

Book Title: Unrivaled: Why America Will Remain the World's Sole Superpower?

Reviewed by

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This century's great work is well worth reading. It examines the United State of America's hegemonic status and why this might last for a while before we return to a bipolar or multi polar system. The idea that the United States is deteriorating, the bipolar era is coming to an end, and China is rising has come to be accepted wisdom. Beckley directly addresses this thesis in this intelligent and complex book. He acknowledges that the United States has issues and that its advantages are frequently wasted by misinformed leaders.

Nonetheless, he makes the point that the country's deep geographic, demographic, and institutional reserves offer it a special level of resilience. The only great power without regional rivals is the United States. World leadership is held through its businesses and universities. Furthermore, Beckley contends that due to its wealth of natural resources, favourable demographics, enduring political institutions, and secure property rights, it has by far the finest underpinnings for future economic growth. It resides far from danger, shielded from harm by two large oceans and two friendly neighbors. Its population is sizeable, well-educated, and still relatively youthful. It also possesses a wealth of natural resources, a massive and inventive economy, a stable and largely successful government, and a strong, well-resourced, and highly skilled military and all these have made the country to be considered as a lucky and fortunate one..

Conversely, China's growth prospects are "dismal." Beckley believes that the declinists abuse their power in the wrong ways. For instance, GDP overstates the

significance of populous but underdeveloped nations like China while ignoring the issues that deplete their economic and military resources. The author does not contend that the United States can or ought to make an effort to maintain the unipolar era, but he does believe that it will continue to be the world's superpower for some time. Its prospective competitors for world hegemony, China, Russia, and the European Union, are all significantly and persistently constrained. According to Michael Beckley in his significant new book, America is set to maintain its dominance for a very long time, despite the fact that many anticipate its impending decline. Then, the issue is what it does with that power.

The most important contribution Beckley makes to the hegemony debate is that he provides a net evaluation of the relative power situations. In other words, he attempts to determine a nation's power after subtracting the expenditures associated with maintaining such strength. Production, welfare, and security expenses are the three basic categories of costs. Costs associated with developing economic and military might are referred to as production costs. These expenses include acquiring natural resources and troop training. Welfare expenses, or the price of a country's social services, are those required to support the people. And security expenses are what a country spends on keeping up its internal order and surviving in its region.

This classic book spends the most of its time on acceptable cost and power measurements and how they might be applied in comparison. Although there are numerous and challenging methodological concerns, they are ultimately moot because all the measurements are consistent. Beckley makes a strong case for why the United States is the world's most effective power producer and the European Union is not cohesive. There are many issues plaguing Russia, a waning power, including alcoholism, corruption, and internal strife. However, despite the remarkable economic growth of China, One that has lifted tens of millions out of poverty and built the foundation of a strong military is plagued by repressed democratic impulses, the possibility of regional fragmentation, and the weight of an ageing population.

According to Beckley, America will remain a dominant country and a super power Geography, institutions, and demography, the three fundamental forces driving economic growth which all give it enduring benefits. It consistently ranks high in all

of the numerous pertinent international rankings, albeit it is not always first. Decades of massive investments in defence technology and training have given it an unrivalled capacity to produce and deploy military power on a global scale.

The majority of nations would rather free-ride on American protection and benefit from its economic generosity than take up the cause of challenger, thus there is virtually any counterbalance to this power. Beckley also sees the idea of economic convergence as largely wishful thinking. He believes it is likely that significant military and financial deficits will continue to exist.

The question is ‘What about the Colossus? As a result of lessons learned from Iraq and Afghanistan, Beckley supports the United States exercising moderation in the use of its vast power, conducting minimal offshore balancing in the Middle East, and being extremely cautious in its operations. Yet, he is concerned that without a significant challenge, as there was during World War II and the Cold War, there will be domestic political rot and a reluctance to assume its responsibility for managing global security.

Here, Beckley reaches too readily for a number of ridiculous solutions to divert their focus back to America's purported foreign commitments, as though the author is afraid that the mob of Trump's ignorant fans would sidetrack the nation's purpose. Maybe, like their Orange-topped boss, they simply perceive a bad bargain and question why they must sacrifice blood and taxes to ensure that distant, wealthy allies can live in safety from their neighbours. All in all, it's a must read and an intriguing book.