DEFINING GLOBAL STRENGTHS

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Criteria: What does it take to be a global power?
Economic Power

- Size of economy (GDP)
- Presence of powerful MNCs
  - Google, BP, Toyota, Alibaba
- Influence among trading partners
  - Larger economy = more economic influence
- International economic cooperation facilitates good relations among countries
Economic Power & International Relations

- Trade relationships can make conflict less likely
  - Countries with economic ties have an interest in mutual stability and growth
  - Wealthier countries are less likely to go to war with each other
- Example: E.U. decided to tie economies of European nations together to avoid a history of constant conflict between the nations
Economic Power & International Relations

**Sanctions**

- When governments impose economic sanctions to try to alter the decisions of other states.
- This is usually used when a nation is acting in a way that threatens the well-being of other nations.
BANNED: US TRADE SANCTIONS

In a world of increasingly free trade, the US routinely imposes its own trade sanctions on many nations. Typically they are for reasons relating to human-rights abuse and other hostile gestures. The more prominent of these sanctions are illustrated below:

**BELARUS**
06/2006
Political repression
Prohibits donations to anyone undermining democratic process in Belarus.

**CUBA**
07/1963
Response to hostile actions
No goods can be imported from Cuba. With few exceptions, only people with a close blood relative may visit Cuba.

**SYRIA**
02/2006
Human rights violations
Prohibits any U.S. citizen from engaging with any person involved with conflict.

**BALKAN NATIONALS**
06/2001
Extremist violence
Prohibits donations to people participating in or supporting violent behaviors.

**IRAQ**
1990 & 2004
Kuwait invasion
Exports must be licensed by the Department of commerce. Prohibits transactions with respect to Iraqi cultural property.

**N. KOREA**
10/2006
Human rights violations
Prohibits any good that has not been approved by the U.S. government. Bans any U.S. citizen from registering a vessel in North Korea.

**IRAN**
1987 & 2000
Supporting Intl. terrorism
No good may be imported to the U.S. (Other than gifts under $100 in value, informational materials, food, and carpets).

**SUDAN**
11/2005
Human rights violations
Prohibits all U.S. citizens from engaging in any transactions who are undermining democratic process.

**BURMA / MYANMAR**
06/2008
Reduce military funding
Prohibits importation of most goods from Burma.

**SOURCE:** U.S. TREASURY
Economic Power & International Relations

• Connections to the global market
  • Ability to influence world economic activity through, e.g., stock exchange fluctuations
  • National GDP growth driving global growth—and drawing investment by other countries

• World reserve currency
  • Recognized currency of dominant nations
  • Examples: US Dollar, Euro, Chinese Yuan, Canadian Dollar, Swiss Franc
Economics & Technology

- Modern post-industrial (service-based) economy
  - Emphasis on computer technology rather than manufacturing
- Sophisticated information systems
  - Modern workforce
  - Widespread internet access
  - Continued development of information technology
  - Cybersecurity (important for projecting and protecting both economic and military power)
- Heavy investment in science in order to be among the first to reap the rewards of scientific advancement
Military Power

Size of military (e.g., number of troops, tanks, aircraft, ships, aircraft carriers, etc.)
Military Power (Cont.)

• Technology
  • Technologically-advanced militaries have the potential to overpower larger armies
    • Example: First Gulf War
    • Smaller army, but more technologically-advanced
  • Gives us the ability to respond quickly
    • Example: Drones
Military Power (Cont.)

• Counterterrorism
  • The policies and techniques a government uses to prevent terrorism
  • U.S. strategy includes creating information sharing ties with other nations to monitor common enemies such as ISIS
  • Creating advanced technology to shield infrastructure
Military Power (Cont.)

• Leadership
  • Rank system of personnel
  • Force management: A decision-making process used in the military to inform senior leaders about defense strategy
Military Spending

Global outlay fell in 2013 but still totalled 1.75 trillion dollars.

The United States and China accounted for half of total global spending. China represents 11% of expenditure, while the United States represents 37%. The top 15 countries represented 80% of expenditure.

- China: 11%
- USA: 37%
- Russia: 5.0%
- Saudi Arabia: 3.8%
- France: 3.5%
- Britain: 3.3%
- Germany: 2.8%
- Japan: 2.8%
- India: 2.7%
- South Korea: 1.9%
- Italy: 1.9%
- Brazil: 1.8%
- Australia: 1.4%
- UAE: 1.1%
- Turkey: 1.1%

Source: SIPRI
Soft Power

- The ability of a country to persuade others to do what it wants without military force or coercion
- Media: Television, Music, Websites
- Promoting Norms
- Advocating national perspective on global human rights
Soft Power

• Importance of NGOs
  • Able to advocate for nation’s perspective on global issues without direct involvement by the state

• Humanitarian Aid
  • Short term monetary and logistical assistance to people in need
Political Power

- Extensive involvement in intergovernmental organizations (IGOs)
  - UN: being a permanent member of the Security Council
  - NATO: multi-national alliance system
  - IMF: global monetary cooperation
  - World Bank: loans for developing nations
- Participation in global summits