

PLS 150 INTRO TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

DR MAJA SAVEVSKA

Assistant Professor

Department of Political Science and International Relations

SSH | Nazarbayev University

Office: 8.502

Email: maja.savevska@nu.edu.kz

Agenda for Week Two

Monday

- **Current Events (10min)**
- **Lecture on realism (40min)**

Wednesday

- Current Events (10min)
- Lecture on neoliberal institutionalism (40min)

Friday

- Kahoot (10 min)
- Lecture (20min)
- Interactive activities (rest)

00:00

Current Events

Theoretical Approaches

Realism



Liberalism



Constructivism



	Realism	Liberalism/Neoliberal Institutionalism	Constructivism
Most important actor and level of analysis			
Main concern			
Assumptions about states			
Objectives			
International system			
Role of IOs			
Central Variable			

Realist IR

Historical Lineage

- **Thucydides' *Melian Dialogue* - 460 BCE**
- **Machiavelli's *The Prince* – 15 century**
- **Thomas Hobbes' *Leviathan* - 17 century**

Hall of Fame

- **Hans Morgenthau**
- **Kenneth Waltz**



Realist IR

Most Important Actor

- **States**

International System

- **Anarchy**
- **Self-help is the norm**

Realist IR

Main Concern

- **Autonomy**
- **Security**
 - **Behavior is driven by fear**

Assumptions

- **States are positional, envious, power-maximizers**
- **States are focused on relative gain**

Security Dilemma

Security Dilemma

	Country B Cooperates: Doesn't Arm Itself	Country B Defects: Arm Itself
Country A Cooperates Doesn't Arm Itself	Peace	Country B is stronger Country A is exploited
Country A Defects: Arm Itself	Country A is stronger Country B is exploited	Arms Race

Realist IR

Role of IOs

- **Negligible effect on state behavior**
- **Weak institutionalism**

Central Variable

- **Relative power (distribution of power)**

Power

What it is?

- **Ability to get one actor to do what he would not have otherwise done (Dahl)**

How to measure it?

- **Power as capacity:**
 - **Military**
 - **Size of territory**
 - **Population**
 - **Level of income**
 - **Technological advancement**
 - **Soft power**

Power

Balance of Power

- **Ratio of power capabilities**
- **Processes of counteracting alliances**

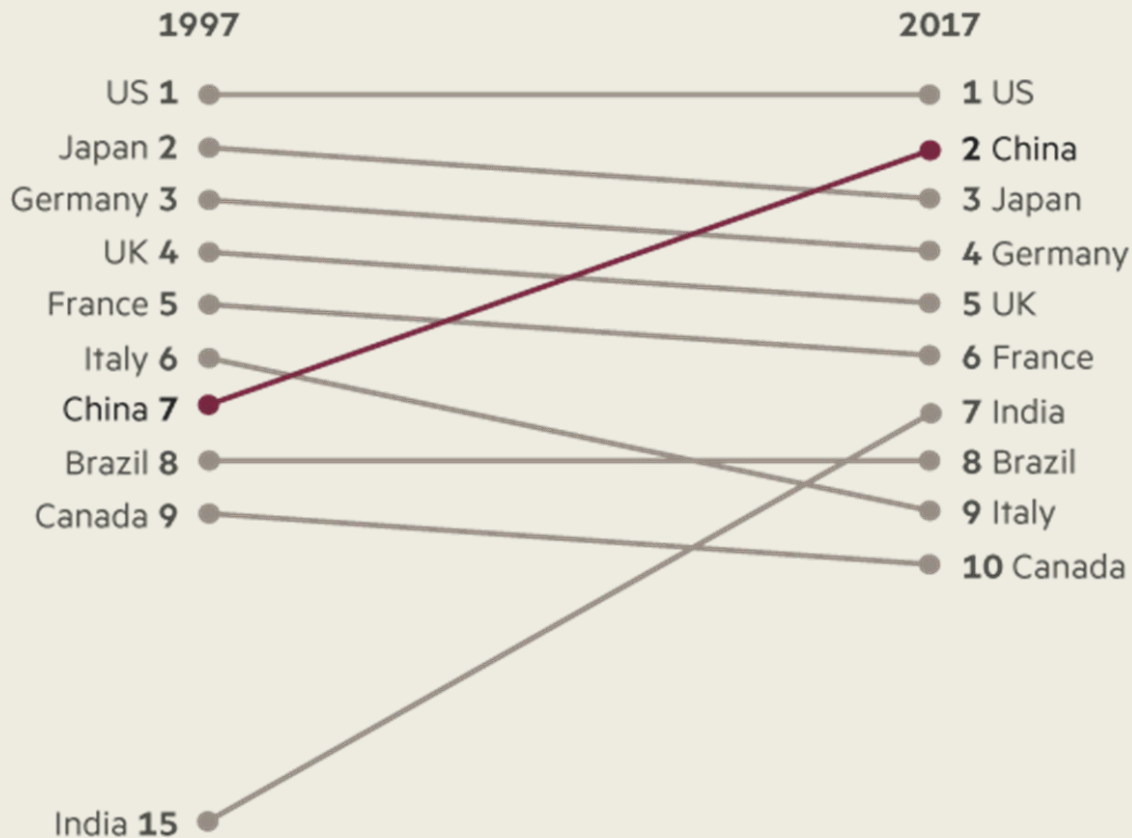
Power Distribution

- **Multipolar**
- **Bipolar**
- **Unipolar**
 - **(Hegemony)**

Power Transition

Change in the distribution of power affects the equilibrium

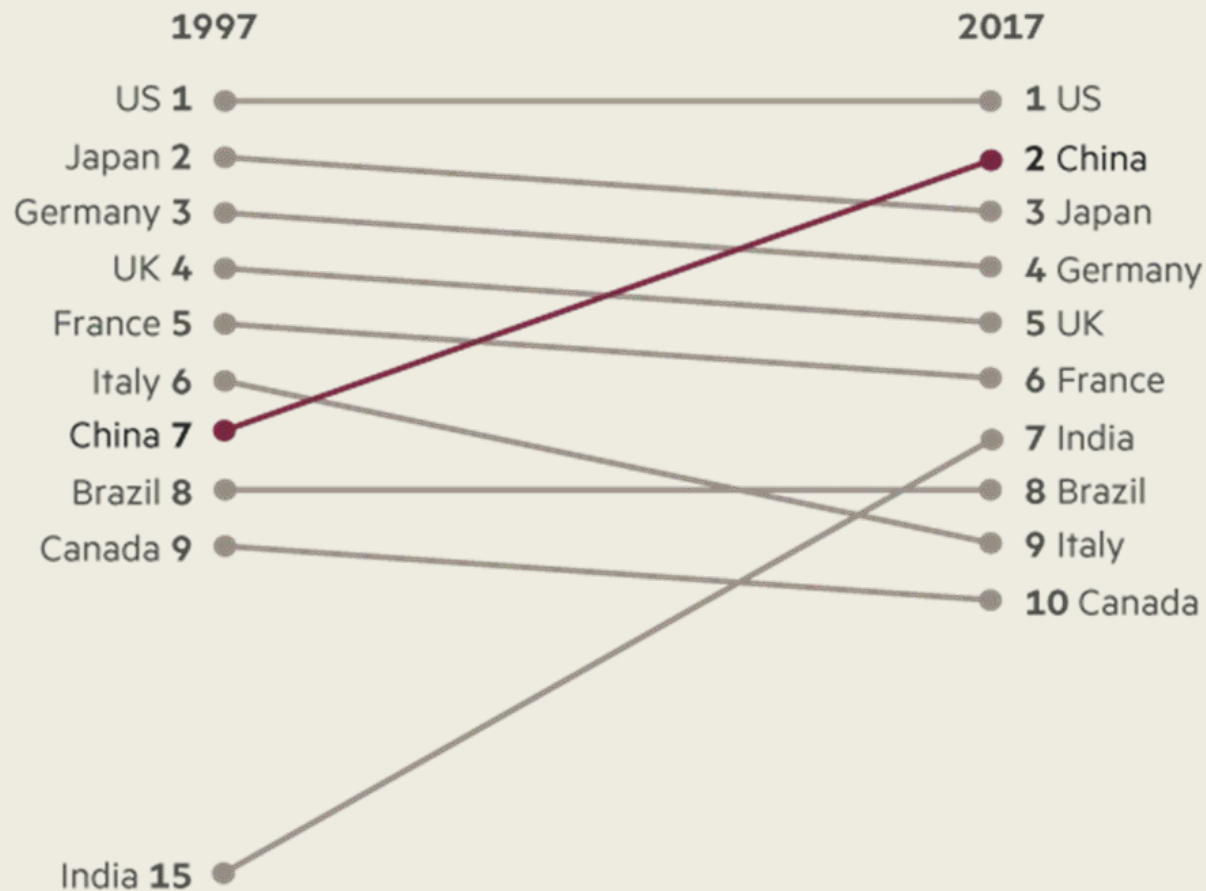
World ranking by size of the economy
At current \$ value



Case Study: Rise of China

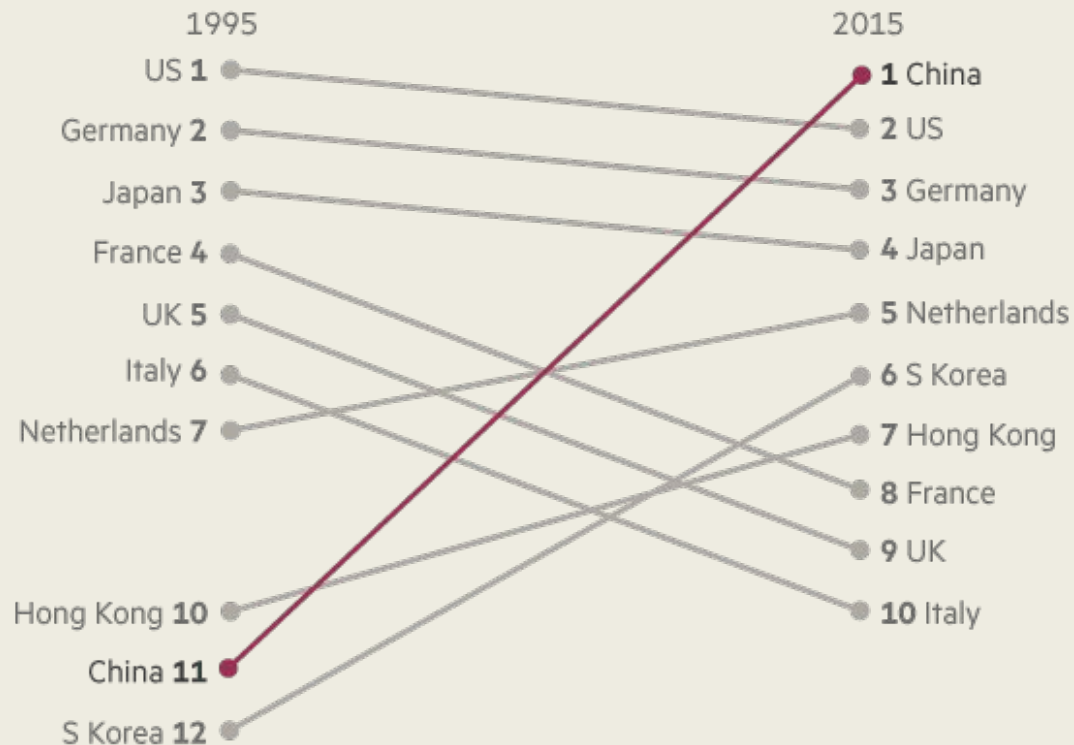
World ranking by size of the economy

At current \$ value



Case Study: Rise of China

World ranking by size of merchandise exports



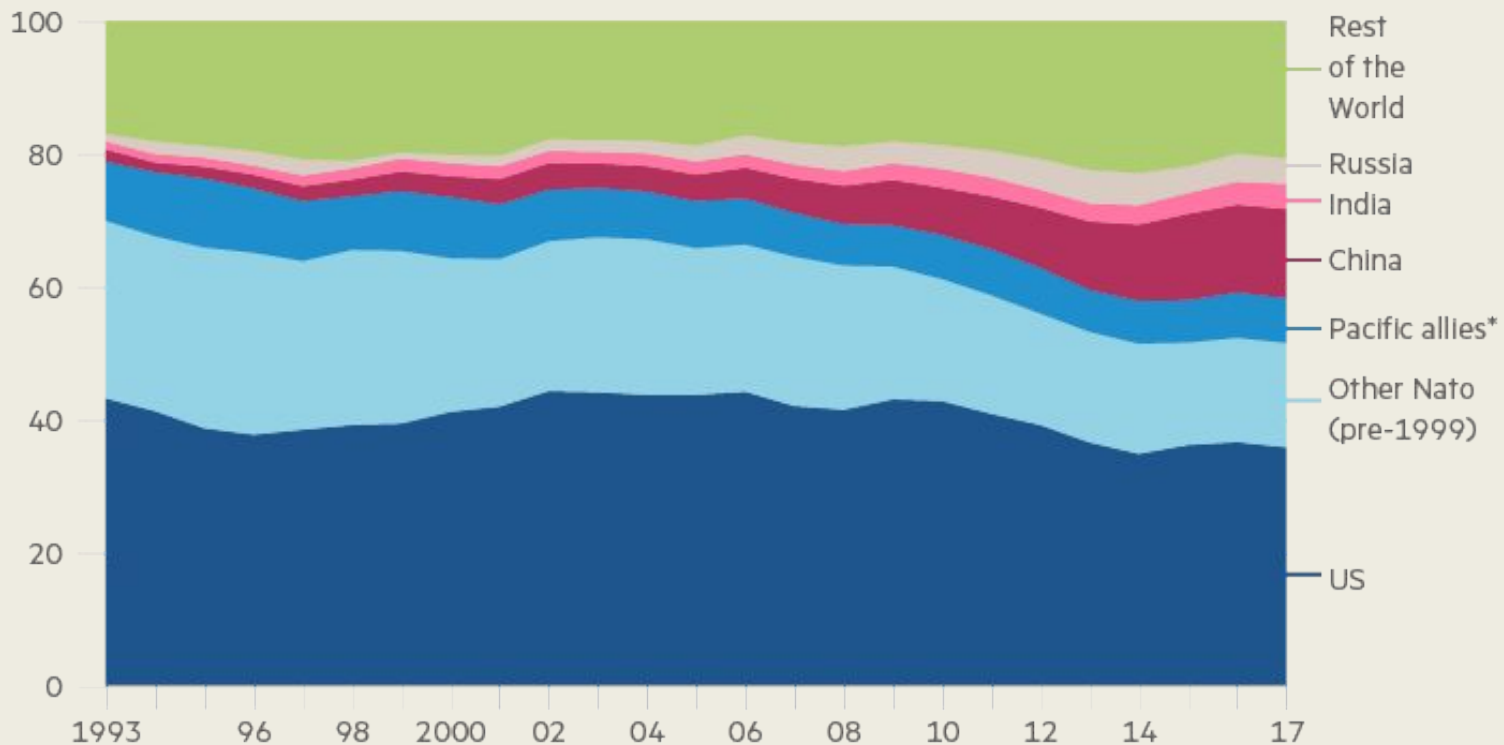
Source: Unctad

FT

Case Study: Rise of China

And still militarily dominant, too

Share of global military expenditure (In dollar terms at current prices and exchange rates, %)



Realist's View on China

- **Offensive realism: transition in power will not be smooth**
- **Defensive realism: China is in a crowded neighborhood**

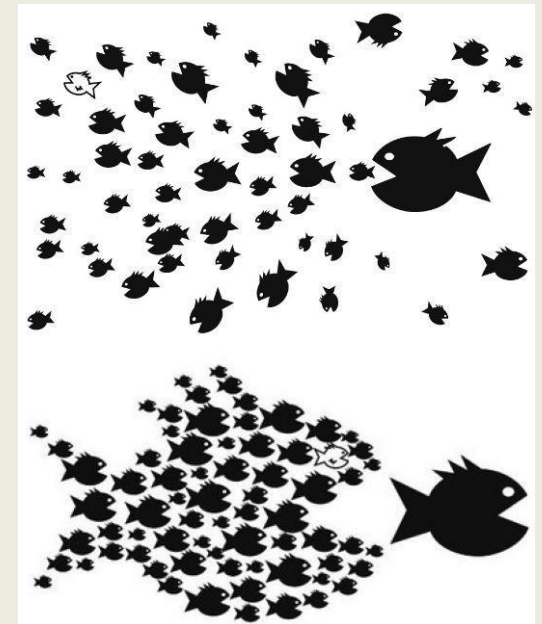
Key Puzzle

Collective Action Problems

- **Public goods**
- **Conflict between collective and individual interests**
- **Free-ride problems**
- **Unilateral defection vs. collective action**

Why It Arises?

- **Nations are sovereign**



Agenda for Week Two

Monday

- **Current Events (10 min)**
- **Lecture on realism (40 min)**

Wednesday

- **Current events (10 min)**
- **Lecture on neo-liberal institutionalism (40 min)**

Friday

- **Kahoot (10 min)**
- **Lecture (20 min)**
- **Interactive activities (rest)**

00:00

Current Events

Theoretical Approaches

Realism



Neo-Liberal
Institutionalism



Constructivism



	Realism	Liberalism/Neoliberal Institutionalism	Constructivism
Most important actor and level of analysis			
Main concern			
Assumptions about states			
Objectives			
International system			
Role of IOs			
Central Variable			

Conceptual Distinction

Liberals in political sense

- **US politics**

Liberalism in IR

- **Neo-liberal institutionalism**

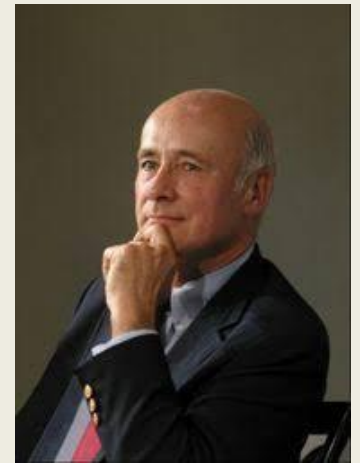
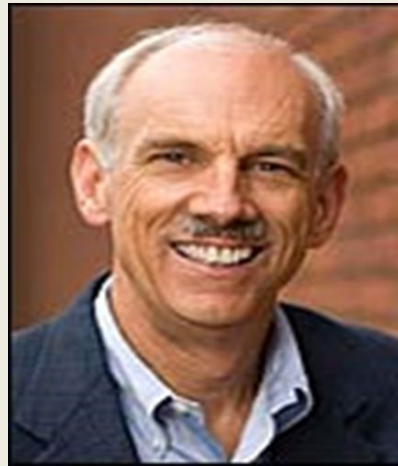
Neo-Liberal Institutionalism

Historical Lineage

- John Lock's idea of limited government
- Immanuel Kant's *Perpetual Peace*
- Adam Smith's critique of mercantilism
- Woodrow Willson's *14 Points*

Hall of Fame

- Robert Keohane
- Joseph Nye



Neo-Liberal Institutionalism

Most important actor

- **State is important unitary actor**
- **But other actors matter as well such as International Organizations**

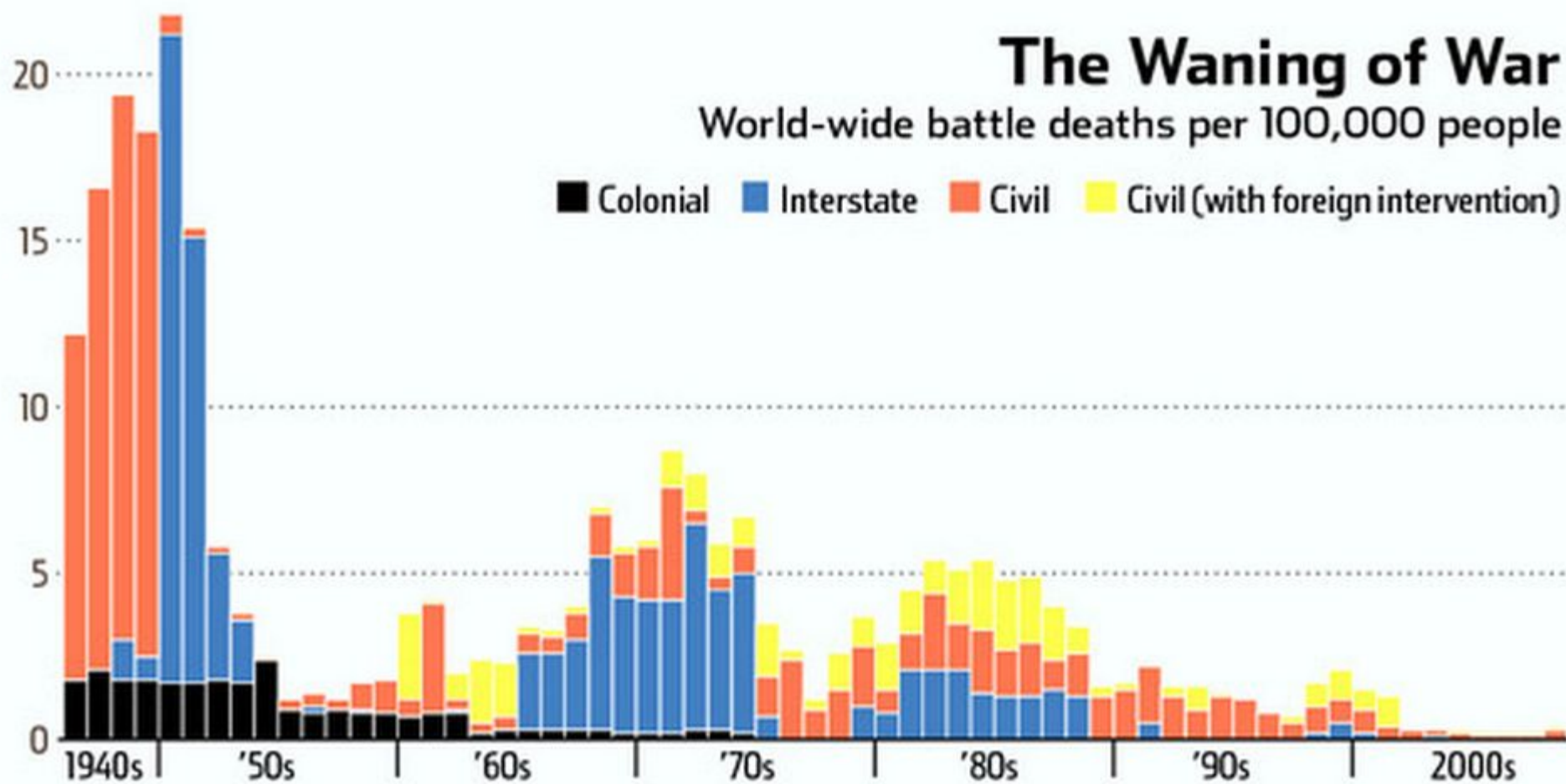
International system

- **Anarchy**
- **But self-help need not follow from anarchy**
- **Complex Interdependence**

Does peace come naturally from open economy?

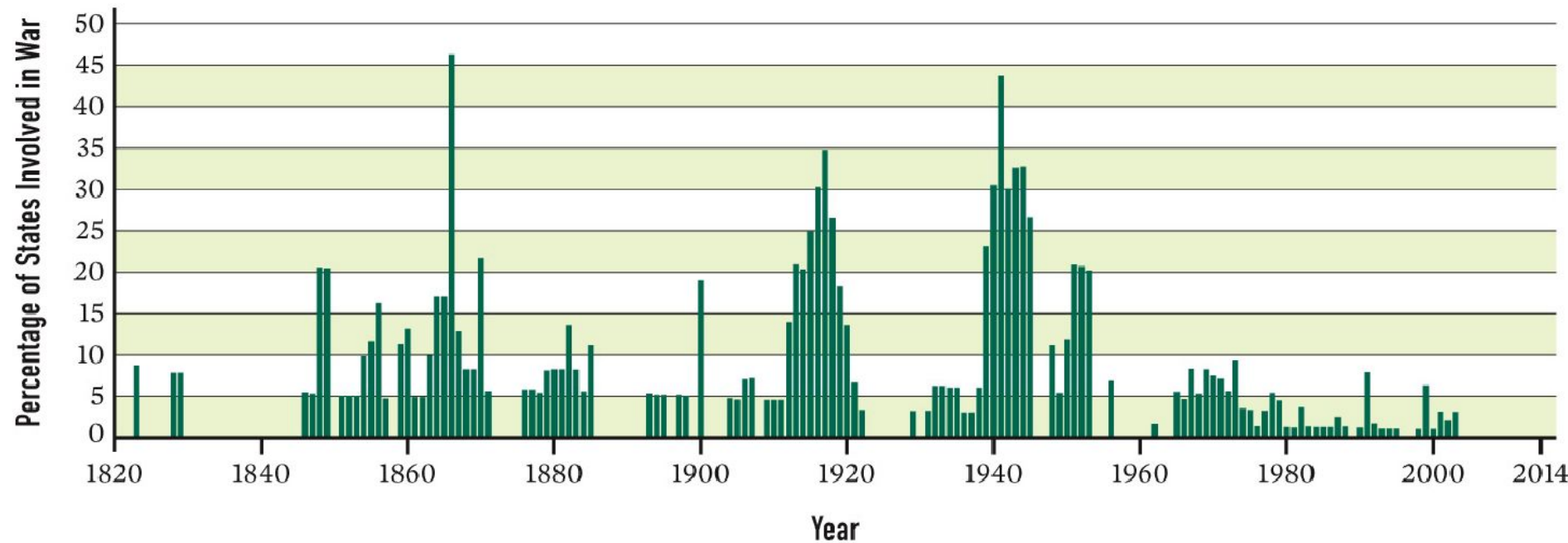
The Waning of War

World-wide battle deaths per 100,000 people



Source: Human Security Report Project, the Uppsala Conflict Data Project, and the Peace Research Institute of Oslo

FIGURE 3.1 *The Percentage of States Involved in Interstate War per Year, 1820–2014*



Source: Meredith Reid Sarkees and Frank Wayman, *Resort to War: 1816–2007* (Washington, DC: CQ Press, 2010). Updated to 2014 by author.

Countries are at peace most of the time

- **American deaths from:**
 - **9/11: 2,996**
 - **Terrorism: a few dozen per year**
 - **Iraq War: 4,493**
 - **Murder, average year: 16,121**
 - **Car accidents, average year: 33,804**
 - **Accidental falls, average year: 30,208**

Neo-Liberal Institutionalism

Focus

- **Possibility of cooperation**

Assumptions

- **States are egoist, but NOT envious**
- **States are focused on absolute, NOT relative gain**

Utility Functions of States

Liberals

- $U_a = V_a$
- $U_b = V_b$

Realists

- $U_a = V_a - k(V_b - V_a)$
- $U_b = V_b - k(V_a - V_b)$

K – coefficient to sensitivity to a gap

Absolute and Relative Gains

	Country B Cooperates	Country B Defects
Country A Cooperates	Country A gets \$100 Country B gets \$120	Country A gets \$50 Country B gets \$130
Country A Defects	Country A get a \$120 Country B gets \$60	Status Quo Country A gets \$50 Country B gets \$60

Agenda for Week Two

Monday

- **Current Events (10 min)**
- **Lecture on realism (40 min)**

Wednesday

- **Current events (10 min)**
- **Lecture on neo-liberal institutionalism (40 min)**

Friday

- **Kahoot (10 min)**
- **Lecture (20 min)**
- **Interactive activities (rest)**

Kahoot



Neo-Liberal Institutionalism

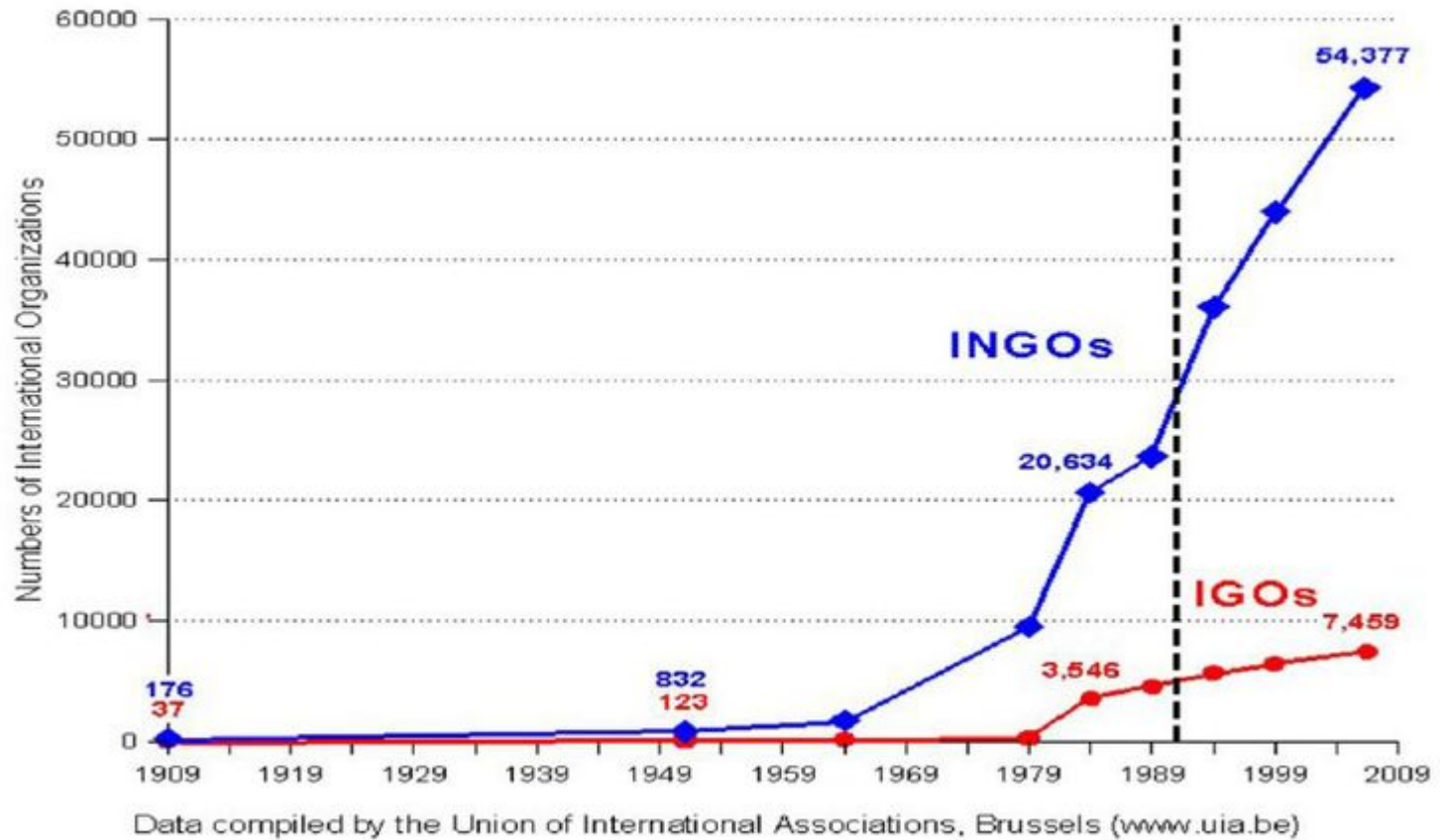
Role of IOs

- **Facilitate cooperation**
- **Reduce transaction costs**
- **Monitor compliance**

Central Variable

- **It is not the distribution of power that determines outcome in the global economy, but state's **interests and preferences****
- **Cost-benefit analysis of pay-off structure**

Yearbook of International Organizations



Collective Actions Problems

Realists Solutions

- **Dominance/Coercion Strategy:**
 - **Hegemon provides collective goods**

Collective Actions Problems










Neo-Liberal Institutionalists Solutions

- **Reciprocity and linkages:**
 - **Exchanges of privileges**
- **Institutions and IOs:**
 - **Set standards**
 - **Monitoring mechanism**
 - **Resolve disputes**

In-Class Exercise I – Taiwan Conflict

- **Work in Pairs**
- **What are the possible implications of the US involvement?**
 - **Draw a payoff matrix**
- **How would neo-liberal institutionalists resolve this CAP?**
 - **Propose solutions**
- **How would realists resolve this CAP?**

Chinese and Taiwanese armed forces

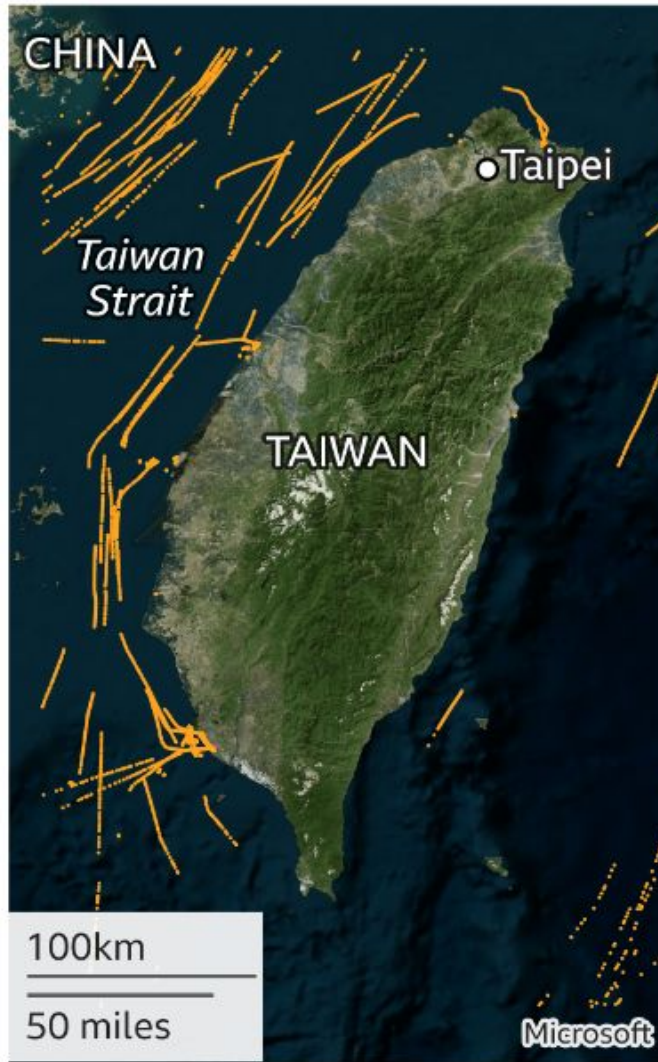
	 China	 Taiwan
Total active forces	2,035,000	169,000
Ground forces 	965,000	94,000
Navy 	260,000	40,000
Air force 	395,000	35,000
Reserves 	510,000	1,657,000
Tanks 	5,400	650
Aircraft 	3,227+	504+
Submarines 	59	4
Naval ships* 	86	26
Artillery 	9,834+	2,093

*Only includes ships classified as principal surface combatants, such as aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers and frigates

Ships around Taiwan avoid Chinese military exercise danger zones

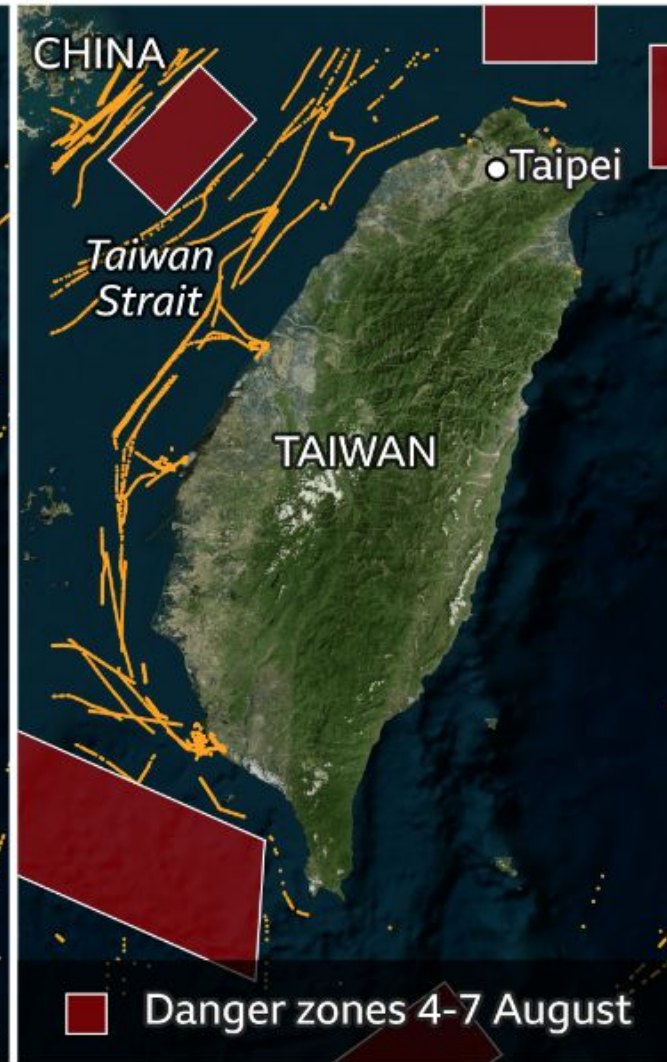
28 Jul

11:00 - 13:00 local time



4 Aug

11:00 - 13:00 local time

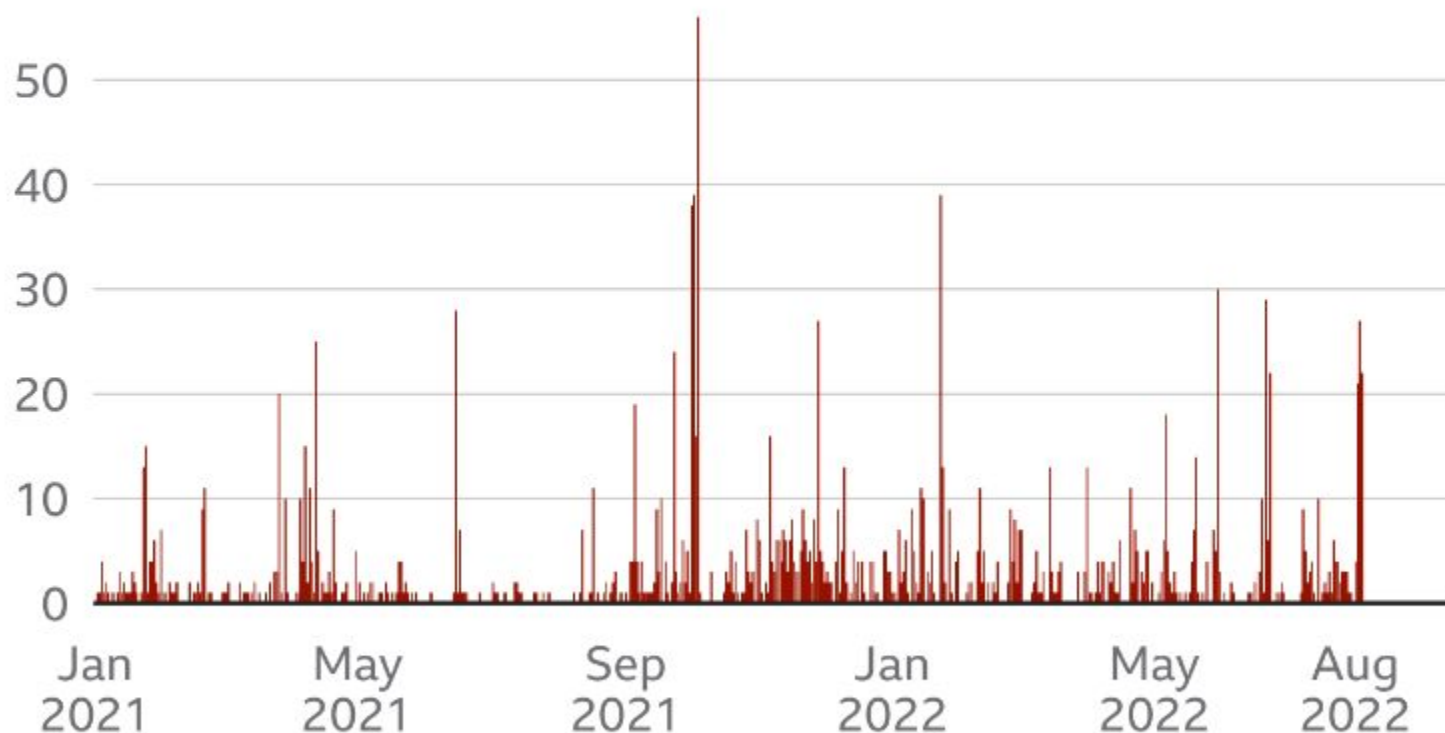


Source: MarineTraffic

BBC

Reported incursions into Taiwan's Air Defence Identification Zone

Chinese military aircraft sorties reported by Taiwan



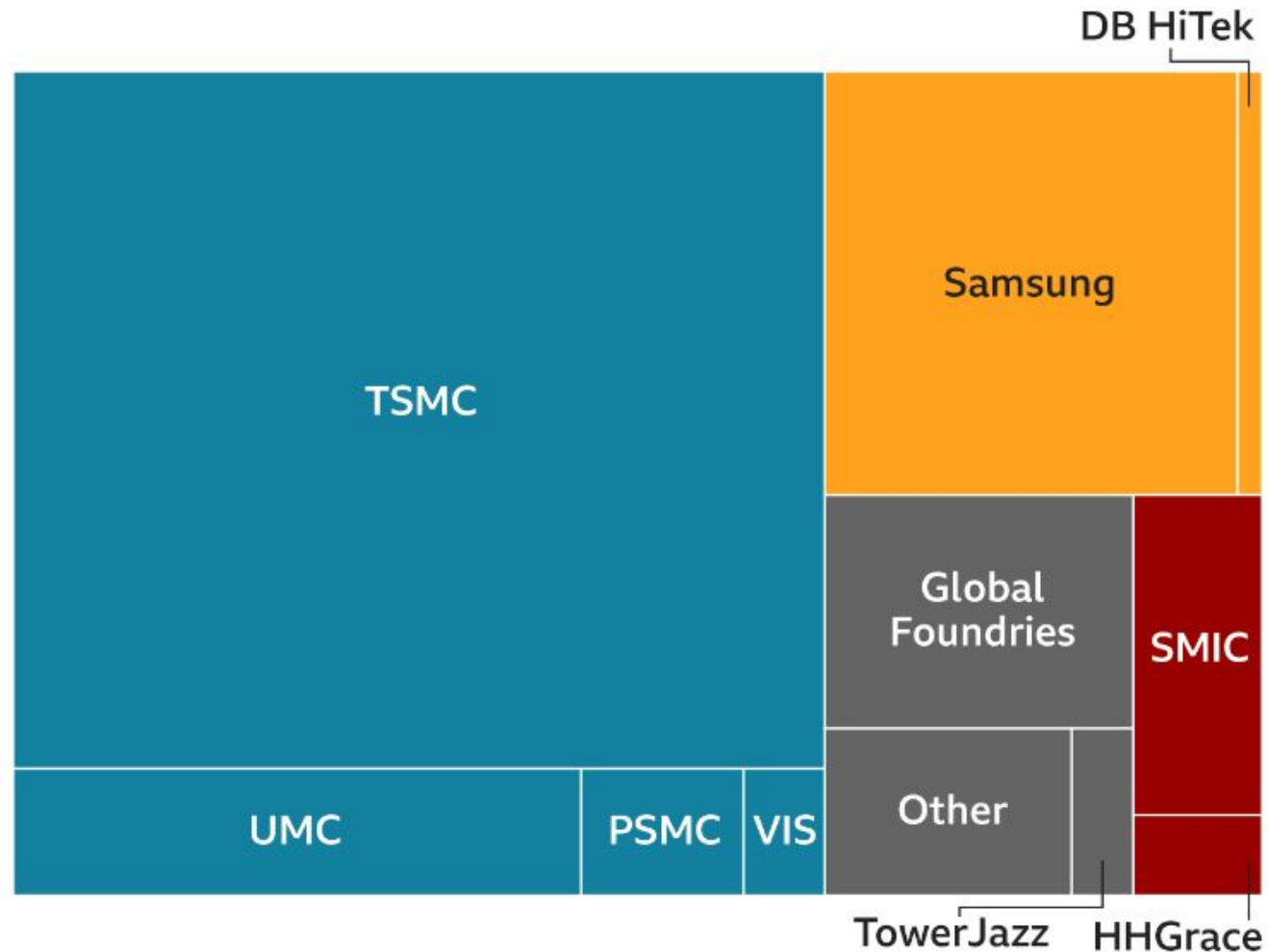
Source: Taiwan Ministry of National Defence, Last update 5 Aug 2022



Taiwan dominates the global production of computer chips

Global foundry market share, by country and company 2021

■ Taiwan 65% ■ South Korea 18% ■ China 5% ■ Other 12%



Source: Trendforce 2021

BBC

Q&A

Dr Maja
Savevska

- **Thank you for your attention**