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# The Strategy of Geoconomics

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# Geoeconomics:

*“The use of economic instruments to produce beneficial geopolitical results”*

- Chp. 1, 'War by Other Means: Geoeconomics and Statecraft' (Blackwell R; Harris J.)

# ieoeconomics is not...

States pursuing economic goals instead of political goals (*'States care more about growth than sovereignty'*)



Foreign policy being driven by economic concerns (*'Need more jobs, so strike deals w/others'*)



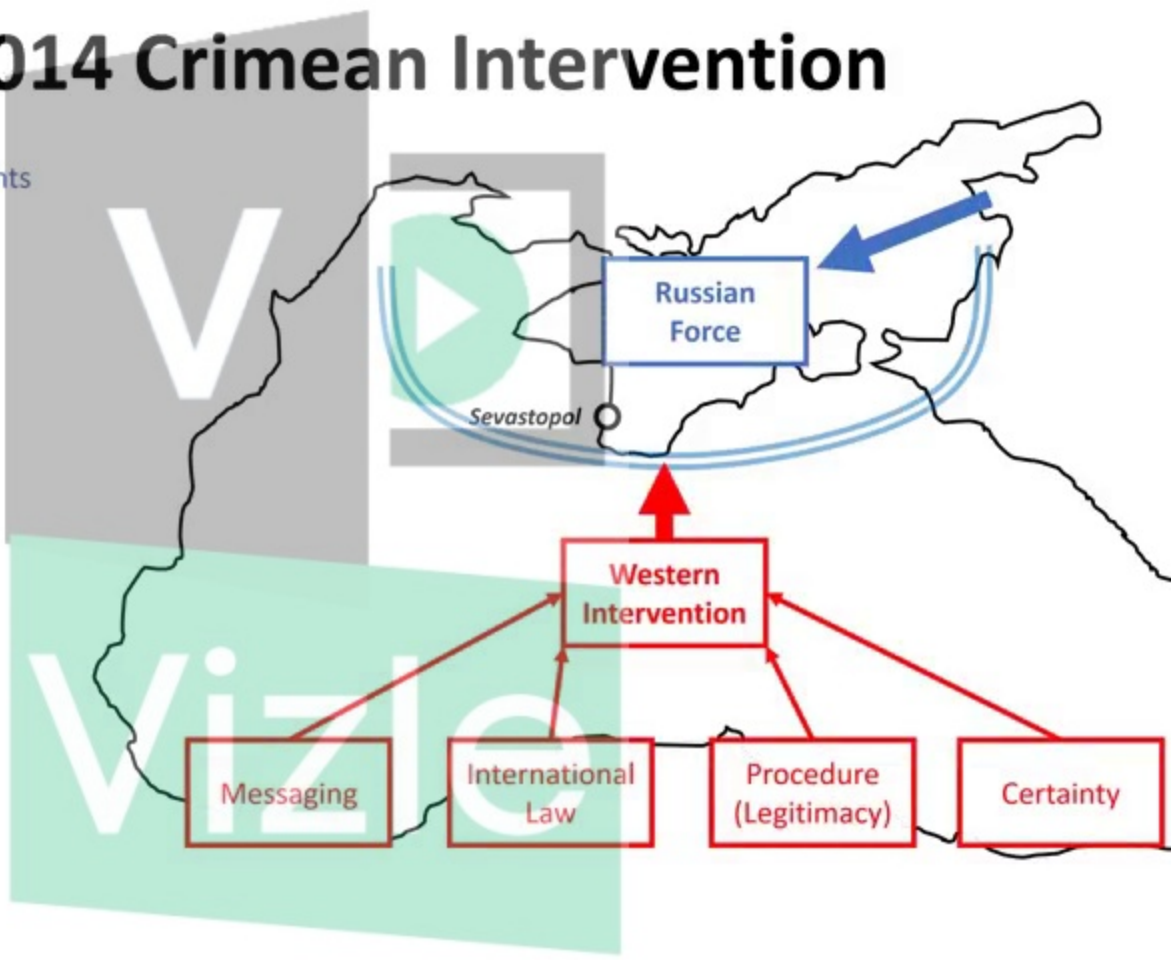
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# CG Warfare: 2014 Crimean Intervention

## Speed:

- Take Crimean political, strategic points
- Russia now on defensive vs West



# Vizle Warfare: 2014 Crimean Intervention

## Speed:

- Take Crimean political, strategic points
- Russia now on defensive vs West

## Political Messaging:

- Push pro-Russian views (demonstrations etc.)
- Conspiracies, 'alternative facts' to counter unhelpful facts

## International Law/Norms:

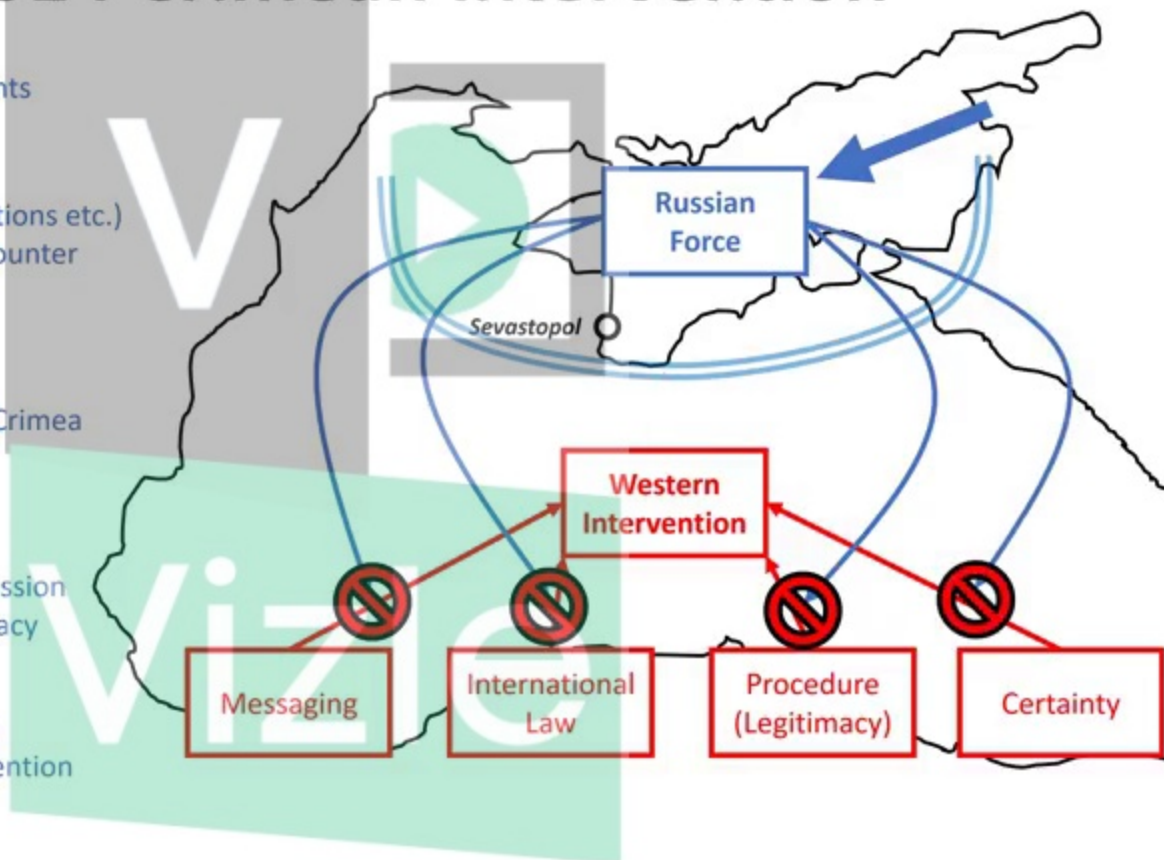
- NO uniformed troops
- "Duty/right to protect" Russians in Crimea
- Kosovo precedent re: secession

## Procedure (Legitimacy):

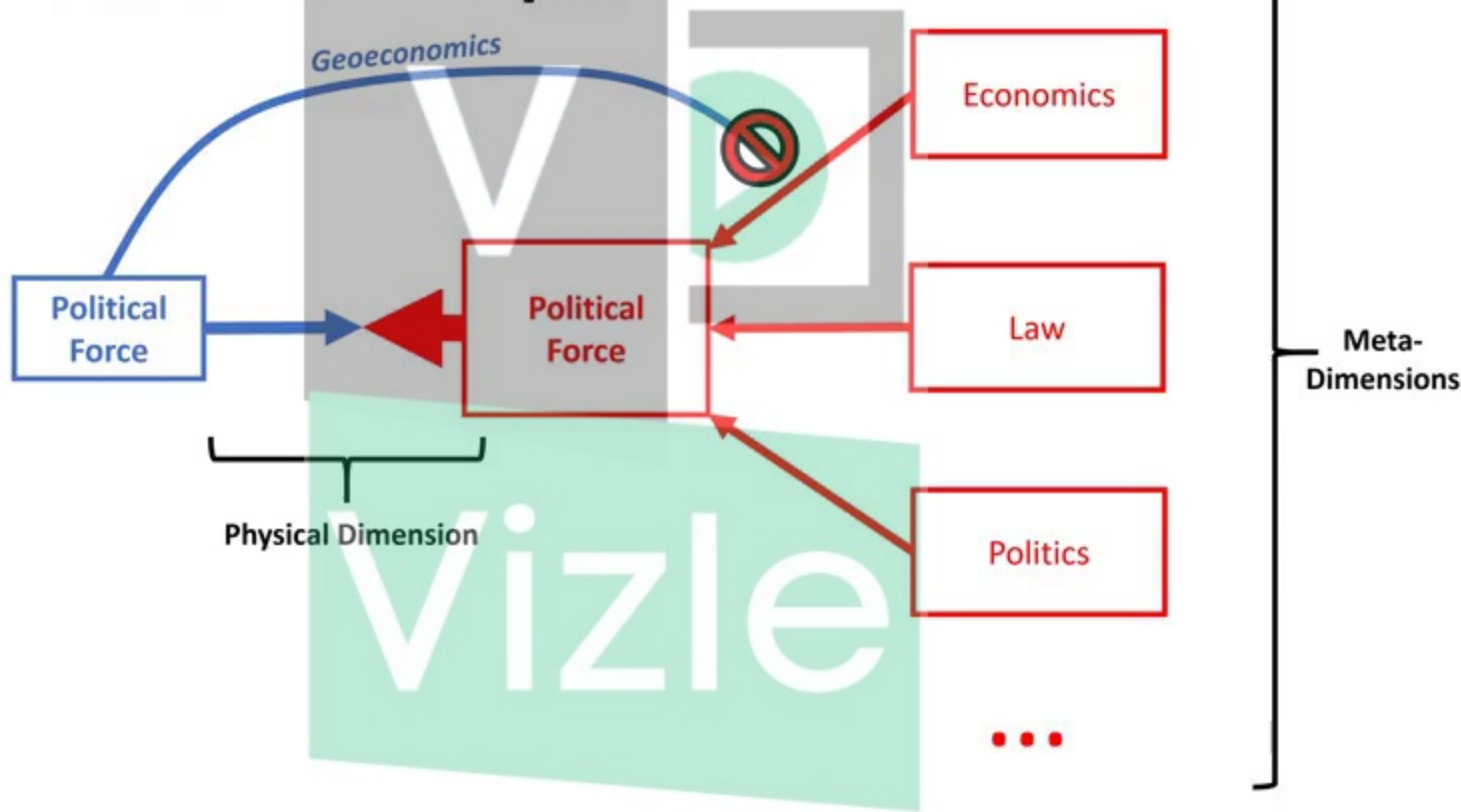
- Keep Crimean institutions
- Make conditions + schedule for secession
- Referendum to demonstrate legitimacy

## Certainty:

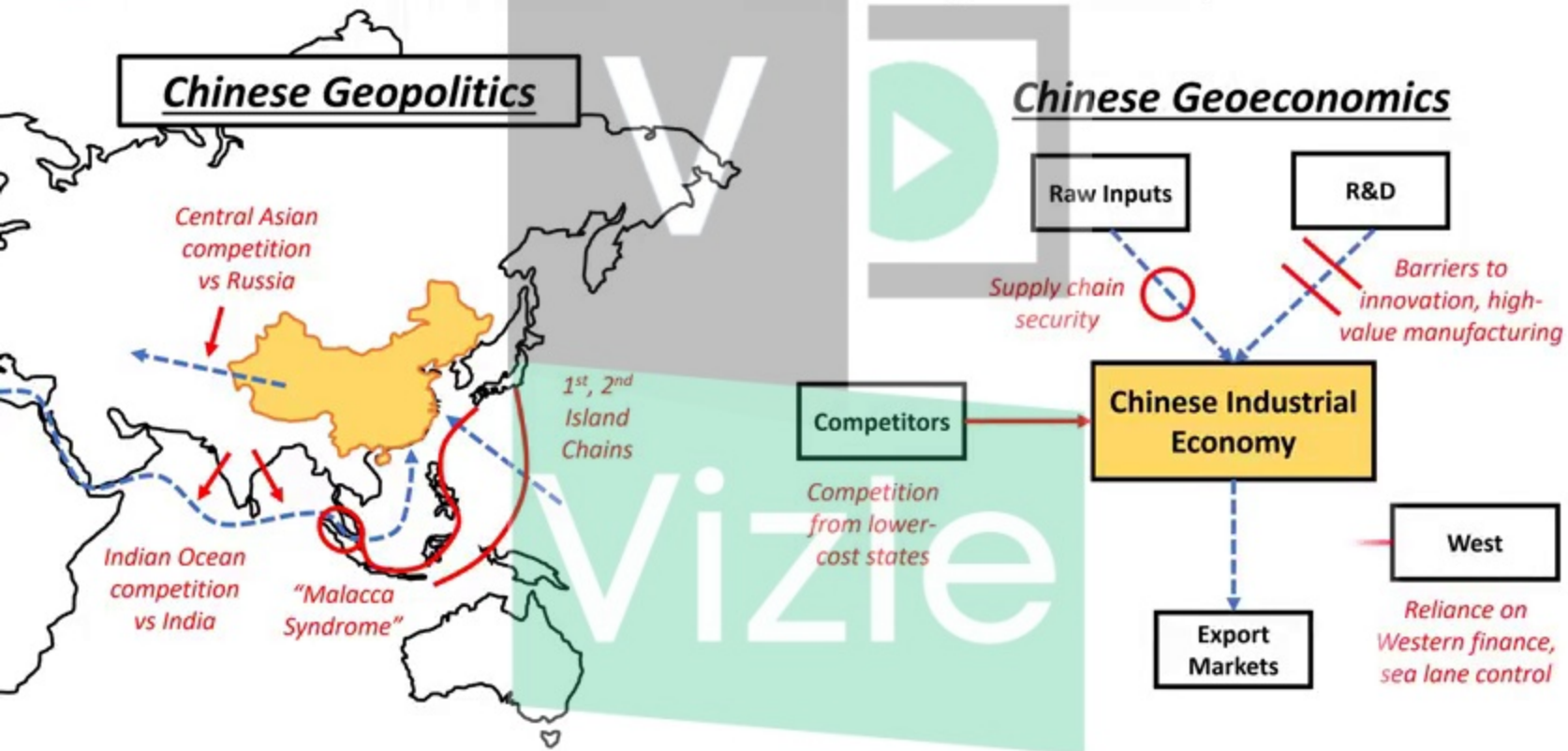
- Ambiguity re: Russia's role, morality
- Western public unsure about intervention
- West unable to deploy forces



# 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Geopolitics



# New Dimension of Strategic Competition





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# **Geoeconomics and Economics**

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## The Pure Economic Plan:

- 1) Follow economic principles to grow the economy*
- 2) Larger economy = more resources*
- 3) Use the extra resources to ??? (more options, leverage)*
- 4) Geopolitically profit!*

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# Absolute and Comparative Advantage

## Absolute Advantage

Britain is better at producing cloth

Portugal is better at producing wine

V

Britain

Portugal

*Hours of Work to Produce 1 Unit of...*

Cloth

Wine

90

120

100

80

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# Absolute and Comparative Advantage

## Comparative Advantage

Portugal is better at producing cloth and wine BUT  
Britain is **COMPARATIVELY** better at producing cloth  
(less opportunity cost: 100/120 vs 90/80)

### 1. Without Specialization

- Britain: 220 hours to make 1 cloth 1 wine
- Portugal: 170 hours to make 1 cloth 1 wine
- **Total Production: 2 cloth 2 wine**

### 2. With Specialization

- Britain: 220 hours: can make 2.2 cloth
- Portugal: 170 hours: can make 2.125 wine
- **Total Production: 2.2 cloth 2.125 wine**

### 3. Trade

- Ideal trade ratio 1 cloth: 0.83-1.125 wine

Through specialization + trade, both get 1 cloth  
1 wine + share surplus of 0.2 cloth 0.125 wine

*Hours of Work to Produce 1 Unit of...*

**Cloth**

**Wine**

<b>100</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>90</b>	<b>80</b>

**Britain**

**Portugal**

**90**

**80**

# Cloth vs Wine

Cloth/Textiles	Wine
<p><b>Labor Intensive</b> (easy set up + expansion)</p>	<p><b>Capital Intensive</b> (expensive set up + expansion)</p>
<p><b>Low skill requirements</b> (simple machines, process)</p>	<p><b>High skill requirements</b> (specialized knowledge + complex process)</p>
<p>Large demand/market = large + fast profits</p>	<p>Smaller demand/market = slower profits</p>
<p>Many advanced derivative industries (Dyes/chemicals, design etc.)</p>	<p>Few advanced derivative industries</p>
<p><b>"Gateway Industry"</b> (UK, US, East Asia etc.)</p>	



# Britain vs Portugal

Cloth

Labor Intensive, Low Skill

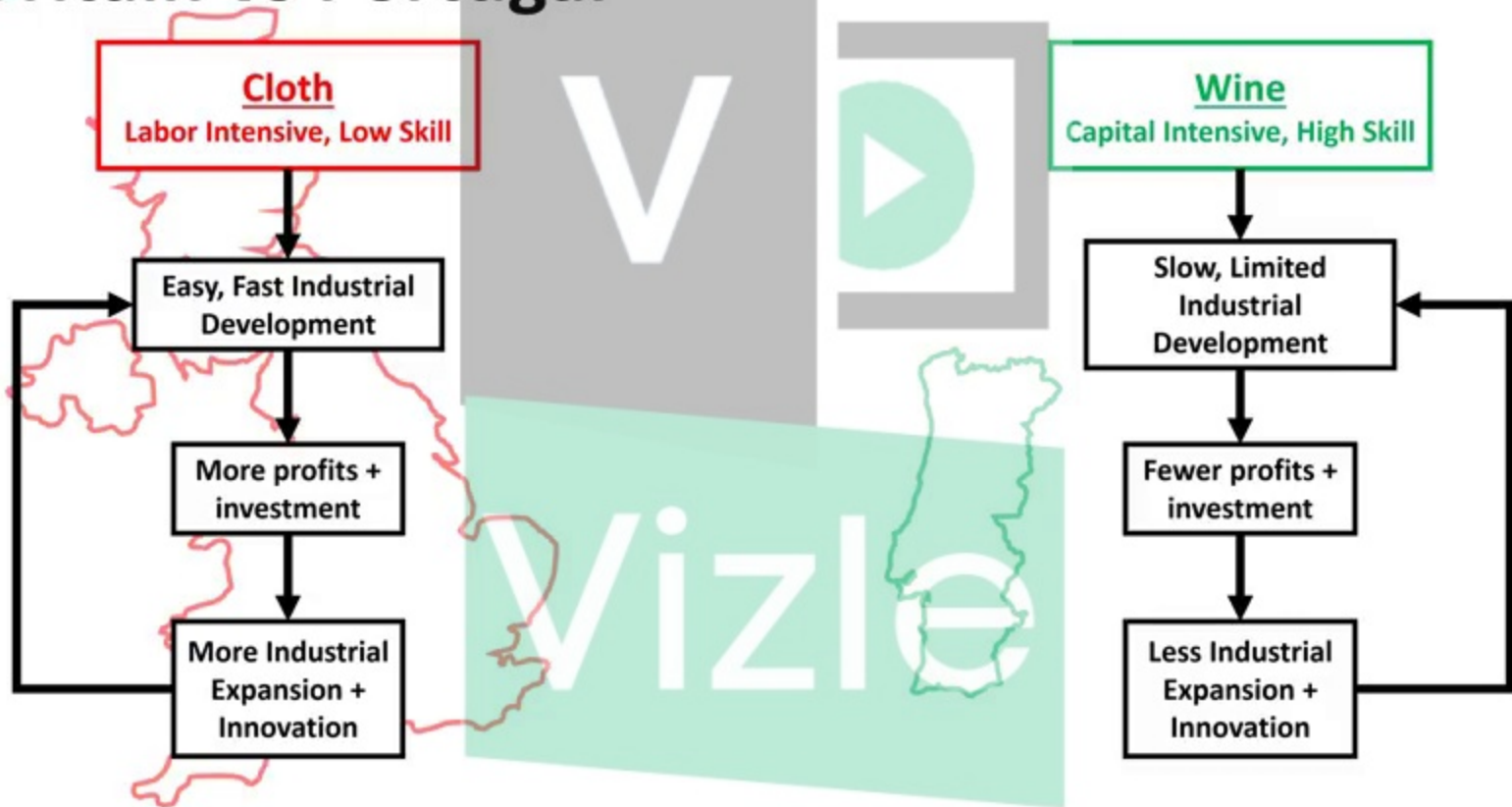
Wine

Capital Intensive, High Skill



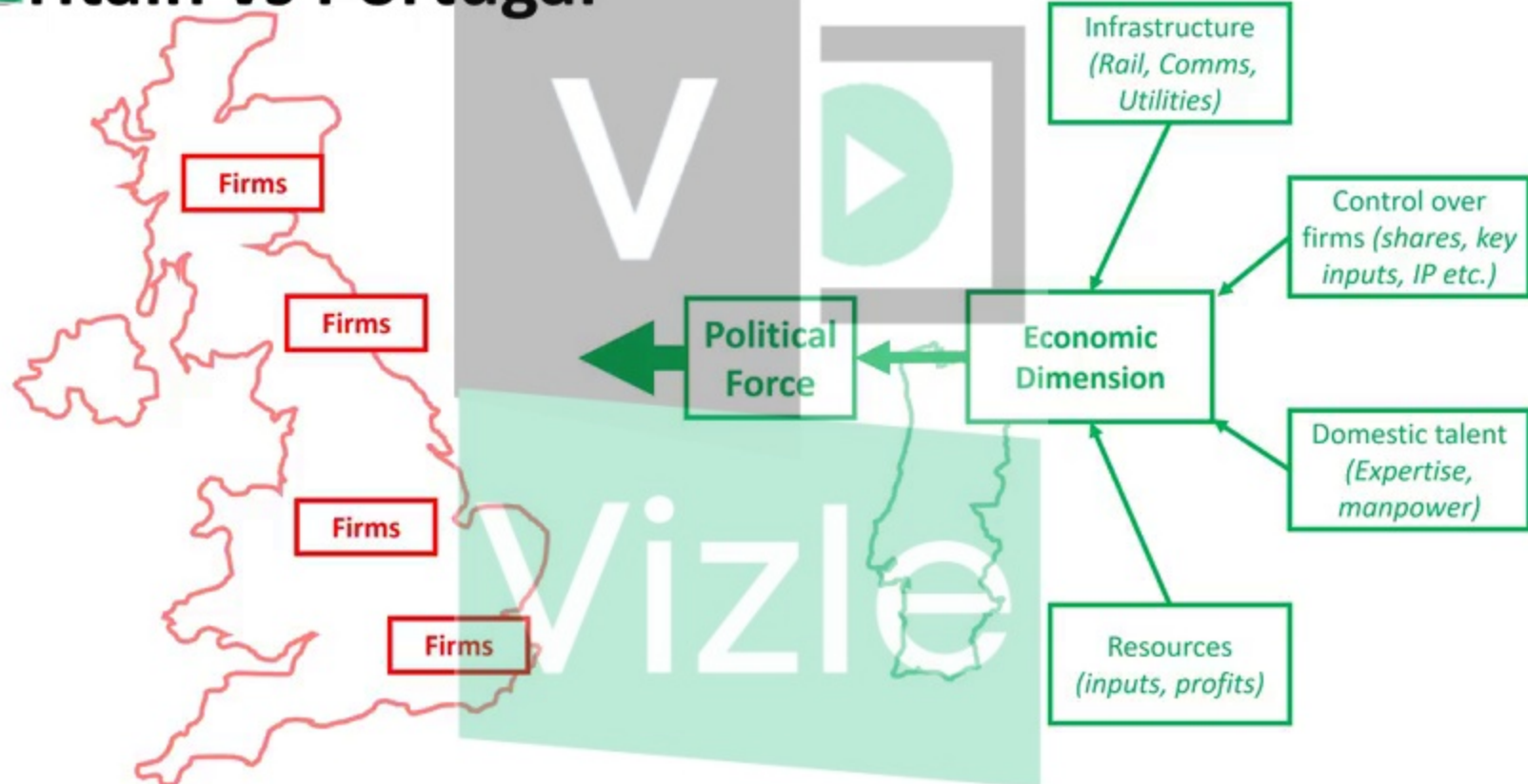


# Britain vs Portugal





# Britain vs Portugal





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# **Geoeconomic Strategy: Aims**

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# Hard vs Soft Economic Power

Hard Power: Suez Crisis, 1956



Economy

Force

1) UK, France,  
Israel invade  
Egypt



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# Hard vs Soft Economic Power

## Hard Power: Suez Crisis, 1956

2) US: NO IMF bailout,  
sell UK currency until  
UK withdraws

3) Arab states oil  
embargo UK

4) UK, France  
etc. withdraw

1) UK, France,  
Israel invade  
Egypt

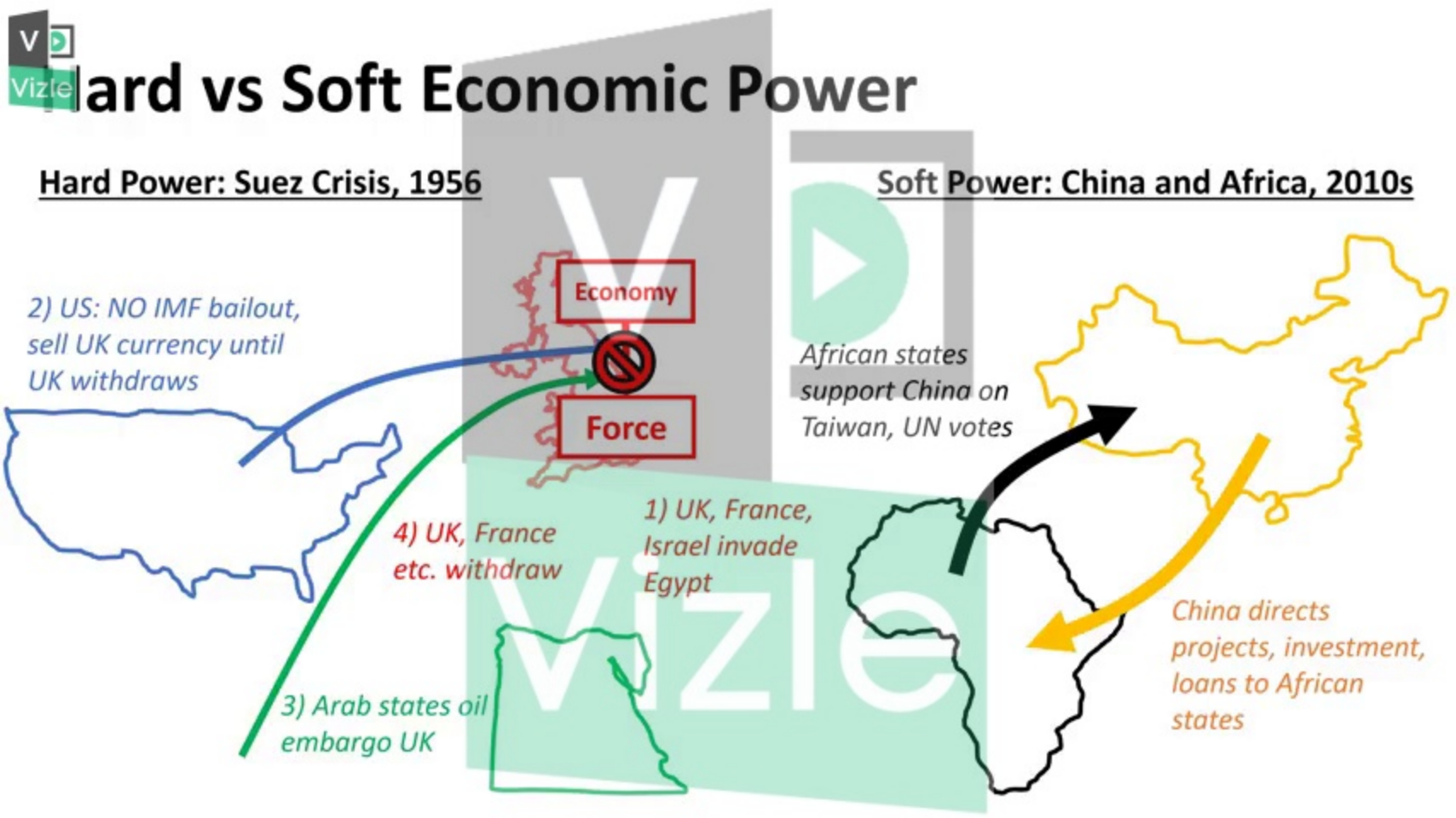
Economy

Force

## Soft Power: China and Africa, 2010s

African states  
support China on  
Taiwan, UN votes

China directs  
projects, investment,  
loans to African  
states



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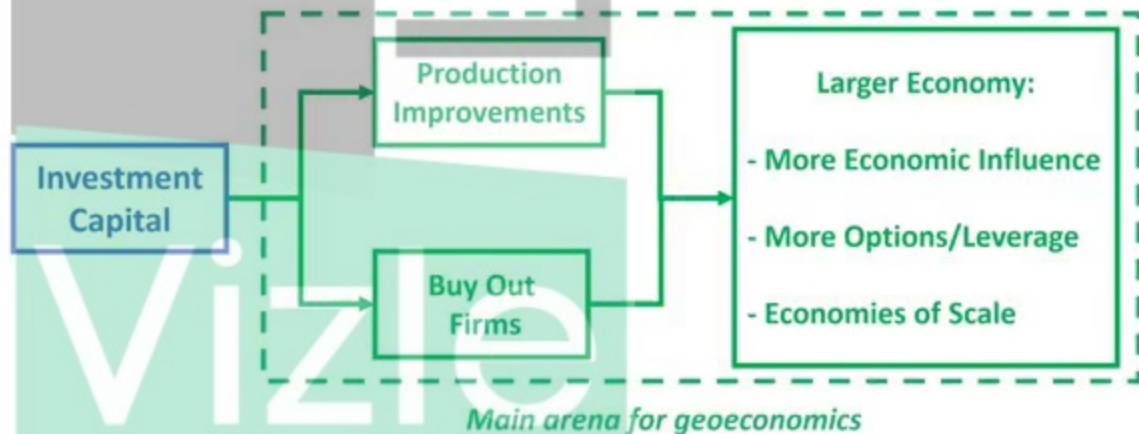
# **Geoeconomic Strategy: Elements**

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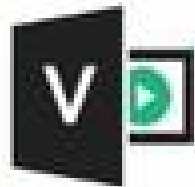


# Key element in Geoeconomics:

## (Investment) Capital



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