

International Relations Field Exam
January 2024

Please answer three questions in total. Keep in mind that you will be evaluated not only on your knowledge of the relevant literature, but also on your ability to think independently and make a compelling argument.

Section I:

1. Discuss the following statement: “China’s nuclear buildup shows that the nuclear balance advances a state’s interests. In the near future, China should be able to revise the status quo in its favor.”
2. “Commitment problems are the most compelling explanation for interstate wars, and they are a major factor in the outbreak of the war in Ukraine.”

Section II:

1. Discuss the following statement: “Preferences for trade are related to individual material circumstances.”
2. Discuss the following statement: “IMF conditionality is harsh and unnecessary.”