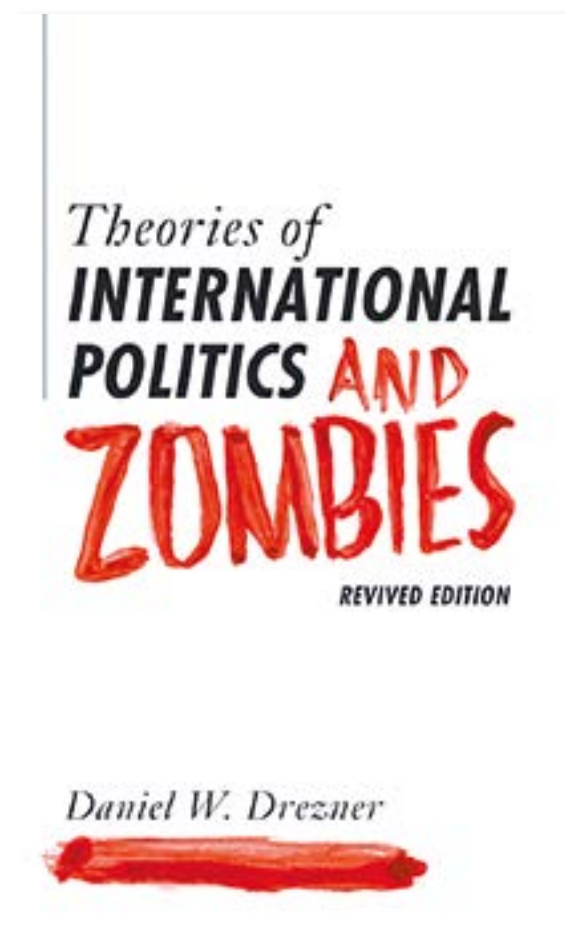


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DREZNER, DANIEL W. THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS AND ZOMBIES.

EDICIÓN REVISADA. PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2015, 198 PP. ISBN: 978-691-16370-3



The international relations community has its premiere monograph on the “zombie phenomena” with David Drezner’s *Theories of international politics and Zombies*. The book makes a balanced diagnostic on what would be the answers provided by theories of international politics, if there were a zombie outbreak. Likewise, it makes a sound diagnostic on the explanations provided by these theories on the “stress test” that hold an imaginary non-conventional threat scenario. The book makes a rigorous analysis based on documented theories as well as multiple culture references to this horror scene, accompanied by funny caricature illustrations on each chapter approach.

The book follows an interesting structure in an introduction, twelve brief chapters and a conclusion. Firstly, the author builds the case of zombies roaming on earth as a transnational security threat in three chapters, based on the related film and literature available. Secondly, he develops the responses that different international relations theories might provide on this scenario, such as realism, idealism, constructivism, feminism, neoconservative politics, bureaucratic policy and psychology. The author devotes one chapter for each theory approach, reviewing theory answers from each of the approaches. Finally, it analyses the responses on a compared perspective to tie up the discussion on the zombie case.

In the conclusion, the theories provide answers with interesting common insights for further research. They share in common that there would be a policy answer to a potential zombie outbreak, which defies apocalyptic views from movies and literature. In addition, the identify risks of catastrophic outcomes such as, bureaucracy failure, regime imperfection, culture assimilation, and indistinctive military responses on both civilians and the undead. Finally, these theories expose common failures of state-based theories to analyze non-state challenges, without agency or a sovereign territory to attribute to the threats. It is definitely an interesting read to “bring the brain in” international problems from a non – conventional and funny perspective. 🧠