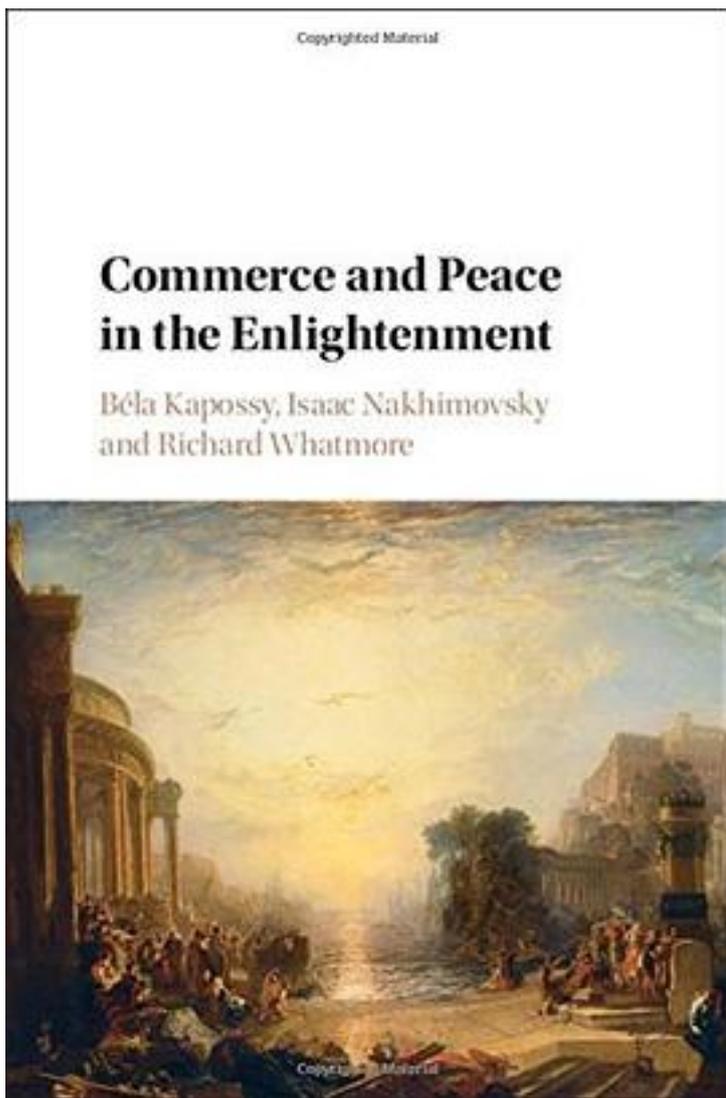


# Commerce and Peace in the Enlightenment



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For many Enlightenment thinkers, discerning the relationship between commerce and peace was the central issue of modern politics. The logic of commerce seemed to require European states and empires to learn how to behave in more peaceful, self-limiting ways. However, as the fate of nations came to depend on the flux of markets, it became difficult to see how their race for prosperity could ever be fully disentangled from their struggle for power. On the contrary, it became easy to see how this entanglement could produce catastrophic results. This volume showcases the variety and the depth of approaches to economic rivalry and the rise of public finance that characterized Enlightenment discussions of international politics. It presents a fundamental reassessment of these debates about 'perpetual peace' and their legacy in the history of political thought.

Proposes a new view of the history of attempts to make peace, and covers new ground in political thought, political economy and international relations

A range of countries and thinkers covered, giving readers different perspectives, histories and contexts on commerce and peace

Reveals the achievements of political thought in the eighteenth century, which will appeal to those interested in Enlightenment thinking and intellectual history in general

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1. Harrington's project: the balance on money, a republican constitution for Europe, and England's patronage of the world Mark Somos
  2. The enlightened prince and the future of Europe: Voltaire and Frederick the Great's anti-Machiavel of 1740 Isaac Nakhimovsky
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