

- The Waning of War
  - Generation by generation, the effect from wars have decreased
  - consistent trend suggests an overall movement toward less war in the international system
- Liberal Theories
  - draw mostly on the reciprocity and identity principles
  - generally are more optimistic than realism about the prospects for peace
  - Realists view vs Liberalists view
    - Realists: laws of power politics as relatively timeless and unchanging
    - Liberalists: rules of IR as slowly evolve through time, becoming more and more peaceful as time lengthens
  - Evolution results:
    - Primarily from the gradual buildup of international organizations and mutual cooperation (reciprocity)
    - Secondly from changes in norms and public opinion (identity)
- Kant and Peace
  - According to German philosopher Immanuel Kant:
    - states could develop the organizations and rules to facilitate cooperation specifically by forming a world federation (resembling today's United Nations)
    - peace depends on the internal character of governments
    - democracies do not fight each other, is the basis of present democratic peace theory
    - trade between states promotes peace
      - relies on the presumption that trade increases wealth, cooperation, and local wellbeing
      - Economic interdependence: as trade between states increase, they become more mutually dependent on one other for goods
        - sensitivity: one state relies on another to provide an important good but can find alternate suppliers
        - vulnerability: few or no alternative suppliers
- Liberal Institutionalism
  - Liberal theories treat national actors as capable of forgoing short-term individual interest in order to further the long-term well-being of a community to which they belong.
    - For example the WTO and the EU decisions require consensus among all members, making them all equal in governance.
    - Kant's argument: Although autonomous, they could join a worldwide federation like the UN and respect its principles even at the cost of forgoing. International cooperation was a more rational option for for states than resorting to war.

- War and violence appear as irrational deviations that result from defective and that harms the long term interest of warring states.
  - **Neoliberal** differs at it concedes to realism, such as the states are unitary actors that rationally pursuing their self-interests in a system of anarchy.
    - It is in their interest to achieve cooperation, and they use institutions to ease the pursuit of mutual gains and the reduction of possibilities for cheating or taking advantages.
    - Uses the **Prisoner's Dilemma** to illustrate their argument that cooperation is possible.
      - The dilemma can be solved if the "game" is played over and over.
    - States rely on a context of rules, norms, habits, and institutions that make it rational for all sides to avoid the self-defeating outcomes that would result from pursuing narrow, short term self-interest.
    - Study to see how institutions and norms affect the possibilities for overcoming dilemmas and achieving international cooperation.

- International Regimes

- It is difficult to resolve conflicts without a third party to arbitrate or an overall framework to set common expectations for all parties.
  - **International regime** is a set of rules, norms, and procedures, around which the expectations of actors converge in a certain issue area.
    - Help solve collective goods problems by increasing transparency.
  - Regimes come into existence of overcome collective goods dilemmas by coordinating the behaviors of individual states.
    - Facilitate and empower national governments.
    - Hegemony are when regimes are most effective when the international system is most concentrated
      - Not necessary for maintaining them
      - Depends on their imbedding n permanent institutions such as the UN or NATO.
- Institutions gain greater stability than do non-institutional regimes, since it can actively promote adherence to the rules.

- Collective Security

- Formation of a broad alliance of most major actors in an international system for the purpose of jointly opposing aggression by any actor

- Kant's proposal: the majority of states could unite to punish any one state that committed aggression, safeguarding the collective interest of all the nations while protecting the self-determination of small nations that are easily becoming pawns under the great powers
- The *League of Nations* flawed in two ways:
  - membership did not include all the great powers (including the most powerful one, the United States)
  - its members proved unwilling to bear the costs of collective action to oppose aggression when it did occur in the 1930s, starting with Japan and Italy
- United Nations created as the League's successor to promote collective security
  - Regional IGOs also currently perform collective security functions (detering aggression) as well as economic and cultural ones—the *Organization of American States (OAS)*, the *Arab League*, and the *African Union*
- Collective Security successes if:
  - members keep their alliance commitments to the group, in other words, members must not free ride on the efforts of other members
  - enough members must agree on what constitutes aggression
- failed states have very weak control of their territory, causing it to become potential havens for drug trafficking, money laundering, and terrorist bases
- Democratic Peace
  - Kant's Argument: Lasting peace would depend on states' becoming republics, with legislatures to check the power of monarchs and believes that an international community based on peaceful relations may emerge.
    - Cheques and balances in government would act as a brake on the use of military forces
    - Democracies are generally more peaceful than authoritarian governments.
      - Turned out not to be true → Fight equal amounts of war
      - Three most war prone states: France, Russia, and Britain
    - Democracies almost never fight against each other, democratic peace
      - Possibly due to the citizens not seeing each other as an enemy or trade relations create strong interdependence.
      - Democratic institutions can make cooperation more difficult because countries may fail to join international organizations because of domestic opposition
        - USA can't join the League of Nations due to the Congress opposing it

