

# DAIMUN 2020

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## The Realist Paradigm: Collaborating in a Multipolar World



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# The Realist Paradigm: Collaborating in a Multipolar World

## Political

Since end of the Cold War, the United States of America has been the global hegemon asserting their power within the global political sphere. Alliances and multi-lateral agreements have been instrumental in shaping the of geopolitical contours of the world. However, this hegemonic world order is slowly collapsing into a more multipolar dynamic. With the rise of great powers in Asia such as China and India, and Europe such as Germany and the United Kingdom,, the United States is no longer the only superpower in the international field.

China, the great power in the East, is actively seeking to enforce its soft power and integrate with its neighbours by immersing itself into regional organizations such as the East Asia Summit and, a plentifully used tactic by the post World War Two United States of America.

On the other hand, Germany in Europe is exerting their world power by taking charge of the European Union in 2020. With its sights set on exerting their soft power, Germany is launching a 'Next Generation EU' Fund of 750 billion euros for EU recovery. By attempting to establish regional hegemony Germany has contributed in shaping the new multipolar world order.

## Sustainability

For unborn generations, the lights get dimmer and dimmer. Faint human efforts offer little resistance to the energy challenges faced by the world today. Future projections offer almost nothing in way of comfort. Sustainability and environmental stability are challenges that must be promptly addressed on a global scale.

At the Paris Summit in 2015, 195 countries signed a universal, legally binding deal called the Paris Agreement, with the aim of achieving climate neutrality. The success of the agreement depends on the commitment of the signatories and significant enforcement and monitoring. Forward five years, and the United States has officially withdrawn from the Paris Agreement. The need for climate change action has never been more pronounced. It is imperative that international cooperation to combat global warming and achieve the UN Sustainability Goals develops further over the course of the decade.

Defaulters should not be tolerated. The world is in the grasp of a climate crisis, and the future of humanity is at stake. In the current crisis, international institutions have come under a massive amount of stress. The conflicting states will have to put warring agendas aside to make way for problems of far reaching global consequence.

## ECONOMICS

In a world just recovering from the brutalities of the Second World War, the World Trade Organisation (WTO), a 'revolutionary' international trade reform, promised hope in an increasingly unipolar sociopolitical climate. At its very foundation, the organisation espoused free trade. This economic principle challenged the neoteric concepts of autarky and promoted the exchange of not only goods and services but also of ideas and cultures, allowing for the birth of our modern multi-polar world.

But still, at a time when collaboration is most important, we see countries close down their gates rather than opening them up. Trade protectionism has stifled trade and bred economic inefficiencies. It has led to increased economic and political alienation, severing the hopes of global economic collaboration. However, this is not the complete story. Protectionist policies often aim at levelling the playing field, promoting fair trade.

In a world just recovering from the brutalities of the global Covid-19 crisis, this balance between fair and free trade promises collaboration in our increasingly multipolar world.

## CULTURE

Cultural hegemony is the phenomenon wherein the world view of the so-called 'ruling class' becomes the establisher of norms, beliefs and value systems of the rest of the world. For years, the world has been dominated by the cultural hegemony that is the flag-bearer of democracy, the United States – but this narrative is not one that can be told forever.

China, a semi-presidential socialist republic run by a single Communist party has established itself at the centre of the global financial and trading network. A multipolar world sees more competing influences than one, however, and slowly, we hope to move towards a world where society is not controlled by American-centric norms and media biases, but a more diverse one where the voices of everyone will be heard. For now, with the decline of the military and waging wars as a viable tactic, polarization is what nation-states have resorted to.

Through the employment of neo-colonialist measures like cultural and political suppression, especially through the media, common people get increasingly polarized towards one particular school of thought, which lends itself to extremist views, and very often, violence. It is essential for us to collaborate in this multipolar world for this very reason: when there are voices to be heard, none can be suppressed.

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