



# Intro into Regional Security

Regional Security Complexes

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# Concepts

- Security complex
- Region
- Regionalism
- Regionalisation
- Globalism

# Security complex

- Group of states whose primary security concerns link together sufficiently closely that **their national securities cannot realistically be considered apart from one another.**
- **Cultural and racial** characteristics may be contributing factor but **are not principal in defining security complexes**

# Region

- Means that a distinct and significant subsystem of security relations exists among a set of states whose **fate is that they have been locked into geographical proximity with each other**
- E.g. European regional subsystem

# Local balances of power

- are **important features** of the security environment
- However, **can be easily distorted by great powers** vis a vis globalisation and external influences

# Regionalism

- ‘a state-led or states-led **project designed to recognise a particular regional space** along defined economic and political lines’
- even though ‘the state is most often one of the regionalising actors, [nonetheless] equally important are **NGOs, new social movements, media, companies** as well as a range of actors based in the second economy of the informal sector

# Regionalism – two waves

- **old** : the late 1940s and ended in late 1960s and early 1970s state-centric, internally focused and imposed from above
- **new**: began in mid 1980s and in particular 1990s. In contrast to classical regionalism, the new regionalism involves non-state actors, and is more open, *extrovert* and more comprehensive.

# Regionalisation

- growth of societal integration within a region and to the often undirected processes of social and economic interaction’
- Regionalisation is **a process** that can occur even without regionalism.
- ‘the process of regionalisation can only be understood within the context of **globalisation**.



# Globalisation

- stretching of social, political and economic activities across political frontiers, regions and continents
- globalisation produces both negative and positive effects
- some observers view regionalism as an integral part of globalisation others as concepts 'bouncing' against one another

# regionalism in theories

- **For realists** international organisations are nothing more than interstate institutions, therefore it is irrelevant whether such institutions are global or regional
- **neo-liberalists** believe that regionalism is useful as long as it leads to free trade
- **neo-marxists** mainly draw on the theory of imperialism ('as a structural relationship between countries from the centre and periphery'.)

# Regional Trade Agreements

- (a) USMCA (NAFTA) based on the USA,
- (b) the EU,
- (c) East Asia based on Japan.
- Some research shows that most of the trade is within rather than between regions
- D) AfCFTA
- South America (CAN, MERCOSUR..)



# Regionalism - results

# Regionalism: results

- 'goods and services flow as well as OC terrorism
- Creates winners and losers
- Stronger states use (abuse), exploit the weaker ones.
- New regionalism subjects hundreds of millions of people to permanent underclass This not only denies people their basic which could lead to future instability
- Can consolidate state-building and democratisation
- Can help to manage negative effects of globalisation

# Buzan and regional security

- **Amity** among states – friendship, support
- **Enmity** among states – fear, suspicion

# Buzan and regional security

- **Lower level security complex** – without great powers and not overreaching the region
- **Higher level security complex** – with great powers whose power overreaches the regional complex

# Buffer zones and states „inbetween“

- States which occupy position between neighbouring security complexes



# Buzan and his comprehensive analytical framework for security analysis

Levels	Analytical focus	Issues	Examples
Domestic	Weak/strong state	-degree of socio-political cohesion Domestic political violence	Strong states: Japan, Sweden Weak states: Sri Lanka, Lebanon
Regional	Local/regional security complexes	-security interdependence -amity/enmity -polarity -civilizational area -subcomplexes -domestic spillover	India/Pakistan Iran/Iraq Israel/Palestina Mono/bi/multi -South America Gulf, Balkan Kurds, Palestinization
Inter-regional	Boundaries of indifference	Cross-boundary links -boundary change	-Pakistan S. Arabia -Gulf/S.. Arabia
Global	Higher level, global security complex	Great power polarity, rivalry Penetration: To domestic level To regional level Overlay Adjacency to local security complex	Cold War  US and Panama Superpowers and Middle East Colonial period Europe 1945-90 China/SE Asia China /S Asia

Key questions: - what are the security dynamics at each level for any given case?

-How do these dynamics interact with each other?

-What is the relative weight of each level in determining the security situation as a whole?

# Securitisation on different levels of analysis

Dynamic/se ctors	military	economical	enviro nment al	societal	political
global	**	****	****	**	***
Nonregiona l subsystemi c	**	**	**	**	*
Regional	****	***	***	****	****
Local	***	****	**	***	**

\*\*\*\* dominant securitisation, \*\*\*subdominant securitisation, \*\*small securitisation, \* no securitisation

# Regional hegemony/rivalry

- Haftel (2013) finds that regional hegemony (Buzan and Wæver 2003) increases security cooperation, while rivalry between major powers in the region (Colaresi et al. 2007) limits it.

# Security governance

- ‘an international system of rule, dependent on the acceptance of a majority of states that are affected, which through regulatory mechanism (both formal and informal), governs activities across a range of security and security-related issue areas’ (Webber 2002: 44).

# Security governance

- **SG functions:** institution building and conflict resolution

**SG employs two sets of instruments:**

**the persuasive** (economic, political and diplomatic)

**and the coercive** (medium to high-intensity military interventions and internal policing).

**four categories of security governance emerge:** assurance, prevention, protection and compellence.

# Security governance Instruments

Persuasive

Coercive

Functions

Institution building

**Prevention** (e.i. Democratisation promotion, civil-military relations, mediation migration, aid, poverty, root causes of conflict)

**Protection**  
(health security, terrorism, OC, environment)

Conflict resolution

**Assurance**  
(policing missions, border missions, economic reconstruction)

**Compellence**  
(projection of force, military doctrine, ability to use force)

# Global security governance 5 conditions Jervis 2002

- national elites must:
- **eschew wars** of conquest and war as an instrument of statecraft;
- accept that the **cost** of waging such a war is perceived as outweighing any conceivable benefits;
- embrace the principle of **economic liberalism** rather than conquest or empire;
- establish **domestic democratic governance**;
- and **respect the territorial status quo**.

# Global security governance

## 3 barriers by Keohane 2002

- cultural, religious and civilizational **heterogeneity** on a global scale.
- **absence of a consensus** on beliefs and norms at global level.
- **absence of an institutional** fabric that is thick enough to meet the challenge of governance.



# New era of Globalisation

- global financial crisis of 2008-09
- the spread of swine flu
- the rise in the price of oil to \$140 per barrel
- the breakdown of transatlantic solidarity over Iraq
- the effects of the Indian Ocean tsunami and Hurricane Katrina
- the terrorist attacks of 9/11
- COVID-19

# Main sources of threat

- territorial **conflicts**
- **the proliferation** of weapons of mass destruction
- regional **rivalries**
- **terrorist** activities,
- the fall-out from '**failed states**'
- **organised crime**

# Main sources of threat

- Asia
- Latin America
- Africa
- Europe

# Regional security providers?

- USA
- EU, NATO
- BRICS
- MINT

# USA – approach to security

# USA's approach to security

- Cold war, bipolarism, usa role
- But yugoslavia
- But 9/11 and war on terror
- Obama – return to multilateralism
- Clinton vs. Trump vs. Biden

# NATO – approach to security

# NATO's approach to security

- Cold war
- Art. 5 – common commitment
- IFOR, SFOR, Kosovo war, KFOR, Macedonia, ISAF
- Afghanistan, Libya



# EU – approach to security

# EU's approach to security

- New threats, non-conventional
- terrorism, OC, migration, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, regional conflicts, state failure
- Post-conflict state and institution building
- Ambition to become global player but
- ESDP vs. NATO vs UN

# Brazil – approach to security

# Brazil 's approach to security

- On the path to become great power
- Little war experience (19th century)
- Defence ministry under civilian control in 1999
- Region on the margin of the world significance
- 3 crucial areas for Brazil security: cybernetics, nuclear technology, space technology, also indigenous production of military hardware
- Prioritize permanent membership in UNSC
- Participation on UN peacekeeping missions (haiti)
- Tries to act as mediator in regional disputes

# Brazil 's approach to security

- UNASUR 2009
- South American Defence Council (CDS) 2012
- Strategic partnership with the EU 2007
- Successful story in attracting FDI –BRIC
- **Energy security**: the cleanest energy mix in the world in 2008 48% of energy came from renewable resources
- **Environmental security**: deforestation of amazon

# Russia – approach to security

# Russia's approach to security

- Recognition changing nature of security threats but **hard security** dominates the agenda
- Rejects good governance, promotion of democracy and rule of law leads to destabilisation
- **Human security** absent
- **State sovereignty and non-interference**
- system of global governance in the form of a **concert of great powers** based on national interests rather than on shared values.

# India – approach to security



# India 's approach to security

- 'strategic partnerships' with the US, Russia, China, Japan and the EU,
- 'Look East' policy
- and engage with the world as 'a responsible power'
- Modernisation of armament, poverty reduction
- Security agenda: 1. Pakistan, 2. China, 3. poor training and equipment

# China – approach to security

# China's approach to security

- Multilateralism and UNSC
- regional security dialogue
- Concern – nuclear programme in the regional countries, north korea
- Cyber security

# South Africa – approach to security

# South Africa's approach to security

- Regional power, rule maker
- **Threats:** poverty, unemployment, the HIV/Aids pandemic, poor education, the lack of housing, the absence of adequate social services, and the high level of crime and violence,
- the 'defence of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and the promotion of regional security in Southern Africa'
- **external threats are largely non-conventional**  
They are transnational in nature or the indirect result of political instability in the region.

# Seminar: Presentations

- time for one presentation is 10 - 15 minutes
- the content
- presentation skills
- sources and
- ability to accelerate discussion are under assessment consideration.

# Seminar – sketch security analysis of selected region

- European Union
- Visegrad countries
- USA
- Central Asia
- Andean region
- South-East Asia
- Balkans
- Caucasus
- Middle East
- Korean peninsula

Actors, motivations, capabilities, threats, issues  
Military/political/societal/economical/environmental dimensions

Higher level/lower level security complex

security interdependence

-amity/enmity

-polarity

-buffer zone

-subcomplexes

-domestic spillover