

PSCI 2500 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
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 February 4, 2019

jimbutterfield.org/2500.html



Announcement

- The schedule has been revised (more than once...).
- Exam I date: Wednesday, February 13.
- Note email I sent last Thursday with links and study questions to two videos.




Last Time

- History of IR:
 - The end of the Napoleonic Wars (1815).
 - Modern (total) war.
 - The end of empire.
 - Decolonization (1947–1975).
 - The Cold War (1945–1991).
- Today
 - The Cold War (1945–1991) – continued.
 - The Post Cold War era (1991+)

The Ebb and Flow of the Cold War

- Confrontational: 1945–late 1960s.
- 1970s with the USSR: **** détente**, a relaxation of tension characterized by negotiation and arms control agreements.
- 1970s with China: **** rapprochement**, the pursuit of friendlier relations (and diplomatic recognition in 1979).

Jimmy Carter and Leonid Brezhnev sign arms control treaty,
 1979 (part of *détente*, late 1960s and 1970s)



Mao Zedong and Richard Nixon meet in 1972
 (*rapprochement*)



The Ebb and Flow of the Cold War

- 1980-late 1980s: confrontational again.
 - Reagan and the "evil empire."
- Early 1990s: the Cold War ends (because the USSR collapsed on 12/31/91).
- China became increasingly capitalist while remaining politically communist.



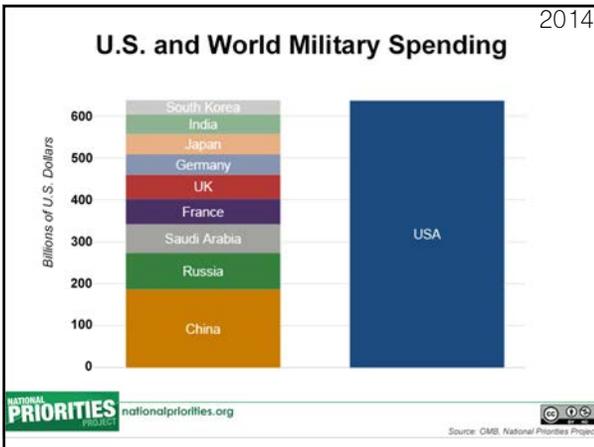
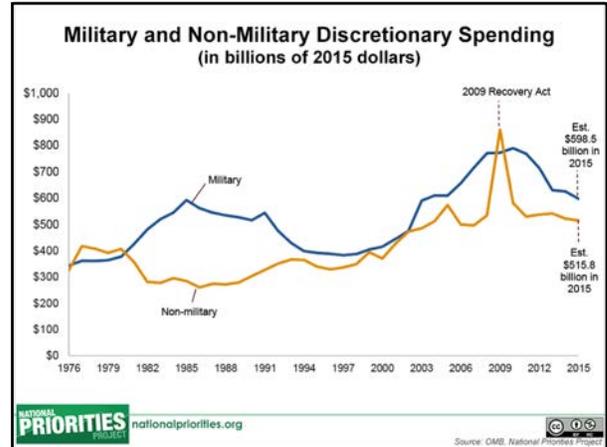
Soviet flag lowered over the Kremlin for the last time on 12/31/91.

So the Cold War is over. Now what?

- American hegemony?
- **** Hegemony:** a system with a dominant leader that is has more influence over other actors than anyone else.
- Perhaps for a decade or so. Less so now.

So the Cold War is over. Now what?

- A "new world order" and a "peace dividend"?
 - George H.W. Bush
 - **** New world order:** greater prospects for peace and global cooperation after end of Cold War.
 - **** The peace dividend:** with less money needed for defense, more money would be available for peaceful purposes.



So the Cold War is over. Now what?

- More emphasis on competition and cooperation than confrontation.
 - International political economy: trade and investment.
 - Many free trade agreements.
 - World Trade Organization (1995).
 - Taking advantage of globalization.

Global War on Terror

- Announced in September 2001 days after 9/11 attacks.
- The wars in Afghanistan and Iraq were part of it.
 - Although, Iraq had no connection to al-Qaeda or 9/11.



Global War on Terror

- Obama announced the end of the War on Terror in 2013.
- "We must define our effort not as a boundless 'Global War on Terror,' but rather as a series of persistent, targeted efforts to dismantle specific networks of violent extremists that threaten America."



What of the Military Alliances?

- NATO was a defensive alliance against the Soviet Union. Was it still needed?
- It still exists. It has expanded:
 - Cold War: 16 members.
 - Now: 29 (including seven former Warsaw Pact members).
- The Warsaw Pact was disbanded in 1991.




A word on the balance of power.

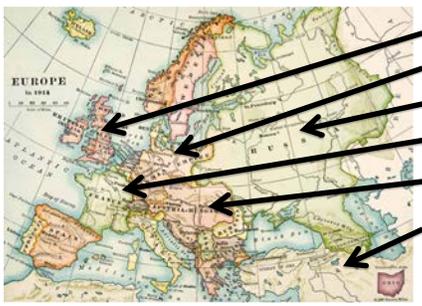
- Multipolarity.
- Bipolarity.
- Unipolarity.



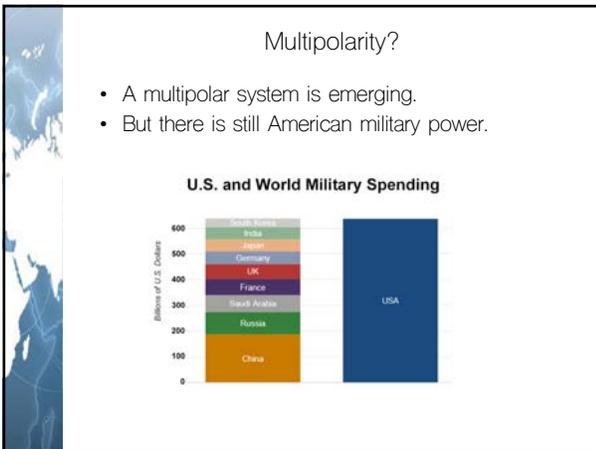
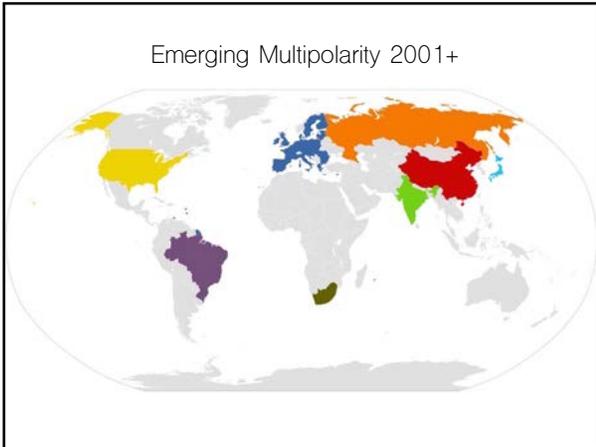
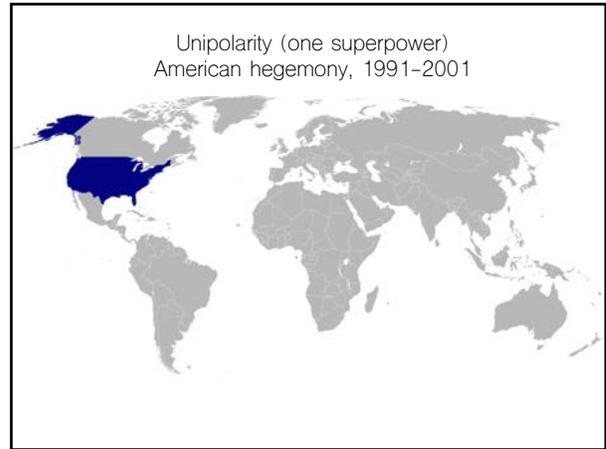
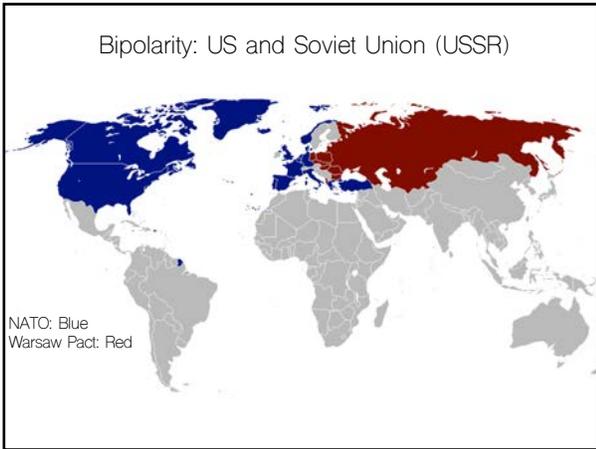
Europe 1914 (eve of WWI): Multipolarity



Europe 1914 (eve of WWI): Multipolarity



- Britain (strongest)
- German Empire
- Russian Empire
- France
- Austria-Hungarian Empire
- Ottoman Empire (weakest)
- US and Japan (not on the map)



Ted Talk: Joe Nye (18 min)

- Look in particular for:
 - How power distribution is changing.
 - The three ways to wield power.
 - The concepts of **“hard,” “soft”** and **“smart”** power.

https://www.ted.com/talks/joseph_nye_on_global_power_shifts

What of multipolarity?

- Nye:
 - Unipolar in terms of firepower.
 - Multipolar in terms of economic power.
 - Anarchic (i.e., no one is in charge) in terms of everything else:
 - Non-state actors.
 - Global trends and processes.

Firepower: Unipolarity



Economic Power: Multipolarity



Other Significant Changes Since the Cold War

- The European Union enlarged significantly.

■ European Union 1 Jan. 1995 – 30 April 2004
 ■ Joined the EU on 1 May 2004
■ Joined the EU on 1 Jan. 2007
 ■ Joined the EU on 1 July 2013



Other Significant Changes Since the Cold War

- The European Union enlarged significantly.
- Russia converted to capitalism, but failed at democracy.
- China passed Japan as the world's second largest economy.
- Demise of the Monroe Doctrine (Latin America as US sphere of influence – 1823).
- Emergence of BRICS countries and the G-20 as influential global actors.

Some Key Groupings

- G-7: the seven largest democratic capitalist countries.
 - US, Canada, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Japan
- G-20: twenty largest economies (80% of world GDP).
- BRICS: Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa.
 - Major influential states outside the G-7.

War and Peace in the Post-Cold War Era

- War is still modern and total. But not global.
- The US can probably still win any war.
- But, what about after the war?



George W Bush declares "mission accomplished" in 2003. But the war continued for eight more years.

War and Peace in the Post-Cold War Era

- The US knows how to plan and execute a war. But we have not learned how to plan for the peace that comes afterward.
 - Building new systems: political, financial, economic, social, cultural.
 - Maintaining public order in the process.
- Examples: Haiti, Iraq, Afghanistan.

War and Peace in the Post-Cold War Era

- Invasion and occupation is (relatively) easy.
- The results:
 - Leadership is removed.
 - Institutions are usually destroyed.
 - A power vacuum results.
 - Public order breaks down.
 - Infrastructure is usually degraded.
 - Natives quickly grow to resent US presence.

TED Talk: Thomas Barnett (23 min)

- What does it mean to be a "leviathan" in international relations?
- What does the US do well and what does it not do well?
- What is Barnett's solution?



https://www.ted.com/talks/thomas_barnett_draws_a_new_map_for_peace

How does the international system work?



The Attempt to End War

- After WWI: League of Nations (1920) – 42 members.
 - An international institution designed to resolve conflict.
- Kellogg-Briand Pact (1928) – 62 signatories.
 - Commitment to not resort to war to resolve conflicts ("making war illegal").



Conflicts broke out all through the 1930s.

Both the League and the Pact were moribund by the time Germany invaded Poland in 1939.



"Realism"

- The idealism of the League and the Pact were ridiculed by critics. The response: "realism."
 - There is no place for morality and ethics in international relations.



** Realism

- A view of the world that believes:
 - States will naturally seek to maximize their power.
 - Conflict is the normal state of affairs.
 - The world is anarchic.
 - **** Anarchy**: the absence of a central overarching authority. (Not the same as chaos.)