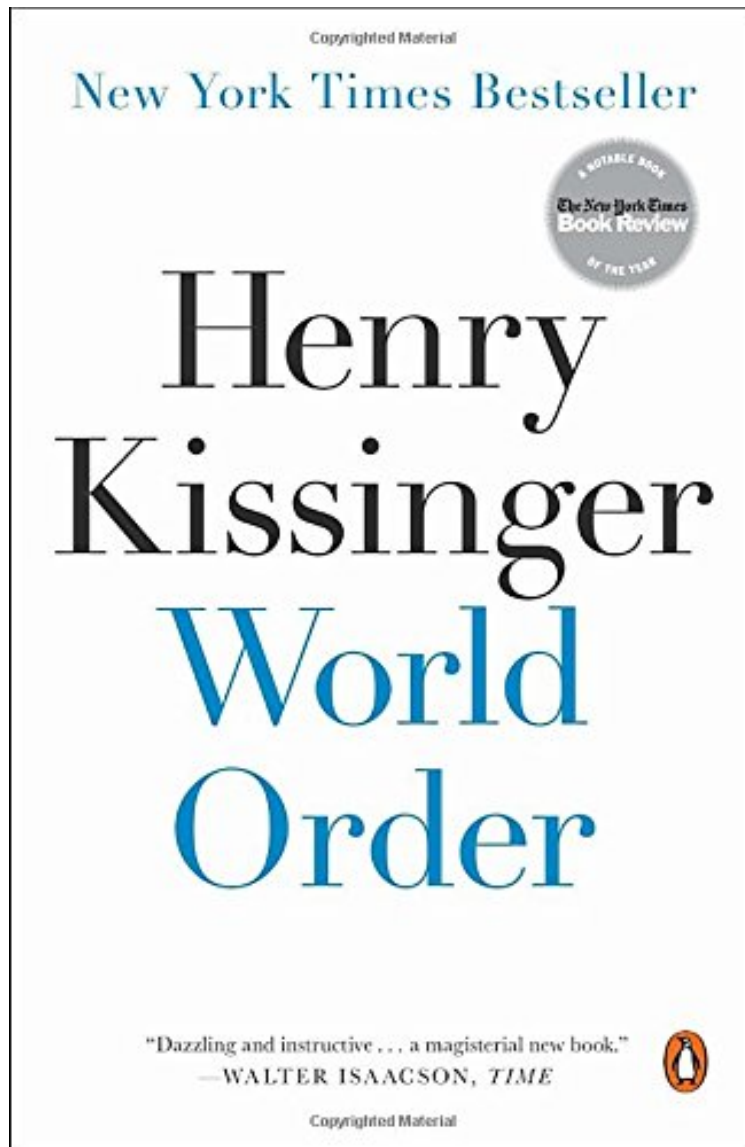


World Order

Henry Kissinger

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Henry Kissinger : World Order before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised World Order:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Book on History and Political Systems By Alan Dale Daniell In World Order, Kissinger is able to summarize hundreds of years of diplomatic struggle in a relatively few pages. He has the amazing ability to summarize clearly and bring clarity to world events while he is compressing them into a few well thought out words. For example, the historical expansion of Europe after the 30 years war and the

politics that allowed it - or perhaps I should say encouraged the expansion - are explained without fluff and thus engenders greater insight. The next European wide treaty ended the wars of Napoleon and was based on an entirely different political understanding. Knowing this allows the reader to see the developing crisis leading to WWI in a new light. Excellent Book. Highly recommended. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Kissinger is a one of the top gentlemen on foreign affairs today and his reflections about World Order are really valuable. By czilveti Kissinger gives to the readers his valuable lessons about world order, and how history has shaped global relations of today. He's one of the top foreign affairs expert, has a deep understanding of history and has given enormous contributions to many US presidents. Maybe he could have offered to the reader few more valuable details of failed US policies on the Middle East or even told some of his striking successes when building relations with China, when cold war was at its heights. A must read book. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Kissinger surprisingly idealistic! By Eugene Grant Excellent high level view of world history relative to war and peace in the modern and post modern eras, and the prospects for the future. Provides great contextual understanding of the current wars, failed states and terrorism. Anyone interested in understanding current geopolitics must have this historical context. Also nice to see that Kissinger values the idealism that accompanied the rise of the USA as a superpower, and his hope that this American idealism will not be lost in the future. His take on the Bush Presidencies was enlightening too. I had always viewed Kissinger as part of the cynicism of the Nixon era, and I am glad to be corrected and see that I may have misjudge him as guilty by association with Nixon.

Dazzling and instructive . . . [a] magisterial new book. Walter Isaacson, Time Henry Kissinger offers in *World Order* a deep meditation on the roots of international harmony and global disorder. Drawing on his experience as one of the foremost statesmen of the modern era advising presidents, traveling the world, observing and shaping the central foreign policy events of recent decades Kissinger now reveals his analysis of the ultimate challenge for the twenty-first century: how to build a shared international order in a world of divergent historical perspectives, violent conflict, proliferating technology, and ideological extremism. There has never been a true world order, Kissinger observes. For most of history, civilizations defined their own concepts of order. Each considered itself the center of the world and envisioned its distinct principles as universally relevant. China conceived of a global cultural hierarchy with the emperor at its pinnacle. In Europe, Rome imagined itself surrounded by barbarians; when Rome fragmented, European peoples refined a concept of an equilibrium of sovereign states and sought to export it across the world. Islam, in its early centuries, considered itself the world's sole legitimate political unit, destined to expand indefinitely until the world was brought into harmony by religious principles. The United States was born of a conviction about the universal applicability of democracy a conviction that has guided its policies ever since. Now international affairs take place on a global basis, and these historical concepts of world order are meeting. Every region participates in questions of high policy in every other, often instantaneously. Yet there is no consensus among the major actors about the rules and limits guiding this process or its ultimate destination. The result is mounting tension. Grounded in Kissinger's deep study of history and his experience as national security advisor and secretary of state, *World Order* guides readers through crucial episodes in recent world history. Kissinger offers a unique glimpse into the inner deliberations of the Nixon administration's negotiations with Hanoi over the end of the Vietnam War, as well as Ronald Reagan's tense debates with Soviet Premier Gorbachev in Reykjavik. He offers compelling insights into the future of U.S.-China relations and the evolution of the European Union, and he examines lessons of the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Taking readers from his analysis of nuclear negotiations with Iran through the West's response to the Arab Spring and tensions with Russia over Ukraine, *World Order* anchors Kissinger's historical analysis in the decisive events of our time. Provocative and articulate, blending historical insight with geopolitical prognostication, *World Order* is a unique work that could come only from a lifelong policy maker and diplomat.

Hillary Clinton, *The Washington Post*: It is vintage Kissinger, with his singular combination of breadth and acuity along with his knack for connecting headlines to trend lines very long trend lines in this case. He ranges from the Peace of Westphalia to the pace of microprocessing, from Sun Tzu to Talleyrand to Twitter... A real national dialogue is the only way we're going to rebuild a political consensus to take on the perils and the promise of the 21st century. Henry Kissinger's book makes a compelling case for why we have to do it and how we can succeed. Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times* "Henry Kissinger's new book, *World Order*, could not be more timely... the book puts the problems of today's world and America's role in that increasingly interconnected and increasingly riven world into useful and often illuminating context... Mr. Kissinger, now 91, strides briskly from century to century, continent to continent, examining the alliances and divisions that have defined Europe over the centuries, the fallout from the disintegration of nation-states like Syria and Iraq, and China's developing relationship with the rest of Asia and the West. At its best, his writing functions like a powerful zoom lens, opening out to give us a panoramic appreciation of larger historical trends and patterns, then zeroing in on small details and anecdotes that vividly illustrate his theories." *The Financial Times* Kissinger's conclusion deserves to be read and understood by all candidates ahead of the 2016 presidential election. World order depends on it. John Micklethwait, *The New York Times Book* If you think

America is doing just fine, then skip ahead to the poetry reviews. If, however, you worry about a globe spinning out of control, then *World Order* is for you. It brings together history, geography, modern politics and no small amount of passion. Yes, passion, for this is a *cri de Coeur*, from a famous skeptic, a warning to future generations from an old man steeped in the past... it is a book that every member of Congress should be locked in a room with--and forced to read before taking the oath of office."James Traub, *The Wall Street Journal*"Recent years have not been kind to those who believe in America's missionary role abroad. Since the terrorist attacks of 2001 upended our sense of the world, the United States has been governed by a conservative idealist who tried to impose American values on the Middle East, and failed calamitously, and a liberal idealist who invited America's adversaries to re-engage with us on the basis of a new humility and mutual respect, and found his hopes dashed. It is, in short, a moment for Henry Kissinger... The fact that he has written yet another book, the succinctly titled *World Order*, is impressive in itself. What is more remarkable is that it effectively carries on his campaign to undermine the romantic pieties of left and right that have shaped so much of American foreign policy over the past century. Mr. Kissinger bids fair to outlast many of the people who hate him and make others forget why they hated him in the first place."Walter Isaacson, *Time*"Kissinger's book takes us on a dazzling and instructive global tour of the quest for order. The key to Kissinger's foreign policy realism, and the theme at the heart of his magisterial new book, is that such humility is important not just for people but also for nations, even the U.S. Making progress toward a world order based on individual dignity and participatory governance is a lofty ideal, he notes. But progress toward it will need to be sustained through a series of intermediate stages. The *Los Angeles Times*"Kissinger's geopolitical analysis of our global challenges is compelling... Mark Twain, who was known more for his sense of humor than his diplomatic skills, once said, "History does not repeat itself. But it rhymes." Kissinger's advice is not nearly as glib, but much more valuable to a country that right now seems to want the rest of the world to just go away."Jacob Heilbrunn, *The National Interest*:"Kissinger demonstrates why he remains such a courted adviser to American presidents and foreign leaders alike. [*World Order* is] a guide for the perplexed, a manifesto for reordering America's approach to the rest of the globe. Kissinger's vision could help to shape a more tranquil era than the one that has emerged so far. Kirkus s:"An astute analysis that illuminates many of today's critical international issues."About the AuthorHENRY KISSINGER served as National Security Advisor and then Secretary of State under Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford and has advised many other American presidents on foreign policy. He received the 1973 Nobel Peace Prize, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and the Medal of Liberty, among other awards. He is the author of numerous books on foreign policy and diplomacy and is currently the chairman of Kissinger Associates, Inc., an international consulting firm.Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.

INTRODUCTION

The Question of World Order

IN 1961, as a young academic, I called on President Harry S. Truman when I found myself in Kansas City delivering a speech. To the question of what in his presidency had made him most proud, Truman replied, That we totally defeated our enemies and then brought them back to the community of nations. I would like to think that only America would have done this. Conscious of America's vast power, Truman took pride above all in its humane and democratic values. He wanted to be remembered not so much for America's victories as for its conciliations. All of Truman's successors have followed some version of this narrative and have taken pride in similar attributes of the American experience. And for most of this period, the community of nations that they aimed to uphold reflected an American consensus: an inexorably expanding cooperative order of states observing common rules and norms, embracing liberal economic systems, forswearing territorial conquest, respecting national sovereignty, and adopting participatory and democratic systems of governance. American presidents of both parties have continued to urge other governments, often with great vehemence and eloquence, to embrace the preservation and enhancement of human rights. In many instances, the defense of these values by the United States and its allies has ushered in important changes in the human condition. Yet today this rules-based system faces challenges. The frequent exhortations for countries to do their fair share, play by twenty-first-century rules, or be responsible stakeholders in a common system reflect the fact that there is no shared definition of the system or understanding of what a fair contribution would be. Outside the Western world, regions that have played a minimal role in these rules' original formulation question their validity in their present form and have made clear that they would work to modify them. Thus while the international community is invoked perhaps more insistently now than in any other era, it presents no clear or agreed set of goals, methods, or limits. Our age is insistently, at times almost desperately, in pursuit of a concept of world order. Chaos threatens side by side with unprecedented interdependence: in the spread of weapons of mass destruction, the disintegration of states, the impact of environmental depredations, the persistence of genocidal practices, and the spread of new technologies threatening to drive conflict beyond human control or comprehension. New methods of accessing and communicating information unite regions as never before and project events globally but in a manner that inhibits reflection, demanding of leaders that they register instantaneous reactions in a form expressible in slogans. Are we facing a period in which forces beyond the restraints of any order determine the future?