

Notes from a discussion in lesson on global politics

Pursuing power, changing power and dynamics

- Per capita income will not be on par, even if China exceeds the US in regards to GDP.
- GDP does not measure soft power and military power.
- The US will benefit from other states who want to curtail China as they see that state as a threat.
- The world is akin to a chess board with different pieces, the most important piece is military followed by economics.
- Military power is presently unipolar as the US has hegemony, but this could be changing as China develops its military.
- The world is unipolar on the economic front, a majority of the world economy is not herded into a single state and is spread out although there are particular areas of concentration.

BRICS - Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa

MINT - Mexico, Indonesia, Nigeria, Turkiye

I do believe to an extent that the countries Jim O'Neil included in BRICS and MINT were relevant. Many of these countries have economies with robust growth which have young populations, many of them have relatively promising futures. However, many of these countries have very different levels of development, e.g. China is more economically developed than India but India has higher growth rates.

In my opinion, economic influence will always bring a degree of political influence. When two nations trade with each other and mutually benefit, there is an incentive for the political leaders of both states to have good relations as they do not want to jeopardise their economic relations and the overall prosperity of their people.