

US dominance fails. So what?

Strategy Note 317 said that the current United States dominance of the worldwide capitalist system of exchange fails. What does that mean?

It means two big things, each with its own implications for our lives and work:

- US dominance of exchange fails.
- Exchange fails.

This Strategy Note considers the first of those two meanings.

US dominance faces serious challenge in commodities, telecommunications, and software. In manufacturing, China now dominates.

Within an exchange economy, when a superpower weakens, smaller (usually locally dominant) powers compete to replace it. Such competitions can include war.

Because US businesses cannot continue to reap superprofits abroad as easily as they used to, the wealthiest people seek new ways to gain superprofits:

- Greater degrees of exploitation at home.
- Attacking unions.
- Direct control of the government (instead of the previous indirect control) to seek faster implementation of their desires.
- Cutting investment in most humans (education, health, environment, etc.).
- Military spending and war.

As their game nears its end, desperation and short-term thinking prevail among the superwealthy. Only short-term thinkers would seize control of the declining United States government. Or expand use of fossil fuels. Or cut investment in education, health, and environment.



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