

Source:

1 | Here we go again.

1.1 | Prompt

Essay option 1: In the early modern period, three of the four major power centers of the world unified

Essentially, why couldn't they centralize? Compare and contrast essay.

Essay option 2: According to Charles Tilly's "bellicist" theory of state formation, states form to protect

1.2 | Possible topics

- Broa
- Bellicist theory is **INCOMPLETE** (duhn duhn dunnnnnn!)
 - Bellicist theory is about war, and discounts other forms of danger. Should be danger (and maybe some accompanying changes instead of war.
 - Three paragraphs, three examples where other forms of danger required state-making
 - End with some conclusion about the concept of models / theories?
 - To think about: what other things require state-making besides war-making?
 - Easy essay if I can get evidence
- How does Bellicist theory incorporate trade?
 - Is this managed by the state?
 - Only talks about interactions with other states if they are war.
 - Does trade require state-made organization?

==<1AM-jots!>==

Bellicist theory is incomplete

- Other forms of danger besides war require state-making
 - Plauge
 - Look at ottoman orthodox vs european new ways
 - Ideological
 - Religion?
 - Religion is effective way to control people, but religion can get threatened.
 - Income / profit
 - Silver inflation from Spain and stuff

Bellicist theory: war making doesn't directly lead to statemaking. War making leads to need for statemaking which leads to statemaking or collapse.

This is an important distinction that must be made {becuaseeeeeeee}

it allows us to say things that threaten the state lead to state making, effectively :)

The necessity for the state leads to its creating. i.e. if the state gets hit, and its power is decreased, the cause of the hit can still be counted as an equivalent to war-making.

==</1AM-jots!>==

1.3 | Essay, Begin.

1.3.1 | Evidence bin

- Plague
 - “Contemptuous of European ideas and practices, the Turks declined to adopt newer methods for containing plagues; consequently, their populations suffered more from severe epidemics. In one truly amazing fit of obscurantism, a force of janissaries destroyed a state observatory in 1580, alleging that it had caused a plague.” Kennedy, 12
 - There was little improvement in communications, and no machinery for assistance in the event of famine, flood, and plague-which were, of course, fairly regular occurrences. Kennedy, 13
- Inflation
 - In the late sixteenth century, inflation caused by a flood of cheap silver from the New World (see Environment and Technology: Metal Currency and Inflation), affected many of the remaining landholders, who collected taxes according to legally fixed rates. Some saw their purchasing power decline so much that they could not report for military service. Bulliet, 491
 - In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, however, precious metal poured into Spain from silver and gold mines in the New World, but there was no increase in the availability of goods and services. The resulting inflation triggered a “price revolution” in Europe—a general tripling of prices between 1500 and 1650. In Paris in 1650 the price of wheat and hay was fifteen times higher than the price had been in 1500. Bulliet, 494
 - As a result, the country faced the unsolvable problem of finding money to pay the army and bureaucracy. Bulliet, 500
 - First, governments throughout Eurasia had attempted to displace the warlords and tame the aristocracies that had provided services to the crown by building armies and bureaucracies loyal to the central government alone. Building these armies and bureaucracies was expensive, and soldiers and bureaucrats had to be paid. Inflation raised the costs of maintaining them in the manner to which they had grown accustomed. gelvin, 33-34
 - States spent an enormous amount of money to sustain their employees. In Persia, for example, an estimated 38 percent of the state’s expenditures went to the army. Another 41 percent went to the imperial harem, the royal family, and royal attendants. States competed with the private sector for resources, and this drove up prices. gelvin, 35
 - This complicated situation resulted in revolts that devastated Anatolia between 1590 and 1610. Former landholding cavalrymen, short-term soldiers released at the end of a campaign, peasants overburdened by emergency taxes, and even impoverished students of religion formed bands of marauders. bulliet, 491
- Ideological
 - Europeans engaged in numerous conflicts pitting Catholics against Protestants. roberts, 45
 - Assuredly, the effort to renew the church and make it holy had an enormous and immediate impact upon politics. Sustained and serious effort to make human life conform to God’s will as revealed in the Bible changed men’s minds and altered their behavior. Wholesale violence sanctified by dogmatic differences quickly erupted, mcneil, 310
 - The act of eliminating internal rival forces and insurgents from within its own territories. systems and states, 11

1.3.2 | **Outline**

Thesis: Bellicist theory

- Intro
 - Bellicist theory is incomplete
 - Bellicist theory is....
 - War making should be replaced with “need”
 - Many things replace need, such as x y and z.
 - Tilly leaves out the obvious, which is that failure to do this leads to crash
 - Allows proving things in the negative
- P1
 - Plague
 - Ottomans kept old ways of dealing with plague instead of adopting new European ones which led to allot of plagues
 - Dealing with plague required organization that needed to be dealt with by the government
 - The Ottomans lack of state making (rejecting their orthodox beliefs..?) aided their downfall.
 - preventing this would require state-making
- P2
 - Inflation
 - Spain created a massive influx of silver which led to massive inflation
 - people hired by the government can no longer be paid off
 - Causes efforts at autonomy
 - Which requires state-making to crush
- P3
 - Ideological
 - States control their people with religion
 - when a new religion is introduced, that is a threat to the states control
 - so they perform “statemaking,” and kill the members of the new religion
 - ex. the protestant revolution
 - protestant ideas threatened the power of the state
 - state decided to statemake-ify them

1.4 | **Writing time.**