

# HOW TO READ HISTORICAL NARRATIVES/CASE STUDIES

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Introduction to Comparative Politics

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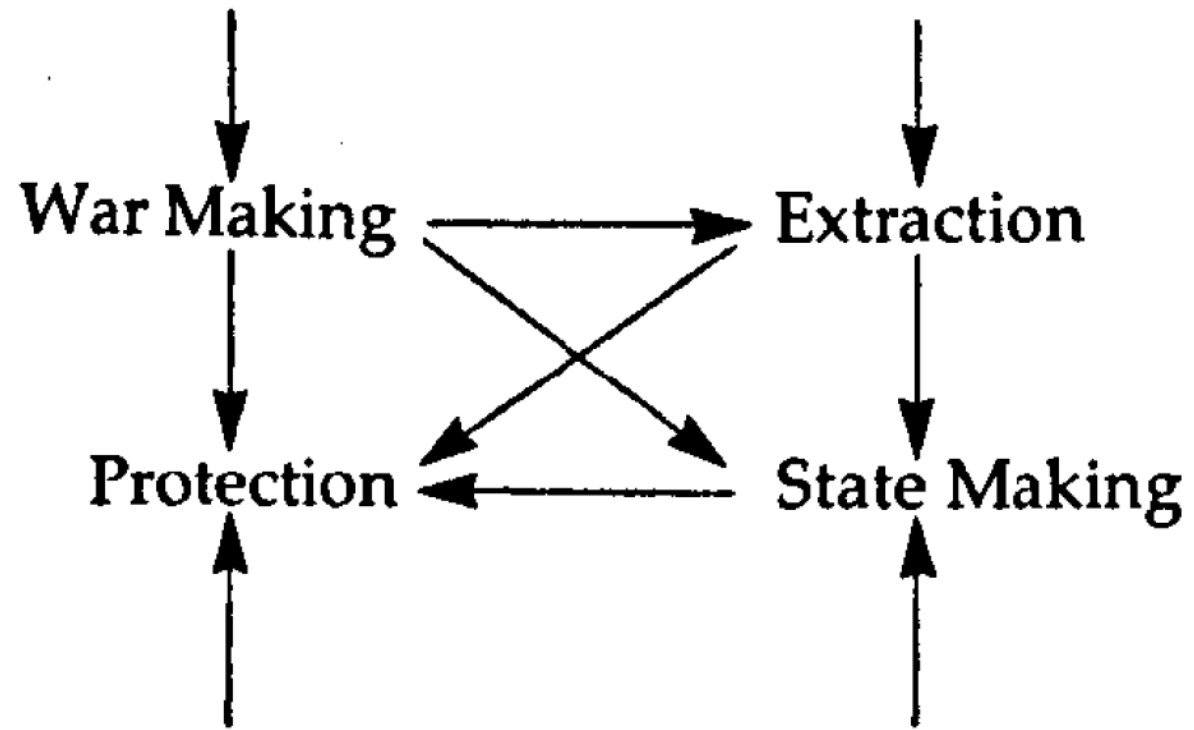
# ELEMENTS OF HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Hypothesis

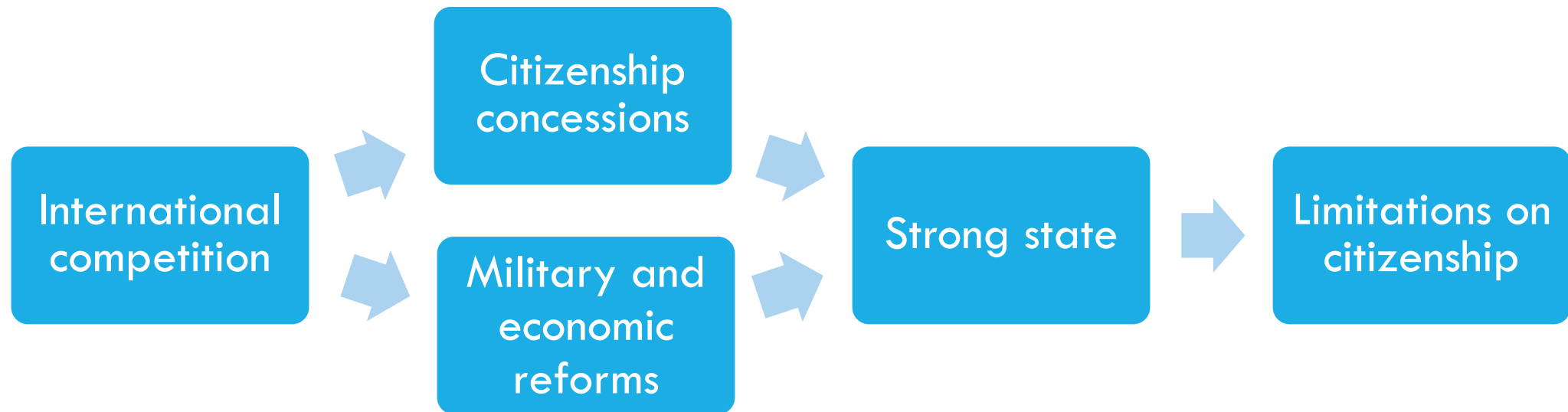
Causal diagram

Events/Evidence

# CAUSAL DIAGRAM



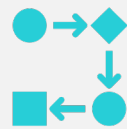
In ancient China and early modern Europe, interstate competition led to bureaucratic complexity. Chinese leaders were, however, able to use bureaucracy to “achieve total domination” while Europe settled into a multi-state system.



# EVALUATING EVIDENCE



Amount, consistency



Does it actually show each  
step of the causal  
process/argument?



Sources

Primary or secondary

How varied