

International and Global Security

Peer Discussion

- What is security?

International Security

- What is security?
 - Freedom from threats to core values?
- Contestation over referent object: Individual?
State? System?
- How is security achieved?
 - State interests versus
common security

International Security

- During Cold War, security = national security = military capabilities
- Too Narrow?
 - Buzan: political, economic, societal, environmental as well as military security
 - Does Globalization mean a greater need to focus on societal security?
 - Global, rather than national, threats

Theory and Security

- Classical Realism
 - Humans and the international system are brutal
 - Security is a pipe dream
- Neorealism
 - Anarchic system does not allow for security; structure drives insecurity
 - Intentions of other states cannot be known, state survival cannot be assured
 - Bipolar system = most secure

Theory and Security

- Neoliberal Institutionalism
 - Institutions can help states enhance security
 - Institutions provide information, reduce transaction costs, makes commitments more credible, and facilitates reciprocity



Theory and Security

- Constructivist
 - Security is the product of social reality rather than just material reality
 - Security dilemma is the product of intersubjective understandings
 - Security as politics
 - Security = referent object + existential threat

Theory and Security

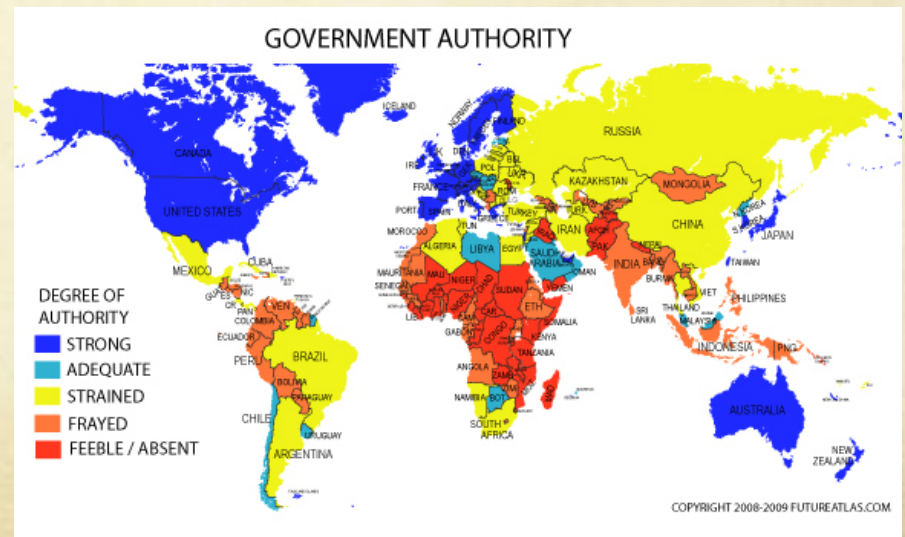
- Critical Security Studies
 - De-emphasize the state
 - Often, the state is the cause of insecurity (Tilly: State as protection racket)
 - Emancipative and normative, not problem solving
 - Feminism
 - Security protects male-dominated social order (e.g. myth of protection)
 - Post-modern
 - Realism is a discourse of power and rule
 - Change the software: change the way we talk about international security

Peer Discussion

- What is the cost of security?

Global Security

- Some security issues transcend the interstate system
 - Environmental problems (climate change)
 - Poverty
 - Weapons of Mass Destruction
- Some security issues arise out of the breakdown of states
 - Crime
 - Terrorism
 - Ungoverned spaces



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