



## The Position of Iran, Russia and China in the Geometry of the Future World

### Order

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#### Abstract

**Objective:** Following the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the United States became the sole superpower on the world stage. At the same time, the rise and alignment of emerging powers such as Iran, Russia, and China indicate the future transformation of power in the international system from unipolar to multipolar. Thus, the main question of the research is what place will Iran, Russia, and China have in the geometry of the future world order?

**Method:** This research is qualitative in nature and is analytically descriptive in terms of its implementation method. The method of collecting data and research information is also library and online.

**Findings:** The findings of the research are that although American hegemony still dominates the geometry of the current world order; however, with this country's sole reliance on militarism and the rise of emerging powers, Washington is experiencing a downward trend in the global power basket, which reflects the transformation of the international order from unipolar to multipolar. The redistribution of power in the international system, while declining the status of the United States from a superpower to a major global power, will help develop the power of Iran, Russia, and China and provide them with more opportunities at the global level.

**Conclusion:** The research results show that all three countries, Iran, Russia and China, using their capacities and cards in their hands, are trying to challenge the unipolar order and gain a greater share in the distribution of global power. The formation of a multipolar world order will lead to the promotion and consolidation of the international position of Tehran, Moscow and Beijing and the change of the international balance of power in their favor, which will contribute significantly to the decline and isolation of Washington in the global arena.

**Key words:** Unipolar Order, Multipolar Order, Hegemon, Futures Studies, International Order

#### Research Article

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## **Introduction**

The collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 and the unequal distribution of power among the main players led the United States to consider itself the only pole of the international system and to seek to maintain its hegemony in the international system by creating a liberal world order. In the meantime, Washington aimed to expand its four powers over different regions of the world in order to promote and defend the values of liberal democracy in the international arena. Establishing military bases, various investments in financial and trade markets, maintaining and developing space power, expanding artificial intelligence, deepening educational and cultural exchanges, and investing in huge oil and gas projects in different regions of the world are examples of these efforts to shape the new American order. The reality of today's world is the emergence of new powers that often have a revisionist approach to the American order. They do not accept its rules and norms and are seeking to play an important role in the future world order. The undeniable fact is that in the future world order, Western governments, including the United States, will not play a major role, and it is Asian and Eastern powers that will determine its rules and norms. In this regard, the cooperation and opposition of the three countries of Iran, Russia, and China to the global hegemony of the United States, while influencing the equations and world order, can lead the unipolar system towards multilateralism.

## **Methodology**

The present research is of an applied type and has a descriptive-analytical approach. In the descriptive-analytical approach, the reasons for the how and why of the problem and its dimensions are explained. This means that the research at the descriptive level has a clear hypothesis and a structured question, and in the analytical dimension, the analysis of events will be carried out based on descriptive data and within the framework of theoretical foundations. This research is of a qualitative nature and has been conducted with a futures research approach. Futures research seeks to understand more accurately existing trends and events to identify alternative futures and is a knowledge that identifies more probable and possibly more desirable futures among possible futures. The collection of primary information and data for the research was carried out by relying on library and Internet studies.

## **Analysis and discussion**

With the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War, the official narrative of the bipolar order began to decline, paving the way for the transformation of the liberal order within the West into an international order and its globalization. In a sense, the United States became a liberal Leviathan in the international system. According to this interpretation, the country's liberal internationalism was Hobbesian in nature and power-oriented politics, and a kind of harmony between the liberal and realist dualism emerged in the international position of the United States. By projecting power within the framework of a system of American rules, values, and norms, the United States managed the liberal

order and at the same time rewrote the order of different global regions. Washington found itself in a position for more than half a century to build the international system in its own image.

The debate over America's decline has been seriously pursued in academic circles around the world, especially in the United States, for about two decades. In its December 2012 report on global trends in 2030, the US National Intelligence Council acknowledged: "With the emergence and rapid growth of other countries, the unipolar moment is over, and the period of American dominance in international politics that began in 1945 is rapidly declining". The gradual decline in the power and position of the United States in the international system since the first decade of the 2000s has led to the strengthening of revisionist tendencies throughout the world. This provides the conditions for the transition from the current unipolar order to a multipolar order. This position is emphasized, especially by Russian realists, and it is always emphasized that in the transition to a multipolar order, Russia needs to play the role of a great powerful leader. These realists are not necessarily anti-Western; but they demand that the West recognize Russia's military and economic power.

Russian officials believe that alliances such as Shanghai and BRICS should prevent US hegemony. It is clear from Russia's actions in issues such as Ukraine that it is seeking to redistribute power in the international arena. China's rise and rise in power in the international system has been accompanied by its space power. China's goal is to become a superpower in the field of space power, competing with powers such as the United States. China's achievements in the field of space have presented the United States with a serious challenge in the military and economic fields, and China's progress in this field will lead to the loss of American power as the dominant power in the international system. China seeks to change the international system in a way that secures and guarantees its interests. To this end, China considers space power as a factor in raising its level of national power. China's goal is to align itself with the United States, Russia, and the European Union in the field of space power. Although China has pretended in its statements that it has not entered into a space competition; However, the country's progress in the field of space power and in all aspects of military, economic, and diplomatic relations indicates its competition with the United States.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union and the United States' efforts to establish a new world order, the Islamic Republic could not agree to the mechanisms and rules of the new international order based on its own standards and principles of belief. Challenging this new system was dependent on forming a strong coalition, and this issue led Iran to cooperate with governments that were often in the Eastern bloc during the bipolar system and are now opposed to the hegemony of the United States and the unipolar system. This is how the desire to form a multipolar world with fair mechanisms led the Islamic Republic to the East. For Iran, the policy of looking to the East means seeking help from the two powers of Russia and China and uniting all three around a common goal of confronting the West, especially the United States, and Western liberal ideals on the international stage.

## Conclusion

After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the United States remained the only powerful country in the world, and almost the entire world was under the control of American decisions and power, especially in the military arena, which led to the expansion of American hegemony in different regions of the world and the formation of power orders and equations in favor of Washington and its allies in the global arena. Although the United States of America is still the world's largest political and military power, emerging powers such as Iran, Russia, and China have each gained control over a part of the regional and international economic, political, and military arrangements. For this reason, the other three powers are not willing to follow the US's executive and prescriptive orders in the region and internationally, and they consider the only way to change course to be strengthening multilateralism in the international system. In fact, opposition to the US hegemonic order and efforts for a multipolar world order are the common denominator of the strategies of Iran, Russia, and China towards Washington. This issue has led to Iran, Russia, and China having a more active presence in political arenas, security arrangements, and global economic exchanges.

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