dictators come to power answer key

dictators come to power answer key is a topic that delves into the complex mechanisms and strategies by which dictators rise to leadership in various nations. In this comprehensive article, we will explore the historical context, common patterns, and key factors that contribute to the emergence of authoritarian rulers. Readers will gain insight into political, economic, social, and psychological elements that facilitate the rise of dictators. The article will also analyze case studies of notable dictators, examine the role of propaganda and manipulation, and discuss the consequences of dictatorial regimes. Whether you're a student, educator, or history enthusiast searching for a reliable answer key on how dictators come to power, this guide offers a thorough and SEO-optimized resource. Continue reading to discover a clear and factual explanation of this crucial aspect of world history.

- Understanding the Concept of Dictatorship
- Historical Patterns of Dictators Coming to Power
- Key Factors Facilitating the Rise of Dictators
- Common Methods Used by Dictators to Seize Control
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Understanding the Concept of Dictatorship

Dictatorship is a form of government where absolute power is concentrated in the hands of a single individual or a small group. Unlike democratic systems, dictatorships typically lack checks and balances, resulting in the suppression of political opposition and civil liberties. The term "dictator" often evokes images of leaders who rule through fear, coercion, and strict control over society. Understanding the nature of dictatorship is essential to grasp how such leaders come to power and maintain their authority. This section will provide foundational knowledge on the concept, shedding light on its definition, characteristics, and variations across different historical periods and regions.

Historical Patterns of Dictators Coming to Power

Throughout history, certain patterns have emerged in the rise of dictators. Often, dictators

ascend during times of crisis, such as war, economic collapse, or political instability. The vacuum created by weakened institutions or leadership provides an opportunity for ambitious individuals to seize power. Historical examples include the rise of Adolf Hitler in Germany after the economic devastation of World War I, and Joseph Stalin's consolidation of power in the Soviet Union following the chaos of the Russian Revolution. By examining these recurring historical patterns, we can identify common triggers and conditions that allow dictators to gain control.

Times of Crisis as Catalysts

Periods of national emergency, war, or economic depression are frequently exploited by aspiring dictators. The public's desire for stability and strong leadership can override concerns about democratic principles. Dictators often present themselves as saviors who can restore order and resolve crises, making their rise more palatable to citizens and elites alike.

Weak or Fragile Institutions

Dictators commonly emerge in countries with fragile or dysfunctional political systems. When institutions such as legislatures, courts, and the media are unable to check executive power, it becomes easier for a single individual to dominate the political landscape. Institutional weakness is a major factor in the historical rise of authoritarian rulers.

Key Factors Facilitating the Rise of Dictators

Multiple factors contribute to the emergence of dictators. These include economic instability, social divisions, lack of political pluralism, and external threats. Understanding these elements is crucial for analyzing why certain countries are more susceptible to dictatorial regimes.

Economic Instability

High unemployment, inflation, and poverty can erode public trust in existing governments. Economic hardship fuels dissatisfaction and can make radical solutions more attractive, creating fertile ground for dictatorial leadership.

Social and Political Divisions

Societies deeply divided along ethnic, religious, or ideological lines are more prone to authoritarian rule. Dictators often exploit these divisions, portraying themselves as unifiers

or protectors of a particular group, thereby consolidating their support base.

Lack of Political Pluralism

Countries with limited political competition, one-party systems, or restricted civil liberties are especially vulnerable to dictatorship. When opposition parties and independent media are suppressed, there are fewer obstacles to absolute rule.

Common Methods Used by Dictators to Seize Control

Dictators employ a variety of methods to acquire and maintain power. These tactics range from legal manipulation to outright violence, and often involve undermining democratic norms and institutions.

- Manipulation of Elections: Rigging votes, intimidating opponents, and restricting voter access are common tactics.
- Use of Force: Military coups, paramilitary groups, and suppression of protests are used to eliminate resistance.
- Legal and Constitutional Changes: Amending constitutions to remove term limits or expand executive powers.
- Elimination of Opposition: Jailing, exiling, or assassinating political rivals and critics.
- Control of Information: Censoring media, spreading propaganda, and limiting access to independent news sources.

Case Studies: Notable Dictators and Their Paths to Power

Examining case studies of prominent dictators offers valuable insights into their rise and consolidation of power. Each dictator's path reflects unique circumstances, yet also shares common strategies.

Adolf Hitler (Germany)

Hitler used legal means to ascend, exploiting economic turmoil and political fragmentation.

Through the Nazi Party, he manipulated democratic processes and used propaganda to gain public support, eventually dismantling democratic institutions after his appointment as chancellor.

Joseph Stalin (Soviet Union)

Stalin rose within the Communist Party, outmaneuvering rivals following Lenin's death. He consolidated power through purges, forced collectivization, and control of the secret police, creating a regime characterized by terror and repression.

Mao Zedong (China)

Mao emerged as the leader of the Communist Party after years of civil war. Utilizing revolutionary ideology, military victories, and purges of opposition, Mao established a one-party state and led with absolute authority.

Augusto Pinochet (Chile)

Pinochet seized power through a military coup, overthrowing the democratically elected government. He maintained control through martial law, censorship, and systematic elimination of opposition.

The Role of Propaganda and Manipulation

Propaganda is a vital tool for dictators seeking to legitimize their rule and suppress dissent. Manipulation of information allows authoritarian leaders to shape public perception and maintain control over society.

Creating a Cult of Personality

Dictators often foster a cult of personality, portraying themselves as heroic, infallible leaders. Through state-controlled media, symbols, and mass rallies, they build loyalty and discourage criticism.

Suppressing Dissent and Opposition

Authoritarian regimes deploy propaganda to discredit opposition, spread disinformation, and justify repressive policies. By controlling the flow of information, dictators can

marginalize critics and maintain a climate of fear.

Consequences of Dictatorship

The establishment of dictatorial regimes has far-reaching consequences for societies. While some dictatorships may achieve short-term stability or economic growth, they often result in human rights abuses, political repression, and long-term instability.

- Limitation of civil liberties and political freedoms
- · Widespread human rights violations
- Suppression of free speech and independent media
- Economic mismanagement and corruption
- Social unrest and resistance movements

Understanding these consequences is essential for evaluating the long-term impact of dictatorship on nations and their people.

Trending Questions and Answers about Dictators Come to Power Answer Key

Q: What are the main factors that allow dictators to come to power?

A: Dictators often rise to power during times of crisis, such as war, economic instability, or political fragmentation. Weak institutions, lack of political pluralism, social divisions, and manipulation of public opinion are key factors.

Q: How do dictators typically seize control of a government?

A: Dictators may use legal manipulation, military force, propaganda, elimination of opposition, and constitutional changes to seize control and consolidate their power.

Q: Why do people support dictators during times of

uncertainty?

A: People may support dictators during uncertainty because they promise stability, security, and solutions to pressing problems, even if it means sacrificing democratic freedoms.

Q: What role does propaganda play in the rise of dictators?

A: Propaganda helps dictators legitimize their rule, suppress dissent, create a cult of personality, and control public perception through state-controlled media and disinformation.

Q: Can dictatorships lead to economic growth?

A: While some dictatorships have achieved short-term economic growth, most result in long-term mismanagement, corruption, and economic decline due to lack of transparency and accountability.

Q: How do dictators eliminate political opposition?

A: Dictators eliminate opposition by jailing, exiling, or assassinating rivals, restricting civil liberties, and controlling media to prevent dissenting voices.

Q: What are the consequences of living under a dictatorship?

A: Consequences include loss of civil liberties, human rights abuses, suppression of free speech, economic challenges, and the risk of social unrest.

Q: Are there historical examples of dictators coming to power through democratic means?

A: Yes, some dictators, like Adolf Hitler, initially came to power through legal and democratic processes before dismantling democratic institutions.

Q: How can societies prevent the rise of dictators?

A: Strong democratic institutions, political pluralism, free press, civic education, and public vigilance are crucial in preventing the rise of authoritarian leaders.

Q: What is the difference between a dictator and an

authoritarian leader?

A: Both concentrate power, but a dictator typically rules with absolute authority and often bypasses all legal or constitutional limits, while an authoritarian leader may maintain some legal structures but still restrict freedoms and opposition.

Dictators Come To Power Answer Key

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Dictators Come to Power: Answer Key to Understanding Authoritarianism

The rise of dictatorships, a recurring theme throughout history, continues to fascinate and terrify. Understanding how these autocratic regimes seize and maintain power is crucial, not just for historical analysis, but also for recognizing potential warning signs in the present. This comprehensive guide serves as your "answer key" to unlocking the complexities of how dictators come to power, exploring various pathways and underlying factors. We'll delve into the political, social, and economic conditions that create fertile ground for authoritarianism, providing you with a nuanced understanding beyond simple, oversimplified explanations.

H2: The Seeds of Dictatorship: Preexisting Conditions

Before a dictator can seize power, specific conditions often lay the groundwork. These aren't always immediately obvious, but understanding them is crucial to predicting and preventing future autocratic regimes.

H3: Political Instability and Weak Governance:

A fractured political system, marked by weak or corrupt institutions, provides the perfect breeding ground for dictators. When existing power structures fail to meet the needs of the population, or when they are perceived as illegitimate, a vacuum is created that authoritarian leaders can exploit. This instability can manifest as frequent changes in government, ineffective law enforcement, and a lack of public trust in official institutions.

H3: Socioeconomic Inequality and Grievances:

Significant disparities in wealth and opportunity often fuel public discontent. When a large segment of the population feels marginalized, exploited, or ignored, they become more susceptible to charismatic leaders promising radical change, often through authoritarian means. This discontent can stem from economic hardship, social injustice, or perceived discrimination.

H3: External Threats and Interventions:

Foreign intervention, whether through direct invasion or subtle manipulation, can destabilize a nation, paving the way for dictatorships. External conflicts, economic sanctions, or even the perceived threat of foreign influence can create an environment where strong, decisive leadership – even authoritarian – is seen as necessary for survival.

H2: Pathways to Power: Tactics Employed by Dictators

The methods dictators employ to gain control are diverse, but several common strategies emerge:

H3: The Military Coup:

A classic route to power involves a seizure of control by the military or a faction within the military. This often occurs when the military perceives a threat to national security or its own interests. The coup typically involves the swift overthrow of the existing government, often with little to no resistance from the civilian population.

H3: Electoral Manipulation and Authoritarian Consolidation:

In some cases, dictators gain power through nominally democratic processes. This might involve manipulating elections through intimidation, fraud, or suppressing opposition parties. Once in power, they gradually dismantle democratic institutions, consolidating their control and silencing dissent.

H3: Charismatic Leadership and Populism:

Many dictators rise to prominence by capitalizing on widespread discontent and offering simple, appealing solutions to complex problems. Their charismatic personalities and populist rhetoric can win over large segments of the population, allowing them to amass power and eventually suppress opposition.

H3: Violence and Terror:

The use of violence and intimidation is often crucial in maintaining power. Dictators utilize security forces, paramilitary groups, and propaganda to suppress dissent, instill fear, and eliminate opponents. This creates a climate of terror, discouraging any potential challenges to their authority.

H2: Maintaining Power: Strategies of Authoritarian Regimes

Once in power, dictators employ various strategies to maintain their grip:

H3: Control of Information and Propaganda:

Dictatorships often control all major media outlets, disseminating propaganda to shape public opinion and suppress dissenting voices. This manipulation of information is essential to maintain their legitimacy and control over the population.

H3: Suppression of Opposition:

Any opposition, whether political, social, or cultural, is ruthlessly suppressed. This can involve imprisonment, torture, assassination, or even genocide. The aim is to create an environment of fear, preventing any organized resistance.

H3: Patronage and Co-option:

Dictators often use patronage networks to reward loyalty and secure support among key individuals and groups. This can involve providing lucrative positions, resources, or protection in exchange for compliance.

H3: Cult of Personality:

Many dictators cultivate a cult of personality, presenting themselves as indispensable leaders with almost superhuman qualities. This manipulation of public perception helps legitimize their rule and discourage dissent.

Conclusion:

Understanding how dictators come to power requires a multifaceted approach. It's not simply a matter of one person seizing control; rather, it's the confluence of pre-existing conditions, strategic actions, and the exploitation of societal vulnerabilities. By analyzing these factors, we can develop a more sophisticated understanding of authoritarianism, its causes, and its consequences, ultimately equipping ourselves to better identify and mitigate the risks of such regimes.

FAQs:

- 1. Are all dictatorships the same? No, dictatorships vary significantly in their methods, ideology, and level of brutality. Some might be relatively less repressive than others.
- 2. Can dictatorships be overthrown? Yes, historical examples demonstrate that even seemingly entrenched dictatorships can be overthrown through popular uprisings, internal divisions, or external intervention.

- 3. What role does the economy play in the rise of dictatorships? Economic hardship and inequality create fertile ground for authoritarian leaders promising radical change, often exploiting public resentment and frustration.
- 4. Is there a single "answer key" to preventing dictatorships? No single solution exists. Preventing dictatorships requires addressing underlying societal problems, strengthening democratic institutions, promoting civic engagement, and fostering a culture of accountability.
- 5. How can we identify potential warning signs of a developing dictatorship? Warning signs include eroding democratic institutions, increasing censorship, suppression of dissent, weakening of the rule of law, and growing polarization within society.

dictators come to power answer key: Dictators at War and Peace Jessica L. P. Weeks, 2014-09-08 Why do some autocratic leaders pursue aggressive or expansionist foreign policies, while others are much more cautious in their use of military force? The first book to focus systematically on the foreign policy of different types of authoritarian regimes, Dictators at War and Peace breaks new ground in our understanding of the international behavior of dictators. Jessica L. P. Weeks explains why certain kinds of regimes are less likely to resort to war than others, why some are more likely to win the wars they start, and why some authoritarian leaders face domestic punishment for foreign policy failures whereas others can weather all but the most serious military defeat. Using novel cross-national data, Weeks looks at various nondemocratic regimes, including those of Saddam Hussein and Joseph Stalin; the Argentine junta at the time of the Falklands War, the military government in Japan before and during World War II, and the North Vietnamese communist regime. She finds that the differences in the conflict behavior of distinct kinds of autocracies are as great as those between democracies and dictatorships. Indeed, some types of autocracies are no more belligerent or reckless than democracies, casting doubt on the common view that democracies are more selective about war than autocracies.

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dictators come to power answer key: The Dictator's Handbook Bruce Bueno de Mesquita, Alastair Smith, 2011-09-27 A groundbreaking new theory of the real rules of politics: leaders do whatever keeps them in power, regardless of the national interest. As featured on the viral video Rules for Rulers, which has been viewed over 3 million times. Bruce Bueno de Mesquita and Alastair Smith's canonical book on political science turned conventional wisdom on its head. They started from a single assertion: Leaders do whatever keeps them in power. They don't care about the national interest-or even their subjects-unless they have to. This clever and accessible book shows that democracy is essentially just a convenient fiction. Governments do not differ in kind but only in the number of essential supporters, or backs that need scratching. The size of this group determines almost everything about politics: what leaders can get away with, and the quality of life or misery under them. The picture the authors paint is not pretty. But it just may be the truth, which is a good starting point for anyone seeking to improve human governance.

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Hungary. The authors touch on a wide range of autocratic and dictatorial figures in the past and present, including present-day autocrats, such as Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping, military leaders, and democratic leaders with authoritarian aspirations. They analyze the transition of selected autocrats from democratic or benign semi-democratic systems to harsher forms of autocracy, with either quite disastrous or more successful outcomes. An ideal reader for students and scholars, as well as the general public, interested in international affairs, leadership studies, contemporary history and politics, global studies, security studies, economics, psychology, and behavioral studies.

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Depending on which ideology gets the upper hand, power will ultimately rest either with financial interests or with states. Against this backdrop, Spengler calls on citizens of all walks of life to rise above class egoism, to affirm Prussian socialism and to unite in the struggle against the liberal world-view - the 'inner England' - which he sees as a threat to the continued existence of the German nation. This edition includes Spengler's essay 'Russia's Double Face and the German Problems in the East', which presents his views on Russia as a distinct culture that has not yet fulfilled its destiny.

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Higashijima, 2022 Modern dictatorships hold elections. Contrary to our stereotypical views of autocratic politics, dictators often introduce elections with limited manipulation wherein they refrain from employing blatant electoral fraud and pro-regime electoral institutions. Why do such electoral reforms happen in autocracies? Do these elections destabilize autocratic rule? The Dictator's Dilemma at the Ballot Box explores how dictators design elections and what consequences those elections have on political order. It argues that strong autocrats who can effectively garner popular support through extensive economic distribution become less dependent on coercive electioneering strategies. When autocrats fail to design elections properly, elections backfire in the form of coups, protests, and the opposition's stunning election victories. The book's theoretical implications are tested on a battery of cross-national analyses with newly collected data on autocratic elections and in-depth comparative case studies of the two Central Asian republics--Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. The book's findings suggest that indicators of free and fair elections in dictatorships may not be enough to achieve full-fledged democratization.

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and left millions dead. Given the horrors of that experience, one might expect the world to reject the spiritual successors to Hitler and Mussolini should they arise in our era. Fascism: A Warning is drawn from Madeleine Albright's experiences as a child in war-torn Europe and her distinguished career as a diplomat to question that assumption. Fascism, as she shows, not only endured through the twentieth century but now presents a more virulent threat to peace and justice than at any time since the end of World War II. The momentum toward democracy that swept the world when the Berlin Wall fell has gone into reverse. The United States, which historically championed the free world, is led by a president who exacerbates division and heaps scorn on democratic institutions. In many countries, economic, technological, and cultural factors are weakening the political center and empowering the extremes of right and left. Contemporary leaders such as Vladimir Putin and Kim Jong-un are employing many of the tactics used by Fascists in the 1920s and 30s. Fascism: A Warning is a book for our times that is relevant to all times. Written by someone who not only studied history but helped to shape it, this call to arms teaches us the lessons we must understand and the questions we must answer if we are to save ourselves from repeating the tragic errors of the past.

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dictators come to power answer key: World Electoral Processes Gr. 5-8 Darcy Frisina, 2008-09-01 Become a voting expert with a clear understanding of the election process. Our resource breaks down the differences between a presidential, parliamentary and dictatorship government. Travel back to ancient times to experience the first voting system. Explore the concept of a democratic government and whether it truly represents the people. Discover how the president has to share powers with the legislature in a presidential system. Explain why it is easier to pass laws in the parliamentary system than in the presidential system. Roleplay as a member of Parliament and deliver a 90-second statement about an important issue. Find out why most dictators were military leaders, and how the role of dictator has changed over time. Learn about suffrage and what the requirements are for a citizen to be allowed to vote. Hold your own election to decide on a policy for running your classroom. Aligned to your State Standards and written to Bloom's Taxonomy, additional writing tasks, crossword, word search, comprehension quiz and answer key are also included.

dictators come to power answer key: Revelations from the Russian Archives Diane P. Koenker, Library of Congress, 2011-03-01

dictators come to power answer key: Between Dictatorship and Democracy Michael McFaul, Nikolay Petrov, Andrei Ryabov, 2010-04 For hundreds of years, dictators have ruled Russia. Do they still? In the late 1980s, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev launched a series of political reforms that eventually allowed for competitive elections, the emergence of an independent press, the formation of political parties, and the sprouting of civil society. After the collapse of the Soviet

Union in 1991, these proto-democratic institutions endured in an independent Russia. But did the processes unleashed by Gorbachev and continued under Russian President Boris Yeltsin lead eventually to liberal democracy in Russia? If not, what kind of political regime did take hold in post-Soviet Russia? And how has Vladimir Putin's rise to power influenced the course of democratic consolidation or the lack thereof? Between Dictatorship and Democracy seeks to give a comprehensive answer to these fundamental questions about the nature of Russian politics.

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Revolution. And this one will be unlike any other in human history. Characterized by new technologies fusing the physical, digital and biological worlds, the Fourth Industrial Revolution will impact all disciplines, economies and industries - and it will do so at an unprecedented rate. World Economic Forum data predicts that by 2025 we will see: commercial use of nanomaterials 200 times stronger than steel and a million times thinner than human hair; the first transplant of a 3D-printed liver; 10% of all cars on US roads being driverless; and much more besides. In The Fourth Industrial Revolution, Schwab outlines the key technologies driving this revolution, discusses the major impacts on governments, businesses, civil society and individuals, and offers bold ideas for what can be done to shape a better future for all.

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to be. People are healthier, wealthier, and live longer. Yet the escapes from destitution by so many has left gaping inequalities between people and nations. In The Great Escape, Nobel Prize-winning economist Angus Deaton—one of the foremost experts on economic development and on poverty—tells the remarkable story of how, beginning 250 years ago, some parts of the world experienced sustained progress, opening up gaps and setting the stage for today's disproportionately unequal world. Deaton takes an in-depth look at the historical and ongoing patterns behind the health and wealth of nations, and addresses what needs to be done to help those left behind. Deaton describes vast innovations and wrenching setbacks: the successes of antibiotics, pest control, vaccinations, and clean water on the one hand, and disastrous famines and the HIV/AIDS epidemic on the other. He examines the United States, a nation that has prospered but is today experiencing slower growth and increasing inequality. He also considers how economic growth in India and China has improved the lives of more than a billion people. Deaton argues that international aid has been ineffective and even harmful. He suggests alternative efforts—including reforming incentives to drug companies and lifting trade restrictions—that will allow the developing world to bring about its own Great Escape. Demonstrating how changes in health and living standards have transformed our lives. The Great Escape is a powerful guide to addressing the well-being of all nations.

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Alberto Simpser, 2014 This volume explores the form and function of constitutions in countries without the fully articulated institutions of limited government.

dictators come to power answer key: Democracy and Truth Sophia Rosenfeld, 2018-12-31 Fake news, wild conspiracy theories, misleading claims, doctored photos, lies peddled as facts, facts dismissed as lies—citizens of democracies increasingly inhabit a public sphere teeming with competing claims and counterclaims, with no institution or person possessing the authority to settle basic disputes in a definitive way. The problem may be novel in some of its details—including the role of today's political leaders, along with broadcast and digital media, in intensifying the epistemic anarchy—but the challenge of determining truth in a democratic world has a backstory. In this lively and illuminating book, historian Sophia Rosenfeld explores a longstanding and largely unspoken tension at the heart of democracy between the supposed wisdom of the crowd and the need for information to be vetted and evaluated by a learned elite made up of trusted experts. What we are witnessing now is the unraveling of the détente between these competing aspects of democratic culture. In four bracing chapters, Rosenfeld substantiates her claim by tracing the history of the vexed relationship between democracy and truth. She begins with an examination of the period prior to the eighteenth-century Age of Revolutions, where she uncovers the political and epistemological foundations of our democratic world. Subsequent chapters move from the Enlightenment to the rise of both populist and technocratic notions of democracy between the nineteenth and twentieth centuries to the troubling trends—including the collapse of social trust—that have led to the rise of our post-truth public life. Rosenfeld concludes by offering suggestions for how to defend the idea of truth against the forces that would undermine it.

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elections and nonviolent tactics also were central. New democracies must deal with the torturer problem and the praetorian problem and attempt to develop democratic values and processes. Disillusionment with democracy, Huntington argues, is necessary to consolidating democracy. He concludes the book with an analysis of the political, economic, and cultural factors that will decide whether or not the third wave continues. Several Guidelines for Democratizers offer specific, practical suggestions for initiating and carrying out reform. Huntington's emphasis on practical application makes this book a valuable tool for anyone engaged in the democratization process. At this volatile time in history, Huntington's assessment of the processes of democratization is indispensable to understanding the future of democracy in the world.

dictators come to power answer key: Authoritarianism and the Elite Origins of **Democracy** Michael Albertus, Victor Menaldo, 2018-02 Provides an innovative theory of regime transitions and outcomes, and tests it using extensive evidence between 1800 and today.

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