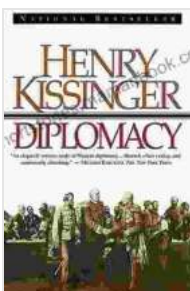


Diplomacy's Touchstone: The Principles of International Politics by Henry Kissinger

Henry Kissinger's "Diplomacy's Touchstone: The Principles of International Politics" is a seminal work in the field of international relations. Published in 1994, the book draws on Kissinger's vast experience as a diplomat and scholar to provide a comprehensive and insightful analysis of the principles that govern the interaction between states.

"Diplomacy's Touchstone" is divided into three parts. The first part, "The Nature of International Politics," explores the fundamental concepts and theories that underpin the study of international relations. Kissinger argues that international politics is a realm of constant struggle for power and influence, and that states must be prepared to use all means at their disposal to protect their interests.

The second part of the book, "The Practice of Diplomacy," examines the practical aspects of diplomacy. Kissinger discusses the various techniques and strategies that diplomats use to negotiate and resolve conflicts. He also emphasizes the importance of building and maintaining strong relationships with other countries.



Diplomacy (Touchstone Book) by Henry Kissinger

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 16742 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 918 pages
Screen Reader	: Supported



The third part of the book, "The Challenges of the 21st Century," looks ahead to the future of international politics. Kissinger identifies a number of emerging challenges, such as the rise of non-state actors, the spread of nuclear weapons, and the threat of climate change. He argues that these challenges will require a new approach to diplomacy that is based on cooperation and multilateralism.

"Diplomacy's Touchstone" is based on a number of key principles, including:

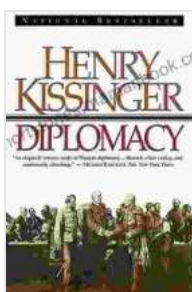
- **The primacy of national interest:** Kissinger argues that the primary goal of any state is to protect and advance its own national interests. This does not mean that states are inherently selfish or aggressive, but it does mean that they must always be aware of their own interests and be prepared to defend them.
- **The balance of power:** Kissinger believes that the balance of power is the key to maintaining peace and stability in the international system. He argues that states should strive to maintain a balance of power between themselves, so that no single state or group of states can become too powerful.
- **The importance of diplomacy:** Kissinger emphasizes the importance of diplomacy as a tool for resolving conflicts and building relationships between states. He argues that diplomacy is the only way to achieve lasting peace and security.

- **The need for grand strategy:** Kissinger believes that states need to have a grand strategy that guides their foreign policy. This grand strategy should be based on a clear understanding of the national interest and the balance of power.

"Diplomacy's Touchstone" has been widely praised by scholars and policymakers for its insights into the nature of international politics. It has been translated into more than 20 languages and has become a standard text in university courses on international relations.

The book has also had a significant impact on the practice of diplomacy. Kissinger's principles have been adopted by diplomats around the world, and his book has helped to shape the way that states interact with each other.

"Diplomacy's Touchstone" is a classic work of international relations that continues to be relevant today. Kissinger's insights into the nature of international politics are essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the world around them.



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