

Source: [KBhHIST201HolyRomanEmpire1500s](#) [KBhHIST201Kissinger](#)

## 1 | Raison d'etat

Each state depended on the other. The well being of the state justified whatever means were employed to further it. The national interest supplanted the medieval notion of a universal morality. — [KBhHIST201Kissinger](#)

A method of “sensible government” that promises to set aside personal ideological differences for the betterment of the country as a whole.

### 1.1 | Exhibit A: France!

[KBhHIST201FrenchRichelieuAndRaisonDeEtat](#)

### 1.2 | Exhibit B: Federick the Great

CLAIM @ [KBhHIST201Kissinger](#): Federick the Great's decision to invade Silesia was pure strategy move

### 1.3 | Failure and Overextension

CLAIM @ [KBhHIST201Kissinger](#) — too much power without morality is no good, for instance

#### 1.3.1 | Exhibit B: Still France!

- **Louis XIV**, under the guidance of [KBhHIST201FrenchRichelieuAndRaisonDeEtat](#), gone trigger happy on the expansion
- Ultimately, this is detrimental
  - When most states starts being fully rational and not at all moral, this becomes less fun
  - If no one else is expanding, a country will keep taking advantage of others, which... does not make you a lot of friends

Under Raison d'etat, “The stronger would seek to dominate, and the weaker would resist by forming coalitions to augment their individual strengths”