosity toward nations in need to attract allies—old and new—to the cause of liberty and peace.” (*Campaign website*)



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PAUL RYAN ON SMART POWER

"A world without U.S. leadership will be a more chaotic place, a place where we have less influence, and a place where our citizens face more dangers and fewer opportunities." (*Speech to Alexander Hamilton Society, June 2, 2011*)

"America remains the greatest force for human freedom the world has ever seen, lifting millions out of poverty and liberating millions from the shackles of terror and tyranny." (*Speech before House Budget Committee, July 7, 2011*)

"They [the American people] literally think you can just balance the budget by cutting waste, fraud and abuse, foreign aid and NPR. And it doesn't work like that." (*Politico, March 11, 2011*)

"I do believe in the notion of exceptionalism simply because we're the first country to be founded on equal, natural rights. That's a very special idea, and it's an idea where we — it is in our interests to promote these ideals across the world." (*Speech to Council on Foreign Relations, December 3, 2009*)

"And when we engage in trade, we engage in exchanges of mutual interest when we benefit on each side of the transaction... We're not sending the 82nd Airborne. We're sending economic agents. We're opening up societies so that they can exceed what free and open trade and free markets can do to improve society." (*Speech to Council on Foreign Relations, December 3, 2009*)