# Game Of Thrones And The Theories Of International Relations Politics Literature

With its gripping storytelling, complex characters, and intricate plotlines, Game of Thrones has captivated audiences around the globe. From the mythical lands of Westeros to the expansive continents of Essos, the fantasy world created by author George R.R. Martin has become a cultural phenomenon. However, beyond the dragons and witches, Game of Thrones offers a unique opportunity to explore the theories of international relations, politics, and literature.

Throughout the series, we witness the constant struggle for power and control among various houses and factions. These power dynamics mirror the real-world politics and international relations that shape our global society. By examining the Game of Thrones universe through the lens of political science and literature, we can gain a deeper understanding of the complexities of human nature and societal structures.

#### The Realpolitik of Westeros

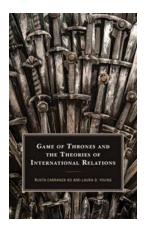
One of the prevailing theories of international relations is Realpolitik, which emphasizes the pursuit of power and self-interest by states. In Game of Thrones, the constant power struggles between the different houses embody this theory. Each house seeks to protect its own interests and secure its place on the Iron Throne.

Game of Thrones and the Theories of International Relations (Politics, Literature, & Film)

by Ellen Cheshire (Kindle Edition)

★ ★ ★ ★ 5 out of 5

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For example, the House of Lannister, led by Cersei Lannister, demonstrates the concept of Realpolitik in its quest for power. Cersei is willing to do whatever it takes to maintain her position, including deception, manipulation, and even violence. Her actions highlight the ruthless pursuit of power that often characterizes international politics.

In contrast, the House of Stark, led initially by Eddard Stark and later by his children, represents a more idealistic approach. The Starks prioritize honor, duty, and the well-being of their people over personal gain. This juxtaposition between the Starks and the Lannisters illustrates the tension between moral principles and power politics.

#### The Balance of Power in Essos

While Westeros is the main stage for political maneuvering, the continent of Essos presents its own challenges and opportunities for analyzing international relations theories. Essos is home to a multitude of powerful city-states and empires, each vying for control of land, resources, and influence.

The Free Cities, such as Pentos and Braavos, offer an interesting case study in the balance of power. These cities are independent entities, each with their own governments, economies, and military forces. The struggle for dominance between the Free Cities mirrors the real-world competition between nation-states for global power.

Furthermore, Essos is also shaped by the presence of Daenerys Targaryen, a key character who aims to liberate and unite the people under her rule. Her journey from an exiled princess to a powerful leader raises questions about idealism, nation-building, and the role of charismatic leaders in international politics.

#### The Use of Strategy and Diplomacy

Game of Thrones is known for its complex political maneuvering and alliances, often fueled by strategic thinking and diplomacy. These aspects parallel the techniques used by states and leaders in international relations.

Tyrion Lannister, for instance, showcases the power of diplomacy and negotiation as he navigates the turbulent waters of Westeros. His ability to build alliances and broker peace agreements highlights the importance of multilateral diplomacy in resolving conflicts and maintaining stability.

In addition, the Red Wedding, a pivotal event in the series, demonstrates the use of strategy and deception. The Lannisters, in collaboration with the Freys, orchestrate a massacre to eliminate their enemies and consolidate their power. This act showcases the dark side of politics and highlights the potential consequences of deceit and betrayal.

#### The Influence of Literature in Game of Thrones

Beyond its political and international relations aspects, Game of Thrones also incorporates elements of literature that further enrich the storytelling. The series draws inspiration from various historical events, myths, and literary works.

For example, the War of the Five Kings mirrors the Wars of the Roses in medieval England, where rival factions fought for control of the throne. Martin's use of historical events allows him to comment on the cyclical nature of power struggles and the impact of political instability on society.

Moreover, the presence of magical elements, such as dragons and white walkers, adds a fantastical element to the narrative. These supernatural elements can be interpreted as allegories for existential threats or symbols of the unknown, which have been explored in literature throughout history.

Game of Thrones has truly transcended the realm of television and fiction, offering a rich tapestry for analyzing theories of international relations, politics, and literature. By delving into the power dynamics, diplomatic strategies, and literary inspirations within the series, we can discover valuable insights about our own world.

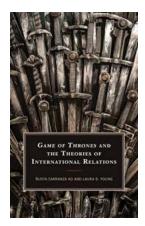
So, whether you are a fan of Game of Thrones or a student of international relations, immerse yourself in the intricate web of Westeros and Essos, and uncover the complex interplay of power, politics, and literature!

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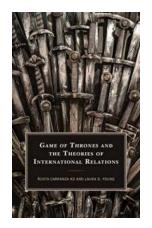
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For eight seasons the hit HBO series Game of Thrones painted a picture of a fantasy world filled with images such as white walkers (the undead), a three-eyed raven, and dragons. All these elements set the series visually apart, far distant from our realities. And yet, after each episode and season, viewers were left pondering about the wars, political games, diplomacy, and human rights violations that somehow resonated with the world today. Laura D. Young and Ñusta Carranza Ko's groundbreaking book provides the answers to these questions that international relations scholars, historians, and fans have been wanting to know. How does Game of Thrones mirror international politics and how may the series provide a useful tool for better understanding the theories, concepts, and thematic issues in international relations? Game of Thrones and the Theories of International Relations connects the prominent international relations theories—realism, liberalism, constructivism, and critical identity theories—to the series, providing examples from various characters whose actions reflect applied scenarios of decision-making and strategizing.



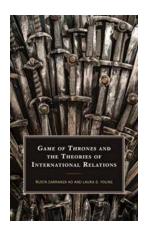
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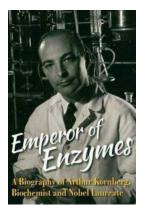
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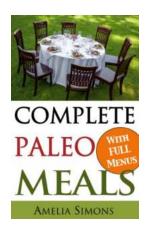
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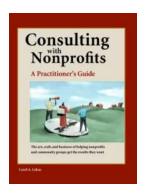
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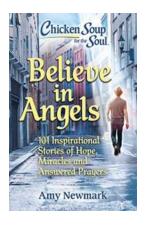
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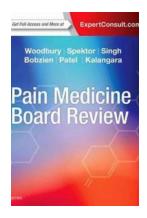
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