

The Contemporary Transformation of the International System

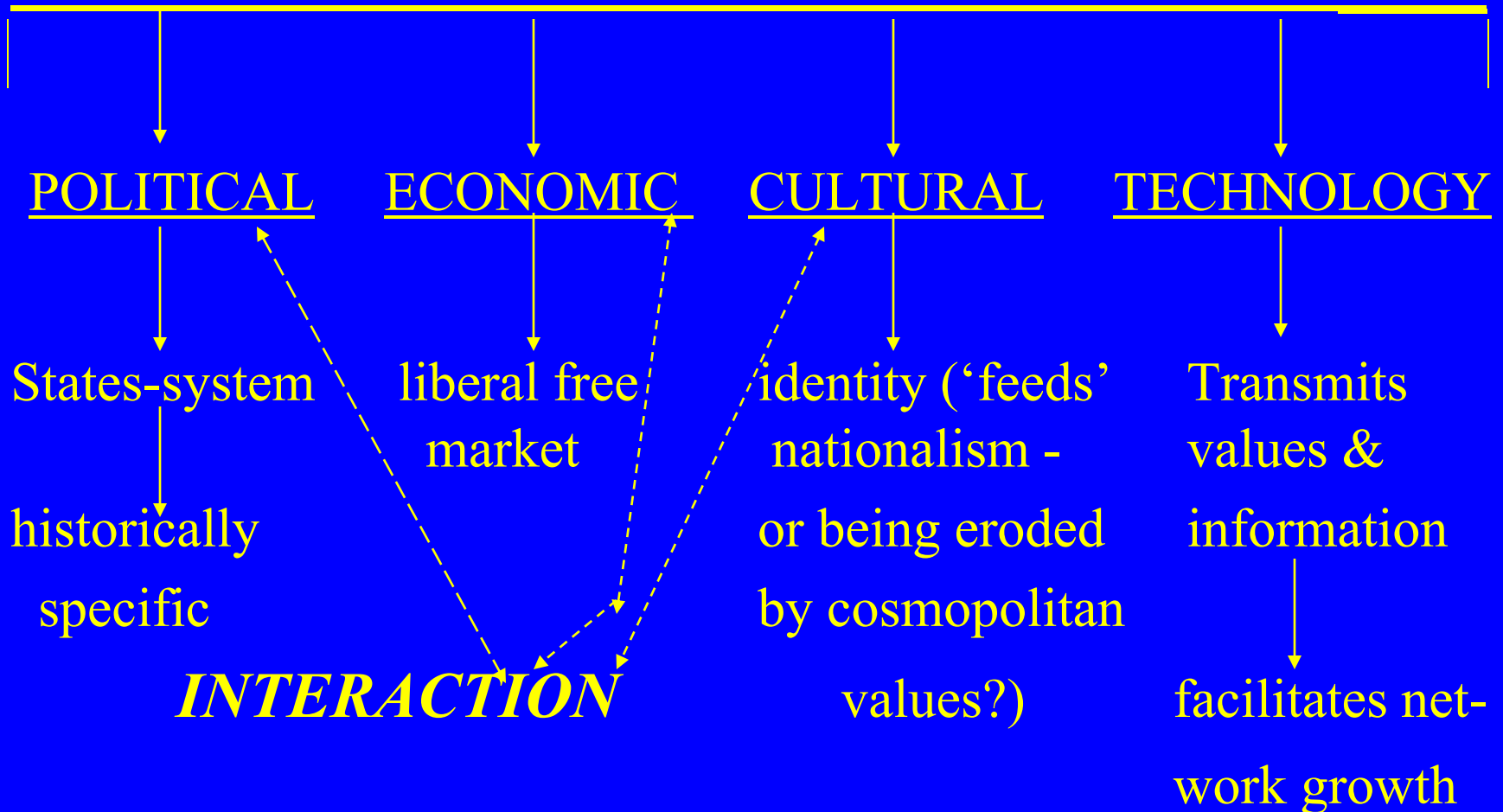
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Lecture 7

**Evaluation of the models of world
order within the context of the
contemporary international system,
and the challenges from other
theoretical constructions**

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THE 'INTERNATIONAL'



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- 1) examine, analyse and interpret elements within it;
- 2) Examine, analyse the '*whole*'

The international system today?

- *realist*
- *liberal*
- *constructivist*
- *marxist*

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- Immanuel Kant's 'liberal theory of transformation' (1795)
 - international society should be based upon:
 - 1) a constitution based on the *civil right* of individuals within a nation;
 - 2) a constitution based on the *international right* of states in their relationships with one another;
 - 3) a constitution based on *cosmopolitan rights*

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- *'a pacific federation of states'* based on notion of cosmopolitan rights
 - to preserve and secure the freedom of each state
 - AND this would lead to *'perpetual peace'*
- *'Articles of a Perpetual Peace'*
 - gradual abolition of standing armies
 - prohibition of intervention in the constitutional and governmental affairs of other states

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Kant's theory:

- 1) critical theory – *transform relations between states from 'might' to 'right'*
- 2) a universal theory – *based on universal principles of reason and rationality*

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Feminism and the question of standpoint:

- realist, liberal, marxist, constructivist models are all based on a ***patriarchal world view (heirarchy and uniformity)***
- reductionist approach

Feminist ‘standpoint’ = ‘holistic picture’ (greater attention to ***diversity*** and ***inter-connectedness***)

- a ***‘plurality of standpoints’*** (contrasts with ‘false universals’ of liberal and patriarchal ways of thinking)

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