

Annotated doc: 20hist201srcKennedyCh1Pt2AnnotatedExr0n.pdf

1. Facts

- (a) Europe was decentralized because of geography and free trade -> no major tech gap
- (b) Europe explored for profit and intended to stay, while the Chinese merely visited
- (c) Europe developed superior technology, maybe because of a state of constant fear.

2. Claims

- (a) Decentralized power allowed Europe to rise to the top
- (b) Decentralized rule -> No monopoly -> Free trade -> arms race -> no major tech gap -> nobody can overpower everyone -> stay decentralized
- (c) Arms race -> "political plurality"? and good navy
- (d) Europe's gunships were the turning point
- (e) expansion + trade increased knowledge and technology

3. Questions

- (a) Why didn't other powers try to expand, esp. over seas?
  - (b) If clashing improves tech, why didn't Europe's improvements incentivise their attackers to improve?
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