During the period of 1933-1945, American politics changed greatly in the areas of foreign policy, domestic issues, and government action.

Politics changed greatly during this period due to World War II. America infamously had proclaimed their neutrality and isolationism in various cases. Some instances that showed their beliefs were in the London Economic Conference, which FDR withdrew delegates from this gathering of nations to alleviate the global depression and the Tydings-McDuffie Act, which granted independence to the Philippines. Franklin Roosevelt even emphasized in his campaign speech at Boston, Massachusetts on October 30, 1940 that he didn’t want to get entangled in Europe’s war and didn’t want to send any soldiers to fight. (Doc. E). Here, FDR wants to reassure America of their neutral stance on the war, a stance that had been going strong ever since WWI. Neutrality is further capitalized in Neutrality Act of 1939, which tried to maintain the peace within America by not engaging in any warfare (Doc. G). All these acts showed America’s unwillingness to enter the war before 1941. However, this was all going to change due to the extreme need for American intervention in Europe. This is seen in the idea of the “cash-and-carry basis,” which stated that European democracies could buy American war supplies if given cash and they transported it themselves. This declaration favored the Allies side of the war without America actually setting foot in Europe, which obviously shows a biased and a non-neutral stance on WWII. Politics changed from being neutral to indirectly aiding one side of WWII. This is also seen in the Lend-Lease Law, which let the Allies borrow American weapons as long as they returned them. Again, this act was in no way neutral if America was giving their support to the Allies even if the Americans hadn’t stepped foot on European soil yet. America’s isolationism and neutrality was finally broken by the U.S. Declaration of War on Japan. This document says that because Japan provoked them, the U.S. has no choice but to go to war. (Doc. C) This action shows how differently the foreign policy had changed because America once wanted to stay out of any kind of foreign affair.

Government policies also changed greatly in domestic issues. One such example is seen in FDR's run and reelection for his third term against Wendell Willkie. Many favored the idea of only holding two terms as established by Washington and voted for Willkie instead because they opposed FDR’s three terms (Doc. H). Due to the war and the need for an experienced man to guide America to victory in WWII, FDR was able to win his third term. It is because of the war that this idea in politics had changed so greatly. Another aspect in which politics in domestic issues changed is in its attitude towards industry. As FDR stated in his message to Congress on April 27, 1942, government had to encourage the rationing of certain, crucial items in order to keep the prices down. (Doc I) Although FDR had enacted control over industry before in the New Deal to alleviate the Great Depression, he took a step further and finally had to ask America to ration their goods. This shows what a demanding and stressful time the war had placed; this is why FDR had to alter his plans and take greater action in industry. Further change in the domestic issue of industry was seen in the Fair Employment Practices Commission, or otherwise known as the FEPC. African American civil rights leader A. Philip Randolph led the "Negro March on Washington" in 1941, which was a movement that demanded equality of blacks in war jobs and armed forces. This event led to the creation of the FEPC. This act was different than previous politics because FDR tried to eliminate racial differences and create equality in African American work opportunities.

Lastly, politics in government action also changed greatly during the period of 1933-1945. Before WWII, the government had no action in what businesses did and didn't do. However, much of this changed in the years leading up to the war and during the war itself. Much like WWI, WWII needed the return of the War Production Board, an organization that was led by the government and allowed for the government to control business. Many other things in government action had changed as well. The addition of a peace time draft in order to accommodate an army for the war was something that had never been done before in American History (Doc J). This drastic change in the policy of the U.S. draft led to some dispute; however in the end, many Americans found it necessary in order to maintain the peace in America. The change of United States policy in terms of draft was met with much favor by young men who wanted to enlist as well as men who were forced to enlist, as opposed to the people who enlisted in WWI (Doc A). Government action changed greatly as a result of the government getting more involved in business and social affairs. With the passing of the Smith-Connally Anti-Strike Act, federal government was given the authority to take control of industries crippled by strikes. The passage of the Wagner Act, which allowed for unions to form and strike, was countered by this act leading to the change in how government action changed during this time.

Because WWII was such a dire and dangerous time, political aspects had to change during 1933-1941 to adjust to this warfare. Thus, the areas of foreign policy, domestic issues, and government action changed greatly.