

Outline pg. 3-19

1) International Relations (IR)

- a) Concerns the relationships among the world's government
 - i) Connected with other **actors**
 - ii) Social structures and geographical and historical influences also affect IR
 - iii) Main Question: How can a group - such as two or more countries - serve its collective interests when doing so requires its members to forgo their individual interests
 - (1) Collective action
 - (2) Burden sharing
 - (3) Tragedy of the commons
 - (4) Prisoner's dilemma
 - iv) **Collective goods problem** is the problem of how to provide something that benefits all members of a group regardless of what each member contributes to it.
- b) **Principle of dominance** solves the collective goods problem by establishing a power hierarchy in which those at the top control those below - a bit like a government but without an actual government.
- c) Symbolic acts of **submission** and dominance reinforce an ever-present status hierarchy.
- d) **Reciprocity** solves the collective goods problem by rewarding behavior that contributes to the group and punishing behavior that pursues self-interest at the expense of the group.
 - i) If one country opens up markets to another country, the country will open up markets to that country as well.
- e) The **identity principle** does not rely on self interest. They care about the interest of others in that community to sacrifice their own interest to benefit others.
- f) Identities are also important to organizations such as terrorist groups, corporations, or churches.
- g) Solving Collective Good Problems
 - i) Dominance
 - (1) Advantages: Order, stability, predictability
 - (2) Drawbacks: Oppressions, Resentment
 - ii) Reciprocity
 - (1) Advantages: Incentives for Mutual Cooperation
 - (2) Drawbacks: Downward spirals, complex accounting
 - iii) Identity
 - (1) Advantages: Sacrifice for Group, redefine interests
 - (2) Drawbacks: Demonizing an out group
- h) **Issues area** are on which scholars and foreign policy makers focus attention.
 - i) Examples such as global trade, the environment, and specific conflicts.
 - ii) Conflict and cooperation are also part of discussions on issues.

- i) The **international political economy** concerns trade and financial relations among nations and focuses on how nations have worked together politically to create and maintain the flow of IPE transactions.
- j) The state is a **territorial entity** controlled by a government and inhabited by a population.
 - i) An international system is the set of relationships among the world's states, structured according to certain rules and patterns of interaction.
 - ii) Most large states are nation states, which share the same identity such as ethnicity, culture, or language.
- k) The growth domestic product also differs between different states of their total annual economic activity.
- l) **Non-state actors** may influence national governments
 - i) **IGOs** are organizations whose members are national governments.
(1) Ex: OPEC, AU, NATIO, UN
 - ii) **NGOs** are private organizations with considerable size and resources
(1) NGOs can be recognized as legitimate actors with states, but not equal.
 - iii) **MNCs** are companies that span multiple countries, and most control greater resources and operation internationally with greater efficiency than other small states.
(1) Ex: United Fruit Companies
 - iv) **Substate actors** and **transnational actors** are also important when influencing states.
- m) The interstate level of analysis concerns the influence of interactions of states themselves without regarding their internal makeup or particular individuals.