

# 1790 SECTION THINGS

## Chapter 7: Hegemony & Liberal International Order

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# The Greatest x Hegemonic Stability Theory

"Kanye West is blond and gone"

KI  
May 18



- International order
  - **Public good** (e.g., stability/peacefulness/open trade system) —> collective action problem strikes again
  - HST theorists: creating & maintaining order requires a **hegemon**
  - Specific qualities of the order (e.g., liberal vs. illiberal) depends on the hegemon
- Implications
  1. US as “indispensable nation”
  2. Declining hegemony —> global instability
  3. US is exceptional in choice to institutionalize post-WWII

# Scenario: Ordering moments

- Welcome to Lurra!
  - For the last century, the international system was multipolar & chaotic (e.g., trade wars & territorial conquest).
  - But then a “hegemonic war” occurred, leaving only 1 great power in its wake.
- Challenge: We are the victor & must decide what to do with this ordering moment.
  1. Domination: unrestrained coercion
  2. Abandonment: retreat from postwar disputes
  3. Institutionalize: strategic restraint



# Back to the “real” world

- Can be tricky to distinguish historical epochs of international order
- But the conventional wisdom is that the post-1945 order is the US-led **liberal international order**
  - Emphasis on norm against territorial conquest, multilateralism, free economic exchange, & democratic political systems
  - The idea was to address the problems of the early twentieth century (imperial conquest, world wars, the Great Depression, etc.)
  - Anxieties that there is a return to this previous precarious scenario



Roundtable with Gov 1790 experts

COUNCIL *on*  
FOREIGN  
RELATIONS

Future of the liberal international order

# Essay overview

| Writing element | Research paper                                                                                       | Policy paper                                                                             |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Purpose</b>  | To apply theoretical frameworks to a US foreign policy issue                                         | To analyze a US foreign policy issue and provide policy recommendations                  |
| <b>Audience</b> | Academics but accessible to informed non-academics                                                   | Policy community                                                                         |
| <b>Argument</b> | Explaining fp issue/development, providing theoretical justification and addressing counterarguments | A policy recommendation (e.g., deep engagement), weighing alternatives (e.g., restraint) |
| <b>Evidence</b> | At least 4 academic sources; historical examples; data                                               | At least 4 academic sources; historical examples; data                                   |

# Decoding prompts

## Research prompt 2

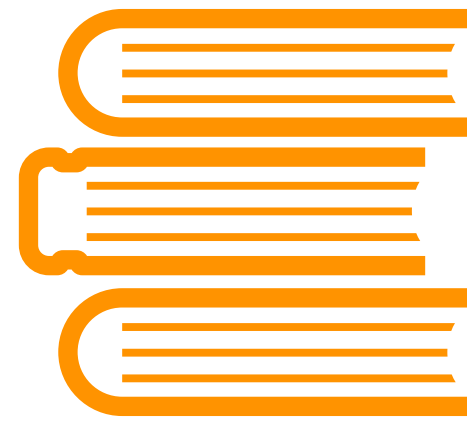
Kori Schake has written that “hegemons recreate the international order as a macrocosm of their domestic practice”, arguing that critics of the American-led international order are going to dislike a Chinese-led international order even more. What would a Chinese-led international order look like? How would it differ from the contemporary American-led "liberal international order"? How would it be similar? In your answer, make sure to incorporate some of the theoretical frameworks discussed in class.

## Policy prompt 3

The ongoing war in Ukraine has produced a number of policy debates, one of which is whether Vladimir Putin should be given an “off-ramp” — a way for the Russian President to save face such that the Russians can withdraw and claim a partial victory rather than continuing to press on and further escalate the conflict. If you were advising the current administration, would you encourage the United States to offer Russia an off-ramp? Why or why not? If so, what would it look like?

1. What is the central question being asked in the prompt?
2. What parts of the prompt are asking additional supporting questions?
3. Restate the prompt in one sentence.

# Recommended timeline



Now-11/1:  
Choose topic by  
next section

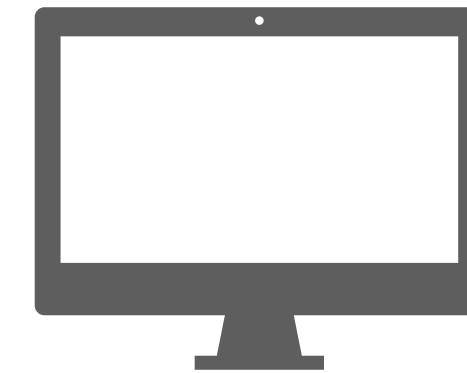


By 11/5:  
Write thesis  
statement & basic  
outline of paper

By 11/12:  
Have first  
draft of paper



11/12-11/16:  
Revise paper



**By 11/16:  
Submit paper**

**Writing resource for Gov papers:**

**<https://govwrites.fas.harvard.edu>**