

A historical illustration depicting a diplomatic meeting. In the foreground, Uncle Sam, dressed in his iconic blue suit and top hat with stars and stripes on the sleeves and pants, is shaking hands with a British man in a red jacket and top hat. In the background, two allegorical female figures stand: one in a blue dress with stars and stripes (representing the United States) and another in a blue dress with the Union Jack (representing the United Kingdom). They are holding large flags of their respective nations. The scene is set against a backdrop of a cityscape with a prominent tower. At the bottom, there are circular medallions featuring the Great Seal of the United States and the Royal Coat of Arms of the United Kingdom, each with a date: '1776' and '1707' respectively.

ONE WORLD, MANY THEORIES: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA

- In a world with various **global actors**—nation-states, terrorists cells, multinational corporations, etc.—there does not exist a **single world authority** that has legitimate power over other nations: it's **anarchic**
- I.e., there is no one world government that can legitimately tell anyone else what to do.
- The most prominent actors are **nation-states**, and in a “**dog-eat-dog**” world without a single legitimate authority to bring order to the world, nation-states (much like early humans) are concerned primarily with **survival**.

