# The Disrupted World

## Introduction

The dawn of a new era has brought with it a renewed focus on the relationship between violence, identity, and self-determination. The collapse of the bipolar system of global rivalry and the resurgence of identity politics have created a complex and often volatile landscape, where the individual's sense of self and their place in the world are constantly being challenged and redefined.

In this book, we will explore the multifaceted nature of identity and its profound impact on human behavior, with a particular focus on the role it plays in fueling violence and conflict. We will delve into the historical, cultural, and psychological roots of identity formation, examining how our sense of self is shaped by our

experiences, our relationships, and the broader social and political context in which we live.

We will also investigate the complex interplay between identity and violence, exploring the ways in which our sense of self can motivate us to engage in acts of aggression and destruction, both against individuals and against entire groups of people. We will examine the role that identity plays in ethnic conflict, political violence, and religious extremism, and consider the potential for identity to be a force for peace and reconciliation.

Furthermore, we will examine the relationship between identity and self-determination, exploring the ways in which our sense of self can shape our aspirations for autonomy and independence. We will consider the challenges facing individuals and groups seeking self-determination in a world increasingly characterized by interdependence and globalization, and we will explore the potential for identity to be a

source of empowerment and resilience in the face of adversity.

Throughout this book, we will draw upon a wide range of disciplines, including history, sociology, psychology, and political science, to gain a deeper understanding of the complex relationship between violence, identity, and self-determination. We will also explore the implications of these issues for public policy and social action, and consider the ways in which we can promote peace, understanding, and respect for diversity in an increasingly interconnected world.

# Book Description

In a world grappling with the resurgence of identity politics and the erosion of traditional nation-states, this groundbreaking book delves into the intricate relationship between violence, identity, and self-determination. With rigorous analysis and thought-provoking insights, Pasquale De Marco offers a comprehensive examination of the factors that shape our sense of self and the profound impact it has on human behavior.

Drawing upon a diverse range of disciplines, including history, sociology, psychology, and political science, this book explores the historical, cultural, and psychological roots of identity formation. It delves into the complex interplay between identity and violence, shedding light on the ways in which our sense of self can motivate us to engage in acts of aggression and destruction, both against individuals and against entire groups of people.

Furthermore, the book investigates the relationship between identity and self-determination, exploring the ways in which our sense of self can shape our aspirations for autonomy and independence. It considers the challenges facing individuals and groups seeking self-determination in a world increasingly characterized by interdependence and globalization, and explores the potential for identity to be a source of empowerment and resilience in the face of adversity.

With its interdisciplinary approach and insightful analysis, this book offers a deeper understanding of the complex relationship between violence, identity, and self-determination. It is essential reading for anyone seeking to navigate the challenges of a rapidly changing world, where our sense of self is constantly being challenged and redefined.

# Chapter 1: The Dawn of a New Era

## The changing global landscape

The global landscape has undergone a profound transformation in recent decades, driven by a confluence of factors that have reshaped the political, economic, and social fabric of our world. One of the most significant shifts has been the decline of the bipolar system of global rivalry that dominated the Cold War era. The collapse of the Soviet Union and the subsequent rise of a unipolar world order, with the United States as the preeminent superpower, fundamentally altered the balance of power and ushered in a new era of international relations.

This unipolar moment, however, proved to be short-lived. The emergence of China as a global economic and military power has challenged the dominance of the United States, creating a more multipolar world order. This shift has been accompanied by a resurgence

of nationalism and populism in many countries, leading to a fragmentation of the global political landscape.

Globalization, facilitated by advances in transportation, communication, and technology, has also played a major role in reshaping the global landscape. The movement of goods, services, and people across borders has increased dramatically, creating interconnectedness and interdependence among nations. While globalization has brought economic benefits to many countries, it has also exacerbated inequalities and fueled tensions between those who feel left behind and those who have prospered in the new global economy.

Another significant trend shaping the global landscape is the rise of identity politics. Identity, whether based on ethnicity, race, religion, gender, or other factors, has become a powerful force in shaping individual and collective behavior. The assertion of identity-based

claims has led to both progress and conflict, as marginalized groups seek recognition and equality while dominant groups resist perceived threats to their power and privilege.

Climate change, too, has emerged as a pressing global issue, with far-reaching implications for the environment, human health, and international security. The increasing frequency and severity of extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and the degradation of ecosystems are posing unprecedented challenges to societies around the world.

These interconnected trends have created a complex and volatile global landscape, characterized by both opportunities and challenges. Understanding these dynamics is essential for navigating the complexities of the 21st century and building a more peaceful and sustainable world.

# Chapter 1: The Dawn of a New Era

## The rise of identity politics

The rise of identity politics is a complex phenomenon with a long history. In the United States, identity politics can be traced back to the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s, when African Americans and other marginalized groups began to organize and mobilize around their shared experiences of discrimination and oppression. In the decades that followed, identity politics spread to other groups, including women, LGBTQ people, and people with disabilities.

Today, identity politics is a major force in American politics and culture. Identity-based groups have become increasingly powerful and influential, and they have played a major role in shaping public policy and social discourse. This has led to a number of positive changes, such as increased representation for

marginalized groups and greater awareness of the challenges they face.

However, the rise of identity politics has also been met with criticism. Some critics argue that identity politics is divisive and that it pits different groups against each other. Others argue that identity politics is too focused on group rights and not enough on individual rights.

Despite the criticisms, identity politics remains a powerful force in American society. It is a complex phenomenon with both positive and negative aspects. Only time will tell how identity politics will continue to shape American politics and culture in the years to come.

## The causes of the rise of identity politics

There are a number of factors that have contributed to the rise of identity politics in recent years. One factor is the increasing diversity of the American population. As the United States becomes more diverse, people are

increasingly likely to identify with multiple social groups. This has led to a greater awareness of the different ways that people can be marginalized and discriminated against.

Another factor that has contributed to the rise of identity politics is the increasing polarization of American politics. In recent years, the two major political parties have become increasingly divided on a number of issues, including race, gender, and LGBTQ rights. This polarization has made it more difficult for people to find common ground and has led to a greater emphasis on identity-based politics.

Finally, the rise of social media has also played a role in the rise of identity politics. Social media platforms have made it easier for people to connect with others who share their identities and experiences. This has led to the creation of online communities where people can feel supported and validated.

## The consequences of the rise of identity politics

The rise of identity politics has had a number of consequences for American society. One consequence is that it has led to a greater awareness of the challenges faced by marginalized groups. This has led to a number of positive changes, such as increased representation for marginalized groups and greater awareness of the challenges they face.

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# Chapter 1: The Dawn of a New Era

## The decline of traditional nation-states

The rise of identity politics and the resurgence of nationalism have challenged the traditional concept of the nation-state. In the past, nation-states were seen as the primary actors in international relations, and their sovereignty was considered sacrosanct. However, the increasing interconnectedness of the world and the growing power of non-state actors have eroded the authority of nation-states.

One of the key factors contributing to the decline of traditional nation-states is the rise of globalization. Globalization has led to increased trade and investment flows, as well as the movement of people and ideas across borders. This has made it more difficult for nation-states to control their economies and societies. For example, a nation-state may find it difficult to implement economic policies that favor

domestic industries if those policies would harm the interests of foreign investors.

Another factor contributing to the decline of traditional nation-states is the rise of technology. Technology has made it easier for non-state actors to communicate and coordinate their activities. This has made it more difficult for nation-states to maintain control over their territory and their citizens. For example, terrorist groups can use the internet to recruit new members and plan attacks, while activists can use social media to organize protests and demonstrations.

The decline of traditional nation-states has had a number of consequences. One consequence is that it has made it more difficult to address global challenges, such as climate change and terrorism. These challenges require cooperation between nation-states, but the rise of identity politics and nationalism has made it more difficult to build consensus.

Another consequence of the decline of traditional nation-states is that it has led to an increase in instability. When nation-states are weak, they are more likely to be overthrown by coups or revolutions. This can lead to civil war and other forms of violence.

The decline of traditional nation-states is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon. It is driven by a number of factors, including globalization, technology, and the rise of identity politics. This decline has had a number of consequences, including increased instability and the rise of non-state actors.

**This extract presents the opening three sections of the first chapter.**

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