**Burnell, Randall & Rakner: Politics in the Developing World 4e**

**Study questions**

**Chapter 5**

1. What could the United Nations do more, or do more effectively, to contribute constructively to political self-determination in the developing world?
2. How might the major international organizations be organized differently so as to be more representative of, and more responsive to, developing countries? Could the developing world make that happen?
3. Do developing countries have more to gain from the presence of a hegemonic power like the United States than from a highly fragmented world system of state and non-state actors?
4. What prevents developing countries organizing collectively in international bodies like the World Trade Organizations from achieving their objectives more often and more effectively than hitherto?
5. In the post-cold war era, is the United Nations becoming a more, or less, important international political player?
6. In the light of recent summits, can the World Trade Organization provide a forum for the advance of developing countries' interests?
7. How far does Huntington's idea of a 'clash of civilizations' help us to understand political relations between the developing and developed worlds?
8. Are relations with other developing countries in the same region now more important for most developing countries than their relations with the former colonial powers?
9. Why should developing countries comply with United Nations Security Council resolutions when they have minimal apparent influence over that organization?
10. Should the United Nations have the authority to require all countries that are not already democracies to make progress towards democracy?
11. Is the current entitlement of the United Nations to intervene coercively in the internal affairs of countries to protect human rights and defend regional security adequate?
12. What are the major structural changes that have affected the position of developing countries within the international system?
13. Are there signs that the idea of democracy and human rights are also taking roots in Chinese society?
14. Are China’s foreign policy principles contradicting UN human rights principles?
15. If China and the United States engage in increasingly intense security competition with the potential for war, which developing countries/regions will be likely arenas for proxy wars?
16. What will be positive effects for developing countries of the growing power of BRICS in international politics?
17. Who appears most likely to mobilize a return to bi-polarity at present?
18. How is China’s involvement in Africa qualitatively different from that of the West, and how may this affect the Western world’s relations with Africa?
19. In which areas do political interests of developed and the developing countries diverge?
20. Did Obama’s presidency constitute a real change from the Bush era in terms of foreign policy, or merely a continuation, and what might change under Donald Trump?