

The pursuit of dominance

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Résumé ou extrait : "How do great countries stay that way ? The United States is the most powerful actor in the international system, but it is facing a set of challenges that might lead to its decline as this century unfolds. This book looks to the past for guidance, examining the grand strategy of previous superpowers to see how they maintained, or failed to maintain, their status. Over the course of six cases, from Ancient Rome to the British Empire, it seeks guidance from the past for present U.S. policymakers. How did previous empires, regional hegemons, or simply dominant powers forge grand strategy ? How did they define their interests, and then assemble the tools to address them ? What did they do right, and where did they err ? What - if anything - can current U.S. strategists learn from the experience of earlier superpowers ?". In The Pursuit of Dominance, Christopher J. Fettweis examines the grand strategy of previous superpowers to see how they maintained, or failed to maintain, their status. Over the course of six cases, from Ancient Rome to the British Empire, he seeks guidance from the past for present US policymakers. Fettweis is most interested in how these superpowers defined their interests, the grand strategies these regimes followed to maintain superiority over theirrivals, and how the practice of that strategy worked. A sweeping history of grand strategy, this book looks at the past 2,000 years to highlight

what—if anything—current US strategists can learn from the experience of earlier superpowers.

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