

**Paternalism in U.S. Foreign Policy:
Occupation of the Dominican Republic (1916-1924)**

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While historians continue to produce a growing body of scholarship on U.S. diplomacy and interventions in Latin America during the twentieth century, there has been relatively little attention to the United States' eight-year military occupation of Dominican Republic. This paper explores the contextual beginnings of U.S. involvement in Dominican Republic, motives for the military occupation, aspects of control over the country, and forms of resistance against the intervention. In order to make sense of this significant amount of activity in U.S. relations with Dominican Republic, this research relies on official reports and other U.S. government documents as well as political speeches and U.S. newspapers. Focusing on the United States' rationales and military activities during the occupation, this paper asserts that U.S. foreign policy toward Dominican Republic in the early twentieth century largely effectuated an underlying ideology of paternalism.