

**THE DEFINITIVE (?) IR PLAYLIST**  
**Introduction to International Relations**  
**University of Wisconsin – Madison, Spring 2025**

Mark Copelovitch

**Introduction**

- Waxahatchee, “Right Back To It”
- Tears for Fears, “Everybody Wants to Rule the World”
- The Cure, “A Fragile Thing”

**Tools and Concepts in IR**

- Thomas Dolby, “She Blinded Me With Science”
- Peter Gabriel, “Games Without Frontiers”

**Historical Overview, 1914-2014**

- Franz Ferdinand, “Take Me Out”
- Louis Armstrong and His Hot Five, “West End Blues”
- The Decemberists, “When the War Came”
- Billy Joel, “We Didn’t Start the Fire”
- Janelle Monáe, “Cold War”
- Jesus Jones, “Right Here, Right Now”

**IR Theories: Realist theories**

- SZA/The Weeknd/Travis Scott, “Power is Power”
- Panic! At the Disco, “I Write Sins Not Tragedies”
- Sex Pistols, “Anarchy in the U.K.”

**IR Theories: Liberal theories**

- Buffalo Springfield, “For What It’s Worth” (Stop, Hey, What’s That Sound)
- Billie Eilish, “Birds of a Feather”
- *Hamilton*, “Cabinet Battle #2”

**IR Theories: Social theories**

- John Lennon, “Imagine”
- Talking Heads, “Once in a Lifetime”
- Kendrick Lamar with SZA, “All the Stars” (from *Black Panther*)

**IR Theories: Gender and race**

- Billie Holiday, “Strange Fruit”
- Taylor Swift, “The Man”
- Childish Gambino, “This Is America”

### ***Midterm 1 review session***

- Amber Run, “No Answers”
- Chappell Roan, “Good Luck, Babe!”
- R.E.M., “Finest Worksong”

### **Introduction to International Security and Conflict**

- Etta James, “Security”
- The White Stripes, “Seven Nation Army”
- The Cranberries, “Zombie”

### **Causes of War I: General Theories & Material Conflicts**

- Edwin Starr, “War”
- Bob Dylan, “Masters of War”
- Rolling Stones, “Gimme Shelter”

### **Causes of War II: Ideological Conflicts & Civil Wars**

- The Civil Wars, “The One That Got Away”
- U2, “Sunday Bloody Sunday”
- *Casablanca*, “Medley” (Die Wacht Am Rhein/La Marseillaise)

### **Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction**

- My Chemical Romance, “Skylines and Turnstiles”
- Nena, “99 Luftballons”
- Sting, “Russians”

### **International Organizations I: Theories & the United Nations**

- Stevie Wonder, “Signed, Sealed, Delivered (I’m Yours)”  
(<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/music/news/ban-ki-moon-unveils-suns-worlds-happiest-playlist-with-stevie-wonder-anthem-10123694.html>)
- Fleetwood Mac, “Peacekeeper”
- R.E.M., “World Leader Pretend”

### **International Organizations II: The European Union**

- Europa Hymn (“Ode to Joy”) from Symphony No. 9, Ludwig van Beethoven
- U2, “With or Without You”
- The Clash, “Should I Stay or Should I Go?”

### **International Human Rights and International Law**

- Bob Marley and the Wailers, “Get Up, Stand Up”
- R.E.M., “Orange Crush”

- Midnight Oil, “Beds are Burning”

### **International Political Economy & International Trade I**

- Sinéad O’Connor, “Nothing Compares 2 U”
- Pet Shop Boys, “Opportunities (Lets Make Lots of Money)”
- Beyoncé/Rumi Carter, “Protector”

### **International Trade II: Trade Politics and International Institutions**

- Billy Joel, “Allentown”
- The Beatles, “Taxman”
- D.O.A., “Just Say No To The WTO”
- R.E.M., “Welcome to the Occupation”

### **International Monetary Relations**

- Wu Tang Clan, “C.R.E.A.M. (Cash Rules Everything Around Me)”
- ABBA, “Money, Money, Money”
- R.E.M., “Strange Currencies”

### **International Finance I: Financial Crises and the IMF**

- The National, “Bloodbuzz, Ohio”
- New Order, “Shellshock”
- Queen/David Bowie, “Under Pressure”

### **International Finance II: Foreign Direct Investment**

- Bachman-Turner Overdrive, “Takin’ Care of Business”
- Warren Zevon, “Lawyers, Guns, and Money”
- Tracy Chapman, “Give Me One Reason”

### **International Development I: Problems, Causes, Strategies**

- *Hamilton*, “Alexander Hamilton”
- Purple Disco Machine (featuring Julian Perretta), “Substitution”
- 2NE1, “I Am The Best”

### ***Guest lecture: Steven Kelly, Yale Center for Financial Stability***

- U2, “A Sort of Homecoming”
- The Wood Burning Savages, “Stability”
- The Clash, “Career Opportunities”

### **International Development II: Foreign Aid, Development Banks, and Remittances**

- David Bowie, “Heroes” (Live Aid ’85)  
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JFHC6t13hi0>)
- Queen, “Bohemian Rhapsody/Radio Ga Ga” (Live Aid ’85)

([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u8A\\_7jOOQil](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u8A_7jOOQil))

- Africa for Norway, “Radi-Aid” (<https://youtu.be/oJLqyuxm96k>)

### **Population/Migration, Environment, Conclusion**

- Lost Wax Process, “Quiet Radio” (<https://lostwaxprocess.bandcamp.com>)
- Lost Wax Process, “Where Was I?” (<https://lostwaxprocess.bandcamp.com>)
- R.E.M., “It’s The End of the World As We Know It (And I Feel Fine)”

### ***Final exam review session***

- Bill Conti, “Gonna Fly Now”
- Cake, “The Distance”
- Phoebe Bridgers, “I Know The End”