

# Review of: "Geopolitical constructs of international politics - their cultural & ideological roots"

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## Review of

Geopolitical constructs of international politics - their cultural & ideological roots

By Badrun Amershi

"Geopolitical constructs of International Politics.." by M. Badrun Amershi looks at the genesis of the current international world order and identify the Westphalian Treaty of 1648 as its foundational moment. The demise of the Catholic Church and the Pope as the supreme political authority in Post-medieval Europe generated extensive fragmentation, multi-directional rivalries, and endless conflicts. As explicitly formulated by the author, many scholars of international relations credit the treaties with providing the foundation of the modern state system and articulating the concept of territorial sovereignty. These diplomatic acts have codified the agents and actors of Europe new international order articulated on a series of core concepts: territorial integrity; sovereignty; nation-state, non-interference in internal affairs, etc...

The author rightly argues that the "Westphalia construct" was transposed through a number of successive steps at the scale of "world International relations template". This happened through concerted European scramble for colonies, colonial domination, and the Western control of almost all multi-lateral institutions. The author's assessment is straightforward and accurate. The Euro-centric model does not take into consideration earlier and other diplomatic initiative and form of management of international relations – the Amarna tablets, The Kadesh agreement. Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) naval power dominated the Indian Ocean and their emperors devised an effective diplomacy and peaceful international relations with diverse nations along the shores of the Indian Ocean. The Bornu Kingdom under King Idriss Alawma initiated diplomatic relations with Ottoman Turkey (1576-1578) and the Kingdom of Morocco.

Following the author's reading of the evidence, the current geo-political tensions and crises partly result from the lack of consideration of other peoples and cultures historical experience. Removing such blind spots can help in the establishment of a more inclusive roadmap on international relations able to ease the construction of multi-polar world. The paper would have been significantly improved if the author would have done a little more work on non-european diplomatic initiatives before and after the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

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