Paper Prompt #1: Crisis in Venezuela

Prompt:

In what ways do the recent interventions by the US, China and Russia in the Venezuela crisis echo imperialist interventions of the past? Why do you think the superpowers are interested in Venezuela? Which superpowers are defending capitalism and which socialism? Which is defending democracy in Venezuela?

Some possible sources:

How Venezuela spiraled downward into chaos
https://www.cnn.com/2019/01/24/americas/venezuela-crisis-maduro-guaido-explained

Venezuela crisis: Maduro given ultimatum by European leaders
https://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-47014322

'Pouring gas on fire': Russia slams Trump's stance in Venezuela
https://www.cnn.com/2019/01/24/americas/russia-turkey-china-support-nicolas-maduro-venezuela-intl/index.html

US asks world to 'pick a side' on Venezuela as UK calls for fair elections
https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/jan/26/european-leaders-ready-to-recognise-guaido-as-venezuelan-president

Directions:

Use concepts from the assigned readings and course lectures to respond to the prompt. We are not asking you to summarize the readings or answer all the questions above. We are not asking for your unsupported opinions. We are asking you to make your own coherent and well supported argument about the topic. Cite specific concepts, short quotes and examples from the assigned readings as evidence to support your own argument.

Your paper should be 1000-1200 words or about 3-4 pages. Please pay careful attention to spelling, grammar and punctuation. Remember that citations are required for both paraphrasing and direct quotes from either the text or lecture. Feel free to cite other books and articles as needed. Include a full list of works cited at the back (APA, MLA or other citation standard). Please submit your paper on the course website under "Paper Assignment 1" by 11:59 pm on **Tuesday Feb 12th**. If you have trouble submitting your paper online please email it directly to Anna at akamanzi@uci.edu.