

Abstracts

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International Relations After the Cold War

The end of the cold war combined with the continued uneven globalization are major determinants of changes in international relations. The combined effect of these two variables in different regions is emphasized. Not only is there a "zone of peace" and a "zone of conflict"; the "zones"-approach needs to be supplemented by a view of various regions dominated by distinctive dynamics in terms of security as well as economic and political patterns. International Relations-theory should accommodate all this through a focus on middle range theory. The common ground for such endeavors is (a) Analysis of the changed role of states, starting from a richer concept of state than has characterised the discipline so far. (b) Focus on the institution of sovereignty in its various dimensions. (c) The analysis of the increasingly important regions and regional dynamics.

Björn Hettne

A Regionalized Worldorder?

We live in a "no man's land" between the traditional world of nation-states, and a transnationalised world which has not taken its final shape. The task of the discipline of International Political Economy is to explore the economic and political dimensions of transnationalisation. In this article, focus is on the role of regions and regionalism in the present world order.

Lars Bo Kaspersen

State and Citizenship in a Changing Western Europe

Citizenship in the modern egalitarian version with equal rights and obligations of all citizens, which at the same time defines the affiliation of the citizen to a specific state, is closely associated with the rise of the modern nation-state in Western Europe. After World War II this close connection between nation-state and citizenship has run through a process of change. The changed defence structure in Western Europe and the development of the European Union has resulted in a break of the previous close connection between nation-state and citizenship. It involves a redefinition of the role of the traditional citizen's obligations like conscription and tax liability. Furthermore, citizenship rights are no longer solely determined by the nation-state.

Torbjørn L. Knutsen

Theoretical Challenges to the Study of International Relations after the Cold War

The study of international relations is in the throes of a third "great debate". This is fueled by two challenges in particular: First, the end of the Cold War, second, the "post-modern" criticism of theories and approaches which have traditionally informed the discipline. With the three dominant paradigms of International Relations as a vantage point ("Realism", "Rationalism" and "Revolutionism"), this essay sketches a fourth, emerging paradigm ("Ecologism"). It then discusses the main points of the post-modern critique which is now challenging the discipline. Finally, it discusses some of the constructive side of this criticism in order to propose a new, historically-anchored and humanistically-informed apres-post-modern approach to the study of international relations.

Gorm Winther

The Third Way

One of Janos Kornai's recent contributions is the affinity hypothesis relating ownership structures to resource allocation in different economic systems. Opponents to a development between central planning and market capitalism claim that there are no viable alternatives to a traditional privatization of the state owned companies in Eastern Europe. Earlier failed reforms raise an almost self-evident observation: "If arguments are put forward in favor of the "third way", it has to be justified, that this can be implemented as a stable economic system."

It is, however, not possible unequivocally to conclude, that self-management structures is incompatible with a market economy. In the "New Economic Policy" period of Yugoslav economic development from 1952 to 1965 high development potentials were exposed.