

Between Nations

WHY WE STUDY INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The Beginning of the Cold War

Twenty minute video about the events that led to the Cold War.

The Treaty of Westphalia

Peace treaty (1648) which helped to define European territories and set up state sovereignty.

One Conflict, Two Perspectives

What was the Cold War all about? Was it a struggle for ideological dominance, territory acquisition, communism? These articles explore the reasons behind the conflict.

The Prince, by Niccolo Machiavelli

Three famous passages from a philosophic text on leadership.

POWER POLITICS

Melian Dialogue

An excerpt (chapter 17 of book 5) from Thucydides' *History of the Peloponnesian War*. This excerpt defines the philosophy of realism.

War in Angola

When Portuguese imperialists pulled out of Angola in the mid-70s, they left a leadership void which three different groups sought to fill. With the U.S. and Russia both taking sides, the conflict heightened and led to a long, bloody war.

Entanglements in Guatemala and Cuba

When Guatemalan president Arbenz proposed a land reform to aid his country's poorest, American-owned United Fruit Company stood to lose a great deal.

Interview with Vlad Zubok

Russian researcher and professor Vlad Zubok discusses power politics and how it plays out in international relations.

Clausewitz, On War

Early 19th century realist Carl von Clausewitz, on the role of war in international relations.

The Monroe Doctrine

Foreign policy document from 1823 which established terms under which America involved itself in European conflict.

Lenin on the Place of Imperialism

Are strong, capitalist countries imperialists by nature? Vladimir Lenin argues that capitalism exploits the weak, thereby making "colonies" of the undeveloped nations.

Contemporary Realism: Morgenthau

Hans Morgenthau's essay, "To Intervene or Not to Intervene" published by Foreign Affairs in 1967, argues for the necessity of intervention in foreign policy.

ALTERNATIVES TO POWER POLITICS

The Marshall Plan: Text

1948 U.S. document which made provisions for helping to rebuild post-war Europe.

The Marshall Plan: CNN Video

CNN documentary about the Marshall Plan and how European countries such as France qualified for American aid.

Will Democracies Fight a War?

John Owen IV, the author of this essay, argues that though mature democracies don't fight each other, immature democracies-like Iraq-will be prone to war.

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Interview with Maria Stephan

Director of Education at the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict, Maria Stephan defines nonviolent conflict and its role in creating real change for oppressed people groups.

DECISION MAKING IN WORLD POLITICS

The Cuban Missile Crisis

The story of how Russia transported missiles to Cuba, making America incredibly vulnerable to attack. Explores the American response, Kennedy's negotiations and the Russian motives.

The Soviet War in Afghanistan

When Soviets showed interest in acquiring Afghanistan for its proximity to the Persian Gulf, American forces intervened by aiding Afghanistan's Mujahideen with supplies in an "endless" war against Soviet-backed troops. Is it always worth protecting countries from Communist regimes? This video shows the difficulties.

Camp David Accord

Jimmy Carter helped to negotiate peace between Egypt and Israel with twelve days of talking at Camp David in 1979. Is this a model for negotiations in international relations?

Decision to Invade

Melvin Goodman argues that intelligence was manipulated to justify the war in Iraq, and that it wasn't the first time a nation has gone to war on false premises.

Turkey and the European Union

The question of whether Turkey should be permitted to join the European Union has been met with heated debate. Here, a Turkish newspaper gives its perspective in contrast with an article in the Christian Science Monitor.

World War I

An illustrated narrative of the actors and issues that contributed to the First World War.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Mutually Assured Destruction

At the height of the Cold War, it seemed that the threat of nuclear attack—and the resulting utter destruction—might be enough to keep both the U.S. and Russia from firing at each other. In this candid footage, Robert McNamara explains the times and fears that accompanied the always-present nuclear threat.

LIVING BY THE RULES: INTERNATIONAL LAW

Laws of War

1864 document which laid out the protection and care of wounded prisoners of war, and provided special neutrality to doctors and nurses caring for wounded soldiers.

The Hague Conferences

This assignment covers a series of conferences held at the turn of the nineteenth century to promote peace.

Nuremberg Trials

An account of some of the trials held after World War II to try those responsible for committing atrocities against prisoners of war.

Early Theory of International Law

From Hugo Grotius' *De Jure Belli ac Pacis*, which lays out the conditions under which war is called for.

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INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

Theories of International Political Economy

An introduction to the major schools of economic theory, including mercantilists, physiocrats, classical, marginalists, marxists, institutionalists, and keynesian.

Does Free Market Work?

Article about Niger, Africa and how the free market economy has been devastating to its economy, causing famine in a country that produces plenty.

Free Trade: Good or Bad?

Free Trade: Good or Bad?". Please change assignment description to: "Daniel Griswold of the Cato Institute provides support for the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA). Otton Solis, head of the Costa Rican Citizen's Action Party, explains his opposition to CAFTA.

Globalization and Fair Trade

Sam's Club is buying fair trade coffee to sell as their store brand. Fair trade standards are good for some growers, like the ones in Brazil, but are they a fair deal for everyone?

NATIONALISM AND TRIBALISM

Tribalism in Africa

Article from The New York Times on the causes and cures of tribalism in Africa.

Globalization and Sovereignty

How does a free trade agreement affect globalization and state sovereignty? This National Radio Project program explores the ways.

Global Statistics: Myths Debunked

Swedish professor Hans Rosling analyzes global statistics in this entertaining presentation given at TED in 2006.

TERRORISM

Chaos and Terrorism

According to the World Bank, there is a connection between a country's economy and its likelihood of breeding terrorists. What factors, exactly, make a country susceptible to terrorism?

America and Terrorism

Text interviews with Chet Richards, a retired Air Force colonel and author of *Neither Shall the Sword: Conflict in the Years Ahead* (2006), and John Mueller, author of two books on war. The two discuss the state of our preparedness for conflict, the nature of the kind of warfare we are likely to encounter in the future, and more.

GREEN JUSTICE: GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

Pollution in China

Two stories from NPR. When Canada's women's soccer team hit the World Cup fields in China last year, the pollution index was so high the team suffered the effects. Though the Chinese government says it wants to reduce pollution, the costs of doing so are prohibitively high.

The Kyoto Protocol

A United Nations accord penned in the early 1990s, which set goals to reduce ozone-depleting emissions.

Japan and the Kyoto Protocol

In Japan, industrial standards are high, and pollution is relatively low, but the construction of new office buildings has raised overall pollution rates, and Japan is struggling to meet its goals of reducing greenhouse gases.

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Global Warming

NPR's Robert Krulwich narrates an animated cartoon series about carbon, its properties, and how greenhouse gases are formed. Assignment also includes an interactive National Geographic climate map and a video about the way climate change affects coffee growers in Hawaii.

HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS

Genocide in Rwanda

The story behind the ethnic genocide against Rwandan Tutsis, which left a million dead, and countless others fleeing to refugee camps.

AIDS in Asia

Photo essay by Time Magazine illustrating the culture and lifestyles that contribute to the AIDS crisis in Asian countries.

The Crisis in Darfur

Public Radio International's America Abroad radio program sheds light on the causes of the genocide in Darfur, the history of genocide, and the UN's efforts to end the tragic killings. A photo essay captures the events.