

## Major Contemporary Theories of IR

	Realism	Neorealism	Liberal Idealism	Neoliberalism	Constructivism
unit of analysis	states	states	society	states	society
level of analysis	state	systemic (interstate)	state (domestic)	systemic (interstate)	state, systemic
major actors	states	states	social groups, states, international institutions	states, international institutions and regimes	social groups, states, IGOs, NGOs, MNCs
basic concept (s)	power	anarchy	peace and justice	rational self-interest, interdependence	norms and identity (shared understandings, social facts, intersubjectivity)
logic of theory	Power-seeking human nature causes conflict between states.	Anarchic structure and security dilemma cause interstate conflict.	Liberty and human reason produce collective security and international rule of law.	Rational states cooperate in international institutions out of self-interest.	People and states act according to socially constructed ideas of appropriate conduct.
authors and proponents	Hans Morgenthau	Waltz, Mearsheimer	Immanuel Kant, Woodrow Wilson	Keohane and Nye	Wendt, Ruggie, Onuf