



Written by [John F. McManus](#) on December 18, 2014

John McCain May Acquire More Neoconservative Allies in 2015

When the 114th Congress convenes in January, [Senator John McCain](#) (R-Ariz.) will become chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee. Together with fellow neoconservative Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), the two have always called for more uses of our nation's military. [They like the idea of a U.S. empire that, supposedly, would make the world a better place.](#) But the rest of world doesn't want the United States dictating its policies.



Neoconservatives have always liked war. They want U.S. forces to meddle militarily in a variety of spats between nations or among groups of nations. If some countries don't like their plan, McCain and Graham try to figure out some way to insert America's nose as well as bombs into the situation. Only a few years ago, McCain was actually heard singing "Bomb, bomb, bomb Iran!" in remarks he delivered at the Senate podium.

McCain and his neoconservative allies wanted U.S. forces in Libya in 2011. They didn't prevail. They want deeper involvement in Syria and have been only partially successful. Lately, they want stepped-up U.S. meddling in Ukraine and against ISIS.

Washington watchers have suggested that the neocons are likely to increase their numbers as a result of newly elected Republican senators. Georgia's Perdue, Alaska's Sullivan, Iowa's Ernst, Arkansas's Cotton, North Carolina's Tillis, and Louisiana's Cassidy are potential allies of the McCain/Graham faction. We hope we're wrong about some or all of these new senators. Other returning fence-sitters who might want to add more targets to battle America's military arm may bow to McCain's leadership when he takes over command of the Armed Services Committee.

Opponents of neoconservatism are regularly dubbed "isolationists" by the mainstream media. The use of that term is supposed to end the argument and force anyone who resists the urging for increased involvement to be considered an uncaring Neanderthal. Substitute "non-interventionist with sons, daughters and wallets" for the "isolationist" label and the intended stigma quickly evaporates.

George Washington and Thomas Jefferson suggested avoiding international squabbles. John Quincy Adams said America "goes not abroad searching for monsters to destroy." This is timeless advice that should never have been abandoned.

The U.S. has troops stationed in well over 100 separate nations. It's time to bring them home. Instead, current leaders are sending more back into Iraq while refusing to honor the pledge to have all American military forces out of Afghanistan by January 1, 2015. John McCain and Lindsey Graham must be delighted. Let's hope that their numbers do not increase in the new GOP-led Senate.

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