Politics and Strategy: Partisan Ambition and American Statecraft

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Author: Meena Bose
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In the twenty-first century, the numerous and diverse challenges—security, economic, political—that the United States faces in a highly interdependent international system point to the need for an overarching grand strategy to guide foreign policy making. But the obstacles to developing such a strategy can be daunting, both substantively, in identifying long-term interests and the resources to achieve them, and politically, in building support for a doctrine to reshape policy priorities and choices. Peter Trubowitz's ambitious undertaking to examine the development of grand strategy from the origins of the American Republic to the present significantly advances prospects for achieving such far-reaching goals.

To understand how grand strategies are created, this book identifies two contextual considerations that have consistently shaped their development over time: the risks in the international system, particularly the presence of a potential...

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