

Robert D. Kaplan The Revenge
of Geography Random House 2012

Thucydides that human nature is motivated by fear, self-interest, and honor.

Hans Morgenthau, the father of modern realism in Politics Among Nations (1948) that one must work with forces, not against them and that good intentions have little to do with good outcomes

Morgenthau "the need to marshal popular emotions cannot fail to impair the rationality of foreign policy ... All nations are tempted ... to clothe their own particular aspirations and actions in the moral purposes of the universe"
justice p 25

Realists expect conflict. Institutions don't have substantial independent influence

"Following involvement in Iraq from 2003 to 2007 we all claimed for a time to have become realists ..." p 27

"Realism... is supposed to make one uneasy"
"Realists value order over freedom" p 27

"Whereas ~~modern~~ devotees of globalization stress what unifies humankind, traditional realists stress what divides us" p 27

"Herodotus... illustrates how self-interest is calculated within a disfiguring whirlwind of passion" p 58

"... geography is the very basis for strategy and geopolitics" p 60

"Ideas matter, for good and for bad, and crazy ideas can be especially dangerous" p 81

"... the more united Europe becomes, the greater its tensions with the United States" p 99
alfred Thayer Mahan, author of *The Influence of Sea Power Upon History, 1660-1783* (1890) "a peaceful gain-loving nation is not far-sighted..."
quoted p 106

"While the Americans and Europeans focus on globalization, the appeal of nationalism and military power is growing in Eurasia" p 115

"Empires are often not sought
consciously. Rather, as states become
stronger, they develop needs and... a
whole set of insecurities that lead them
to expand in organic fashion" p 198

— China is an "über-realist" power

"Resource acquisition is the principal goal
of Chinese foreign policy" 202