

Structural Shifts in the US-Led International Order and Their Implications for Economic Cycles, Policy Responses, and Market Dynamics

The ongoing conflict between the United States and Israel, while appearing to grant short-term military advantages, does not guarantee a definitive long-term victory for the United States, especially when viewed through economic and geopolitical lenses. The complex interplay of nuclear issues and the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz has exposed internal instability and leadership challenges within the United States. Negotiations between Iran and the United States have repeatedly failed, with divergent demands making peaceful resolution difficult. The unilateral withdrawal of the United States from the 2015 nuclear agreement and its excessive demands have severely damaged trust with Iran. Meanwhile, Iran continues its nuclear development and military resistance, with the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz delivering direct shocks to the global economy.

This instability in international relations signals a shift from a unipolar world order led by the United States toward a multipolar system. Countries such as China, Russia, and North Korea are capitalizing on American disarray to expand their influence, while political unrest and diplomatic confusion within the United States undermine trust even among its allies. The Korean Peninsula is significantly affected by these global power shifts, prompting South Korea to recognize the urgent need to redefine its defense posture and diplomatic strategies. Reevaluating reliance on alliances and strengthening independent defense capabilities alongside diplomatic balance has become imperative.

The nuclear negotiations between the United States and Iran, coupled with the Strait of Hormuz blockade, have profound implications for the global economy. Rising energy prices and logistical disruptions contribute to a slowdown in global economic growth, compelling nations to adjust their economic and security policies in response to heightened uncertainty. The political instability and inconsistent policies of the United States erode international confidence, amplifying calls for the restoration of multilateralism and an international order grounded in law. China is exploiting these vulnerabilities to bolster regional dominance and expand its global influence.

Predicting economic trajectories amid such complex international tensions is challenging. Experts offer

varied interpretations of the current economic environment and future outlooks. From the perspective of economic cycles, attention is focused on fluctuations and structural transformations.

Macroeconomic viewpoints emphasize the effects of policy and overall economic balance. Market liberalism stresses the importance of government intervention levels and the restoration of market autonomy. These diverse perspectives are essential for comprehending economic complexity and formulating appropriate response strategies.

Expert	Core Perspective	Keywords	Interpretation Point
Ray Dalio	The economy is in a structural transition, with overlapping business cycles and debt adjustments creating a complex phase	Economic cycles, debt adjustment, structural change	The global economy faces heightened uncertainty due to the convergence of traditional business cycles and financial debt corrections, indicating ongoing long-term structural shifts that short-term stimulus cannot resolve.
Paul Krugman	Policy uncertainty and political turmoil hinder economic recovery, emphasizing the need for coordinated fiscal and monetary policies	Policy uncertainty, fiscal and monetary policy, economic recovery	Consistent policies and political stability are essential for economic recovery; current turmoil suppresses investment and consumer confidence, impeding growth.
Milton Friedman	Market autonomy and deregulation are key to restoring economic vitality; government intervention should be	Market freedom, deregulation, economic vitality	Excessive government intervention and regulation hinder economic growth; restoring the market's

	minimized		self-regulating mechanisms is crucial for long-term stability and expansion.
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These expert perspectives collectively highlight the multifaceted nature of the current economic environment. Ray Dalio's analysis underscores the complexity of overlapping debt cycles and structural changes, suggesting that temporary fiscal measures alone are insufficient. Paul Krugman stresses the critical role of policy coherence and political stability in fostering economic recovery, noting that uncertainty dampens economic activity. Milton Friedman advocates for reducing government interference to unleash market forces that drive growth. Together, these views emphasize the necessity of balanced policy approaches that integrate structural awareness, political stability, and market freedom to navigate the present economic challenges effectively.

Given these diverse interpretations, it is important to consider how one's own economic outlook and policy responses align with these perspectives and what adjustments may be necessary to address the evolving global economic landscape.

This topic reveals something that is easy to overlook if viewed only as information. The fundamental shift underway is not merely a geopolitical or economic event but a profound structural transformation in the global order, moving away from U.S.-centric dominance toward a more fragmented and multipolar system. For individual investors and the general public, this means that traditional assumptions about stability, alliance reliability, and economic predictability are increasingly unreliable. The implications extend beyond immediate market fluctuations to the need for adaptive strategies that account for geopolitical risk, supply chain vulnerabilities, and shifting power dynamics. Looking forward, resilience will depend on diversification, flexible policy frameworks, and a nuanced understanding of how international relations intersect with economic trends. This structural change demands a recalibration of expectations and preparedness for a more complex and less predictable global environment.

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