• **Benevolent hegemon**
  - product of several factors: benefits derived by other states, and trust in US intentions that is instilled in other states because the IS is a liberal democracy

**The Military-Strategic Case for US Hegemonic Exceptionalism**

- William Wohlforth argues that the theory’s predictions do not hold in a unipolar world, because “there is a threshold concentration of power in the strongest state that makes a counter-balance prohibitively costly
- **Balance of threat theory** – most states have no reason to balance against the US because they do not feel militarily threatened by it
- While US is an ocean away, “the other major powers lie in close proximity to one another, and thus they tend to worry more about each other that they do about the US
- **Divide-and-rule policy** – keeping these powers too preoccupied to counterbalance it by playing them off against one another
- US dominance has not threatened others’ sovereignty – T.V. Paul
  - Reasons:
    - US is a defender of the international system’s territorial status quo
    - US is not a land grabber
    - US does not need to annex other states’ territory to enhance either its economic or military capabilities
  - Most of the second-tier major powers have secure, second-strike nuclear deterrent forces that serve to immunize their homelands from conquest

**The US as a “Benevolent Hegemon”**

- This recognizes that there are circumstances in which other states might come to fear the US and seek to counter it
- In international political economy terms, hegemony (or at least liberal hegemony) is useful because the hegemon’s actions confer systemwide benefits by providing these public goods
- US military power helps provide the geopolitical prerequisites for an open international economy from which most states supposedly benefit
- The US also supposedly can defuse other states’ fears of its hegemonic power by voluntarily exercising self-restraint and forgoing unilateral actions
- US is a democratic hegemony that alleviates the fear of others and pulls them into the US orbit

**US Hegemonic Exceptionalism—A Critique**

- US is not exempt from the fate of past hegemons
multipolarity
  2. Frequent, durable, diverse exits

*Nonhegemonic unipolarity affects the characteristics of “dead is structures.”

Cause: 1st dissolution of Eastern Europe of the Soviet Russian Empire c. 1989
  2nd further dissolution of the imperial core (Soviet Union)

- **Unipolarity:** there currently exist one superpower, with global reach capable of conducting or organizing politico-military action anywhere in the world system. Example: USA-global; France,Britain,Russia,China-Regional
- **Hegemony** (world system wide): denotes a unipolar structure of capability matched by a unipolar structure of influence.
- **Jean-Jacques Rousseau:** “between strength and master” (social contract)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><em>Area</em></th>
<th>to test for evidence (Guliver)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Installation</td>
<td>7. Command</td>
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<td>3. Appointment</td>
<td>8. Veto</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Maintenance</td>
<td>10. Tribute</td>
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+Favor of US Hegemony
  ➔ Removals & installation of government in Panama and Haiti
  ➔ Restoration of order in Iraq
  ➔ Good offices and mediation in Northern Ireland and Israel (Palestine)
  ➔ Subsidies to reward peace in Middle East
  ➔ Consensual command in the Persian Gulf war and the Kosovo operation

+Against Hegemony
  ➔ Failures to restore order or have it restored (Somalia and Colombia)
  ➔ Prevent unwanted nuclear proliferation (India, Pakistan, North Korea)
  ➔ To deter or punish massacre (Congo & Russia)
  ➔ To secure consensus of the states (Iraq)
  ➔ To remove or reform hostiles on unwanted refines (Cuba, Iraq, North Korea, Iran, Libya, Congo, Malaysia)
  ➔ To alter economic policies (Japan, France, EU)
  ➔ To alter human rights policies (China)
  ➔ To extradite accused persons (Osevia bin Ladem)
  ➔ To resolve irritating and costly controversies (Israel & Palestine)
  ➔ Assure actual compliance with written from expressed respect for US org, trade and sanction policies.

**B. HISTORIC PRECEDENTS**

| 1. Arabic Caliphate | • Four Orthodox Caliphs |