

International Political Economy: The Business of War and Peace

By James H. Nolt

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This book offers a completely new and unique introduction to the economics of international relations. It treats all the traditional major themes of international relations theory while giving each a refreshing new twist with the incorporation of the influence of private power, particularly in the realm of war and peace. It reframes the history of the modern global economy and politics by thoroughly purging the myth of the market, a systematic blindness to private power. It not only draws on, but also illuminates major themes and empirical findings of comparative politics, business history, business strategy, business cycle theory, social evolutionary theory as well as the practical wisdom of traders and investors.

Part one introduces the major concepts of competing theories of international relations, emphasizing a unique approach, corporatism. Part two introduces the critical importance dynamic and oppositional analysis of issues. Part three traces the rise of the modern world from the mercantilist period until the rise of modern corporate organizations and the demise of imperialism in the crucible of World War I. Part four begins with the origins of the contemporary dominance of business internationalism before and during World War II, then analyzes three major facets of the postwar era: the unification of much of Europe, the industrialization of the Third World, and the Cold War and its aftermath. The final chapter considers the present and future of a fairly peaceful yet economically unstable world.

This book presents a refreshing and exciting portrayal of the global economy which challenges every major subject from money to markets to the business cycle. This book eschews the economics of dull averages to restore the drama of contending business forces, struggling for wealth and, in the process, influencing war and peace.

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Editorial Review

Review

In an attempt to reframe the history of the modern global economy, this interesting and erudite book by Nolt (senior fellow, World Policy Institute) critiques conventional literature of international relations through the lens of the author's theory of corporatist international relations. Nolt's theory stresses that international relations are more than the interplay among various nation states; rather, nations' international policies reflect, in part, the powerful influence of various interest groups. In contrast to this theory, the realist school of international relations interprets national policies as emerging because of the nation-state's understanding of its self-interest without acknowledging the role of national interest groups. Though the book does not offer a comprehensive understanding of the nature of international relations, readers should not fault the author; with so many parties influencing outcomes, outcomes remain elusive. What Nolt does doâ€”and does very wellâ€”is show how various kinds of corporate interests (e.g., manufacturing or finance) influence countries' international policies over long swaths of time, beginning with the Peloponnesian War. The book ends with an interesting final discussion about the evolving instabilities of international political economy.

--M. Perelman, California State University, Chico

About the Author

James H. Nolt is a Senior Fellow at the World Policy Institute in New York and Adjunct Associate Professor at New York University, USA.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Anne Bonk:

This International Political Economy: The Business of War and Peace is great publication for you because the content that is full of information for you who else always deal with world and possess to make decision every minute. This specific book reveal it data accurately using great manage word or we can claim no rambling sentences inside. So if you are read this hurriedly you can have whole data in it. Doesn't mean it only gives you straight forward sentences but difficult core information with lovely delivering sentences. Having International Political Economy: The Business of War and Peace in your hand like obtaining the world in your arm, information in it is not ridiculous a single. We can say that no book that offer you world within ten or fifteen moment right but this reserve already do that. So , this is certainly good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. occupied do you still doubt this?

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