

Section #10

Alliance politics



Guiding principles for essay

1. Substance

- Argument, evidence, counterargument

2. Structure

- Key elements for policy vs. research paper (see next slide)
- But many possibilities for organization

3. Style

- Scholarly tone: not too informal, avoid absolutist language, avoid overuse of passive voice, review grammar and usage
- Meets length, font, margin requirements

Structure

Policy paper

- Executive summary
 - 1 paragraph (concise)
- Background/problem statement
- Policy options: pros/cons
- Discussion of your recommendation
- Conclusion

Research paper

- Introduction
 - 2-4 paragraphs: set up research puzzle, outline argument (how contrasts with alternatives), and provide road map of paper
- Theory (other model vs. yours)
- Evidence/case study
- Conclusion

Alliances

- Definition: “***formal** associations of states for use/nonuse of military force, in specified circumstances, against states outside their own membership*” (Snyder 1997)

Is this a formal alliance?

- ▶ NATO
- ▶ League of Nations
- ▶ US-Israel relationship
- ▶ US-Japan relationship
- ▶ US-South Korean relationship

Alliance structures

- Types of alliance structures:
 - Multilateral: one alliance with at least 3 members
 - Hub-and-spoke: collection of bilateral alliances

Discussion:

1. Why are U.S. alliances in Asia structured in a hub-and-spokes model?
2. What are the trade-offs between multilateral and hub-and-spoke alliances?

Alliance maintenance

- Balancing act between:
 - A. Patron concerns about entrapment, protege independence, and free-riding
 - B. Protege concerns about abandonment
- Alliance persistence:
 - Realism: presence of external threat
 - Neoliberal institutionalism: utility of institutions
 - Constructivism: shared identity

The Future of NATO

1. Why is U.S. military presence in Europe significant for debates about U.S. grand strategy?
2. What is the current state of security in Europe?
3. What would happen to NATO allies if the U.S. were to pull back from Europe?
4. Why do Meijer and Brooks argue that Europe cannot achieve “strategic autonomy”?



NATO Summit 2021

Examine the 2021 Brussels communique.
Where should NATO focus its attention in the next decade?