

Political Economy of Health

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Export Economy under British Colonialism

Case of Plantation Workers in Sri Lanka

For newly established Coffee and tea plantation in Sri Lanka, British brought Indian Labour, with them Cholera, smallpox and other communicable diseases also reached the country. Many epidemics through new settlements that threatened economic interests.

Interventions

1. Quarantine Camps in South India
2. Immigrant Hospitals along the road
3. Medical Wants of Immigrant labour (Ordinance No 17 of 1880)
4. Establishment of District Hospitals

Political economy of health refers to analysis and perspectives on health policy for the understanding of the conditions which shape population health and health service development within the wider macro economic and political context

The emphasis on the larger context has resulted in the recognition that analyzing specific changes to the health care system must be considered in light of broader social, economic and political factors

Some Examples:

- Economic growth and resources for health services
- Health improvement and economic growth (productivity, decreased health expenditure)
 - Health policies and who takes decisions
 - Role of the state and the government

In political economy, however, these ideas are not free floating. They need to be explained with reference to the material conditions and the various interests they sustain.

A political economy approach thus draws our attention to the values, beliefs and ideologies that have motivated health care reforms and to the question, more generally,

“Who Benefits?”

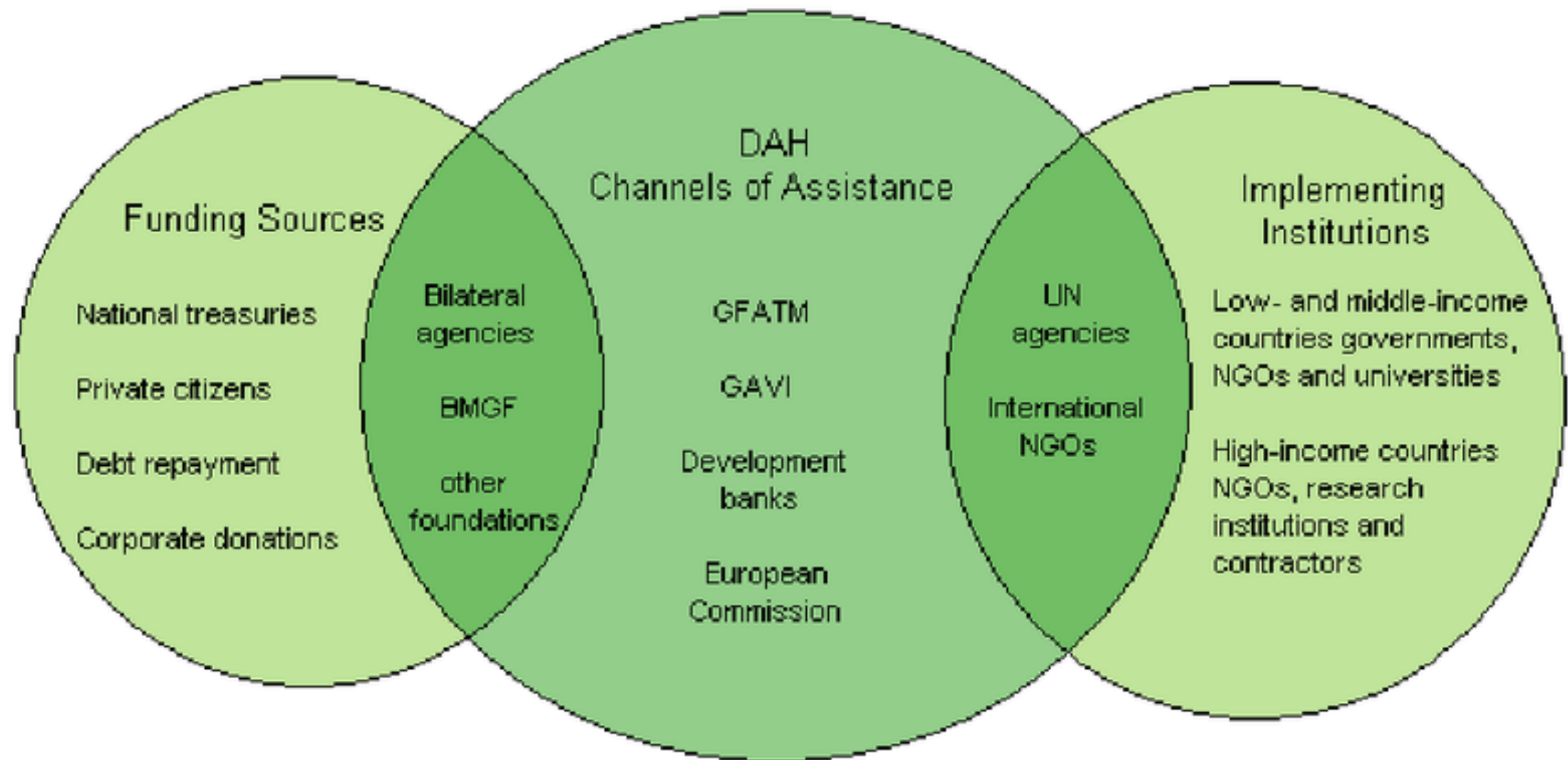


Medicine is a social science, and politics is nothing more than medicine on a grand scale.

~ Rudolf Virchow

Agenda setting in the era of Globalization

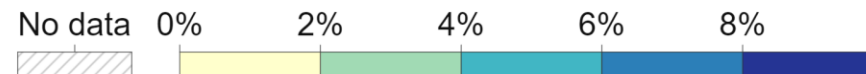
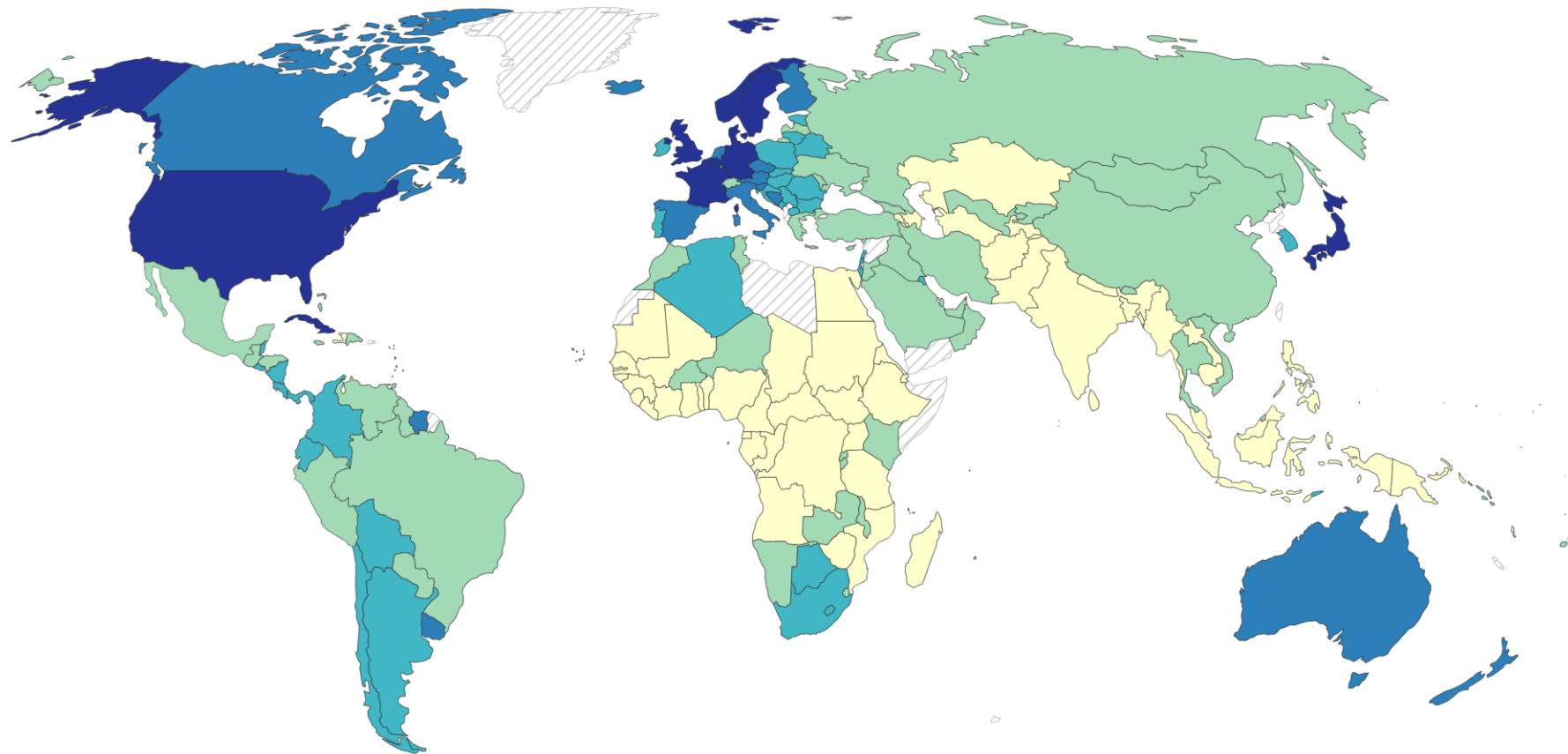
- Changing actors, process and contexts
- Non state actors in global health financing- BMG and others
- Global shift in Economy- Dominance of WTO, TNCs
- IFIs influence- Debt traps and reforms
- Weaking UN system
- De regulation
- Diminishing autonomy for states- Global influences across territorial boundaries



Source: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), Financing Global Health 2009, p.15.

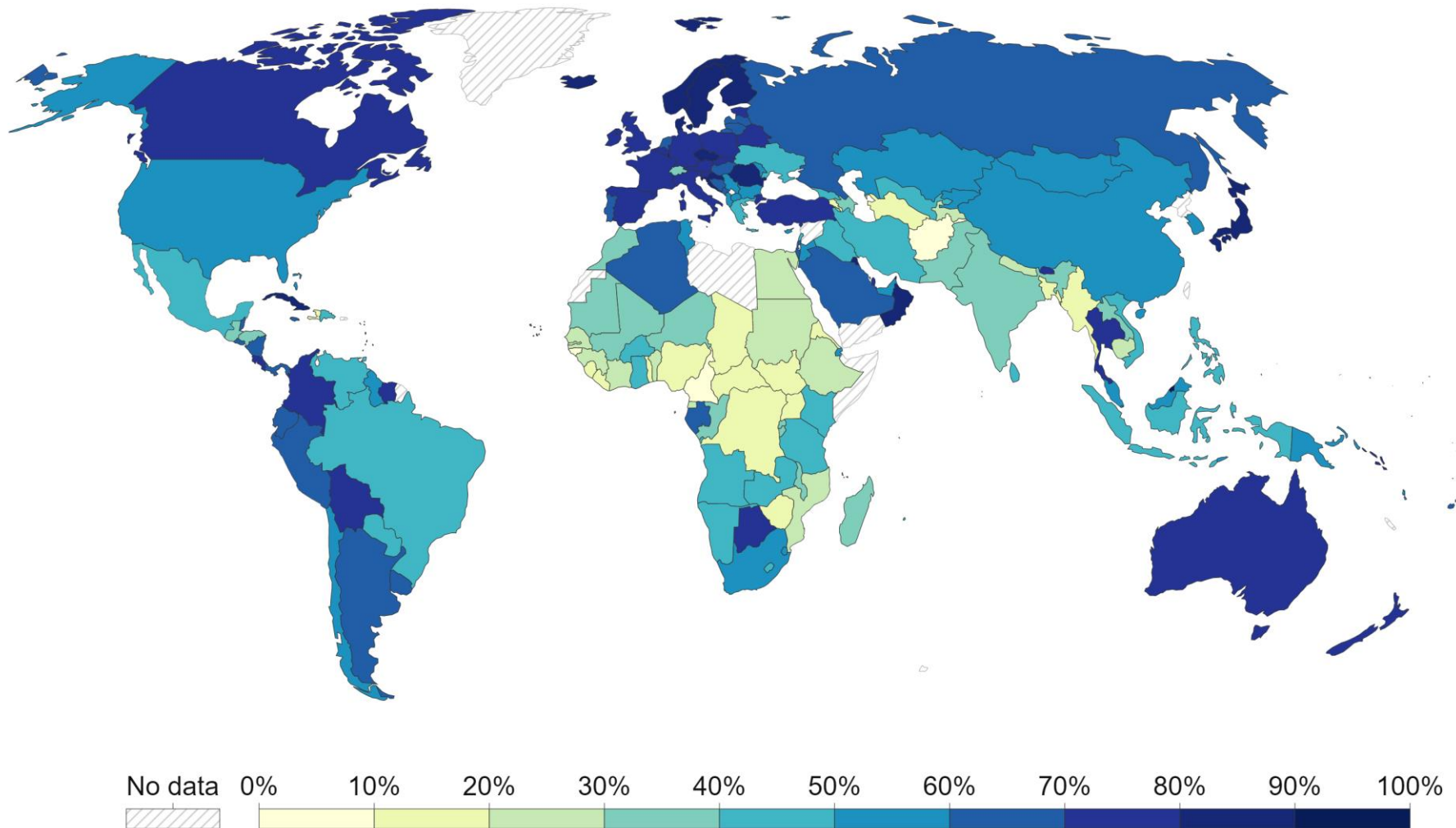
Public healthcare expenditure as a share of GDP, 2019

Domestic general government expenditure on health from domestic sources, expressed as a share of GDP.



Public expenditure on healthcare as percent of total healthcare expenditure, 2019

Share of current health expenditures funded from domestic public sources for health.



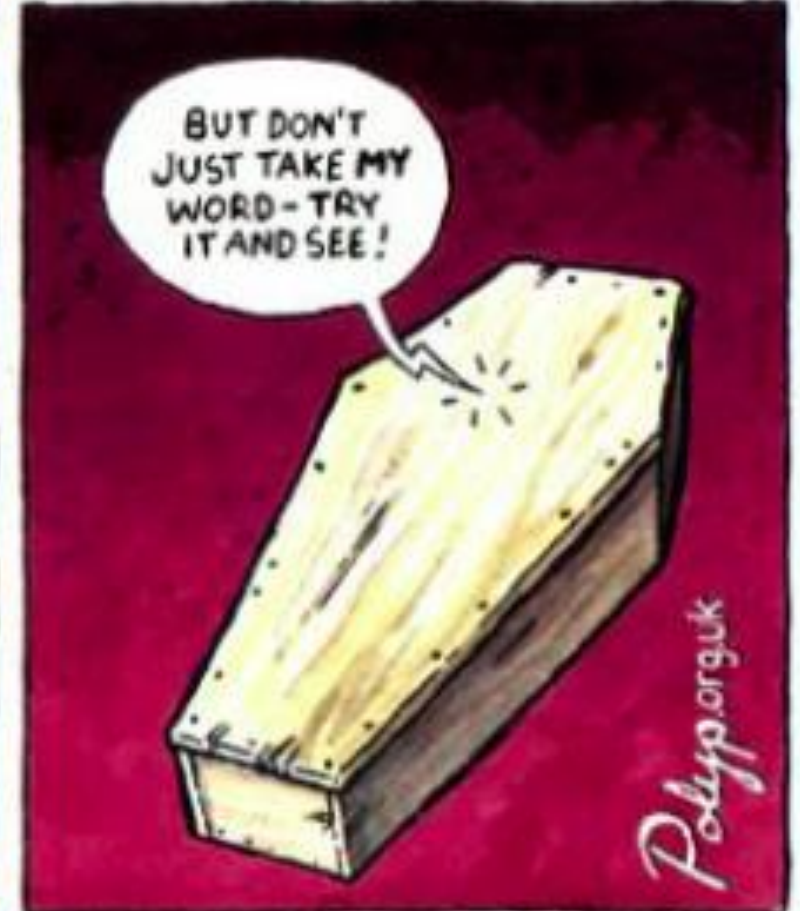
Source: World Health Organization (via World Bank)

Note: Public sources include internal transfers and grants, subsidies to voluntary health insurance, as well as compulsory prepayment and social health insurance contributions.

OurWorldInData.org/financing-healthcare/ • CC BY

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THE I.M.F. SLIMMING PLAN:



-SEE THE WEIGHT DROP OFF..!

'SIZE ZERO'

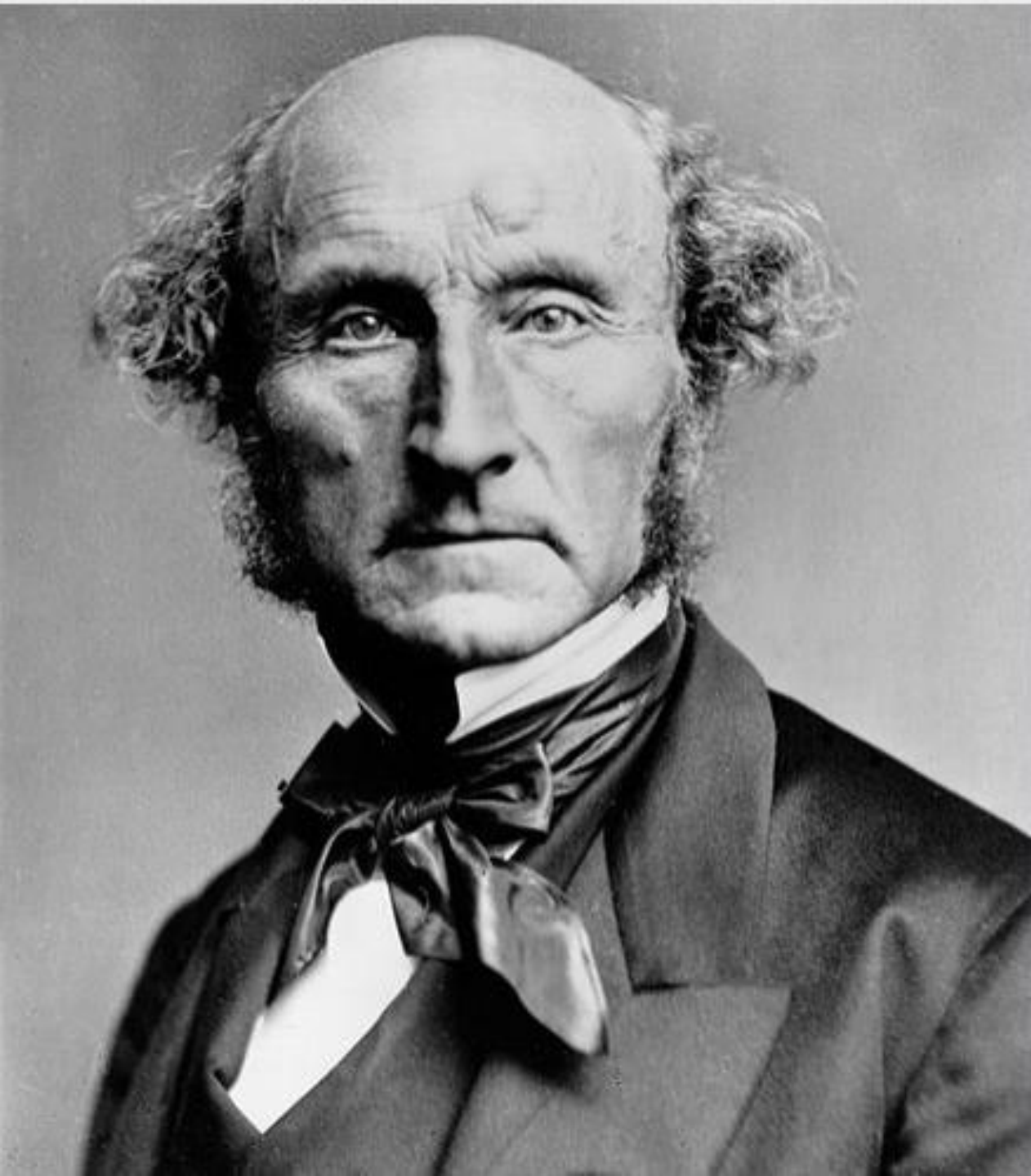






The demise of the nation state

The Guardian
Thu 5 Apr 2018



PRINCIPLES
OF
POLITICAL ECONOMY

WITH
SOME OF THEIR APPLICATIONS TO SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY.

BY
JOHN STUART MILL.

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