

**Seminar week 12**  
Week 12- Lecture 11  
Emerging World Order  
Saadia Gardezi

Have rising powers effectively challenged the US-led global order?

Why do you think populism is a trend since the 1990s? How would you link it to the history of world politics?

What does it mean for the “values” of countries and the world order?

<https://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/WVSContents.jsp>

Clash or civilisations? Is that a thing?

Presentation topic

What was the impact of the invasion of Iraq on the emerging world order?

What is today’s “World Order”?

Three kinds of **liberal** stories about the post-cold war world (Baylis and Smith, Chapter 5).

- Some stressed institutions and the cooperative logic of institutions.
- Others stressed the **Kantian** idea of the gradual but progressive diffusion of liberal values, partly as a result of liberal economics and increased economic interdependence, partly as a result of the growing influence of global civil society, and partly as a result of the successful example set by the multifaceted liberal capitalist system of states.
- A third group told a more US-centred story. The US was indeed the centre of a unipolar world. But, true both to its own values and to its rational self-interest, Washington would have a continued incentive to bind itself within the institutions that it had created in the cold war era in order to reassure smaller states and to prevent balancing against US power (Ikenberry [2001](#)).

**Neorealist** thinkers argued that the extent of US power was simply so great that the normal logic of balance of power no longer applied, and that no state was likely to emerge in the foreseeable future with the capacity to disturb US power and primacy (Wohlforth [1999](#); Brooks and Wohlforth [2015/16](#)).

For **Robert Gilpin** ([1981](#)), the existence of a ‘**hierarchy of prestige**’ is central to the ordering of international relations; it is precisely the disjuncture between existing perceptions of prestige and changing material capabilities that underpins the logic of hegemonic conflict and the dynamics of change in international relations. Prestige is the currency of international politics.