

# The Making of Strategy: Rulers, States, and War

**By Robert Jervis**

The Making of Strategy: Rulers, States, and War is a seminal work in the field of international relations. It explores the relationship between rulers, states, and war, and argues that the behavior of states is determined by the interests of their rulers. The book has been widely praised for its originality and insights, and it has had a major impact on the study of international relations.



## The Making of Strategy: Rulers, States, and War

by Williamson Murray

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 1030 pages



Jervis begins by arguing that the state is not a unitary actor. Rather, it is a collection of individuals with different interests and goals. The behavior of the state is therefore determined by the interactions of these individuals. Jervis then identifies three types of rulers: autocrats, oligarchs, and democrats. He argues that the type of ruler has a significant impact on the state's foreign policy. Autocrats are more likely to be aggressive and to

pursue war, while oligarchs and democrats are more likely to be cautious and to avoid war.

Jervis also explores the role of domestic politics in foreign policy. He argues that the domestic political environment can constrain the options available to rulers. For example, a ruler who is facing a strong opposition at home may be less likely to pursue a risky foreign policy. Similarly, a ruler who is dependent on the support of a particular interest group may be more likely to pursue policies that benefit that group.

The Making of Strategy is a complex and sophisticated work. However, it is also a very important work. It provides a new and insightful perspective on the relationship between rulers, states, and war. The book is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the causes of war and peace.

## **Reviews**

"The Making of Strategy is a major contribution to the study of international relations. It is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the causes of war and peace." - Henry Kissinger

"Jervis has written a brilliant and provocative book. It is a major work that will have a lasting impact on the study of international relations." - Kenneth Waltz

"The Making of Strategy is a tour de force. It is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the complex relationship between rulers, states, and war." - John Mearsheimer

## **About the Author**

Robert Jervis is a professor of political science at Columbia University. He is one of the leading scholars in the field of international relations. His work has been widely published and translated into many languages.



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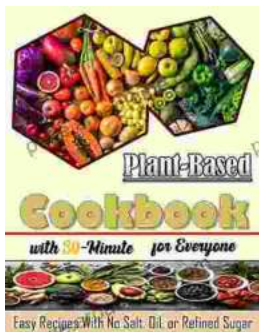
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