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As the United States marks its 250th birthday, a look at the State of the Union of the Republic is in order.

Some statistics to consider:

- The US represents just 5% of the world's population (350 Million people of a total world population of 8 Billion), but 25% of global Gross Domestic Product (\$30 Trillion of \$120 trillion).
- The US represents half of world public equity (\$80 Trillion of \$160 Trillion), with a total market capitalization greater than the next nine largest stock markets -combined.
- The US dollar is the international reserve currency, with half of all transactions globally conducted in American dollars.
- The US is the largest oil producer in the world at 14 Million barrels of oil per day, or roughly 50% more than either Saudi Arabia or Russia.
- The US is the most globally influential culture, notably in entertainment (films, music and television).



- The US represents four of ten Nobel Prizes awarded since the creation of the award in 1901.
- The US has the second most patents of any country on Earth (indicating technological leadership).
- The US has more Top 50 universities in the world, and is dominant in business, engineering, medicine and technology.



*"This is against our better judgment, but we'll word it so you can keep your little pistol."*

Each of these are, without question, extraordinary achievements. What's more, is that they are foundational to the United States' position as a global superpower above all others. It remains to be seen what the next quarter millennium holds in store for the country. To date the essence of the American democratic experiment is how the country is defined by resilience, adaptability and capacity for self-correction. The test in the centuries ahead will be to adhere to this in the face of all future challenges that undoubtedly await. E Pluribus Unum.

***"The great privilege of Americans does not simply consist in their being more enlightened than other nations, but in their being able to repair the faults they may commit".***

~ Alexis de Tocqueville, [Democracy in America](#).

Thanks for reading!

Martin

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