

Key ideas

Question: What are some examples of how reciprocity facilitates cooperation in IR?

Answer:

Issue area	Description	Reciprocity connection
Foreign direct investment	FDI is when an investing entity acquires assets (e.g., a factory) in a foreign country. FDI regulations are believed to be shaped by domestic political factors.	Survey experiments in US and China: people were more likely to oppose incoming FDI when they knew foreign firm's home country had FDI barriers (Chilton, Milner, and Tingley 2017).
Climate change	A global commons problem requiring states to each make sacrifices, but the benefits are non-excludable, meaning that defecting states could still reap the benefits. Incentives to "free ride" raise the barrier to collective action.	People are more likely to support climate agreements with more layers of reciprocity (e.g., Tingley and Tomz 2014).
Laws of war	The international rules describing what is "permissible" during armed conflict (e.g., Geneva Conventions).	Survey experiments: people's preferences over compliance with treatment of POWs depend on beliefs about their opponent's treatment of POWs (Chu 2019).

Question: What are some of the "first image reversed" consequences of threat and violence?

Answer:

Outcome	Consequences	Causal mechanism
Ideology	Indiscriminate violence tends to alter "psychological tendencies" and generate political support for hardliners (e.g., Getmansky and Zeitzoff 2014). Instead of coercing the opponent, violence may impede settlement.	(1) Motivated social cognition: existential needs and support for conservatism; (2) Valence: right-wing parties have a "valence advantage"
Child-rearing practices	The use of corporal punishment in parenting rises with conflict intensity (e.g., studies of Iraqi households during the Iraq War).	(1) stress on parents → more likely to react with violence; (2) stress on children → more likely to act out more generally; (3) greater prevalence of violence → lowers restraint on use of violence; (4) weaker social institutions → harder to regulate social norms around corporal punishment
Political participation	Traumatic events (e.g., abduction) lead to greater political participation in the aftermath (see Blattman 2009).	Personal growth, resiliency, and political activation
Prosociality	Exposure to violence found to have a positive effect on a variety of prosocial (cooperative) behaviors (see Bauer et al. 2016 for a meta-analysis).	A sense of shared threat → greater in-group identity → easier to come together