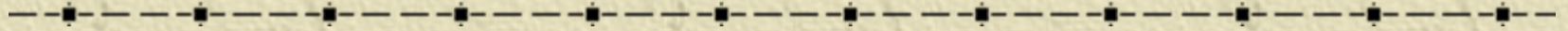


# WAR & PEACE & WAR



THE LIFE CYCLES OF IMPERIAL NATIONS

PETER TURCHIN

**A Review of Chapters 13 & 14**

**By Nadia Fraga**

# CHAPTER 13:

## The Bowling Alley in History

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- ✦ Italy: 1970's Political Reform
- ✦ Regions received similar amounts of funds
- ✦ Political Scientists used the back drop to observe how regional, political culture affects institutional performance of regional governments for the next two decades
- ✦ ***ASABIYA: SOCIAL CAPITAL***

# CHAPTER 13:

## The Bowling Alley in History

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Institutional  
Performance=  
How well regional  
government performs

Asabiya=  
Root of  
performance of  
regional governments

# CHAPTER 13:

## The Bowling Alley in History

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- ✦ 1993: Robert Putman uses 12 social indicators for measurement (including):
- ◆ Bureaucratic responsiveness
  - ◆ Budget promptness
  - ◆ Family clinics
  - ◆ Daycare centers

# CHAPTER 13:

## The Bowling Alley in History

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### ✠ Results:

#### ◆ Strong North-South gradient

- North: Piedmont, Lombardia in Po Valley
- South: Calabria, Sicily (*Mezzogiorno*)

# CHAPTER 13:

## The Bowling Alley in History

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### SOUTH

- ◆ Networks:
  - Hardly existence of networks amongst nuclear family
  - “Extreme atomization...community-level cooperative efforts are virtually impossible... not a society”
- ◆ Rural & poor
- ◆ Organized Crime:
  - Mafia
  - Camorra
  - ‘ndrangheta

### NORTH

- ◆ Networks
  - Interests in Public Issues & causes
  - Civil associations: literary, hiking, hunting & other social clubs
- ◆ Urban, industrialized & wealthy
- ◆ Nothing Similar to the organized crime among *Mezzogiorno*

# CHAPTER 13:

## The Bowling Alley in History

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- ✦ One century ago- almost no economic difference; gap began widening in 1920...
  - ✦ Therefore: social differences not due to economic disparity
- ✦ Causation: North is wealthier because it has more social capital

# CHAPTER 13:

## The Bowling Alley in History

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✦ Francis Fukuyama:

“for a huge corporation to be viable, it is necessary that... employees share a high degree of generalized trust... relying on both free market forces and group solidarity.”

# CHAPTER 13:

## The Bowling Alley in History

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### Declining Asabiya in America

- ✦ trust in government is declining
- ✦ distrust of the media
- ✦ frequency of divorce
- ✦ isolation in cars, at work, etc.
- ✦ *bowling alone* (as opposed to in a league)

# CHAPTER 14: The End of Empire?

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*THE AGE OF EMPIRES IS STRONG...  
BUT THE AGE OF EMPORERS IS OVER*

✦ **Empire: a large multiethnic territorial state with a complex power structure**

# CHAPTER 14:

## The End of Empire?

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### ✠ THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- ◆ minority groups
- ◆ global power
- ◆ not all empires have emperors
  - Athenian
  - British

# CHAPTER 14:

## The End of Empire?

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### ✠ EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

◆ est. March 1957:

- France
- W. Germany (Germany)
- Italy
- Belgium
- Netherlands
- Luxembourg

# CHAPTER 14:

## The End of Empire?

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### CHINA

- ◆ 2003: economic reforms that have led to the quadrupling of GDP
- ◆ 2<sup>nd</sup> largest economy in the world (purchasing power)
- ◆ use of force:
  - Tibet
  - Xinjiang
  - Taiwan?

# CHAPTER 14:

## The End of Empire?

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### ✠ CORE STATE OF THE FORMER SOVIET EMPIRE...

- ✠ Chechnya is KEY
  - Chechens
    - ◆ Tribal highlanders
    - ◆ Muslim threat from the South
    - ◆ Raiding and enslaving Russians
- ✠ according to Turhin, if Russia succeeds in incorporating Chechnya, it will be a world empire

# CHAPTER 14:

## The End of Empire?

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### MIDDLE EAST

- ✦ Establishment of Israel in 1948
- ✦ Occupation of Iraq by the U.S.
  - ◆ metaethnic frontier theory: expect a counter response
  - ◆ Asabiya of Palestinians has greatly increased:
    - Forced withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon in 2000

# CHAPTER 14:

## The End of Empire?

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### TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES

- ✦ Internet bloggers: those in power are no longer dictating the sharing of information
  - ◆ WWW: wealthier, intellectual users
- ✦ Mobile Phones: affordable, even by the poor
  - ◆ Collective unity
  - ◆ Communicating info
  - ◆ Coordination
- ✦ All small, hand-held devices are enabling cohesion across cities, borders, countries.

# CHAPTER 14:

## The End of Empire?

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### Turchin Acknowledges:

- ◆ Abundant food & energy
- ◆ Technology & science
- ◆ Mass media

Are new phenomena with dynamics that are distinct from studied historical empires...

Nonetheless, he stands by the

THE LIFE CYCLES OF IMPERIAL NATIONS because,  
*“we still make babies the old-fashioned way, we kill each other in individual and collective conflicts, have feelings of group loyalty, and intolerance toward strangers.”*