

Buzan and Little Chapter 12

Peer Instruction

- What distinguishes the modern unit from its predecessors?

Units in the Modern System

- Modern state arises in Europe
 - Hard boundaries
 - Absolute Sovereignty
 - Clearer Inside/Outside distinction
- From whence does the state arise?
 - Capital + coercion = state success

Rise of the State: context

- City states
 - High-volume trade: leagues
 - Low volume trade: independent

• Original states (England, France, Spain) originated at the periphery of the city-state political and economic nexus



States: best of both worlds

- Empires: Coercive-intensive mobilization
- City-states: capital intensive mobilization
- States: balanced
 - As war got more expensive, balance paid off

Evolution of the unit

- Start: Absolutist state
- Over time, evolution to national state
 - Independent commercial class
 - Nationalism as binding ideology
 - Eventually, democracy
- Does this relate to events in the Middle East?

Non-state units

- Corporations
 - Initially a tool of foreign policy

- INGOs

- Remember: State not the only unit in the system, even into the 20th century

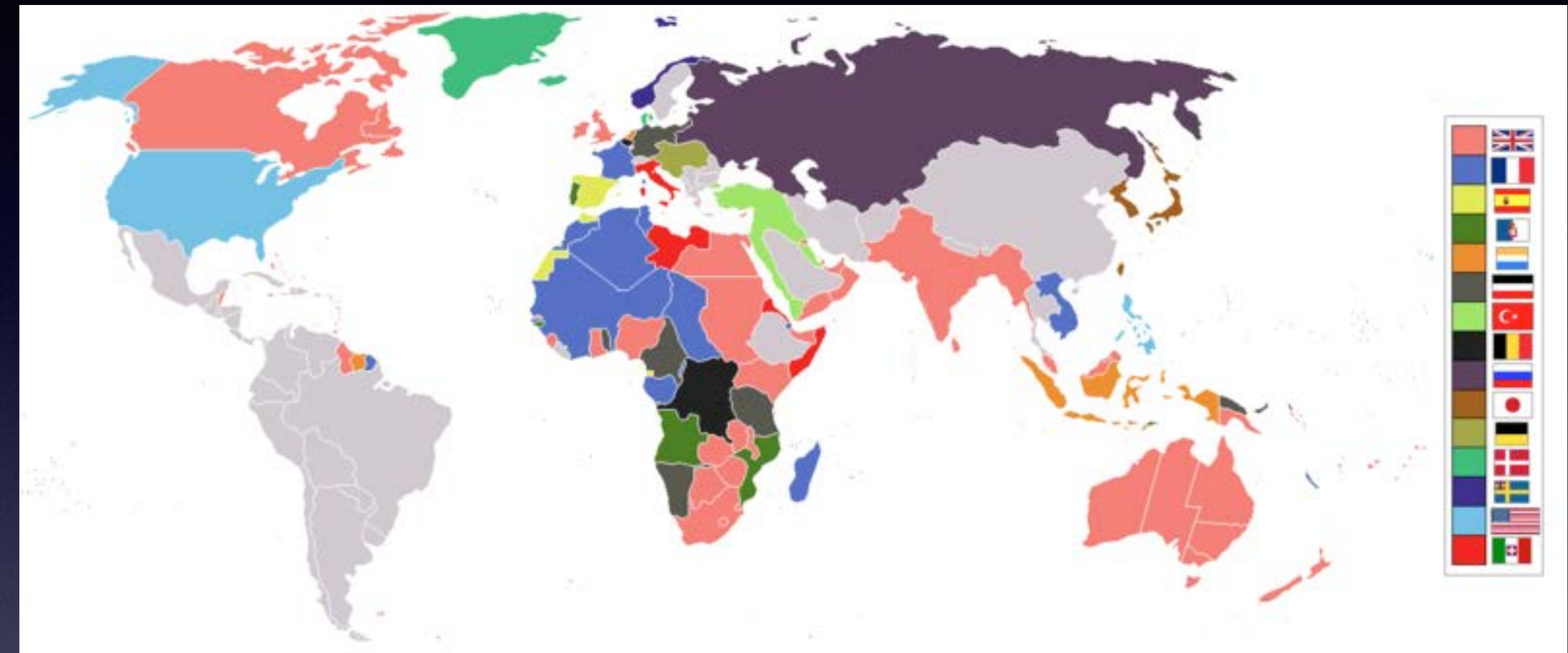


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Buzan and Little Chapter 13

Peer Instruction

- What changes in interaction capacity mark the shift to the modern period?
- What is the relationship between the changes in interaction capacity and the modern units?

Interaction Capacity: MAJOR! Changes in technology

- Physical technology
 - Advances in ships
 - Industrial revolution
 - Air revolution
 - Communications revolution
 - Guns
- Social technologies
 - English = lingua franca
 - Credit and national debt
 - Deeper, better organized international society

Discussion questions

1. Why is the European genesis of the global international system puzzling?
2. How might feudalism challenge modern IR concepts of political structure?
3. How were states different from previous forms of political organization?
4. How did these differences allow states to outcompete other political forms?
5. How did the nature of economic transaction shape the form of political structure?
6. What lessons can we draw from the formation of the state for the future of the state?
7. What is the distinction between the absolutist state and the national state?
8. Should IGOs be considered actors?
9. Are there parallels between the chartered companies of the early anglo/dutch states and today?
10. What role did physical technologies play in the development of the modern state system?
11. What are the consequences for state interaction of the communications revolution?
12. "IGOs have become a central social technology of interaction capacity in the modern international system." Explain.
13. Provide an example of how a change in socio-economic interaction capacity produced a change in economic process
14. How did changes in socio-economic interaction capacity produce the groundwork for modern IR theory?
15. Explain the coemergence of 1) economic liberalization, 2) industrial transformation of physical interaction capacity, and 3) the internal evolution of the leading modern states into the mass national and then democratic forms.

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