

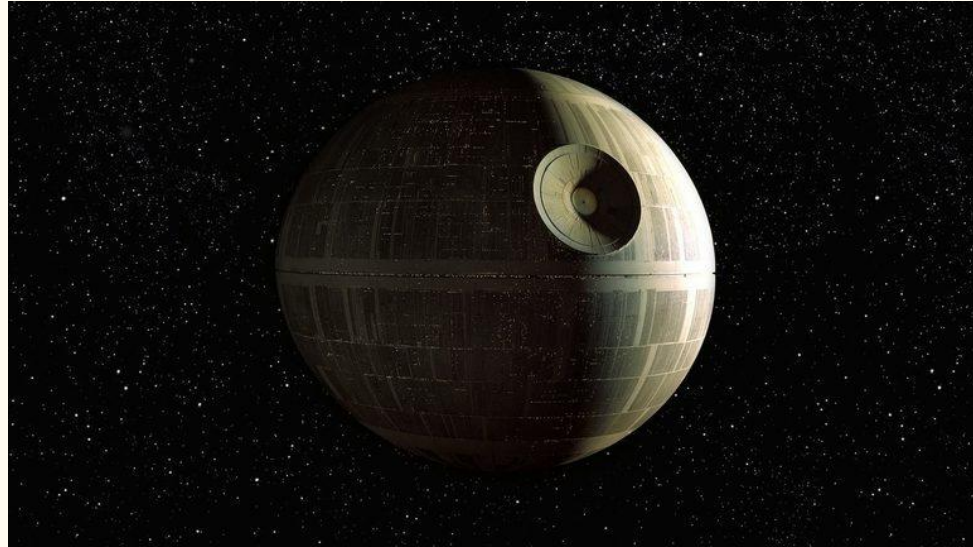
# Machiavelli's Death Star

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*The Prince and Star Wars*

# Context

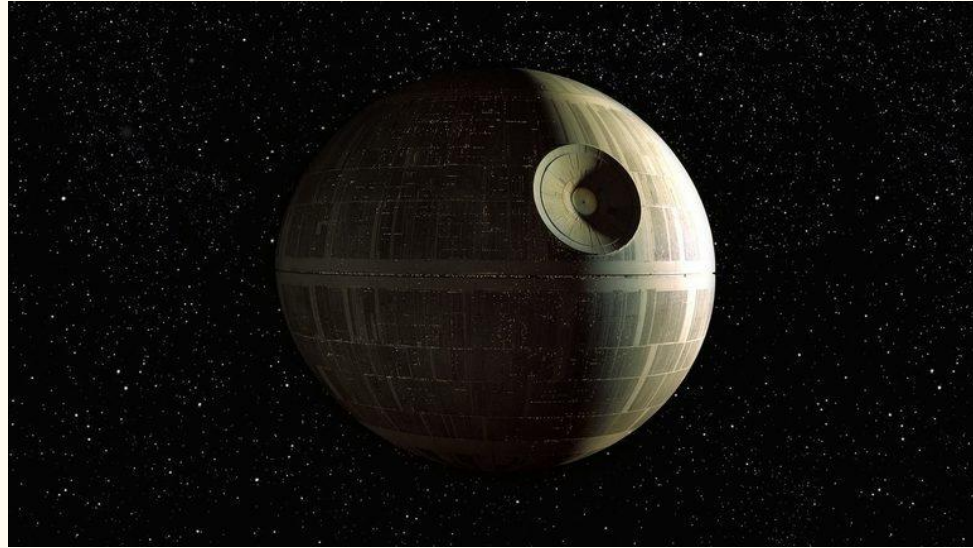
- ❖ The Empire's governing strategy was predicated on fear.
- ❖ The Death Star, an enormously costly superweapon, was the centerpiece.



G. Lucas. (1977). *Star Wars*. United States: 20th Century Fox. Retrieved September 15, 2018 from <https://www.starwars.com/databank/death-star>

# Context

- ❖ The Death Star was explicitly designed as a coercive tool: it was intended to destroy systems that resisted imperial control.



# Context



- ❖ However, it was also ruinously costly, and if lost, would represent a grave diminution of imperial resources and prestige.

# Questions



1 What thinker's work most clearly recommends the strategy pursued by Grand Moff Tarkin?

2 Are you aware of any examples of such a strategy being successfully employed?

# Questions



G. Lucas. (1977). *Star Wars*. United States: 20th Century Fox.  
Retrieved September 15, 2018 from  
<https://www.slashfilm.com/grand-moff-tarkin-in-rogue-one/>

3 Critics have argued that the Death Star represented a ruinous expenditure of resources. The Empire believed it was economical. Which view do you find most compelling? Why?

4 Might the Empire have achieved the same ends through different methods? If so, how?

5 What view do you feel each of the thinkers would take toward this strategy? Are there any who would support it unreservedly?