

Realism in International Relations. Marxism posits that the struggle between social classes—specifically between the bourgeoisie, or capitalists, and the proletariat, or workers—defines economic relations in a capitalist economy and will lead inevitably to a communist revolution. Realism or political realism is the dominant theory of IR. Realism Defined: "A paradigm based on the premise that world politics is a struggle among selfinterested states for power and position under anarchy, with each competing state pursuing its own national interests". –International System is anarchical (claim). –There is no world government or universal sovereign. –States have international independence Basic Assumptions of Realism: –A pessimistic view of human nature. –A conviction that IR are necessarily conflictual and conflicts are resolved by war. –A high regards for the values of national security, statism, self-help, survival. –Sovereign States are main actors, in competition with one another. –Rational Decision-making in pursuit of national interest –International system is anarchic and conflict-prone. –All States must pursue power to survive, a mass resources; military, economic and political capability. –States balance against threats. Morality has no place in International politics. –International politics more important than domestic politics. –Absolute Gains and Human are preoccupied with their own well-being –They desire to be in driving seat. They love to enjoy edge over others and avoid being dominated by others. *–Hans Morgenthau, views men and women having 'will to power'. –Especially in politics and Int. politics 'politics is struggle for power over men' –International politics is power politics, arena of 'rivalry, 'conflict' and 'war' among states. The main objective of Foreign Policy is to defend and project national interests in the world. Liberalism and Neo-Liberalism Liberalism: An optimistic approach to global politics based on the perfectibility of humankind, free trade, and democracy; focuses on individuals rather than states. (Idealism /utopianism a term coined by realists to ridicule liberals who believe in the importance of international law, treaties, morality, and international institutions). Liberals Assumptions: Positive view of human nature. Conviction that human nature can be cooperative. Belief in progress. Roots of Liberalism: –John Lock in 17th century saw great potential for Human progress, Civil society, Capitalist economy That was re-inforced by liberal intellectual revolution that had faith in reason and rational. 3 –Germey Bentham, (1748–1832 "Greatest happiness for greatest number,". The neo-liberal orthodoxy is championed by Thomas Friedman (2005), he argues free trade, and private property rights will lead to a richer, innovative and more tolerant world 2–Republican Democratic=states are more inclined to respect the rights of their citizens and are less likely to go to war with democratic neighbours. Early Liberals ?.(1920–30) were utopianists