

Grand Strategy in the Interwar Years

University of Utah
Salt Lake City

March 26-27, 2009

Alumni House
Burbidge Room
University of Utah

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In 1939, E. H. Carr published his book, *The Twenty Years' Crisis, 1919-1939* about the interwar period, and the “glaring and dangerous defect of nearly all thinking about international politics.” In the past several years, there has been a resurgence of interest in the phenomena of preventive war, appeasement, diplomacy, collective security, arms control and disarmament, trade and interdependence, and the political economy of grand strategy.

The overarching goal of the Grand Strategy in the Interwar Years conference is to revisit the interwar period, comparing the permissive environment of the 1920s to the less permissive environment of the 1930s. This comparison will allow us to draw valuable lessons for contemporary international affairs.

The conference will bring together junior and senior international relations scholars and diplomatic historians, as well as University of Utah graduate students. Presentations will reexamine the 1920s and the 1930s, and the grand strategies of Germany, Great Britain, France, the Soviet Union, Japan, and the United States

Agenda

Thursday, March 26

10:00 (Burbridge Room, Alumni House)

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Steven Ott, University of Utah

Steven Lobell, University of Utah

10:30-12:00 (Burbridge Room, Alumni House)

Panel I: Europe and the 1920s

a. “Globalization and the Sustainability of the Post-World War I Settlement”

Pat McDonald, University of Texas-Austin

b. “From Treaty Enforcement to Multi-lateral System-Building: Rethinking the evolution of French security policy in the 1920s”

Peter Jackson, University of Wales, Aberystwyth

c. “The Legacy of Peace-Building: The Constraining Impact of the Locarno Order on Grand Strategy in the 1930s”

Scott Silverstone, United States Military Academy at West Point

Discussant: Scott Cooper, Brigham Young University

Chair: Ben Judkins, University of Utah

1:45-3:00 (Hinckley Caucus Room, OSH 255)

Ambassador John and Marcia Price Lecture

“Preventive War in Theory and Practice”

Jack Levy, Rutgers University

Board of Governors' Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University, and Senior Associate at the Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies at Columbia University. He is past president of the International Studies Association (2007-08) and of the Peace Science Society (2005-06). He has previously held tenured positions at the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Minnesota, and visiting or adjunct positions at Tulane, Stanford, Harvard, Yale, Columbia, and NYU. Professor Levy received APSA's Helen Dwight Reid Award (1977) for the best dissertation in International Relations in 1975-76, and the Distinguished Scholar Award from the Foreign Policy Analysis Section of the International Studies Association (2000). His research focuses primarily on the causes of war, foreign policy decision-making, and qualitative methodology.

3:30-5:00 (Burbidge Room, Alumni House)

Panel II. Europe in the 1930s

a. “Threat Perception and the British Response to Nazi Germany, 1933-1936”

Norrin Ripsman, Concordia University

Jack Levy, Rutgers University

b. “Economic Appeasement or Realpolitik? Britain's Trade Concessions to Germany during the 1930s”

Steven Lobell, University of Utah

c. “The Origins of Expansionist Grand Strategies: A Comparison of Germany and Japan in the Interwar Years”

Dale Copeland, University of Virginia

d. “Interdependence: Can it Stop History from Repeating Itself?”

Mark Bean, University of Utah

Discussant: Adam Luedtke, University of Utah

Chair: Paul Hammond, Emeritus, University of Pittsburgh

Friday, March 27

8:00 - 9:30 (Burbidge Room, Alumni House)

Panel III. Global Politics and the 1930s

a. “Strategy of Innocence or Calculated Provocation? Neoclassical Realism and the Roosevelt Administration's Road to World War II, 1938-41”

Jeffrey Taliaferro, Tufts University

b. **“Powers of Division: From the Anti-Comintern, to the Nazi-Soviet, to the Japanese-Soviet Neutrality Pact”**

Tim Crawford, Boston College

c. **“Realism in Disguise: Termination of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance and the Washington Conference”**

Koji Haraguchi, University of Utah

d. **“The Rising Sun Was No Jackal: Japan, the Axis Pact, and Alliance Formation Theory”**

Tsuyoshi Kawasaki, Simon Fraser University

Discussants: Valerie Hudson, Brigham Young University, Christopher Whytock, University of Utah

Chair: Howard Lehman, University of Utah

9:45- 11:00 (Burbidge Room, Alumni House)

Roundtable: Reflections on Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

Christopher Layne, Texas A&M University

ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

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