

Anarchy and Empire

World-Conquerors and International Systems

Why are international systems characterized by stable multipolarity while others are conquered to form universal empires? This paper explains systemic variation through a comparison of early modern Europe (the persistence of multipolar anarchy after a failed Ottoman challenge) and greater China (empire after Manchu conquest). Both the Ottomans and the Manchus successfully hybridized steppe and sedentary military techniques that gave them the requisite material capabilities to potentially become “world conquerors.” Nevertheless, the decisive factor explaining these divergent systemic outcomes was the Ottomans’ and Manchus’ differential success in surmounting the legitimation gradient of conquest. The Manchus were more successful than the Ottomans in using cultural statecraft to prevent balancing coalitions, and to encourage bandwagoning and collaboration. Cultural statecraft comprised strategies of co-opting pre-existing symbols of imperial rule, and employing multivocal legitimacy strategies to sequentially appeal to multiple segmented audiences. Multipolar anarchy is thus a contingent outcome in international politics, rather than a constant, which can be extinguished by militarily powerful and culturally agile “world conquerors.”

- 日 時：2024年10月15日（火）10:00-11:30
- 会 場：東京大学本郷キャンパス 赤門総合研究棟5階549室
- 言 語：英語（通訳なし）
- 講演者：Jason Sharman（ケンブリッジ大学政治国際関係学部 教授）
- 討論者：Yee Kuang Heng（東京大学 公共政策大学院 教授）
- 司 会：向山 直佑（東京大学 未来ビジョン研究センター 准教授）
- 主 催：東京大学 未来ビジョン研究センター安全保障研究ユニット
東京大学 社会科学研究所全所的プロジェクト（社会科学のメソドロジー）
科研費基盤B「東アジア国際秩序の歴史的形成過程：非西洋国際関係論と地域研究の接合」



講演者プロフィール

Jason Sharman is the Sir Patrick Sheehy Professor of International Relations in the Department of Politics and International Studies at Cambridge. He received his PhD in political science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1999. Sharman’s research is divided into two main streams. The first is focused on the global regulation of money laundering, corruption and tax havens. The second deals with the international relations of the early modern world and the historical evolution of the international system.