



Thomas Mucha

Global Macroanalysis Advisor

Thomas is a member of the global Macroanalysis team with a research focus on the macro and market implications of geopolitical risk. He also focuses on internal and external communication, with an emphasis on connecting our macro insights to actionable investment ideas in client portfolios. In addition, he writes Wellington's Macroland blog and is a frequent speaker at Wellington client events and investment seminars worldwide.

Good reads: Geopolitical edition

Our global macroanalysis advisor offers his top 10 list of books on the forces shaping geopolitics and policy today, from the rise of China to the threat of climate change.

Destined for War: Can America and China Escape Thucydides's Trap?

By Graham Allison

When a dominant nation is challenged by a rising power, conflict often results. This book is the best that I've read about US-China challenges, and whether we could end up going to war.

The Tragedy of Great Power Politics

By John Mearsheimer

This book focuses on "offensive realism" and great nations' continual rivalry. It describes potential implications for the US, China, Russia, and the rest of the international system.

Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps That Explain Everything About the World

By Tim Marshall

This is a fun and very helpful read about how maps explain the world.

The Better Angels of Our Nature: Why Violence Has Declined

By Steven Pinker

A reminder of how and why we are living in the most peaceful time in human history, despite all the negativity.



The Price of Inequality: How Today’s Divided Society Endangers Our Future

By Joseph Stiglitz

A good overview of inequality, its causes and consequences, and what to do about it.

Wealth and Power: China’s Long March to the Twenty-first Century

By Orville Schell and John Delury

An excellent book illustrating China’s viewpoint on development by one of my favorite China analysts.



Putin’s Kleptocracy: Who Owns Russia?

By Karen Dawisha

This fascinating book explains how Putin built and maintains his power structure in Russia.

The Only Game in Town: Central Banks, Instability, and Avoiding the Next Collapse

By Mohamed El-Erian

A great read on institutional challenges facing the world — with a focus on the role of central banks.



Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind, and the sequel, Homo Deus: A Brief History of Tomorrow

By Yuval Noah Harari

Two must-reads for anyone who appreciates the really long view — mind-bending stuff.

Climate Change: What Everyone Needs to Know

By Joseph Romm

A valuable, easy-to-read book on the basics of climate science, extreme weather, and the projected impacts of this looming megatrend. ■





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