

Why Industrialized Nations Rule the Modern World - Sarah Paine

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SUMMARY

The discussion highlights the transformation of power dynamics from land-based wealth to commerce and industry, emphasizing how this shift has reshaped global relations and trade. The Industrial Revolution marked the beginning of a new global trading order, which continues to influence power structures today.

- *Power historically derived from land, essential for commodities and military conscription.*
- *The shift to commerce and industry redefined wealth and power dynamics globally.*
- *The Industrial Revolution initiated a global trading order focused on minimizing transaction costs.*
- *Current power disparities often correlate with a country's level of industrialization.*
- *Ongoing trade negotiations reflect the continuous evolution of global economic relations.*
- *Historical examples include China's resistance to maritime trade orders in the 19th century.*
- *Modern entities like ISIS oppose liberal economies that support this trading framework.*

So, what's going on is the currency of power has changed. Power is a function of land back in the day. Why? Because land is where you get the commodities that you can sell, and also rural areas is where you're going to get your peasant conscripts to field your mass armies. Well, once wealth is a function of commerce, industry, and trade, it isn't land anymore. And this upends the world. If you think about the world today, who's rich, who's poor, who's powerful, who's not, it's often the degree to which the country is industrialized.

And the Industrial Revolution opens up the beginnings >> >> of a global trading order, where you're trying to through trade negotiations to minimize transaction costs so everybody can make a lot of money. And this is a process that is still ongoing in our own day. Trade negotiations continue eternally. But it upends the traditional balance of power. China back in the 19th century was just opposed by this incoming maritime order. In our own day, ISIS or whatever is left of it, absolutely reviles the liberal economies and societies that are favoring this sort of trading order.