

Download Social Theory Of International Politics

Alexander Wendt

constructivist approach to international politics. As such, the book might be seen overall as a work of applied social theory. While not reducible to social theory, many debates in IR have a social theory aspect. My hope is that even when the arguments below prove problematic, the contours of those issues will have been brought into sharper relief. Drawing upon philosophy and social theory, *Social Theory of International Politics* develops a theory of the international system as a social construction. Alexander Wendt clarifies the central claims of the constructivist approach, presenting a structural and idealist worldview which contrasts with the individualism and materialism which ... *Social Theory of International Politics* is destined to become perhaps the most discussed book in International Relations theory in a generation.' Source: The Times Literary Supplement

'Alexander Wendt has drawn on an exceptional range of theoretical literature in his effort to reconceptualize the nature of the international system. *Social Theory of International Politics* expresses a theory that emphasises the role of shared ideas and norms in shaping state behaviour. It is critical of both liberal and realist approaches to the study of international relations which, Wendt argues, emphasize materialist and individualistic motivations for state actions rather than norms and shared values as Wendt argues they should.