OLLI FALL 2022

Wisdom in Statecraft, Or, Why History Always, Yet Never, Repeats Itself

Tuesday, October 11

Lecture Five

Five Centuries of Regional, Continental, and Global Geostrategy

The Twenty Years' War, AKA the War on Terror (September 11, 2001 — August 30, 2021)





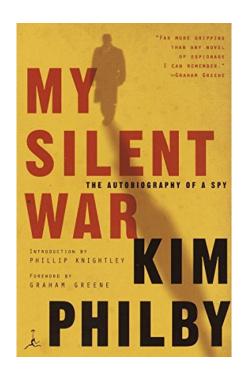




The Thirty Years' War (1618-1648) ended with a succession of treaties known as the Peace of Westphalia (Westphalian sovereignty = state sovereignty). Although the war began as a largely religious conflict, eventually it evolved, or devolved, into a struggle among the great powers of the day for dominion in Europe. Some eight million people died, that is 20% of Europe's population. See the Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars between France and its monarchical adversaries (1792-1815) as well as the Cold War (1946-1991) between the Western alliance and the Soviet bloc



Graham Green's Introduction to Soviet spy Kim Philby's memoir *My Silent War* (1968) is worth a read!



The execution of King Charles I on January 30, 1649 marked the conclusion of the English Civil War



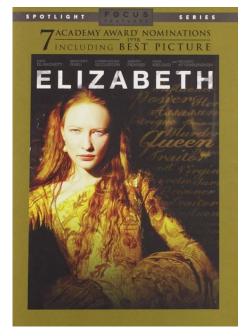
Queen Elizabeth I of England (1533-1603; reigned 1558-03) and President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey (b. 1954; prime minister 2003-14, president 2014-)





Elizabeth R TV series starring Glenda Jackson (1971); films Elizabeth (1998) and Elizabeth: The Golden Age (2007), both starring Cate Blanchett; and Elizabeth I TV series starring Helen Mirren (2005). But no movie or mini-series for Erdogan, at least thus far!









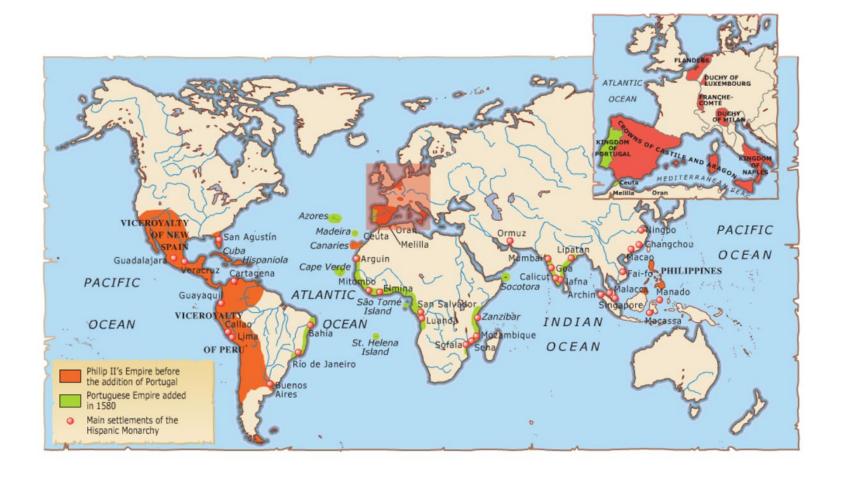
During the first Elizabethan Age, England was a regional power



...while Spain under Kings Charles V (reigned 1516-1556) and Philip II (reigned 1556-1598) controlled a global empire





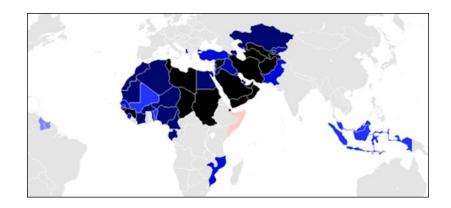


A sixteenth-century Protestant queen vs. a twenty-first-century Islamist president



Erdogan's vote share in each province June 2018 presidential election 40-59% 0-19% 20-39% 60-79% 80% + BBC Source: Supreme Electoral Council of Turkey, Anadolu Agency

Democracy in the Muslim world



Topos. Elizabeth I's speech at Tilbury of August 19, 1588

My loving people,

We have been persuaded by some that are careful of our safety to take heed how we commit ourselves to armed multitudes, for fear of treachery. But I assure you, I do not desire to live to distrust my faithful and loving people.

Let tyrants fear. I have always so behaved myself that, under God, I have placed my chiefest strength and safeguard in the loyal hearts and good-will of my subjects; and therefore I am come amongst you, as you see, at this time, not for my recreation and disport, but being resolved, in the midst and heat of the battle, to live and die amongst you all; to lay down for my God, and for my kingdom, and my people, my honour and my blood, even in the dust.

I know I have the body of a weak and feeble woman; but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and of a king of England too, and think foul scorn that Parma or Spain, or any prince of Europe, should dare to invade the borders of my realm: to which rather than any dishonour shall grow by me, I myself will take up arms, I myself will be your general, judge, and rewarder of every one of your virtues in the field.

I know already, for your forwardness you have deserved rewards and crowns; and We do assure you on a word of a prince, they shall be duly paid. In the mean time, my lieutenant general shall be in my stead, than whom never prince commanded a more noble or worthy subject; not doubting but by your obedience to my general, by your concord in the camp, and your valour in the field, we shall shortly have a famous victory over these enemies of my God, of my kingdom, and of my people.

The abortive invasion of England by the Spanish Armada (1588), the Battle of Waterloo (1815), and the Battle of Britain (1940) became celebrated chapters in Britain's national narrative







Erdogan accused his former ally Fethullah Gülen of orchestrating the July 15, 2016 coup attempt



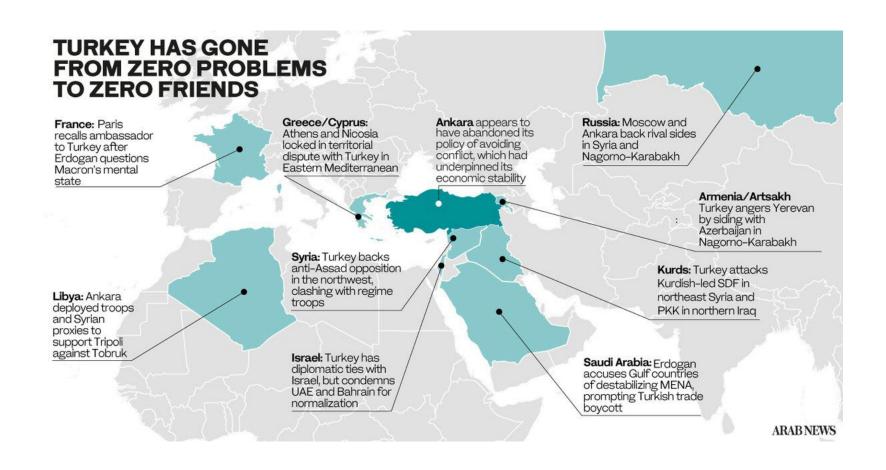




Topos. Twitter message sent out during the 2016 attempted coup by Erdogan's Justice and Development Party

Dear children of the Turkish nation. This action is a coup against the nation, commandeering armored vehicles and weapons in Ankara and Istanbul, behaving as if it were the 1970s. Honorable Turkish nation, claim democracy and peace: I am calling you to the streets against this action of a narrow cadre that has fallen against the Turkish nation. Claim the state, claim the nation.

Turkey: A revisionist, regional power with transcontinental ambitions



The new Istanbul airport (opened 2018) was an impressive construction and logistical achievement, while the 1915 Çanakkale Bridge over the Dardanelles (opened 2022) has the longest main span of any suspension bridge in the world





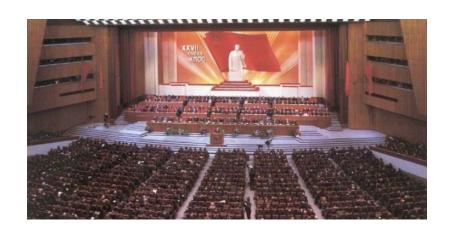
The Turkish-made Bayraktar TB2 long-range drone has been a potent weapon for the Ukrainian military. The drone is named after Selçuk Bayraktar, President Erdogan's son-in-law and chief technological officer of Baykar Makina, where it is manufactured





The XXVII Congress of the CPSU (Soviet communist party), which took place on February 25 – March 6, 1986.

The Chernobyl nuclear disaster occurred on April 26, 1986



Historical examples of charismatic authority within the Chinese leadership group





