

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy

****Robert D Kaplan The Coming Anarchy: Exploring the Complexities of Global Disorder****

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy is a phrase that encapsulates one of the most provocative and influential geopolitical essays of the late 20th century. Kaplan's work delves into the emerging patterns of chaos, conflict, and societal breakdown across various regions of the world, challenging the optimistic post-Cold War vision of a peaceful, cooperative global order. His insights continue to resonate as scholars, policymakers, and readers grapple with the unpredictable nature of international relations and the persistent challenges to stability.

In this article, we will explore the key themes of Robert D Kaplan's "The Coming Anarchy," understand its historical context, and examine its relevance in today's world. Along the way, we'll touch upon related concepts such as environmental degradation, state failure, resource scarcity, and ethnic conflict, all of which are integral to the essay's analysis.

Understanding Robert D Kaplan The Coming Anarchy

Robert D Kaplan's essay, originally published in *The Atlantic Monthly* in 1994, paints a grim picture of the future, warning that the world is moving towards increased disorder rather than order. Kaplan argues that factors like environmental stress, overpopulation, and the erosion of state authority are catalysts for widespread instability. This view contrasts sharply with the prevailing optimism of the early 1990s, when many believed that the end of the Cold War would usher in a new era of peace and cooperation.

What Does "The Coming Anarchy" Mean?

The phrase "coming anarchy" suggests a breakdown of social and political order on a broad scale. Kaplan foresaw that many countries, especially those in the developing world, would face severe challenges such as:

- Collapsing governments unable to provide basic services.
- Violent competition over scarce resources like water and arable land.
- Ethnic and tribal conflicts exacerbated by poverty and displacement.
- The rise of warlords and criminal networks filling power vacuums.

Kaplan's essay was revolutionary because it shifted the conversation from traditional geopolitical rivalries to the internal dynamics within countries, highlighting the fragility of states in a globalizing world.

The Geopolitical Context of Kaplan's Analysis

In the early 1990s, the global landscape was rapidly changing. The bipolar world order dominated by

the United States and the Soviet Union had dissolved, and the nature of conflict was evolving. Kaplan's work captures this transition, focusing on the "new wars" that were less about ideology and more about survival, identity, and control over resources.

From Cold War to Post-Cold War Disorder

The Cold War era was characterized by proxy conflicts, political alliances, and a clear division of power. After the Soviet Union's collapse, Kaplan noticed an emerging pattern:

- Traditional state borders remained, but the authority within those borders weakened.
- Multinational corporations and non-state actors gained influence.
- Environmental degradation began to play a more visible role in fueling conflict.

This post-Cold War disorder, as Kaplan described, was less about superpower competition and more about localized crises that could potentially spill over into wider instability.

Key Themes in Robert D Kaplan The Coming Anarchy

Kaplan's essay is rich with themes that intersect with various disciplines including political science, environmental studies, and sociology. Let's explore some of the most critical ideas.

Environmental Decline and Its Role in Conflict

One of Kaplan's most compelling arguments is that environmental stress is a silent driver of social breakdown. Deforestation, desertification, and pollution are not just ecological issues but catalysts for human misery and unrest. In regions where resources become scarce, communities are forced into conflict over what little remains.

For example, in West Africa, deforestation and soil exhaustion have contributed to food insecurity, pushing populations to migrate and sometimes clash with neighboring groups. Kaplan's prognosis was that such environmental pressures would become more common globally, undermining stability.

State Failure and the Rise of Warlords

Kaplan highlights how many postcolonial states suffer from weak governance, corruption, and lack of legitimacy. When governments fail to maintain order or provide services, alternative power structures often emerge. These can be warlords, militias, or criminal organizations that control territory and resources by force rather than law.

This phenomenon is apparent in places like Somalia during the 1990s, where the central government collapsed, and multiple factions fought for dominance. Kaplan's analysis helps explain how such fragmentation can lead to prolonged violence and humanitarian crises.

Ethnic and Tribal Conflicts

Ethnic divisions are frequently exploited in environments of scarcity and political vacuum. Kaplan notes that identity-based conflicts can be particularly intractable because they are tied to deep historical grievances and survival instincts.

In “The Coming Anarchy,” he draws attention to the way ethnic rivalries can escalate into violent struggles, often facilitated by the breakdown of state control. These conflicts are less about ideology and more about communities fighting to secure their place and resources.

Relevance of Robert D Kaplan The Coming Anarchy Today

More than two decades after its publication, Kaplan’s essay remains strikingly relevant. Many of the issues he predicted—state failure, environmental degradation, and resource conflicts—are still at the forefront of global challenges.

Modern Examples Reflecting Kaplan’s Predictions

- **Syria’s Civil War:** Triggered by drought, economic hardship, and political repression, it exemplifies how environmental and social stresses can ignite broader conflict.
- **The Sahel Region:** Countries like Mali and Niger face ongoing violence fueled by weak governance, terrorism, and competition for resources.
- **Yemen:** A complex humanitarian crisis with multiple factions vying for power amid severe food and water shortages.

These contemporary cases echo Kaplan’s warnings about fragile states and the potential for anarchy to spread in unstable regions.

Criticisms and Counterpoints

While Kaplan’s essay has been influential, it has also faced criticism. Some argue that his focus on chaos overlooks the resilience and adaptability of societies. Others contend that his narrative can be deterministic, implying an inevitable slide into disorder rather than recognizing opportunities for reform and cooperation.

Moreover, the global response to crises has evolved, with increased international attention, humanitarian aid, and peacekeeping efforts attempting to mitigate the risks Kaplan identified.

Lessons from Robert D Kaplan The Coming Anarchy

Whether one agrees fully with Kaplan's thesis or not, his work offers valuable lessons for understanding modern geopolitics:

- **Complexity of Global Issues:** Problems like conflict and environmental degradation are interconnected and require holistic approaches.
- **Importance of Governance:** Strong, legitimate institutions are crucial to preventing the descent into anarchy.
- **Need for Sustainable Resource Management:** Protecting the environment and managing resources equitably is essential to long-term stability.
- **Focus on Local Dynamics:** International policy must consider the specific cultural, ethnic, and social contexts of affected regions.

For students, policymakers, or curious readers, "The Coming Anarchy" serves as a thought-provoking lens through which to view the challenges facing the world.

How to Engage with Kaplan's Ideas

If you're interested in exploring Robert D Kaplan's work further, consider the following tips:

- Read the original essay alongside Kaplan's other writings on geopolitics and travel, which offer rich contextual insights.
- Explore case studies of countries experiencing state fragility and environmental stress to see how theory meets reality.
- Stay updated on current global issues related to migration, climate change, and conflict to understand ongoing applications of Kaplan's themes.
- Engage in discussions or academic forums that critically examine the balance between order and disorder in international relations.

Robert D Kaplan's "The Coming Anarchy" is not just a historical document but a living conversation starter about how the world manages its most pressing challenges.

As we continue to navigate uncertain times, revisiting such analyses encourages us to think beyond traditional paradigms and prepare for a future where cooperation and resilience might be the best antidotes to the anarchy Kaplan foresaw.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the central theme of Robert D. Kaplan's 'The Coming Anarchy'?

The central theme of 'The Coming Anarchy' is the prediction of a future characterized by environmental degradation, resource scarcity, social decay, and political instability, leading to increased violence and disorder globally.

When was 'The Coming Anarchy' by Robert D. Kaplan first published?

'The Coming Anarchy' was first published in 1994 as an article in The Atlantic Monthly before being expanded into a book.

How does Robert D. Kaplan describe the impact of environmental issues in 'The Coming Anarchy'?

Kaplan argues that environmental problems such as deforestation, overpopulation, and resource depletion exacerbate social tensions and contribute significantly to the breakdown of traditional political structures.

What regions does Kaplan focus on in 'The Coming Anarchy'?

Kaplan primarily examines regions such as West Africa, the Middle East, and parts of South Asia to illustrate his points about political instability and social fragmentation.

How has 'The Coming Anarchy' influenced geopolitical thought?

The book has influenced geopolitical thought by highlighting the importance of environmental and social factors in shaping future conflicts, encouraging policymakers to consider non-traditional security threats.

What criticisms have been raised against Kaplan's 'The Coming Anarchy'?

Critics argue that Kaplan's predictions are overly pessimistic and deterministic, sometimes neglecting the resilience of states and the potential for cooperation and development.

Is 'The Coming Anarchy' still relevant to today's global issues?

Yes, many of the themes in 'The Coming Anarchy', such as climate change, resource competition, and fragile states, remain highly relevant in understanding contemporary global challenges.

Additional Resources

Robert D Kaplan The Coming Anarchy: An Analytical Review of Geopolitical Forecasting

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy stands as a pivotal concept in the discourse on global instability and the evolving nature of geopolitical conflict. Kaplan's seminal essay, first published in the early 1990s, boldly challenged prevailing assumptions about the post-Cold War world order by predicting a future marked less by conventional interstate wars and more by chaotic, fragmented violence driven by social, environmental, and economic factors. This article delves into the core themes of Kaplan's work, exploring its influence, critiques, and relevance in today's geopolitical

landscape.

Understanding Robert D Kaplan's The Coming Anarchy

Robert D Kaplan, a renowned geopolitical analyst and author, gained widespread recognition through his essay "The Coming Anarchy," originally published in *The Atlantic Monthly* in 1994. The article painted a grim picture of a world where ethnic strife, resource scarcity, and demographic pressures would unravel the fabric of fragile states, particularly in the Global South. Kaplan argued that these conditions would catalyze a new form of disorder fundamentally different from the Cold War bipolar confrontations.

At its core, Kaplan's thesis proposed that environmental degradation, overcrowding, and the collapse of traditional governance structures would create a "new anarchic order." This would manifest through:

- Widespread urban violence and criminality
- Breakdown of state authority in weak or failing states
- Migration crises and refugee flows destabilizing neighboring regions
- Emergence of non-state actors filling power vacuums

Kaplan's narrative was grounded in detailed field research, especially in West Africa, where he observed firsthand the consequences of rapid demographic growth coupled with declining resources and governance failures. His insights reflected a shift from viewing conflict through traditional military lenses to emphasizing socio-economic and environmental drivers.

The Geopolitical Context of The Coming Anarchy

The early 1990s marked a significant transition in international relations. The Cold War's conclusion had dismantled the bipolar global order, leading many analysts to predict a new era of peace and cooperation. Kaplan's essay disrupted this optimism by highlighting the emerging "shadow conflicts" that were less visible but equally dangerous.

His focus on regions like West Africa, Central America, and parts of Southeast Asia underscored the uneven distribution of peace and stability in the post-Cold War period. Kaplan suggested that the collapse of ideological rivalry would give rise to localized conflicts fueled by ethnic tensions, environmental stress, and economic deprivation — factors often neglected in mainstream security analyses.

Key Themes and Analytical Insights

Environmental Degradation as a Catalyst for Conflict

One of the essay's groundbreaking elements was linking environmental degradation to political instability. Kaplan argued that deforestation, desertification, and depletion of water resources would exacerbate competition over scarce assets. For example, in West Africa, the shrinking of arable land and potable water sources heightened tensions among rural communities and urban migrants alike.

This environmental lens anticipated later academic and policy debates on "climate security." Kaplan's work was among the first to suggest that environmental issues should be integral to understanding security threats, a notion that has gained traction amid growing concerns about climate change-induced conflicts.

The Role of Demographic Pressures

Kaplan emphasized rapid population growth in marginalized regions as a destabilizing force. Overcrowding in urban slums, unemployment, and inadequate infrastructure were projected to fuel crime, gang warfare, and political unrest. This demographic dynamic was not just a backdrop but a primary driver of what Kaplan termed "coming anarchy."

His analysis resonates with contemporary studies highlighting youth bulges as risk factors for social upheaval. By connecting demographic trends to governance challenges, Kaplan added a nuanced dimension to security forecasting beyond traditional military concerns.

State Failure and the Rise of Non-State Actors

A major contribution of Kaplan's essay was its focus on the erosion of state sovereignty. Weak governments, often unable to provide basic services or enforce law and order, were portrayed as breeding grounds for chaos. This power vacuum would be exploited by warlords, militias, and criminal networks, undermining regional stability.

This foresight aligns with later developments in failed state theory and the proliferation of non-state armed groups in places like Somalia, Afghanistan, and parts of Latin America. Kaplan's observations anticipated the challenges faced by international actors in engaging with fractured political landscapes.

Critiques and Contemporary Relevance

While "The Coming Anarchy" remains influential, it has also attracted criticism from various quarters. Some scholars argue that Kaplan's portrayal risks oversimplification by framing complex socio-political phenomena predominantly in terms of decay and disorder. Critics caution against

deterministic narratives that may reinforce stereotypes about developing regions as inherently unstable.

Moreover, Kaplan's focus on anarchy and collapse has been challenged by examples of resilience and state-building initiatives that contradict the inevitability of chaos. Countries such as Rwanda and Ghana have demonstrated relatively stable governance amid adversity, complicating the narrative of universal decline.

Despite these critiques, Kaplan's essay continues to be a touchstone for understanding non-traditional security threats. Its emphasis on environmental and demographic factors presaged the multidimensional nature of modern conflicts, which often transcend military engagement alone.

Influence on Policy and Academic Discourse

Robert D Kaplan's insights have permeated both policy circles and academic research. His work influenced U.S. foreign policy debates in the 1990s and 2000s, particularly regarding interventions in fragile states and the prioritization of human security.

Academically, "The Coming Anarchy" is frequently cited in discussions of failed state theory, human security, and environmental conflict. It helped broaden the analytical framework beyond state-centric models, integrating socio-economic and ecological variables into geopolitical forecasting.

Robert D Kaplan's Broader Body of Work

Understanding "The Coming Anarchy" also requires situating it within Kaplan's wider oeuvre. As a prolific writer and global traveler, Kaplan has consistently explored themes of geography, culture, and power. His books, such as *The Revenge of Geography* and *Monsoon*, expand on his belief that physical geography and human factors interact dynamically to shape political outcomes.

Kaplan's journalistic approach combines on-the-ground observation with historical analysis, lending his predictions a distinctive empirical grounding. This methodology contrasts with purely theoretical models, making his contributions particularly valuable for practitioners and scholars alike.

Modern-Day Implications of The Coming Anarchy

In the 21st century, many of Kaplan's predictions resonate strongly amid ongoing global challenges. The Syrian civil war, the rise of ISIS, the Venezuelan crisis, and the Sahel insurgencies exemplify the complex interplay of environmental stress, demographic pressure, and governance breakdown.

Furthermore, the increasing frequency of climate-related disasters has underscored the importance of integrating environmental risks into security strategies. Kaplan's early warnings about resource scarcity and population dynamics remain relevant as policymakers grapple with migration flows and fragile state resilience.

However, the global landscape also shows significant adaptive capacities. International cooperation,

technological advances, and local governance reforms offer pathways to mitigate the “anarchy” Kaplan described. This duality highlights the continued relevance of his framework as both a cautionary tale and a call for proactive engagement.

Applying Kaplan’s Framework to Emerging Threats

Current geopolitical analysts often use Kaplan’s concepts to interpret phenomena such as cyber warfare, pandemics, and transnational terrorism. Although these modern threats differ in nature, they share the characteristic of transcending traditional state boundaries and exploiting governance weaknesses.

By emphasizing the underlying socio-environmental conditions, “The Coming Anarchy” provides a lens to anticipate conflict drivers beyond immediate triggers. This holistic perspective is increasingly crucial in a world characterized by interconnected risks and multidimensional security challenges.

Robert D Kaplan’s “The Coming Anarchy” remains a foundational text in the study of geopolitical instability and the evolving nature of conflict. While not without its critics, its analytical depth and foresight have left an indelible mark on how scholars and policymakers understand the complex nexus of environment, population, and governance. As global dynamics continue to shift, revisiting Kaplan’s insights offers valuable guidance in navigating the uncertain terrain of 21st-century security.

[Robert D Kaplan The Coming Anarchy](#)

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: The Coming Anarchy Robert D. Kaplan, 2002-08-13 Robert Kaplan, bestselling author of *Balkan Ghosts*, offers up scrupulous, far-ranging insights on the world to come in a spirited, rousing, and provocative book that has earned a place at the top of the reading lists of the world's policy makers. The end of the Cold War has not ushered in the global peace and prosperity that many had anticipated. Volatile new democracies in Eastern Europe, fierce tribalism in Africa, civil war and ethnic violence in the Near East, and widespread famine and disease—not to mention the brutal rift developing as wealthy nations reap the benefits of seemingly boundless technology while other parts of the world slide into chaos—are among the issues Kaplan identifies as the most important for charting the future of geopolitics. Historical antecedents in Gibbon's *Decline and Fall* and in the legacies of statesmen such as Henry Kissinger contribute to this bracingly prophetic framework for addressing the new global reality. Bold, erudite, and profoundly important, *The Coming Anarchy* is a compelling must-read by one of today's most penetrating writers and provocative minds.

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: Rethinking Environmental Protection Phillip F. Cramer, 2000-01-01 Despite widespread popular support for environmental action, Phillip F. Cramer argues that current U.S. environmental policy approaches fail to address the real threat of environmental insecurity. Cramer traces this failure to a reluctance to recognize and address the interconnectedness of natural forces—just as all elements within the environment are linked, so too should our perspectives on, and responses to, environmental degradation be linked. In this book Cramer provides an innovative holistic approach to environmental protection that incorporates the

best lessons learned from the fields of biology, ethics, philosophy, political science, law, ecology, and international relations. He especially advocates local action and, providing illustrative examples, demonstrates how local action around the world is most effective when carried out within a global framework that supports information dissemination and international coordination. This book will energize to thought and action any scholar, student, or general reader concerned with environmental issues and our current trajectory toward environmental decay.

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: 2030, the Coming Tumult Richard M. Mosey, 2009 The short-term benefits of unlimited growth are driving the American economic and social model right off a cliff. The author shows how corporations drown out scientists and global elites prosper during economic collapse. He explores the role of monotheistic religions in abetting population growth and downplaying human agency in the current unprecedented crisis and charts the effects of increasing poverty, population migration, and social tension.

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: *The Ashgate Research Companion to Modern Warfare* John Buckley, George Kassimeris, 2016-03-23 This research collection provides a comprehensive study of important strategic, cultural, ethical and philosophical aspects of modern warfare. It offers a refreshing analysis of key issues in modern warfare, not only in terms of the conduct of war and the wider complexities and ramifications of modern conflict, but also concepts of war, the crucial shifts in the structure of warfare, and the morality and legality of the use of force in a post-9/11 age.

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: *Street Gangs* Max G. Manwaring, 2005 The primary thrust of the monograph is to explain the linkage of contemporary criminal street gangs (that is, the gang phenomenon or third generation gangs) to insurgency in terms of the instability it wreaks upon government and the concomitant challenge to state sovereignty. Although there are differences between gangs and insurgents regarding motives and modes of operations, this linkage infers that gang phenomena are mutated forms of urban insurgency. In these terms, these new nonstate actors must eventually seize political power in order to guarantee the freedom of action and the commercial environment they want. The common denominator that clearly links the gang phenomenon to insurgency is that the third generation gangs' and insurgents' ultimate objective is to depose or control the governments of targeted countries. As a consequence, the Duck Analogy applies. Third generation gangs look like ducks, walk like ducks, and act like ducks - a peculiar breed, but ducks nevertheless! This monograph concludes with recommendations for the United States and other countries to focus security and assistance responses at the strategic level. The intent is to help leaders achieve strategic clarity and operate more effectively in the complex politically dominated, contemporary global security arena.

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: Civilization and War B. Bowden, 2013-01-01 'Civilization and War is an exceptionally erudite and timely meditation on the close relationship between civilization, progress and war in modern political thought and policy from the Enlightenment to the war on terror. It is a fitting complement to Dr. Bowden's path-breaking study, *The Empire of Civilization* (2009).' James Tully, University of Victoria, Canada 'Civilization and War addresses a concern of all thinking persons in elegant language with erudition to match. Bowden's readers will profit by stretching their minds, learn much to mull over and discuss with their friends.' William H. McNeill, University of Chicago, US 'A lucid, wide-ranging and fascinating discussion of how civilization has given rise to ideals of peace and progress and is perhaps inescapably prone to technologically-advanced, destructive warfare.' Andrew Linklater, Aberystwyth University, UK 'Following his award-winning *The Empire of Civilization*, Brett Bowden's *Civilization and War* is a much-needed corrective to Kantian hopes for cosmopolitan governance. Short as it may be, this is an eminently readable book that rightfully poses uncomfortable questions with regard to the inextricable link between civilization and barbarism. It is also a reminder, however, to political realists to take the ethical questions of armed conflict more seriously. Such violence is overcome less by normative moral frameworks than by the actual practices of migration and cooperation as much as by exchanges of goods and ideas.' Christian Emden, Rice University, US 'Civilization and war were born around the same time in roughly the same place they have effectively grown up

together. This challenges the belief that the more civilized we become, the less likely the resort to war in order to resolve differences and disputes. The related assumption that civilized societies are more likely to abide by the rules of war is also in dispute. Where does terrorism fit into debates about civilized and savage war? What are we to make of talk about an impending 'clash of civilizations'? In a succinct yet wide ranging survey of history and of ideas that calls in to question a number of conventional wisdoms, *Civilization and War* explores these issues and more whilst outlining the two-way relationship between civilization and war. Providing an alternative perspective to conventional thinking, this book will appeal to a wide interdisciplinary audience across all regions of the globe. The material is both original and highly topical and is written in a sharp, snappy style that makes it accessible to a wide readership, including upper-level undergraduates, postgraduates, academic specialists and informed general readers. *Civilization and War* makes important contributions to the fields of international relations, peace and conflict studies, political theory and the history of ideas, and will be of interest to people with a curiosity about world history and current affairs.

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: *El Negro* Frank Westerman, 2005

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: *The Wisdom of Our Ancestors* Graham James McAleer, Alexander S. Rosenthal-Pubul, 2023-12-01 In *The Wisdom of Our Ancestors*, the authors mount a powerful defense of Western civilization, sketching a fresh vision of conservatism in the present age. In this book, Graham McAleer and Alexander Rosenthal-Pubul offer a renewed vision of conservatism for the twenty-first century. Taking their inspiration from the late Roger Scruton, the authors begin with a simple question: What, after all, is the meaning of conservatism? In reply, they make a case for a political orientation that they call "conservative humanism," which threads a middle way between liberal universalism and its ideological alternatives. This vision of conservatism is rooted in the humanist tradition (that is, classical humanism, Christian humanism, and secular humanism), which the authors take to be the hallmark of Western civilizational identity. At its core, conservative humanism attempts to reconcile universal moral values (rooted in natural law) with local, particularist loyalties. In articulating this position, the authors show that the West—contra various contemporary critics—does, in fact, have a great deal of wisdom to offer. The authors begin with an overview of the conservative thought world, situating their proposal relative to two major poles: liberalism and nationalism. They move on to show that conservatism must fundamentally take the form of a defense of humanism, the "master idea of our civilization." The ensuing chapters articulate various aspects of conservative humanism, including its metaphysical, institutional, legal, philosophical, and economic dimensions. Largely rooted in the Anglo-Continental conservative tradition, the work offers fresh perspectives for North American conservatism.

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: *The Empire of Civilization* Brett Bowden, 2010-10-19 The term civilization comes with considerable baggage, dichotomizing people, cultures, and histories as civilized - or not. While the idea of civilization has been deployed throughout history to justify all manner of interventions and sociopolitical engineering, few scholars have stopped to consider what the concept actually means. Here, ..

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: *Culture in the Domains of Law* René Provost, 2017-02-02 What does it mean for courts and other legal institutions to be culturally sensitive? What are the institutional implications and consequences of such an aspiration? To what extent is legal discourse capable of accommodating multiple cultural narratives without losing its claim to normative specificity? And how are we to understand meetings of law and culture in the context of formal and informal legal processes, when demands are made to accommodate cultural difference? The encounter of law and culture is a polycentric relation, but these questions draw our attention to law and legal institutions as one site of encounter warranting further investigation, to map out the place of culture in the domains of law by relying on the insights of law, anthropology, politics, and philosophy. *Culture in the Domains of Law* seeks to examine and answer these questions, resulting in a richer outlook on both law and culture.

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: *Issues Decisive for China's Rise or Fall* Yuwa Wei,

2019-02-28 This book focuses on the most serious social and economic challenges faced by China from a public international law perspective. The vast and diversified nature of public international law inspires the author to organize the book on a topic oriented basis, i.e. selecting five most crucial and interrelated issues in contemporary China to investigate and address. It reviews and evaluates China's response to these challenges and its continuing efforts in searching for solutions to these problems. These issues are inter-related and mutually affective, and moreover, impact collectively on the nation's standings in the international community. The country's national stability and economic sustainability may be retained only when these issues are dealt with efficiently and appropriately. This is a timely and comprehensive book addressing the most crucial problems confronted by contemporary China in the field of public international law, mainly concerning border issues, natural resources, environment and corruption. The work not only addresses these issues separately, but also delineates their interrelationships. In doing so, the complexity of these issues is revealed to a full extent.

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: The World of Soy Christine M. Du Bois, Chee Beng Tan, Sidney Wilfred Mintz, 2008

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: Sovereign Lives Jenny Edkins, Michael J. Shapiro, Veronique Pin-Fat, 2012-10-02 For International Relations scholars, discussions of globalization inevitably turn to questions of sovereignty. How much control does a country have over its borders, people and economy? Where does that authority come from? *Sovereign Lives* explores these changes through reading of humanitarian intervention, human rights discourses, securitization, refugees, the fragmentation of identities and the practices of development.

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: Der reaktionäre Geist Corey Robin, 2018 Der Rechtspopulismus, für den US-Präsident Trump steht, wird meist vom klassischen Konservatismus unterschieden. Zu Unrecht, wie dieses Buch zeigt. Denn alles, was den Rechtspopulismus ausmacht, gehört zum grundlegenden Ideenbestand der Konservativen seit der Französischen Revolution. Europäische Intellektuelle haben das Fundament für die amerikanische Rechte gelegt, in deren Gedankenwelt der Anti-Intellektuelle Trump verankert ist. Anhand prägender Gestalten wie Edmund Burke – von Alexander Gauland gern zitiert –, Friedrich Nietzsche und Ayn Rand deckt Corey Robin die Kontinuitäten im konservativen Denken auf und stellt viele überraschende Verbindungen her. Ein kluges, elegant geschriebenes und provozierendes Buch.

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: Geopolitics Jason Dittmer, Jo Sharp, 2014-06-27 It has been increasingly impossible to think about our changing world without coming across the term 'geopolitics'. In the wake of the invasion and occupation of Iraq by the United States, United Kingdom, and others, geopolitics has been offered as an explanation for the occupation's failure to reinvent the Iraqi state and as a blueprint for future action. But what is 'geopolitics'? Drawing both on academic and political material, this book introduces readers to the concept of geopolitics, from the first usage of the term to its more recent reconceptualisations. The concept of geopolitics is introduced through four thematic sections - Imperial Geopolitics, Cold War Geopolitics, Geopolitics after the Cold War and Reconceptualising Geopolitics. Each section includes key writings from a range of diverse and leading authors such as Said, Agnew, Dalby, O Tuathail, Gregory, Barnett and Kaplan, and is accompanied by a critical introduction by the editors to guide the reader through the material. This Reader establishes the foundations of geopolitics while also introducing readers to the continuing significance of the concept in the 21st century. This Reader provides an essential resource that exposes students to original writing. The Editors provide a pathway through the material with Section Introductions to assist the readers understanding of the context of the material and impacts of the writings. The readings included draw from a range of authors, writing from a range of locations. The Reader concludes with the latest changes in geopolitical thought, incorporating feminist and other perspectives.

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: Barbarians and Civilization in International Relations Mark B. Salter, 2002-09-20 The terrorist attacks in New York and Washington have led to popular conceptions of Muslims as terrorists. Some commentators have harked back to the 'Clash of

Civilizations' argument outlined by Samuel Huntington which argued that, after the collapse of the Cold War, culture would become the main axis of conflict for civilisational alliances. Mark Salter takes issue with Huntington's theory and explains how the terms of his argument are part of an imperialist discourse that casts other civilisations as essentially barbarian. Although many commentators have engaged with Huntington's claims, few have pursued the political implications of his argument. *Barbarians and Civilisation* offers a decisive exploration of the colonial rhetoric inherent in current political discourse. Charting the usefulness of concepts of culture and identity for understanding world politics, Salter brilliantly illustrates the benefits and the limitations of the civilised/barbarian dichotomy in international relations.

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: *Women and Revolution* M. J. Diamond, 1998-08-31
Nineteen contributions by scholars in a variety of fields--history, anthropology, sociology, comparative literature, women's studies--discuss the activities of radical women involved with revolutionary transformations throughout the world. Arrangement is in sections on western paradigms (France, Russia, the US); village traditions/modern situations--Africa, Iran, and India; socialist transformation in Latin America and Cuba; and women in China from Mao to market reforms. A sampling of specific topics: Olympe de Gouges and the French Revolution--the construction of gender as critique; medicine and politics--Dr. Mary Putnam Jacobi and the Paris commune; women and the Russian revolution; black women freedom fighters in South Africa and in the US (a comparative analysis); gender, sexuality, and unruliness in post-Mao China. Annotation copyrighted by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: *Rethinking the Nature of War* Isabelle Duyvesteyn, Jan Angstrom, 2005
Have globalization, virulent ethnic differences, and globally operating insurgents fundamentally changed the nature of war in the last decade? Interpretations of war as driven by politics and state rationale, formulated most importantly by the 19th century practitioner Carl von Clausewitz, have received strong criticism. Political explanations have been said to fall short in explaining conflicts in the Balkans, Africa, Asia and the attacks of 11 September 2001 in the United States. This book re-evaluates these criticisms not only by scrutinising Clausewitz's arguments and their applicability, but also by a careful reading of the criticism itself. In doing so, it presents empirical evidence on the basis of several case studies, addressing various aspects of modern war, such as the actors, conduct and purposes of war.

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: *Special Warfare* , 2004

robert d kaplan the coming anarchy: *Political Economy of Energy in the Southern Cone* Anil Hira, 2003-03-30
Hira explores the impact of the neoliberal revolution in Latin America, which claims the superiority of markets that are freed from government intervention and restrictions on trade and investment. He examines changes in the energy policy of the Southern Cone (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay) and finds that, contrary to what is claimed and expected, there is a great deal of state intervention that continues through regulatory policy. All around the world, economic markets are in flux. Policies to change these markets are part of the neoliberal revolution that claims the superiority of markets freed from government intervention and restrictions on trade and investment. The general conclusion among most academic and policy analysts who study developing countries is that market liberalization is a foregone conclusion. Developing countries' choices are constrained by two primary factors: first, the burden of massive external debt that forces them to court international finance, and second, the need to gain access to the world's largest markets in Europe and/or the United States, optimally through free trade agreements. The effects of market liberalization, including deregulation, privatization, and integration, require further scrutiny. Hira examines the effects of international market pressures on energy policy at the national, regional, and sectoral levels in Latin America's Southern Cone—Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay—who belong to the MERCOSUR common market. Contrary to what is claimed and expected, he finds that a great deal of state intervention continues through regulatory policy. He also provides an thorough set of comparative political economy case studies, along with a discussion of the MERCOSUR process with regards to

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