Strategic Synthesis & Power Creation


Search for a “Strategic Synthesis” (Alan Milward)

- States are usually unable to exploit maximum economic potential for military purposes

- Synthesis attempts to achieve balance between demands on economy and society and political-military ends.

- Political and social obstacles and resistance to power-creation:
  - how to staff military: volunteer force, conscription, or UMT
  - how to fund military: establishing taxation system
  - how to research & build arms: public v. private weapons development

External Determinants of Power

Technology

Geography → THREATS → STRATEGY → POWER CREATION

Politics

Internal Determinants of Power

Institutions

Ideology → SOCIETAL PRESSURES → POWER CREATION → STRATEGY

Interests

Strategic Synthesis

SOCIETAL PRESSURES → POWER CREATION ⇔ STRATEGY ⇔ THREATS
Dimensions of Power Creation

STATE

EXTRACTION
- Money
- People

DIRECTION
- Arms
- R&D
- Supporting Industries

Supporting Industries