

Wreckonomics

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Résumé ou extrait : "In Wreckonomics, we examine the Cold War, the "war on terror", the "fight against illegal migration", and the "war on drugs and crime" through political systems analysis. We argue that these various "wars" and "fights" have frequently been damaging and even counterproductive - not least because they have been extensively "gamed" by those with varied purposes in mind. We also extend our framework to consider the costs of "laissez faire" and "lockdown" during Covid. We suggest that even as success has been loudly proclaimed and evidence has been marshaled to support this claim, it is very often precisely the belligerent response that is doing most to fuel the problem. We argue for a better appreciation of the true costs and benefits of these various wars and fights - and in particular of the way that costs have been unfairly and unevenly distributed. If the habit of fixation-and-gaming can be set aside, space can be created for the kind of dissent and political dialogue that helps to build alternative coalitions around a proper appreciation of costs." (éd.)

In Wreckonomics, Ruben Andersson and David Keen analyze why policies continue to live on when it has become apparent that they do not work. They show how the perverse outcomes we see in the fight against terror, migration, and drugs are part of the proliferation of pseudo-wars that have become a dangerous political habit and an endless source of profit. Covering a range of cases around the world, the authors expose and interrogate the incentive systems that allow destructive and failed policies to remain in effect. They also develop strategies to collectively dismantle the addiction to waging war on everything

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