

Source: 00-Topic-[KB20200823163139](#)

#reading : GHMW Unit 1.pdf ## Watson ~ The Evolution of International Society; a comparative, Historical Analysis

Classification words of civilizations are not descriptive enough. Way to broad.

Empires fall along a spectrum from absolute independence to absolute empire. The absolutes are theoretical and do not occur in practice.

Four Broad Categories:

- Independence
- Hegemony
- Dominion
- Empire

Order -> peace / prosperity, less freedom

Rules *expected to* benefit all members of system

commitments to a collective security

Freedom of action in an independent states is limited by the pressures of interdependence in a system

Hegemony = Being able to exert a *law* above the operations of the system

^ Sometimes though of as only one person

Broader: Hegemony = Being able to determine the relations between the members of an international society

Suzerainty = One state hold total political power over another

shadowy overlord-ship

hegemony requires tacit acceptance

Dominion = Imperial authority determines the internal government of other communities, but retain their identity as separate states and some control over their own affairs

Empire = direct administration of different communities from an imperial centre

==Continuum!==

Community bound by: - custom - ethnic descent - religion - language

^ the importance of these fluctuates drastically over time

Pendulum Theory Hegemony on one side, dominion on the other, swings between and over corrects.