

As a former service member, Congressman Allen West (R-FL) brings a valuable perspective to his work on the House Armed Service Committee. That knowledge and passion was on display [during his speech yesterday](#) at The Heritage Foundation on the importance of having clear foreign policy objectives and a military prepared to tackle any challenge.

West's speech marked the conclusion of Heritage's [2011 Protect America Month](#) , designed to "showcase why we must commit to protecting America in an increasingly dangerous world." After his speech, he sat down for [a short "In the Green Room" interview](#) to answer some questions from Heritage.