

Source: [\[KBHistoryMasterIndex\]](#)

## 1 | Diplomacy, Kissinger

The Document: [\[KBe20hist201srcKissingerAnnotated\]](#)

CLAIM: European balance of power system emerged after medieval collapse

### 1.1 | European Power Balance

Development into model of “universality” => one emperor, one church

#### 1.1.1 | The Holy Roman Empire

[\[KBhHIST201HolyRomanEmpire1500s\]](#)

#### 1.1.2 | System of Raison De 'Etat

As a mean to fend off an every-growing HRE threatening France, Cardinal Richaleu came up with a system named [\[KBhHIST201RaisonDeEtat\]](#) that promises to be a better system of government.

### 1.2 | England, the Mediator

[\[KBhHIST201EnglandMediator\]](#)

### 1.3 | Kissinger's Take Home Messages

And I quote:

””””

- Power is difficult to access
- Equilibrium best achieved if they are in common interest
- Balance of power inhibits capacity to overthrow order
- Agreement on shared values inhibits desire to overthrow order
- Power without legitimacy tempts dangerous strength tests
- Legitimacy without power tempts empty power tests

””””

**Kissinger sees himself as American Richlieu.**

End result of Raison d'etat

1. Others form a coalition against the ruthless nation => balance of power is eventually achieved
2. Unipolar dominance of a world system/world hegemony => too dominant to fight back against

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McNeill

- Consolidation for political power (310-311)

1. Administrative centralization: italian city-state strategies to govern countries
2. Seizing Church power and property during the Reformation: Catholics trade away political power to re-affirm their religious
3. Development of military technology becomes too expensive to do rurally to larger factories in a city: standing army cannot be tracked in a local level

The renaissance brings two things: either harness renaissance energy to do innovation or harness reformation energy to unify Europe — if someone has the ability to have warfare.