

## **Discussion Questions for Section I: Theories & States**

The best way you can prepare for class and, ultimately, the exams, is to take notes on each of the readings/videos and outline the answers to these questions. This approach will also help you prepare for the class discussion, which should help to boost your participation grade.

### **Melian Dialogue**

1. Who are the main actors and what are their self-interests? That is, what is important to them?
2. How does each player involved justify their position?
3. What decision do the Melians have to make?

### **Theories: Hobbes & Rousseau**

1. What does Hobbes think about what drives people to behave the way they do?
2. Why does Hobbes say that the only way people are free is if they create a government?
3. Where does Rousseau argue rights come from?
4. How does Rousseau view force and being the strongest person?

### **Kashmir**

1. Why did Kashmir become a disputed territory?
2. Who are the main actors and what is each party's position regarding its claims to Kashmir?
3. Explain why each actor wants to control Kashmir.
4. What role has the UN played?

### **United Nations**

1. Why would a country want a seat on the UNSC?
2. Why are some countries unhappy about the composition of the UNSC?
3. Which countries arguably should be considered for permanent membership to the UNSC? Is this likely to happen?

### **Outer Space**

1. What are the main sources of space junk?
2. Who is working to address this issue and what are they doing?
3. How does and why should the international community address this issue?

### **Mangroves**

1. What resources do the mangroves provide?
2. Why are the mangroves disappearing?
3. What strategies are being attempted, and by whom, to try to protect the mangroves?

### **Cheese**

1. What does Spain argue about Manchego cheese? What is Mexico's counter-argument?
2. How does name ownership issue affect the trade deal?
3. What is Greece's argument about feta cheese?