

**Source:**

## 1 | **Introduction**

## 2 | **Body 1: counterargument**

## 3 | **Body 2: Ottomans**

Europeans used soft power to force the Ottoman empire into trading agreements that caused crippling inflation and corruption, a corrosive trend that lead ultimately to the Ottoman empire's downfall. The Capitulations of the mid sixteenth century were a series of trade agreements between the militarily dominant Ottoman empire and the various states of Europe designed to facilitate trade (Cleveland 50). Because the European nations were weaker than the Ottomans at the time, the Ottoman empire felt safe and philanthropic in the negotiation of the treaties. The first Capitulation, signed with France

## 4 | **Body 3: Ming**

## 5 | **Conclusion**