

Liberalism

Liberalism

Idealism/Liberalism

- Idealism
 - Focus on individual welfare and humanity
 - Emphasize the importance of ethical values and ideals in foreign policy making
 - Reflect optimism for international peace
 - Idealistic attempt
 - Establishment of League of Nations
- Decline of idealism
 - Reality
 - Non-functioning League of Nations based on Idealism after World War I
 - Appearance of Dictatorship
 - WWII
 - Response
 - Strong reaction against international government
 - Criticism of idealism
 - Rise of Realism

Liberalism

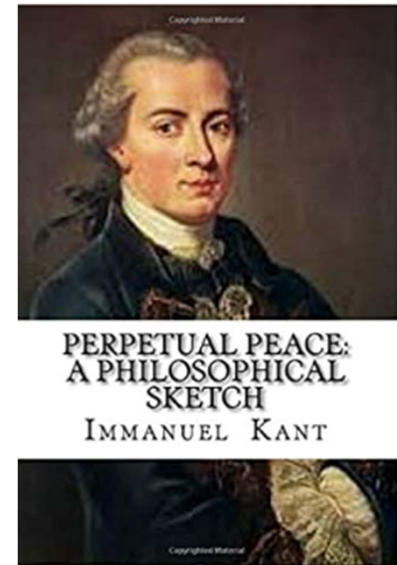
Neoliberalism

- The re-rise of liberalism in the 1970s
 - Détente, globalization, and third-wave democratization
- Convergence with (neo)realism
 - Recognize the state as a key actor in international politics
 - + non-state actors
 - Agree on state's interest in security
 - + non-security issue
- Emphasis on cooperative action within the international system
- Mechanisms for cooperation
 - Interdependency
 - Role of international laws, rules, and organizations

Liberalism/Idealism

Republican Liberalism

- Thinkers and leading scholars
 - Immanuel Kant, Woodrow Wilson, Michael W. Doyle
 - “Civil constitution of every state should be republican (Kant).”
- Focus on citizens and leaders
 - Democratic states: Citizens have freedom of expression through voting, and thus self-interested leaders must earn citizens’ support
 - Leads democratic states to seek compromise and peace when there is a conflict of interest
 - Totalitarian states: Citizens do not have freedom of expression and thus leaders are free from taking responsibility
 - Leads totalitarian states to be more willing to take aggressive and possibly militaristic actions
- Democratic peace theory
 - No wars between democracies
 - War broke out between democracies and other regime types

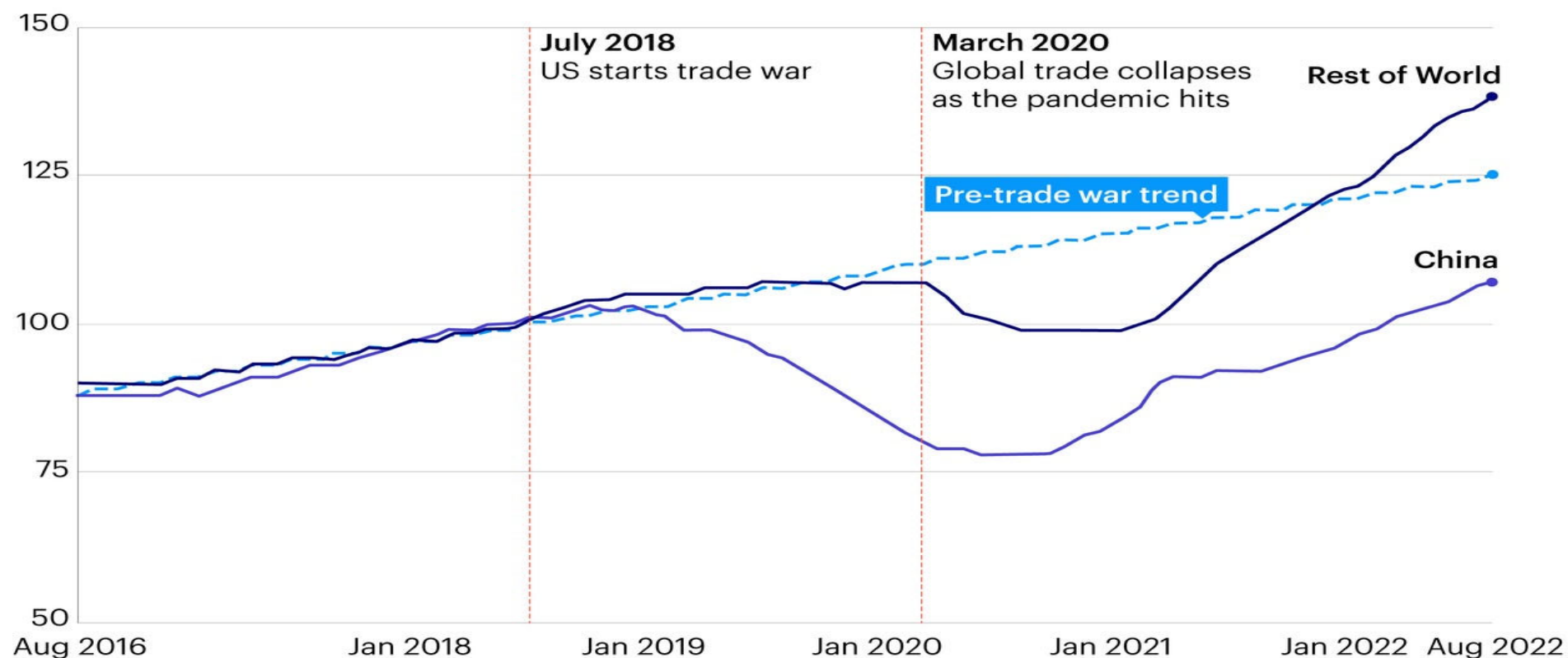


Commercial Liberalism

- Leading scholars
 - David Ricardo, Richard Cobden, etc.
- Focus on consumers and producers
 - Through trade, consumers and producers achieve prosperity and economic benefit
- The value of free trade and the permanent peace
 - States benefit economically from free trade
 - The economic interdependence network formed by free trade brings peace and universal prosperity to the international community

US-China Trade

Value of US goods imports from China and rest of world, 2016–2022 (June 2018 = 100)



Neoliberalism

Neoliberalism

- Motivation
 - Observation: States sometimes engage in cooperative activities
 - Aim: Construct a framework for international cooperation
- Problems in international cooperation
 - Collective action problem
 - Public goods obtainable by international cooperation
 - Characteristics: nonexcludable and indivisible
 - Incentive to cheat (not cooperate)
 - Incentive not to be exploited
 - Incentive to be a free rider
 - Reason of cheating: cost for cooperation
 - Tragedy of public goods

Neoliberalism

- Liberalistic solutions to the problem of promoting international cooperation

- (1) Hierarchic rather than anarchic international system

- To detect and punish cheaters and free riders

- Who can have hierarchic authority?

- (A) Hegemonic state with dominant power

- Limitation: difficulty of having a real hegemon

- Burden on hegemon is too great

- Hegemon's interest might conflict with providing public goods

- (B) International organizations

Neoliberalism

- Liberalistic solutions to the problem of promoting international cooperation

- (1) Hierarchic rather than anarchic international system

- To detect and punish cheaters and free riders

- Who can have hierarchic authority?

- (A) Hegemonic state with dominant power

- Limitation: difficulty of having a real hegemon

- Burden on hegemon is too great

- Hegemon's interest might conflict with providing public goods

- (B) International organizations

- (2) Change of the characteristics of interaction

- Make short-term cheating less desirable; Make states realize long-term loss of cheating

- Tit-for-Tat
 - Grim Trigger

Liberal Institutionalism

- Leading scholars
 - Robert Keohane, Joseph Nye, G. John Ikenberry
- Importance of international organizations or institutions
 - Solve collective action problem
 - Mitigate competitive behavior
 - How?
 - International institutions promote cooperation between states
 - Provide information
 - Help to calculate other's behavior
- “ International systems containing institutions that generate a great deal of high quality information and make it available on a reasonably even basis to the major actors are likely to experience more cooperation than systems that do not contain such institutions, **even if** fundamental state interests and the distribution of power are the same in each system.” (Keohane 1984, 245)

Neoliberalism Summary

- Fungibility of power
 - Power is issue-specific
 - Power is not transferable
 - Japan's economic power \neq Japan's military power
- National interest in wealth, not only security
 - In 1990, Iraq and Kuwait cooperated in one area, but fought in other areas at the same time.

Neoliberalism Summary

- Emphasis on absolute gains
 - Individualistic state defining interests in terms of individual gains (Grieco, 1988)
 - Care about their gain
 - Care less about comparing their own gain with others' gains
 - How can states maximize absolute gains?
 - Follow the rule of comparative advantage in international trade
 - Focus on areas of comparative advantage
 - Rely on others in areas of comparative disadvantage
 - States cooperate with others for better outcomes instead of trying to gain an advantage over the others