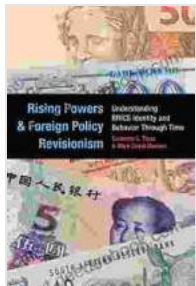


# Delving into the Identity and Behavior of BRICS: A Historical Perspective



## Rising Powers and Foreign Policy Revisionism: Understanding BRICS Identity and Behavior Through Time by Cameron G Thies

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Print length : 216 pages



In the rapidly evolving global landscape, the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) nations have emerged as a significant force, shaping international relations and influencing global economic dynamics. Understanding the identity and behavior of BRICS is crucial to deciphering their role in contemporary world affairs. This article delves into the historical evolution of BRICS, exploring the factors that have shaped their collective identity and behaviors.

### Historical Origins and Identity Formation

The concept of BRICS was first coined in 2001 by Jim O'Neill, then Chief Economist at Goldman Sachs. However, the roots of BRICS' identity can be traced back to the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) during the Cold War

era. NAM provided a platform for developing nations to assert their independence and forge alliances outside the polarized geopolitical blocs.

In the post-Cold War era, BRICS countries found themselves united by their shared experiences of colonization, economic underdevelopment, and a desire for greater voice in international governance. Their identity was further solidified through regular summits and institutionalized cooperation mechanisms.

### **Shared Economic Motivations**

Economic growth and development have been central to the identity and behavior of BRICS. These countries possess abundant natural resources, large populations, and growing economies. They have pursued economic cooperation through initiatives such as the New Development Bank (NDB) and the Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA), aiming to reduce dependence on Western institutions and promote South-South cooperation.

### **Geopolitical Dynamics and Foreign Policy**

BRICS' identity has also been shaped by geopolitical dynamics. The group has often been viewed as a counterweight to Western dominance, particularly in the context of international organizations such as the United Nations. BRICS countries have advocated for reforms in global governance, seeking a more equitable distribution of power and influence.

Their foreign policies have been characterized by a mix of pragmatism and assertiveness. They have engaged in strategic partnerships with both developed and developing countries, while also asserting their own interests in regional and global affairs. For instance, BRICS members have

played a significant role in resolving regional conflicts and promoting economic cooperation in their respective spheres of influence.

## **Domestic Developments and Societal Influences**

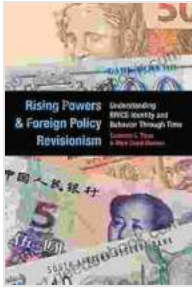
Domestic developments within BRICS countries have also influenced their collective identity and behavior. These nations are characterized by diverse political systems, economic models, and socio-cultural norms. Domestic challenges, such as poverty, inequality, and political instability, have shaped their priorities and influenced their engagement with the international community.

## **Challenges and Opportunities**

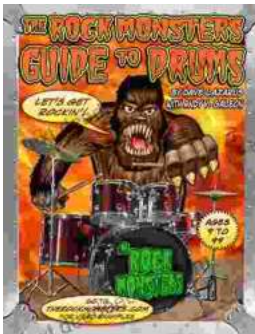
BRICS' identity and behavior continue to evolve amid a changing global order. The group faces challenges such as economic disparities among members, geopolitical tensions, and the rise of new powers. However, it also presents opportunities for cooperation and influence in addressing global issues such as climate change, sustainable development, and peacebuilding.

Understanding the identity and behavior of BRICS is essential for deciphering their role in contemporary global affairs. Their historical evolution has shaped their collective aspirations, economic motivations, geopolitical dynamics, and domestic influences. As BRICS continues to navigate the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century, it remains a force to be reckoned with in international relations.

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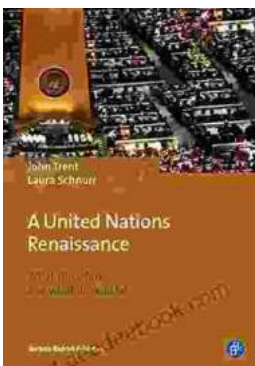


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