

DAVID ARMITAGE is the Lloyd C. Blankfein Professor of History at Harvard University where he teaches intellectual history and international history. His many publications include *The Ideological Origins of the British Empire* (Cambridge University Press, 2000), *The Declaration of Independence: A Global History* (2007) and, as editor, *The British Atlantic World, 1500–1800* (2nd edn, 2009), *British Political Thought in History, Literature and Theory, 1500–1800* (Cambridge University Press, 2006), *Shakespeare and Early Modern Political Thought* (Cambridge University Press, 2009) and *The Age of Revolutions in Global Context, c. 1760–1840* (2010).

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Between the early seventeenth and mid nineteenth centuries, major European political thinkers first began to look outside their national borders and envisage a world of competitive, equal sovereign states inhabiting an international sphere that ultimately encompassed the whole globe. In this insightful and wide-ranging work, David Armitage – one of the world's leading historians of political thought – traces the genesis of this international turn in intellectual history. *Foundations of Modern International Thought* combines important methodological essays, which consider the genealogy of globalisation and the parallel histories of empires and oceans, with fresh considerations of leading figures such as Hobbes, Locke, Burke and Bentham in the history of international thought. The culmination of more than a decade's reflection and research on these issues, this book restores the often overlooked international dimensions to intellectual history and recovers the intellectual dimensions of international history.

'In this masterly set of essays David Armitage considers the significance of globalisation for the past history of the European state and the political thought it generated. He sets the agenda for the next phase of research and writing on the great subject.'

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'Wide-ranging, informed by a striking unity of purpose and consistently engaging, this book gently but firmly unsettles many of the myths – about founding fathers, watershed events and the gulf between the domestic and international spheres – that have long lain at the heart of international studies.'

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ARMITAGE Foundations of Modern International Thought

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Introduction: Rethinking the foundations
of modern international thought

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