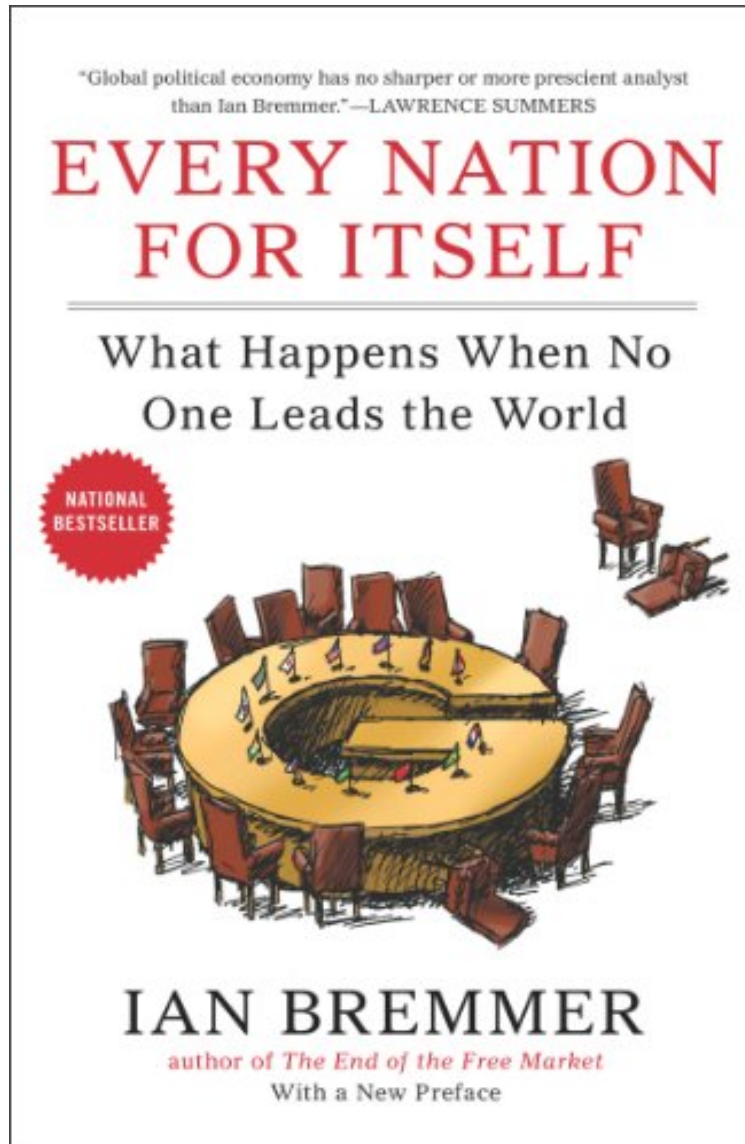


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Every Nation for Itself: What Happens When No One Leads the World

Ian Bremmer

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Ian Bremmer : Every Nation for Itself: What Happens When No One Leads the World before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Every Nation for Itself: What Happens When No One Leads the World:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. SeanBy seanPerception altering, highly recommended for anyone who - since the fall of the Berlin Wall - is increasingly unable to make sense of the power politics behind world

events. For instance, since reading this book in the summer of 2016, Brexit and Turkey's turn towards Russia after the failed coup attempt are - I believe - thoroughly explained in Bremmer's description of so-called pivot States and I would not be surprised to see that every inch the UK moves away from the EU is merely another inch closer to North America. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. No Concert of Nations
By H. Peter Nennhaus
Like other recent publications, this book investigates the power shift away from American global supremacy. The author searches for successor countries, but he finds none. Looking at four different scenarios - the dual authority of America and China, or a Cold War between these two, or a Concert of Nations after the pattern of that of the monarchies of the 19th century, or a World of Regions - he concludes only the fourth choice, the World of Regions, is realistic. Here, different groups of countries gather around regional leaders and they compete one against each other quite possibly with mutual hostility, while global cooperation would be absent. In that setting, no worldwide unity would be available to tackle our numerous and necessary global tasks such as climate control, overpopulation, keeping peace on land and in cyberspace, food and water scarcity, and several others. What would America's fate be in such a leaderless world? Choosing an optimistic stance, he envisions how this country could in the end still emerge as an "indispensable nation", provided - taking recourse to America's traditional strength, ingenuity, and adaptability - it takes a number of corrective steps. Among these are avoiding wars, reducing excessive defense spending, correcting the out-of-control financial system as well as a political system that seems broken beyond repair, reducing national debt, improving primary and secondary education, dealing with our deteriorating infrastructure, and a few more. Bremmer says, a leaderless "G-Zero" world would be unstable. A new era would certainly follow in which this country with some luck might still play a decisive role. Thus, EVERY NATION FOR ITSELF provides an informative look into the future and it is in various respects in agreement with similar recent publications. However, in this book as in others that look into humanity's uncertain future, I miss the option of a global federation. It has been investigated for decades and its basic principles are well-known. It is feasible and would be curative of the disastrous blunders mankind has inflicted upon itself during recent generations. It would be a safeguard against most of the future threats listed in this book. It would be the obvious, next step forward in the evolution of human civilization. In fact, the history of civilization is impatiently knocking on the door, yet - you tell me why - world federalism is on nobody's agenda. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book about where we may be going and what difference it makes.
By Roy Licklider
Outstanding book--I assigned it to my university undergraduate course on American Foreign Policy as the capstone book, the one that explicitly looks toward the future, probably the most important book for students. It was a great hit.

G-Zero — \JEE-ZEER-oh\ — A world order in which no single country or durable alliance of countries can meet the challenges of global leadership. What happens when the G20 doesn't work and the G7 is history. If the worst threatened — a rogue nuclear state with a horrible surprise, a global health crisis, the collapse of financial institutions from New York to Shanghai and Mumbai — where would the world look for leadership? The United States, with its paralyzed politics and battered balance sheet? A European Union reeling from self-inflicted wounds? China's "people's democracy"? Perhaps Brazil, Turkey, or India, the geopolitical Rookies of the Year? Or some grand coalition of survivors, the last nations standing after half a decade of recession-induced turmoil? How about none of the above? For the first time in seven decades, there is no single power or alliance of powers ready to take on the challenges of global leadership. A generation ago, the United States, Europe, and Japan were the world's powerhouses, the free-market democracies that propelled the global economy forward. Today, they struggle just to find their footing. Acclaimed geopolitical analyst Ian Bremmer argues that the world is facing a leadership vacuum. The diverse political and economic values of the G20 have produced global gridlock. Now that so many challenges transcend borders — from the stability of the global economy and climate change to cyber-attacks, terrorism, and the security of food and water — the need for international cooperation has never been greater. A lack of global leadership will provoke uncertainty, volatility, competition, and, in some cases, open conflict. Bremmer explains the risk that the world will become a series of gated communities as power is regionalized instead of globalized. In the generation to come, negotiations on economic and trade issues are likely to be just as fraught as recent debates over nuclear nonproliferation and climate change. Disaster, thankfully, is never assured, and Bremmer details where the levers of power can still be found and how to exercise them for the common good. That's important, because the one certainty of weakened nations and enfeebled institutions is that someone will try to take advantage of them. Every Nation for Itself offers essential insights for anyone attempting to navigate the new global playing field.