

# 2024 Election Scenario Planner: Defense

A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel, diagonal lines in a light teal color, located in the upper right corner of the slide.

Analyses of potential outcomes in the 2024 election on the  
defense industry

May 30, 2024



# What is the Election Scenario Planner?

Before each national election, the Presentation Center creates decks that lay out how different election outcomes could impact various policy spaces

## Presentation outline:

### OVERALL SCENARIOS

Three slides which explain the eight possible outcomes for the national 2024 election

*Includes:* An analysis of the likelihood of each scenario occurring, an overview of political ramifications of each outcome, and a high-level overview of each outcome's impact on the industry

### MOST LIKELY SCENARIOS: KEY TAKEAWAYS

Two slides giving a top-level overview of the two most likely election outcomes

*Includes:* Information on different policies that will be impacted and impacts specific to the industry

### POLICY SCENARIOS

One slide for each different policy area in the industry

*Includes:* An analysis of the likelihood of different actions occurring around that policy area in the four most likely scenarios

# Roadmap

- **Overall scenarios**
- **Most likely scenarios: key takeaways**
- **Policy scenarios**

# Potential 2024 election outcomes

President	House	Senate	Likelihood	Likelihood analysis
R	D	R	High .....	Presidential race is a toss up; Democrats have a chance to regain control of the House, but GOP will likely flip the Senate
D	D	R	High .....	Presidential race is a toss up; Democrats have a chance to regain control of the House, but GOP will likely flip the Senate
R	R	R	Medium .....	GOP has a chance to win control of Congress
D	R	R	Medium .....	GOP has a chance to win control of Congress, but it's less likely for Democrats to win the presidency and lose both chambers of Congress
R	R	D	Low .....	Democrats will struggle to retain Senate control; unlikely that GOP would win the presidency and House but fail to flip the Senate
D	R	D	Low .....	Democrats will struggle to retain Senate control; unlikely that GOP would win House control but fail to flip the Senate
R	D	D	Very Low .....	Highly unlikely for Democrats to lose the presidency but win both chambers of Congress
D	D	D	Very Low .....	Democrats are unlikely to win both chambers of Congress

# Policy impacts for potential 2024 election outcomes

President	House	Senate	Likelihood	Policy impacts
<b>R</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>High</b> ●●●●	A Republican president would reverse Biden-era regulations, but congressional gridlock would block major legislative reforms
<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>High</b> ●●●●	Biden administration would continue action on regulatory priorities, but congressional gridlock would block major legislative reforms
<b>R</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>Medium</b> ●●●●	GOP would have a wide ability to enact reforms, but would be limited to reconciliation without a supermajority in the Senate
<b>D</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>Medium</b> ●●●●	Republicans would have a strong negotiating position, but would struggle to enact major reforms
<b>R</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Low</b> ●●●●	A Republican president would reverse Biden-era regulations, but congressional gridlock would block major legislative reforms
<b>D</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Low</b> ●●●●	Biden administration would continue action on regulatory priorities, but congressional gridlock would block major legislation
<b>R</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Very Low</b> ●●●●	A Republican president would reverse Biden-era regulations, but would struggle to confirm nominees in the Senate and enact major legislation
<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Very Low</b> ●●●●	Democrats would have a wide ability to enact reforms, but would be limited to reconciliation without a supermajority in the Senate

# Policy impacts for potential 2024 election outcomes in the defense industry

President	House	Senate	Likelihood	Policy impacts
<b>R</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>High</b> ●●●●	Executive actions to reduce border encounters. Calls for US allies to increase their own defense spending. Modernization efforts relating to the naval fleet, nuclear arsenal, and missile defenses.
<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>High</b> ●●●●	Support for bilateral trade agreements and defense deals. US continues investments in Indo-Pacific region supply chains while deterring military escalation with China around Taiwan.
<b>R</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>Medium</b> ●●●●	Sweeping Executive actions to reduce border encounters. Title 42 reinstated. US aggressively expands efforts to combat drug cartels. US pushes NATO allies to bolster their own defense spending.
<b>D</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>Medium</b> ●●●●	Continued US support for Israel in the Middle East. US remains in AUKUS partnership for Indo-Pacific Security and supply chain defense. Continued trend of annual defense budget increases.
<b>R</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Low</b> ●●●●	Executive actions to reduce border encounters. Military modernization investments for conflict prevention and force projection. Potential restrictions on Ukraine aid.
<b>D</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Low</b> ●●●●	NDAAs emphasize modernization of naval and aircraft fleets. Space programs like the Artemis program see continued funding. Bipartisan deals on support for foreign allies and border security.
<b>R</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Very Low</b> ●●●●	US shows support for Israel in the Middle East, potential bipartisan deal to support Ukraine and bolster border security. Military modernization efforts across the navy and nuclear arsenal.
<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Very Low</b> ●●●●	Increases for veterans' health benefits. Strong presence in NATO and AUKUS. Continued support for Ukraine.

# Roadmap

- Overall scenarios
- **Most likely scenarios: key takeaways**
- Policy scenarios

# 1<sup>st</sup> **likely** scenario (Dem House, GOP president and Senate): Policy impacts on the defense industry

President	House	Senate	Likelihood	Likelihood analysis
R	D	R	<b>High</b> .....	Presidential race is a toss up; Democrats have a chance to regain control of the House, but GOP will likely flip the Senate

### Policy priorities


- 


**Military modernization:** Improve resources for military forces
- 


**Improve cybersecurity:** Invest in cyber defenses
- 

**Border security:** Strong executive action on border security measures, including Title 42 reinstatement efforts

### Key industry impacts

- 

**Military modernization:** Increased opportunities for defense procurement contracts with US allies
- 

**Improve cybersecurity:** Invest in military cyber operations and defense strategies to counter foreign threats to domestic systems
- 

**Border security:** Opportunities for defense contractors to equip the US with modernized weapons



# 2<sup>nd</sup> **likely** scenario (Dem president and House, GOP Senate): Policy impacts on the defense industry

President	House	Senate	Likelihood	Likelihood analysis
D	D	R	<b>High</b> .....	Presidential race is a toss up; Democrats have a chance to regain control of the House, but GOP will likely flip the Senate

### Policy priorities


- 


**Expanded role in the Indo-Pacific:**  
Bolster and defend supply chains to boost competitiveness with China while lowering chances for military escalation
- 


**Continued partnership with NATO:**  
Strong allyship with Western Europe
- 

**Funding support for US allies abroad:**  
Legislative aid packages to allies such as Israel and Ukraine

### Key industry impacts

- 

**Expanded role in the Indo-Pacific:**  
Increased trade opportunities for the Indo-Pacific region with the US, and defense deals similar to AUKUS
- 

**Continued partnership with NATO:** US presence in the EU remains strong, with economic and defense ties
- 

**Funding support for US allies abroad:**  
High priority on procurement efforts for US allies

# 1<sup>st</sup> **less likely** scenario (GOP trifecta): Policy impacts on the defense industry

President	House	Senate	Likelihood	Likelihood analysis
R	R	R	<b>Medium</b> <span style="color: #ffc107;">●●●●</span>	GOP has a chance to win control of Congress

### Policy priorities


- 

**Missile defense systems:** Investments and procurement of modern missile defense systems
- 

**Willingness to leave military deals:** Push for American friendly alliances and arms deals
- 

**Border security actions:** Reinstate several Trump-era border protection laws and resume border wall construction

### Key industry impacts

- 

**Missile defense systems:** Procurement of missiles, especially defense system rockets and interceptors
- 


**Willingness to leave military deals:** Potential shifts in procurement focus from Ukraine to Israel and other entities, affecting DOD contract priorities
- 


**Border security actions:** Opportunities for contracts to construct a border wall or support other border security measures


# 2<sup>nd</sup> **less likely** scenario (Dem presidency, GOP Congress): Policy impacts on the defense industry

President	House	Senate	Likelihood	Likelihood analysis
D	R	R	<b>High</b> ●●●●	GOP has a chance to win control of Congress, but it's less likely for Democrats to win the presidency and lose both chambers of Congress

### Policy priorities


- 


**Cybersecurity enhancements:** Improve US cybersecurity to defend from potential threats to US ports and networks
- 


**High levels of defense spending:** Modernization of military resources
- 

**Armed defense of Taiwan:** In event of Chinese invasion, the US may defend Taiwan

### Key industry impacts

- 

**Cybersecurity enhancements:** Support for domestic supply chains
- 

**High levels of defense spending:** Continued high levels of defense spending through legislation such as the NDAA, modernization efforts for the Navy and Air Force fleets
- 

**Armed defense of Taiwan:** Potential economic turmoil centered around the Taiwan Strait

# Roadmap

- Overall scenarios
- Most likely scenarios: key takeaways
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## Policy scenarios covered



**Domestic security**



**International security**



**Military support**

# Domestic security: likelihood of potential actions

Potential action	Democratic president		Republican president	
	DEM HOUSE DEM SENATE	DEM HOUSE GOP SENATE	GOP HOUSE GOP SENATE	GOP HOUSE GOP SENATE
Continue construction on a border wall between the US-Mexico	Possible	Possible	Very Likely	Very likely
Improve federal cybersecurity systems and resilience	Very Likely	Very Likely	Very Likely	Very Likely
Executive actions to limit border encounters	Likely	Likely	Very Likely	Very Likely
Increase or continue funding for space exploration and lunar missions	Likely	Likely	Likely	Likely

# International security: likelihood of potential actions

Potential action	Democratic president		Republican president	
	DEM HOUSE DEM SENATE	DEM HOUSE GOP SENATE	GOP HOUSE GOP SENATE	GOP HOUSE GOP SENATE
Defend and direct foreign supply chains away from China	Very Likely	Very Likely	Unlikely	Unlikely
Continued militaristic support to Israel	Very Likely	Very Likely	Very Likely	Very Likely
US pressures NATO allies to increase their own spending	Possible	Possible	Likely	Very Likely
Strategy to deter militaristic escalation in the Taiwan Strait with China	Likely	Likely	Likely	Likely
Additional arms deals to defend Ukraine from Russia	Likely	Possible	Unlikely	Unlikely
US remains in AUKUS security partnership	Very Likely	Very Likely	Likely	Possible

# Military support: likelihood of potential actions

Potential action	Democratic president		Republican president	
	DEM HOUSE DEM SENATE	DEM HOUSE GOP SENATE	GOP HOUSE GOP SENATE	GOP HOUSE GOP SENATE
Bolster the naval fleet	Very Likely	Very Likely	Very Likely	Very Likely
Modernize the nuclear arsenal	Very Likely	Very Likely	Very Likely	Very Likely
Increased procurement of missile defenses	Likely	Likely	Very Likely	Very Likely
Explore AI uses for defense and fund research and development	Very Likely	Very Likely	Very Likely	Very Likely
Use military resources to combat drug cartels	Very Unlikely	Very Unlikely	Possible	Possible



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