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The International Politics of Superheroes

Mariano Turzi

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About the Book

Follow your favorite caped crusaders (and foes) to learn about the current world order. Mariano Turzi explains the main theories of international relations through Batman, Two-Face, and the Justice League. The Hulk illuminates Russia's foreign policy and Aquaman sheds light on climate change. The X-Men experience the same dramas as refugees and Tony Stark personifies modern warfare. How is Spiderman like the UN and Wonder Woman's soft power comparable to the European Union? You will learn about globalization through Flash and about American hegemony with Superman and Captain America. Even Bane and his face mask appear, anticipating the effects of the COVID-19 global pandemic. Taking superheroes and supervillains as myths or modern archetypes, the book invites you to a super-journey through the fascinating universe of structures, themes, protagonists, and problems of world affairs.

About the Author

Mariano Turzi is Professor of International Relations at University of CEMA, Argentina, and Deusto, Spain.

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- Stephen Saideman, Carleton University

"The world of superheroes turns out to be an engaging and entertaining guide to the world of international relations theory. Mariano Turzi draws connections between figures like Batman, the Flash, and Doctor Strange and the IR topics like realism, constructivism, and globalization in an accessible and topical way."

- Paul Musgrave, University of Massachusetts Amherst

"Your favorite scholars and theories of international relations have come to life and are engaged in a galactic struggle for explanatory power! I can think of no better way to refresh our thinking about the relevance of the dominant lenses to interpreting world politics -- and to inspire the next generation of IR students -- than this timely and entertaining book."

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