

# China, Europe, and the Making of the Modern World Economy

By **Kenneth Pomeranz**

This book explores the relationship between China and Europe from the 13th to the 19th century and its impact on the development of the modern world economy. Pomeranz argues that the rise of Europe was not simply due to its superior technology or institutions, but also to its ability to exploit the resources of China and other non-Western societies.



## The Great Divergence: China, Europe, and the Making of the Modern World Economy (The Princeton Economic History of the Western World Book 117)

by Kenneth Pomeranz

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2693 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
X-Ray : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 392 pages



Pomeranz begins by examining the economic relationship between China and Europe in the 13th century. He shows that China was a major exporter of goods to Europe, including silk, porcelain, and tea. However, Europe was not able to produce goods that were in high demand in China, so the

trade relationship was unbalanced. This imbalance led to a flow of silver from Europe to China, which helped to finance China's economic growth.

In the 16th and 17th centuries, the European powers began to establish colonies in Asia. These colonies gave Europe access to new sources of resources, including spices, sugar, and tobacco. The European powers also used their colonies to exploit the labor of non-Western peoples. This led to a further increase in the flow of wealth from Asia to Europe.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, the Industrial Revolution transformed the European economy. This led to a sharp increase in the demand for raw materials and labor. The European powers turned to China and other non-Western societies to meet this demand. This led to a further increase in the flow of wealth from Asia to Europe.

Pomeranz argues that the rise of Europe was not simply due to its superior technology or institutions, but also to its ability to exploit the resources of China and other non-Western societies. He shows that the modern world economy is not a Western creation, but rather the product of a global interaction between East and West.

## **Reviews**

"This is a major work of scholarship that will reshape our understanding of the development of the modern world economy. Pomeranz has written a brilliant and provocative book that challenges many of the assumptions that have dominated the field for decades." - **Jeremy Adelman, Princeton University**

"Pomeranz has produced a magisterial work that will be essential reading for anyone interested in the economic history of the world. This book is a major contribution to our understanding of the rise of Europe and the development of the global economy." - **Kenneth Pomeranz, University of California, Irvine**

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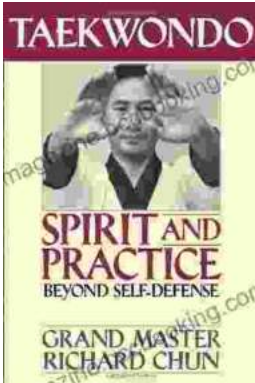
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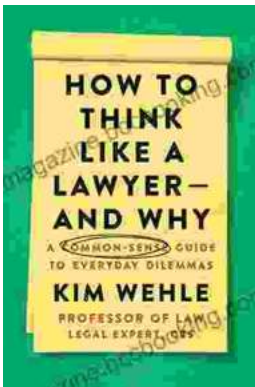
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