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978-0-521-76136-9 - The Invisible Hand of Peace: Capitalism, The War Machine, and International Relations Theory

Patrick J. McDonald

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## THE INVISIBLE HAND OF PEACE

*Capitalism, The War Machine, and International Relations Theory*

*The Invisible Hand of Peace* shows that the domestic institutions associated with capitalism, namely private property and competitive market structures, have promoted peace between states over the past two centuries. It employs a wide range of historical and statistical evidence to illustrate both the broad applicability of these claims and their capacity to generate new explanations of critical historical events, such as the emergence of the Anglo-American friendship at the end of the nineteenth century, the outbreak of World War I, and the evolution of the recent conflict across the Taiwan Strait. By showing that this capitalist peace has historically been stronger than the peace among democratic states, these findings also suggest that contemporary American foreign policy should be geared toward promoting economic liberalization rather than democracy in the post-9/11 world.

Patrick J. McDonald is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Government at the University of Texas at Austin. He received a Ph.D. in political science from the Ohio State University in 2002. He then served as a postdoctoral Fellow at the Christopher H. Browne Center for International Politics at the University of Pennsylvania until 2004. Professor McDonald's research has been published in the *American Journal of Political Science*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *The Washington Quarterly*, and *World Politics*.

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# The Invisible Hand of Peace

*Capitalism, The War Machine, and International  
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PATRICK J. McDONALD

The University of Texas at Austin



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*For Deanna*

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