

Sino-US Great Power Conflict from a Realist Perspective

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Theoretical Framework

- Realism focuses on structural aspects in international system
- In anarchic system, states must tend to own security
- Hegemony is the ultimate goal for security
- Neoclassical realism recognizes internal politics may disrupt responses

The Rise of China and Global Concerns

- How can the US contest China's rise and avoid war?
- China has potential for East-Asian hegemony
- Would disrupt trade/existing alliance structure
- China empowered to upend financial structures
- Could empower Chinese economic imperialism

China's GDP growth rate

%, inflation-adjusted

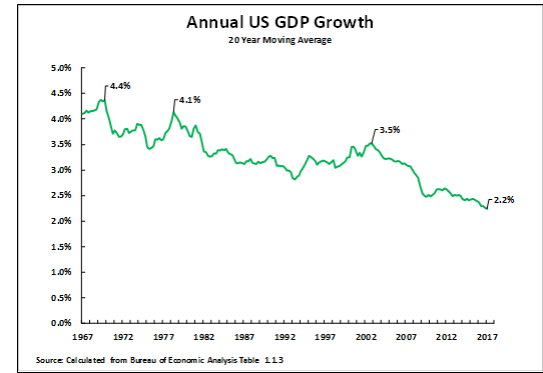


Source: National Bureau of Statistics of China



How Can the US Contest Chinese Hegemony?

- US can support local actors in containing China
- Cannot economically isolate, making containment harder
- Must support long-term American economy to compete
- Economic reform, investment, sense of national unity



Methodology

- Data on trade deficits, GDP growth, vulnerable supply chains
- Supply chains weak for critical security goods
- Infrastructure/education investments bolster long-term economic growth

Results

- Investing in domestic manufacturing eases supply chains
- Economic/educational investment increases long-term growth
- Values-based nationalism allows government to leverage economic/security assets