

## Geopolitics: Actors and Paradigms

-What does paradigms mean? A typical example or pattern of something: a model.

In short they are outlooks on the world

-realist are very focused on states everything is about the states and the decision makers “the enemy of my enemy is my friend” for example North Korea launches a missile and the US reacted by getting a missile defense system then Russia looks at the situation and says maybe North Korea is not my enemy.

-economic interest can be very compelling in economic exchange. Liberals would identify as economic interest to predict behavior liberals tend to look for where states will cooperate with each other.

-The problem with North Korea is that they don't care for human rights.

-Idealist think Other countries should focus on making N.K democratic they prescribe things.

-Realism says that states only have one interest to balance power a realist foreign policy is really just interested into balancing power every state wants to maximize power for their own and minimize power for other states to balance power.

-for liberals it's all about cooperation they look at how democracies cooperate in a certain way

-Idealists are all about normative thinking how everything should be normal Vladimir Lenin first head of state for the Soviet Union Lenin said the problem was the reason here is conflict in the world was capitalism.

-Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Libya, look at Vietnam we know that the US went to war with this country. The French also fought against the Vietnam for 20 years starting with French and ending with US. it drew 3 major powers into war even the Chinese were involved in some aspect. Realist say they went to war to stop the spread of communism and soviet power.

-Vietcong started out as a non-state actor eventually they established a government in the north and the south did the same which started a civil war.

-Liberals perspective on the war was the US got involved because they weren't trading if there were democracy's in Vietnam and Soviet Union there would've been exchanges and have relation for trading but their society is closed off and not freely trading.

-Afghanistan conflict started way before the US invaded they are very similar to Vietnam. What drew geopolitical powers to afghan? The cold war drew conflict to Afghanistan 1979 geopolitics Afghanistan Soviet Union was widely involved in Afghanistan it installed a public regime the

Anthony Biglow

8/31/17

soviets created a resistance to the monarchy in Afghanistan they are worried about the presence of the US in the middle east and also the interested in the oil.

# Extra credit. Submit Notes on 8/31 Class Session: Dante Camacho

A paradigm is essentially a model for something. Liberalism, Realism, and Idealism are three different models for geopolitics. These three paradigms create our outlooks on the world and how it operates

An example of the realist point of view would be observing the reaction of states when North Korea launches a missile. Realists are focused on how states respond to the threats of others. The idea of the "enemy of my enemy is my friend" is a highly realist point of view.

Liberals believe that there's more to geopolitics than balancing power. They believe that states can cooperate with each other for each others mutual interest.

Liberals tend to see economic interest as something that is very compelling in geopolitics.

Another example including North Korea could be Russia and the U.S. cooperating to put economic sanctions on North Korea.

An idealist would say that the problem with North Korea is not launching missiles, it's that they don't care about human rights. They don't necessarily care about predicting how states will act, they would rather prescribe idealistic solutions to world issues.

All states want to balance power. A realist foreign policy analyst would always be interested in minimizing the power of any potential rival. Realism is all about balancing power. If you want to know how you should prepare to provide for your security needs, always prepare for the worst.

Just think cooperation with liberals.

Idealists are all about values. Idealists think and dream about ideals. They hold normative views. President Woodrow Wilson was an idealist because he believed that democracy could fix all world problems. Nobody would want to go to war with those who held the same values.

Lenin was a very powerful idealist because he influenced people in his own country and abroad to adopt the worldview of communist idealists.

Realists would say that the reason why the U.S. invaded Vietnam was to balance Soviet power by stopping one country from becoming communist and balancing Soviet power. It was to contain Soviet power

The Vietcong originally started out as a non-state actor. It was a movement. It was anti-imperialist because of living under French occupation.

Looking at Vietnam from the liberals perspective. They would say that the U.S. got involved because the U.S. wasn't trading. They would say that if both countries were open to trading and cooperating than war with Vietnam wouldn't be necessary because there would be no need to balance power. There's no trust between the U.S. and the Soviet Union because

there's no cooperation.

It was not terrorism that initially drove geopolitical powers to Afghanistan. It was actually the cold war. The Soviet Union was in Afghanistan in 1979. The Soviets installed a puppet government in Afghanistan. Their presence there allowed them to get closer to the Middle East for both oil and to get closer to the United States power in the Middle East.

# Extra credit. Submit Notes on 8/31 Class Session: Sean Doughty

- Liberalism, Realism, and Idealism are all Paradigms
- They are all lenses for viewing geopolitics
- Paradigms are different outlooks on world politics or Geopolitics
- Realists are very focused on states
- All states strive to balance power=Realism theory
- States look out for themselves and address threats
- Liberals (not the political standing) view the states as more than a balancing of powers
- States can work together and come together for the well being of all of them
- Liberals identify economic interest as the base meaning for cooperation
- Cooperation inside of countries
- Idealist prefer to prescribe how states should act rather than predicting how they will act
- Normative thinkers
- Vladimir Lenin said that the reason there is war is because of capitalism
- Realism perspective: Vietnam drew other nations into war
- France and the US both fought wars in Vietnam for 20 years starting with the French and ending with the US
- Russia and China both were backing the Vietnamese
- The US was trying to stop the spread of communism and by doing that they are indirectly trying to balance the power of the Russians
- The vietcong (the Communist force in Vietnam) started as a non state actor that developed into a state
- Liberal perspective: the US was not trading with Russia and that was what was building tension
- Russia had a closed market while the US had an open one
- If both countries were democracies then cooperation would have been possible
- Idealist would say that neither side held similar values
- Afghanistan:
  - War after 9/11 had many events that lead up to it
  - You can say that the cold war was one of the factors that lead to the war in Afghanistan
  - Soviet Union created a puppet in Afghanistan to further their goals in the middle east
  - The Soviets thought that the more they expanded the safer they were

# Extra credit. Submit Notes on 8/31 Class Session: Matthew Dresselhouse

## Class Notes for 8/31:

- Paradigm = Outlooks for the patterns of behavior in the world of politics, for this matter.
- Liberalism = Freedom.
- North Korea and the missile launch; Realist (Machiavelli) would look at what states would react to that. Russia and the United States might both hate NK, but if the US reacts to the NK, Russia might take a reaction to the US' reaction. Liberalists (Locke) would look at how states use power economically for power, such as putting sanctions on NK. Idealism would look at creating democracy and peace in the world.
- John Locke = People are cooperative by nature (Idea of Liberalism). Economic interest can be very compelling in politics.
- The problem with North Korea is not their missiles, but their lack of Human Rights for their people and spending resources to nuclear development rather than towards Human Rights.
- Idealism is prescriptive and values (normative). Different for every nation (Wilson wanted all nations to be Democratic meaning for no war, Vladimir Lenin wanted Communism to solve world issues because Capitalism creates the problems).
- All states want to balance power; maximize their power and minimize the power of others, Realism.
- Maui = Wants to be as strong as other nations, but cannot. Superpowers in the world can because they have the resources to do so.
- Canada wouldn't attack the United States because it is not a smart way to balance power.
- Vietnam = It drew other nations into war (France in 1955, US ending in 1975, China, and the Soviets). Liberalism - The US wasn't trading with either the Soviets or North Vietnam (Having closed trading would create distrust).
- Domino Effect would happen if Vietnam won, spreading Communist influence to surrounding nations.
- Viet-Con = Non-State Actor, started as a movement, Anti-Imperialist, established a government in the north supporting Communism and the south established a government fearing Communism, creating the divide.
- Deaths from international and civil wars have declined dramatically in the 21st century than in any other time in history.
- Afghanistan = Cold War (1979) is what drew political powers in, helping out with the Mujahadeen with the CIA, Soviets created a social movement to challenge the monarchy. Soviets had an interest so they have more land meaning more security.

# Extra credit. Submit Notes on 8/31 Class Session: Noah Johnson

Noah Johnson

8/31 Notes

**Paradigms** = Different Outlooks

**Realism** = A way of viewing things almost as if through cause and effect

- Looking at world events through different paradigms will be crucial to understanding different world events

Whole world of Geopolitics is like a chess board

- All states look out for themselves and are always watching for the enemy

**"The enemy of my enemy is my friend"** - Nicholo Machiavelli

Liberals think that states can have common interests and can co-operate with each other

- John Locke; "People by nature are coo-operative"
- Farmer and Apples analogy

Liberals tend to see that economic interests can be productive, free trade, etc.

- End goal is co-operation, whether we must issue sanctions, but showing them we would be **willing to work together**

**The problem with North Korea**

- They don't concern themselves with the needs of their population
- Denying their people rights and the people's priorities

Idealists like to *Aspire* and *Prescribe*

- Woodrow Wilson; We must encourage democracy in all nations to prevent war
- *Wilsonian Idealism*

**Realistic Power Balance**

Realist Foreign Policy analyst; All states seek to do is balance power

*Always* anticipate that the goal is balanced power

- Parsimonius - this is just one paradigm out of many, and a simpler way of looking at things

**Not one paradigm can fit all States**

- Liberals - all about co-operation, and finding solutions through these methods
- Democracies + Economic Interest = Co-Operation

### Idealists

- Normative
- They like to look at values
- Here's how things *could* be

### Vladimir Lenin

- Idealist
- Wilson's contemporary
- Communist Ideology and forefront of the Soviet Union
- **"The reason problems exist is because of capitalism"**
- Economic equality, and no class system

In Lenin's head, capitalism could've been related to most problems we had

**If you can change the world's values, you can change Geo-Politics**

### Vietnam

- Geo-Politically, first thing that comes to mind is War
- Not just a U.S. war, twenty years of war including French and Americans
- Soviet Union gave it some backing while China had involvement as well
- Realists thought what drove U.S. was to contain/balance Soviet power
- Vietnam would have been the first domino to fall in Southeast Asia

Vietcong - Started as Non-State Actor, and originally were just a movement

- Anti-Imperialist, didn't like being exploited by the French
- Established government in North and South Vietnam, Civil War
- U.S. propped up a regime in the South, got very involved at the advice of the C.I.A.

### Liberal perspective of Vietnam

- No common interest and no trade going on
- If there were open markets and democracies, things probably wouldn't have gone the ways they did
- When one country is a dictatorship, they aren't quite used to doing all the talking and

co-operating

- No trust and no co-operation

All the participants didn't share the same values and respects of governmental ideals

**Free trade capitalism leads to peace**

- Nations are interested in balancing power, but calculate and evaluate threats differently

### Afghanistan

- Afghanistan started way before 9/11
- There are a lot of similarities to Vietnam



- What drew Geo-Political powers to Afghanistan could be traced to the Cold War
- 1979; Soviet Union in Afghanistan
- Installed a puppet regime as they had done with other countries

Realists; Having oil can be as good as having a missile

- The more we expand, the better off we are

# Extra credit. Submit Notes on 8/31 Class Session: Christopher Morales

8/31/17

- Realist would look at which states would react to “lunch”
- In politics you need to remember “the enemy of my enemy is my friend”
- Liberals see the world that people can work as together
- Liberals see economic interest that if people can trade together they can create allies
- Idealist would say the problem with north Korea is not the missiles but the human rights issues they treat there people like shit
- They also believe that if north Korea was a democratic state they would focus less on missiles and more on their people and economy
- Realism says all states want power
- States want to maximize their own and minimize others
- Idealists are all about values, normative
- President Wilson thought that if all states are dedicative and everyone had the same morals.
- Nations are driven by greed “lennon”
- Vietnam- communist states and drew major powers
- Domino theory Vietnam was the first.
- Vietcong- started out as a movement, they were anti-imperialists
- Liberals- say we got into it because they weren’t trading
- Soviets created a republic,
- Realists see that oil is a great way to balance power
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# Extra credit. Submit Notes on 8/31 Class Session:

## Harrison Rego

Notes 8/31

Paradigm- an outstandingly clear or typical example or [archetype](#)... regard science as the *paradigm* of true knowledge. — G. C. J. Midgley

Three lenses- Liberalism, Realism, Idealism

Paradigms are out looks that define different causes and effects

- Realists are very focused on states
- States focus on addressing threats and worrying about themselves
- Almost a domino effect of one state reacts then another reacts to one's reaction
- All states want to **balance power** and minimizing contenders
- Liberals see the world as more that states but working together and cooperation
- Economic interest can be very compelling in politics, also can use it to predict behavior - Look for **cooperation** inside countries and between countries
- Idealist prescribe a focus on how to make NK democratic because it would make them focus less on military and more on the people
- They would rather **prescribe** ways to behave
- Normatives look for social and economic norms and customs
- Vladimir lenin said that the reason there's problems in the world is because there is capitalism

Vietnam

- USA engaged in war with vietnam
- french also fought in the war
- they were capable of drawing attention of two major powers

-soviets and chinese provided aid as well

### Realist

-balance (contain) the power of the soviet union, stop the spread of communism

-vietcong was originally a non state actor, when they started to gain power the south created its section of government in fear of communism

-war is detrended now because weapons are stronger than they've ever been and more costly than ever

### Liberal

-US involvement because we weren't trading with soviet union

-also would have helped to have democracies. Hard to deal with dictatorships

-free market trade is key

-loss of trust because there is no cooperation

### Idealist

-looking at war 150 years ago no one would dare shoot a medic

-values have changed

### Afgahnastan

-Started well before initial invasion

-very similar to vietnam in terms of geopolitics

-The cold war may be what drew political powers into afghanistan

-1979 geopolitics, soviet union is in afghanistan and installed a regime

-they put in place a puppet that gets them closer to the middle east

### Realist

-oil is a great way to balance power

-the more we expand the better off we are

Geopolitics

Nation-States - sovereignty over territory

Non-State Actors

IGOs

NGOs - transnational, promote common welfare, individuals

[\(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site.](#)Extremist organizations: Organizations and groups committed to violence

Liberalism, Realism, Idealism

Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Libya

North Korea

- The United States should focus on making North Korea Democratic
- Idealists
  - o Could be proactive
  - o Proscribe things
  - o Make the world a safer democracy
  - o Encourage democracy
  - o Take all sorts of strain
  - o Normative
  - o Driven by values
  - o If you can change the world values then you can change geopolitics
    - Wilson
    - Linen
      - The reason there is problem in the world is because there is capitalism
      - Driven by greed
      - Get rid of all sections in our world rich, poor ect..
      - Communism
      - Capitalism- not good
- Realism
  - o All states want to balance power

- Every state is interested In power
- BALNACE POWER
- Minimize the value
- Doesn't care at the time about Hochi men

(convenient generalization)

- Liberals
  - Would say that china cooperates with each other
  - Less likely to attack
  - No swift between military attack
  - Sell some produce to china
  - The US got involved because they weren't trading
  - They thought if the soviets were
  - Talking
  - Not freely trading because they communist and the other is
  - Dictatorships won't cooperate with economies
  - The worlds ideals have changed
  - Warfare- no one thought twice about shooting a doctor
  - More respect for human rights
  - Values have changed
  - Not the same Neanderthals
- Any analysis
  - Debts have decline from the 19centuries to now
- Realist took this into account
  - Less problems
- Hochi men
- Democracy works that way
  - Cooperating with people
  - Vietnam
    - Communist nation
    - South of China
    - War- Geopolitically
    - Drew attention of two major powers
    - China was involved to some degree
    - If it all becomes communist it will
    - The enemy of my enemy is my friend
      - But the friend of my enemy is my friend
    - Contain soviet power
      - Make sure the right-side wins

- The US choose the south
- The south is the enemy of our enemy Vietnam
- The Vietcong
  - Communist movement
  - The Vietnam
  - Eventually they established the government in Vietnam

#### China

- They need our market we need there market
- More trade

#### Realist:

- More people are able to work on these objects which makes it less expensive
- Invisible hand brings you here
- Capitalism is great
- Tank
  - Are very strong now a days
  - World with much more power weapons
- Deterrence
  - Fear in other peoples life

#### Afghanistan

- Congress and president Bush
- Started well before the US invasion of Afghanistan
- Different from Vietnam
- What drew geopolitical power to Afghanistan
- CSA done a lot
  - Secrete
  - 1979
    - Soviet Union is in Afghanistan
    - Installed a puppet
    - Rural
    - Closer to the middle east

- US- the United states
- Oil was great way of balancing power
  - as good as having a missile
- puppets
  - the more we expand the better off we are