

# DEFINING GLOBAL STRENGTHS

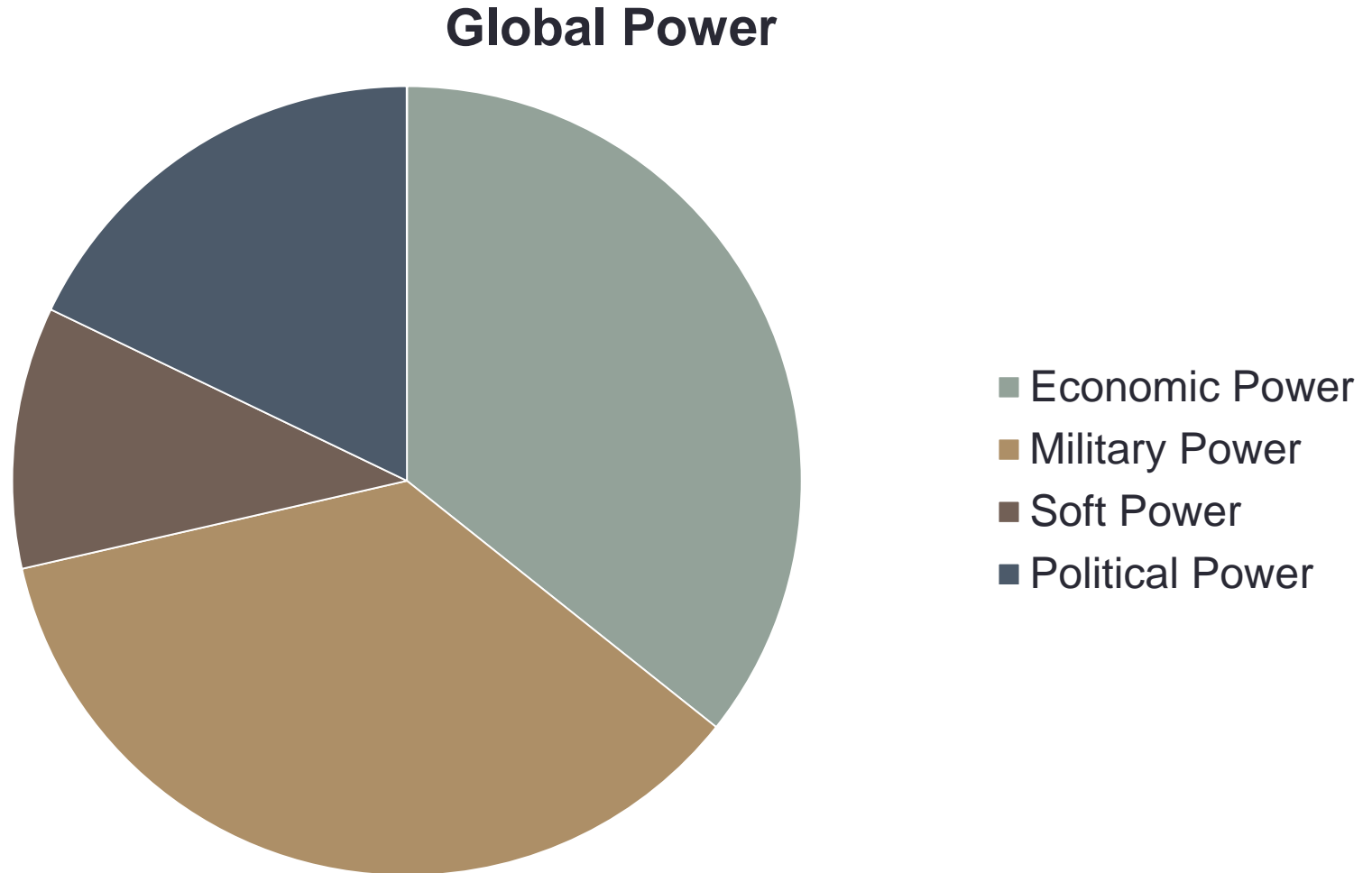
---

Jason Berger

PhD Student

University of California, Irvine

# 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:

## KEY:

DATE(S) ENACTED

GROUP / COUNTRY

REASON

Specifics of sanctioned items.



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



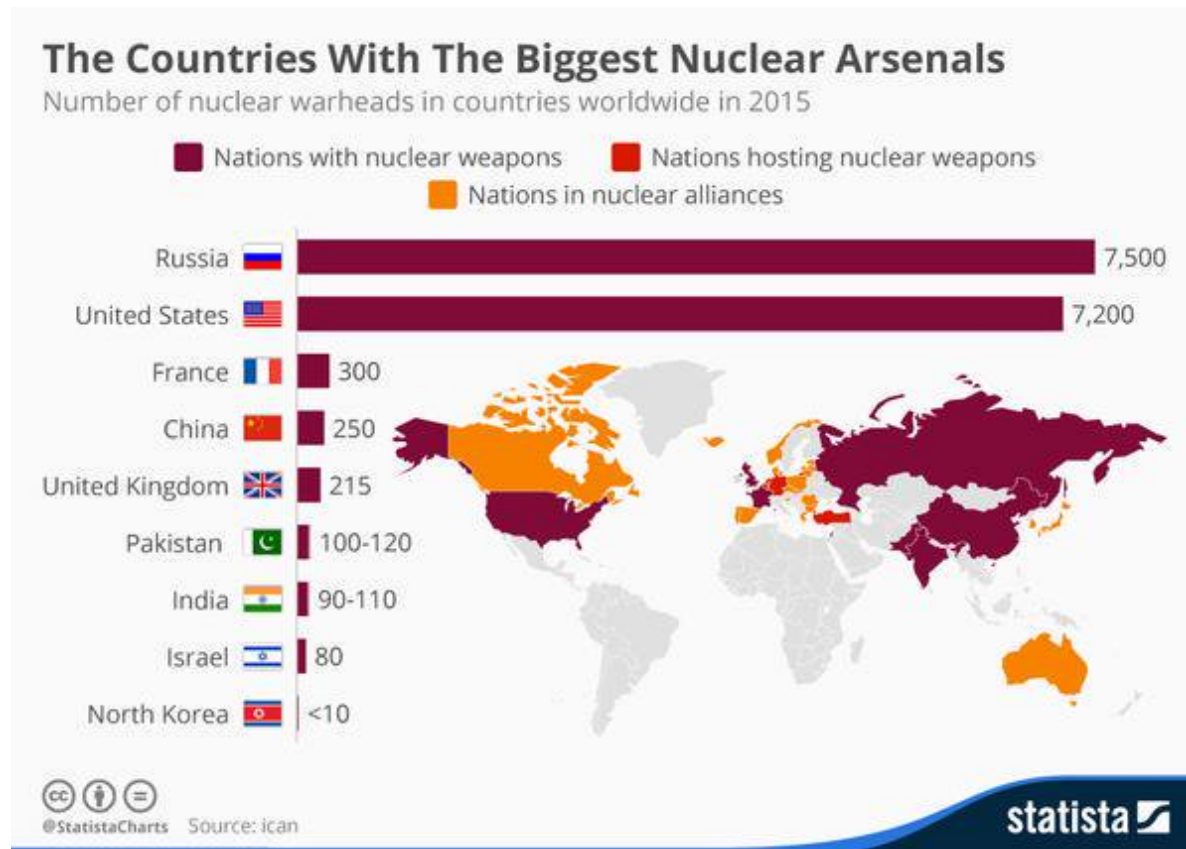
# Economics & Technology

- 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.)

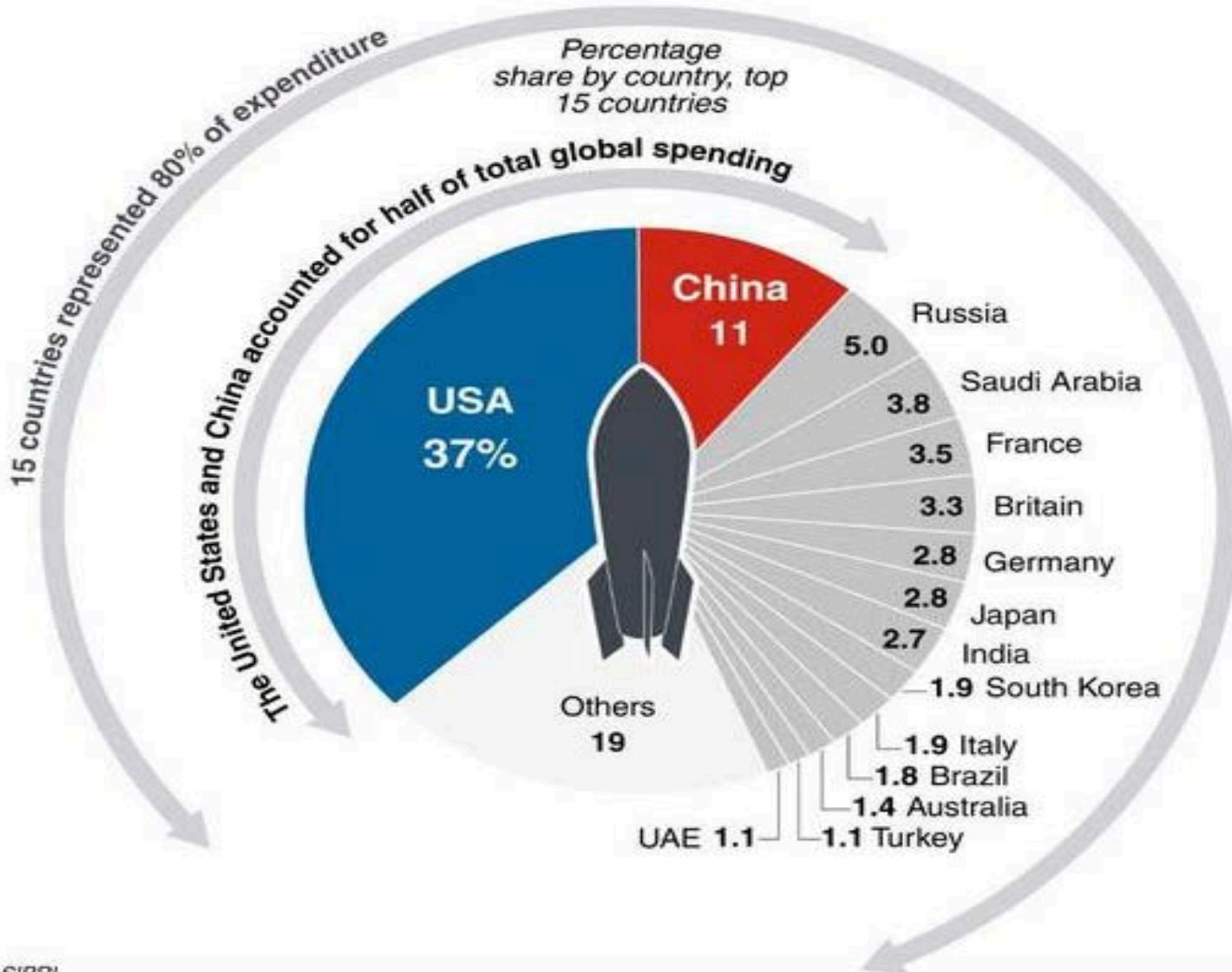
- Leadership

- 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



# 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

