

Crisis Diplomacy

Anarchy and Diplomacy

January 8, 2014

Today's Agenda

- 1. About me.**
- 2. Anarchy and international politics.**
- 3. What is diplomacy?**

Anarchy

and international politics

World Government?

... a state is a human community that (successfully) claims the *monopoly of the legitimate use of physical force* within a given territory.

— Max Weber, "Politics as a Vocation" (1919)

International Anarchy

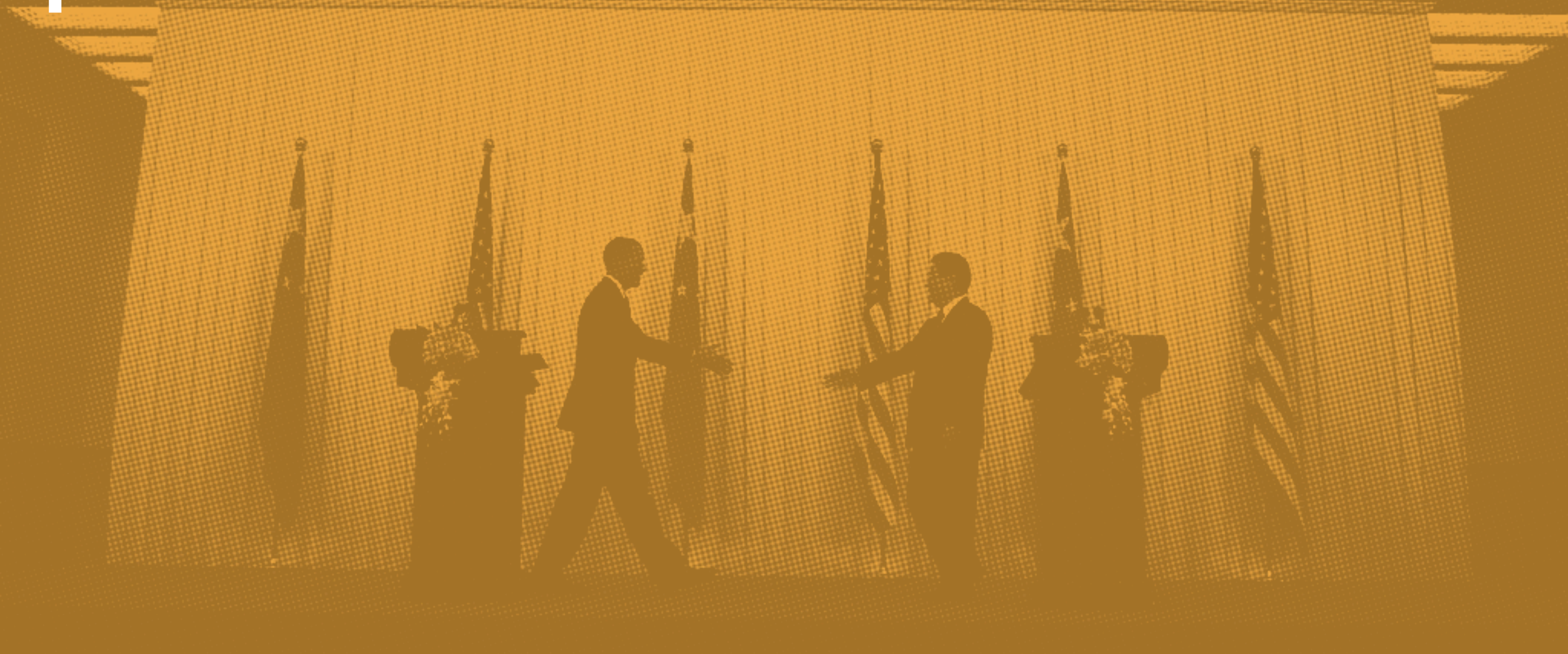
- **States may always resort to force.**
- **Contracts among states must be self-enforcing.**
- ***Talk is cheap.***



Credibility

A statement I make is *credible* if I wouldn't say it unless I meant it.

How could a carbon-cutting promise be credible?



What is

Diplomacy?

The International System

States: The members of the system.

Interests: What a state wants.

Power: The resources a state has to acquire what it wants.

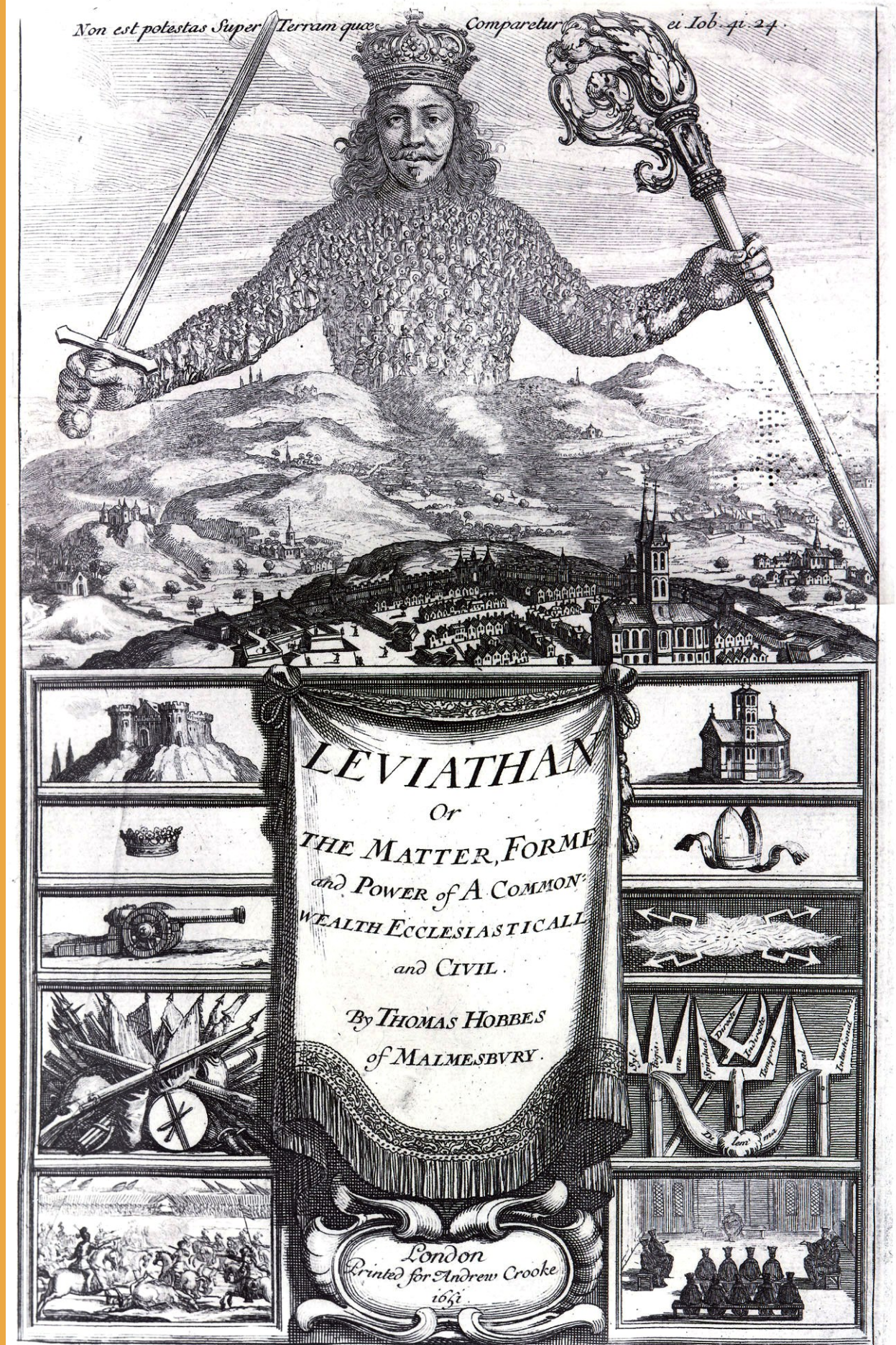
Force versus Diplomacy

Force: Directly taking what you want, usually through military means.

Diplomacy: Convincing others to give you what you want.

Diplomacy and the International System

Without diplomacy, the lives of states would be nasty, brutish, and short.



Bull's Definitions of Diplomacy

- 1. "The conduct of relations between states and other entities with standing in world politics by official agents and by peaceful means."**
- 2. "Such conduct of relations by professional diplomatists."**
- 3. "Such conduct of relations ... which is, in the everyday sense of the term, 'diplomatic', that is, tactful or subtle."**

Credibility and Diplomacy

In a sense, diplomacy is the art of establishing credibility.

For Next Time

- **Read Morgenthau 1985, "Diplomacy" and "The Future of Diplomacy" (download from Blackboard)**

Image Sources

- Barack Obama and Hu Jintao: White House, via **Flickr**
- *Leviathan* frontispiece: **Wikimedia Commons**