


Chapter 1

Remaking the World: Technology, Power, and International Political Economy

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ABSTRACT

This abstract explores the intricate interplay between technological advancement, shifting power dynamics, and the evolving landscape of the international political economy. This analysis delves into how emerging technologies, from artificial intelligence and biotechnology to renewable energy and digital platforms, are reshaping global production, trade, and financial flows. The abstract further investigates the strategic competition among nations to control and harness these technologies, highlighting the geopolitical implications of technological dominance. Ultimately, this work seeks to provide a comprehensive understanding of how technology is remaking the world, influencing power relations, and redefining the contours of the global economy, offering insights into the policy choices and institutional adaptations necessary to navigate this transformative era.

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INTRODUCTION

The dawn of the 21st century has ushered in an era defined by the relentless march of technological innovation, profoundly reshaping the contours of the international political economy. From the pervasive influence of digital platforms to the transformative potential of artificial intelligence and biotechnology, technology has become an undeniable force in global affairs, challenging traditional notions of power and governance (Heiret, 2024). This introduction seeks to explore the intricate interplay between technology, power, and the international political economy, examining how these forces are converging to remake the world we inhabit. The digital revolution has catalyzed a profound shift in the distribution of economic and political power. Transnational corporations, wielding immense data-driven influence, have emerged as key actors, often surpassing the regulatory capacity of nation-states. The internet, while fostering unprecedented connectivity, has also become a battleground for information control and cyber warfare, blurring the lines between public and private spheres. The rise of digital currencies and blockchain technologies further complicates the existing financial architecture, raising questions about sovereignty and the future of global monetary systems.

The rapid advancements in artificial intelligence and automation are disrupting labor markets and production processes, leading to concerns about job displacement and rising inequality. The potential for AI to enhance military capabilities introduces new dimensions to security dilemmas, demanding a reevaluation of international norms and arms control agreements. The ethical implications of these technologies, from algorithmic bias to the potential for autonomous weapons systems, necessitate a global dialogue on governance and regulation.

The international political economy is therefore grappling with the challenges and opportunities presented by this technological transformation. Traditional models of state-centric analysis are increasingly inadequate to capture the complex dynamics of a world where non-state actors wield significant power and influence. The need for new frameworks that incorporate the role of technology in shaping economic and political relations is paramount. This exploration will delve into the ways in which technology is reshaping trade, finance, security, and development, examining the implications for global governance and international cooperation (Girard, 2024). Ultimately, “Remaking the World: Technology, Power, and the International Political Economy” aims to provide a critical analysis of the forces driving this transformation and to contribute to a deeper understanding of the evolving international landscape. It seeks to illuminate the ways in which technological innovation is not merely a neutral force, but rather a powerful instrument that shapes the distribution of wealth, influence, and security in the 21st century. By examining the complex interplay between technology, power, and the global economy, this exploration strives to offer

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