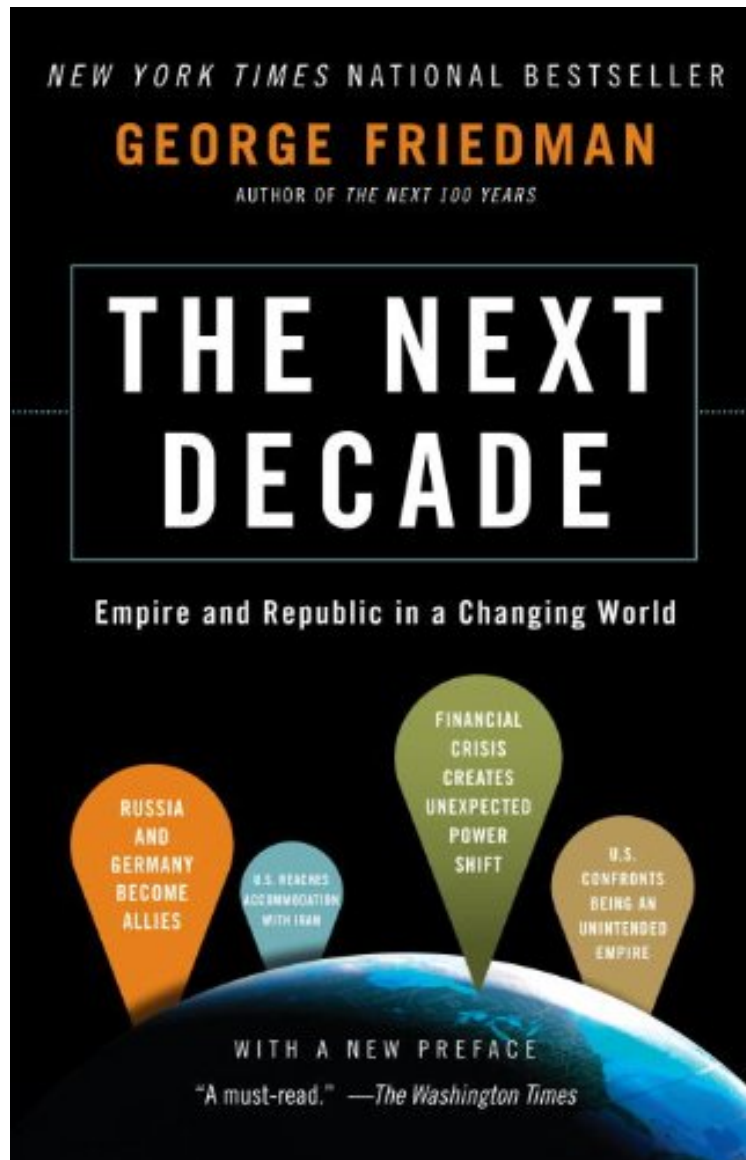


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The Next Decade: Where We've Been . . . and Where We're Going

George Friedman

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George Friedman : The Next Decade: Where We've Been . . . and Where We're Going before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Next Decade: Where We've Been . . . and Where We're Going:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Clearly written, powerful, and accurate - the best book for actually understanding what is happening in the world By Biz Person Two years after reading this, I am back here to give a 5-star review because it stayed with me. After a wordy first chapter, the book goes on to explain the world order better than any other book I have ever read. The author correctly forecasted Russia as a renewed rival to USA and correctly

forecasted that we would swallow our pride and make some deals with Iran - and correctly forecasted that this would cause tensions in Israel. Read this and it will forever change how you understand the international section of the newspaper. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Modern Machiavelli By Richard H. Elfers George Friedman is a very clear writer. He proclaims the U.S. to being an empire. The danger lies with our admitting the unplanned for change. Being an empire puts the American Republic in danger. Friedman then goes on by playing a 21st century Machiavelli to our standing president. He advises him to search for a balance of power in the world, playing off major forces against each other so none will rise to become a threat: India and Pakistan, Japan and China, to name two examples. He advises less support for Israel because they are strong enough to stand on their own; He thinks South Korea bears keeping good relations to balance between China and Japan. He also sees a missed opportunity to hedge in Russia permanently and to keep them from becoming a threat to us again. Africa should be no concern to us, and neither should Venezuela. I'm not sure I agree with is amoral approach to politics, but he does make a good case for Lincoln, FDR, and Reagan being able to use Machiavelli's philosophy to get the U.S. through some difficult times. He's looking for a great president. I'm not sure President Obama is that man, but Friedman has been encouraged by Obama's change in policy--to waiting and watching and letting our allies handle the problems in Syria, and now Mali. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. excellent writing, fascinating topic, accurate predictions By marbief13 Loved this as much or more than The Next 100 Years, and I loved that a lot. (Well, I loved the first half - sort of skipped the sci-fi part, since I'll be dead before then). Friedman is an excellent writer; he translate extremely complicated histories and events into plain language that provides what you need to understand the geopolitical issues in the timeframe he's covering. And of course, many of the predictions he makes have come true, which is a strong accolade for his books. Geopolitics explain so much of what the average person sees but can't make sense of - why did this country do x, why did the president do y - there is so much we simply are not and cannot be aware of. I plan to read all of Friedman's books.

The author of the acclaimed New York Times bestseller *The Next 100 Years* now focuses his geopolitical forecasting acumen on the next decade and the imminent events and challenges that will test America and the world, specifically addressing the skills that will be required by the decaders' leaders. In the long view, history is seen as a series of events—but the course of those events is determined by individuals and their actions. During the next ten years, individual leaders will face significant transitions for their nations: the United States' relationships with Iran and Israel will be undergoing changes, China will likely confront a major crisis, and the wars in the Islamic world will subside. Unexpected energy and technology developments will emerge, and labor shortages will begin to matter more than financial crises. Distinguished geopolitical forecaster George Friedman analyzes these events from the perspectives of the men and women leading these global changes, focusing in particular on the American president, who will require extraordinary skills to shepherd the United States through this transitional period. *The Next Decade* is a provocative and fascinating look at the conflicts and opportunities that lie ahead.