



Foreign Policy

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Overview

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 - What is Foreign Policy?
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 - The National Interest
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Review: States, Nations, and Nation-States

- **State:** a territorial **political** entity
 - Examples: United States, Vatican City, the United Kingdom (of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
- **Nation:** a **cultural** and/or **ethnic** entity; a large group of people with a common language, culture, history, ethnicity, descent, or religion
 - Examples: Cherokee, Kurds, Scotland
- **Nation State:** a state predominantly inhabited by **one** nation
 - Examples: Egypt, Albania, Finland
- **Multinational State:** a state inhabited by **multiple** major nations
 - Examples: South Africa, Russia, the United Kingdom



What is Foreign Policy?

Foreign policy is a government's **strategy for interacting with other state and non-state actors**

- Usually created by the **head of the government** (executive) and the **foreign minister**
 - United States: President and Secretary of State (State Department)
- Not always a strategic calculation
 - Leaders are still subject to human emotions and morality
- Overlaps with domestic policy
 - War on Drugs, Global War on Terror (GWOT)
 - Result of globalization

Who Creates Foreign Policy?

A country's foreign policy is usually created by the **head of the government** (executive) and the **foreign minister**

- United States: President and Secretary of State
 - Secretary of State is the cabinet official who oversees the US Department of State
 - The State Department controls US embassies and diplomats in foreign countries
 - *“The Foreign Policy of the United States is built on the three Ds: defense, diplomacy, and development”*
 - Fmr. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton

Why do you think foreign policy decisions are many times left to a country's executive/leader?



The National Interest

A country's foreign policy is also created to pursue its national interest

National Interest: a **highly debated concept** that guides a country's military, economic, and political goals

- Highly subjective
 - Leads to debate
- Constantly changing
 - Cold War Containment, GWOT, Pivot to Asia, Nuclear Threat
- Contradictory interests
 - Classical conundrum: security versus freedom



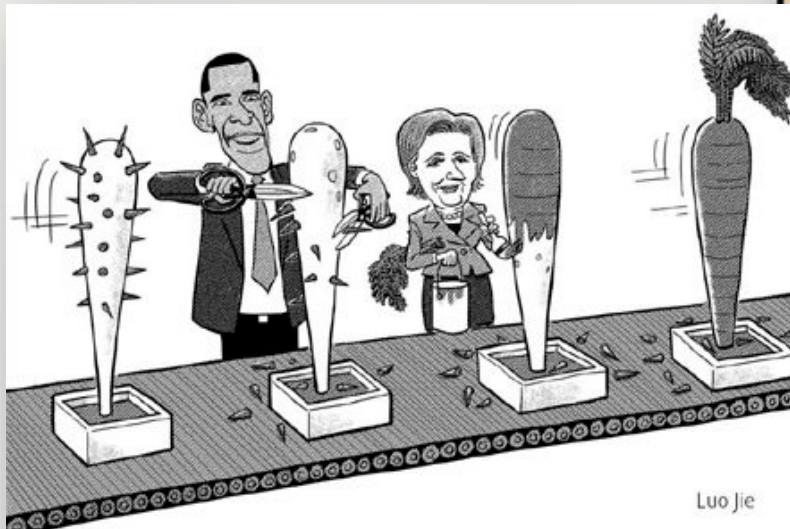
Hard Power

Hard Power is the use of military strength or economic incentives to **directly coerce** a country into a desired course of action

*“The ability to use the **carrots** and **sticks** of economic and military might to make others follow your will”*

– Joseph Nye

- Carrots
 - Foreign aid
 - Removal of trade barriers
 - Promise of military protection
- Sticks
 - Use of military force
 - Economic sanctions
 - Coercive diplomacy



Examples of Hard Power

Discuss the following scenarios and identify whether they are examples of carrots or sticks:

- 2017 US airstrikes against Syrian airbase
 - US military strikes in response to a chemical weapons attack by the Syrian government
- US sanctions against North Korea
 - Ban or embargo of certain goods and financial transactions in and out of North Korea in response to its continued nuclear weapons development
- US military aid to Israel



Can you think of other examples ?

Soft Power



Soft Power is the ability indirectly influence other states through cultural and ideological means

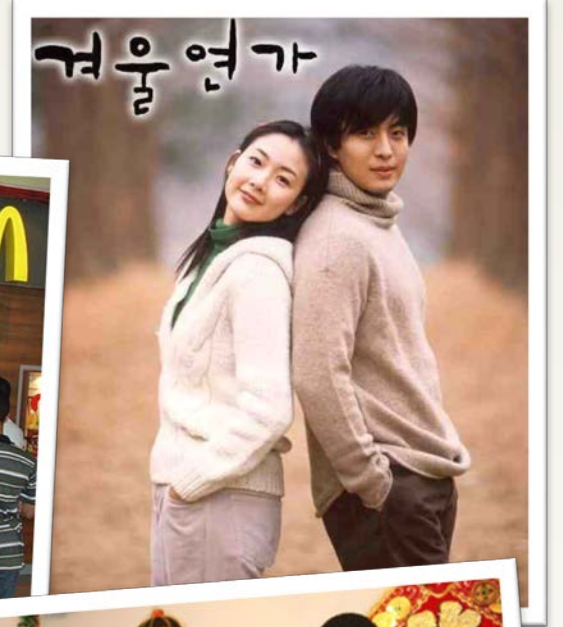
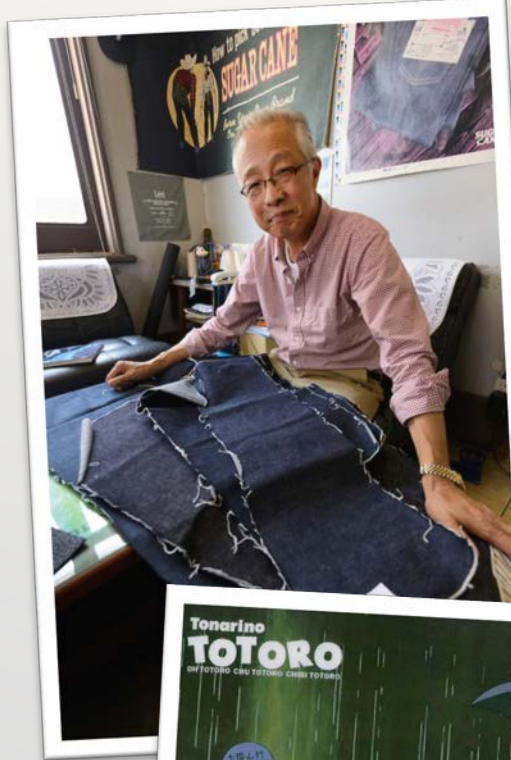
“power is the ability to influence others to get them to do what you want. There are three major ways to do that: **one is to threaten** them with sticks; the **second is to pay** them with carrots; the **third is to attract** them or co-opt them, so that they want what you want”

– Joseph Nye



- Based on a country's **cultural influence** and **reputation** in the international community
- Relatively new term coined in 2004

Examples of Soft Power



Role of Non-State Actors

- While sovereign states are the primary actors in foreign policy, **non-state actors have become increasingly influential** in recent times
- Examples:
 - Multinational Corporations
 - Insurgent/Rebel Groups
 - Non-Governmental Organizations



Case Study: East China Sea Dispute



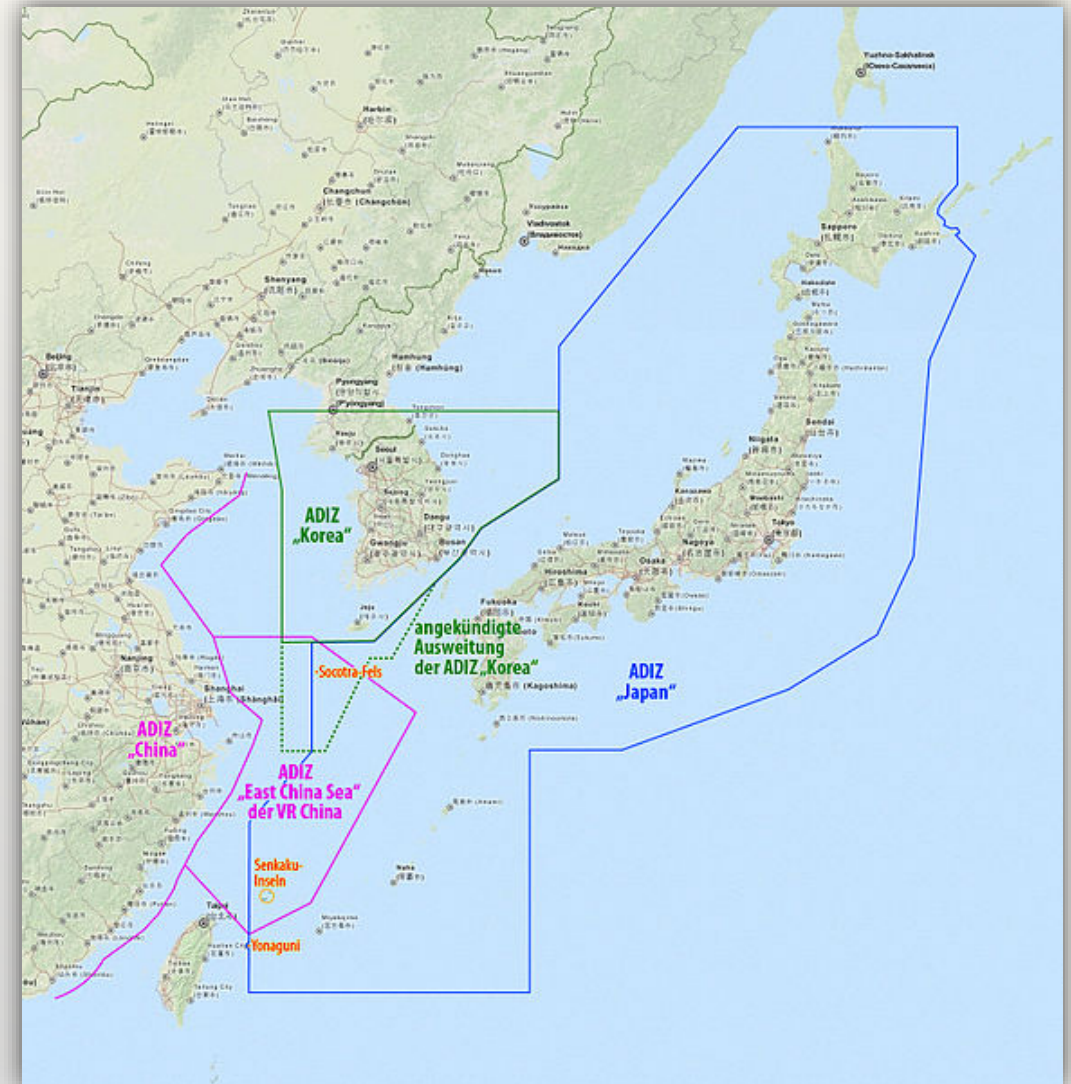
Background: East China Sea Disputes



- Territorial disputes in East and South China Seas
 - Several countries in the Pacific Rim claim possession of the Islands in the East and South China Seas/West Philippine Sea)
 - China and Japan both claim possession of the Senkaku/Daioyu Islands
- **Nationalism** in Japan and China
- Presence of **oil and natural gas** in the region
- US military presence and recent '**Pivot to Asia**'

ADIZ 'Crisis'

- On November 2013, the Peoples Republic of China implemented an East China Sea Air Defense Identification Zone without consulting its neighbors
 - Requires all aircraft to check their flight plans with China before entering the ADIZ
- The Chinese ADIZ overlaps with similar zones already created by Japan and South Korea
- Who are the relevant “players” and how do you think they responded?



Analysis

- What **historical, political, social, and economic factors** were involved in China's decision?
 - Was this a truly strategic decision?
- What might this signal about China's **national interests**?
- How might Japan or Korea respond to China's declaration? Why?
- How might the US respond?
 - Was this response appropriate?
- What might this event signal for the future relations in the North East Asia?



Other Scenarios to Consider

We can use our basic understanding of foreign policy to think about other situations that are currently hot button issues:

- Should the US intervene in the Syrian Civil War?
- Why does China support the North Korean regime?
- What motivated the annexation of Crimea by Russia?