

Outline - Gourevitch (1978)

- * Domestic structure for IR an independent, intervening, sometimes irrelevant variable
- * For comparativists, structure may be an explanatory variable
- 1. To use structure to explain foreign policy, must explain how structure is 1st derived from international system
- 2. Literature is apolitical - stresses features which constrain policy regardless of interests or political orientation
- 3. Literature assumes break w/ past - present character of interaction in new category of analysis
- * Impact of international system on domestic politics
- 1. International economy
- * Political development shaped by war and trade (and sometimes ideas)
- * Outcomes include regime type, coalition type - properties most often used as variables in explanation of foreign policy
- * Gerschenkron - democracy, fascism, communism successive modes of modernization - political outcomes strongly affected by character of world economy at attempt to industrialize
- * Dependency - non-repeatable nature of development - center determines options of periphery - development of capitalism formed core/semi-periphery/periphery (Wallerstein) - can't understand states disaggregated from the world system
- * Liberal Development - apolitical - markets good for everyone - no obstacles to parity, all trajectories similar
- * Transnational Actors - critique of realist state-centrism - complex interdependence alters domestic structures
- * Neomercantilist/Marxist - interdependence from state policy - capitalism sometimes needs counter-class saviors - different views of the ends of the state
- 2. International State System
- * Primacy of security - states fundamentally organize for war (Hintze)
- * Threat of "foreign entanglements" or territorial compensation
- * Domestic Structures and International System
- * What aspects of domestic structure best explain foreign policy?
- * Most arguments focus on process divorced from politics
- * Strong states vs. weak states - strong acts on collective interest, weak states are fragmented - no explanation for orientation of state policy - can't take politics out of equation for some states and not others - obscures how politics shape outcomes
- * Institutional structure affects extent to which governing coalition can impose views
- * Why Talk About Interdependence?
- * Does state retain power over transnational actors? Most useful aspect of interdependence is that it works out models based on something other than anarchy
- * International system a cause and consequence of domestic politics
- * External pressures not fully determining
- * No reason to emphasize discontinuity in degree of interdependence