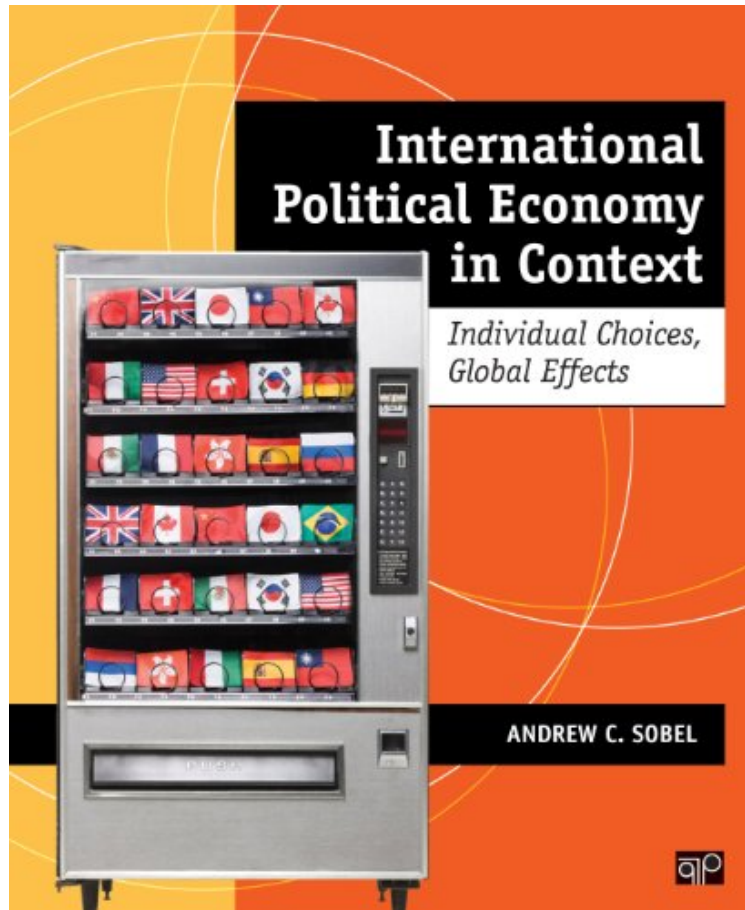


International Political Economy in Context: Individual Choices, Global Effects

Andrew C. Sobel

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Although many international political economy texts offer good descriptions of what events have occurred in global economic and political relations, they fail to develop explicit theoretical frameworks explaining why. Andrew C. Sobel's International Political Economy in Context: Individual Choices, Global Effects takes a micro approach to IPE,

grounding policy choices in the deliberations and competitive environs of domestic politics and decision-making processes. Sobel builds students' skills for a sophisticated understanding of how and why events unfold in the international political economy. Armed with the primary assumptions and structural/macro conditions of economic and political geography in the global arena, as well as an understanding of micro-level conditions and mechanisms and their shortfalls that influence political and economic outcomes, students are able to make sense of past and present changes in the global political economy. *International Political Economy in Context* offers a compelling, accessible, and fully integrated rational choice perspective on international political economy.

"*International Political Economy in Context's* strengths are its detailed, clear exposition. I read with delight the rather sophisticated analysis of difficult concepts like the balance of payments and the Bretton Woods meetings." -- James Morrison "Most other books leave the impression that political economy began in the 1980s, or are a morass of acronyms that most students will soon forget. *International Political Economy in Context: Individual Choices, Global Effects* is the one book that really renders effective treatments of the Big Ideas that shaped the political economy of the world over the past two centuries. Without that context one cannot possibly hope to understand what is happening today." -- Mike Jasinski "Instead of covering IPE from broad realist, liberal, critical, or whatever perspectives, Sobel takes one, very much up-to-date and non-paradigmatic rational choice perspective and uses it throughout the book. This really is the way it should be done!" -- Tobias Hofmann

About the Author Andrew C. Sobel holds a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. He is associate professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Political Science Department at Washington University in St. Louis. He is also resident fellow in the Center in Political Economy at Washington University and serves on the board of the Center for New Institutional Social Sciences. He specializes in the politics of international finance with a focus on domestic explanations of international behavior. His books include *Domestic Choices*, *International Markets* (1994) and *State Institutions, Private Incentives, Global Capital* (1999). Sobel's current research is comparing globalization in the late 1800s and late 1900s and its relationship to the modern social welfare state, and investigating the linkages between democracy and growth.