

HOMELAND SECURITY DEFINITIONS

1. **Terrorism.** Homeland security is a concerted national effort by federal, state, and local governments, by the private sector, and by individuals to prevent terrorist attacks within the United States, reduce America's vulnerability to terrorism, and minimize the damage and recover from attacks that do occur.
2. **All Hazards.** Homeland security is a concerted national effort to prevent and disrupt terrorist attacks, protect against man-made and natural hazards, and respond to and recover from incidents that do occur.
3. **Terrorism and Catastrophes.** Homeland security is what the Department of Homeland Security—supported by other federal agencies—does to prevent, respond to, and recover from terrorist and catastrophic events that affect the security of the United States.
4. **Jurisdictional Hazards.** Homeland security means something different in each jurisdiction. It is a locally-directed effort to prevent and prepare for incidents most likely to threaten the safety and security of its citizens.
5. **Meta Hazards.** Homeland security is a national effort to prevent or mitigate any social trend or threat that can disrupt the long-term stability of the American way of life.
6. **National Security.** Homeland security is an element of national security that works with the other instruments of national power to protect the sovereignty, territory, domestic population, and critical infrastructure of the United States against threats and aggression.
7. **Security *Uber Alles*.** Homeland security is a symbol used to justify government efforts to curtail civil liberties.