



between United Nations members. These disagreements tend to be on whose side to take in the Syrian Civil War because Russia is in support of the Al-Assad regime, while the United States is not. Nonetheless, both of these states are just maintaining their sovereignty by enacting their particular wills.

Furthermore, international law would be difficult to maintain since certain countries' particular wills are more aligned with a particular type of government or economic system. As evidence, the United States and other free-market capitalist democracies usually agree with one another on global views and on the methods by which an international problem should be taken care of. On the other hand, Russia and former communist/current communist societies with more restricted/state-run economic institutions tend to agree with each other on international affairs. The world today is roughly separated by two different political ideologies, but only treaties between like-minded states can be plausible. An international bond that Kant envisions can only serve an

cult c

**For Hegel, Kant's idea of perpetual peace is not realistic to the current state of affairs in the modern world<sup>5</sup> For example, Hegel would be in support of the United States going to war with Russia for the sake of pursuing the purpose of its particular will, just as Hegel would support Russia fighting for the advancement of its particular will. In order for a state to maintain its particular will, and thus its sovereignty, it must go to war for its own protection. Therefore, the mediating force in Hegel's thought is war and the mutual recognition of particular wills between states. These wars between states serve the purpose of maintaining the welfare of each state.<sup>6</sup> So, when the welfare of a state is threatened or attacked, it is at that point that war is necessary.**

**Therefore, from Hegel's understanding of international diplomacy and relations, and from the present disagreements seen on the international scale, it is unrealistic that international peace can be actualized as the Kantian theory of perpetual peace presupposes. The only universal bond that can be actualized between states is the shared laws of nature that predate states and law codes.**

---

**5 Hegel, 313**

**6 Ibid, 314**