



global actors

single world authority anarchic

dog-eat-dog

nation-states



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.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- The field of international affairs is "a protracted competition between the realist, liberal, and constructivist traditions."
 - Realism argues that conflict between states is inevitable.
 - Liberal thought focuses on ways of mitigating this tendency towards conflict.
 - Constructivism imagines
 how the entire nation-state
 model is socially
 constructed.

