The role of collective bargaining in the United States is currently the topic of considerable debate and interest. In recent months, legislators in several states, including Ohio, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Michigan, enacted legislation to impose limits on the right of collective bargaining, particularly in the public sectors. In this talk, I examine the competing perspectives and arguments about the rationale for collective bargaining in both the private and public sectors. We will also talk about the rationale for union security agreements relative to right-to-work and the role of unions in politics.