Six Rorschach Tests of The State of the Order

From

The State of the International Order

Brookings 2014
China has already overtaken the U.S. in carbon emissions...
...and will soon surpass the U.S. in oil imports—a dubious honor.
We have to think about India’s emissions too....
The past twenty years have seen a steady decline in the number and severity of wars...
...but the Middle East is now bucking this trend.
There’s been tremendous progress on poverty reduction (largely within the BRICs) and improved human development (globally)...
...But sustained progress could be eroded by rapid population growth.

Forecasts shown are derived from the medium variant
The rate of progress in democratic development has slowed...
Massive spread of citizen access to information portends new changes—whether liberating or complicating remains to be seen.

Source: World Bank's World Development Indicators
Rapid growth among the BRICs makes them a major fact of the international economy...
...but taken together, the U.S. and its allies are still far larger.

Source: World Bank's World Data Bank
Allies included in calculations are EU member states, Japan, and South Korea
Changing trade patterns show increasing trade integration in Asia...
...but that is not forestalling the rise of military spending and new tensions.