

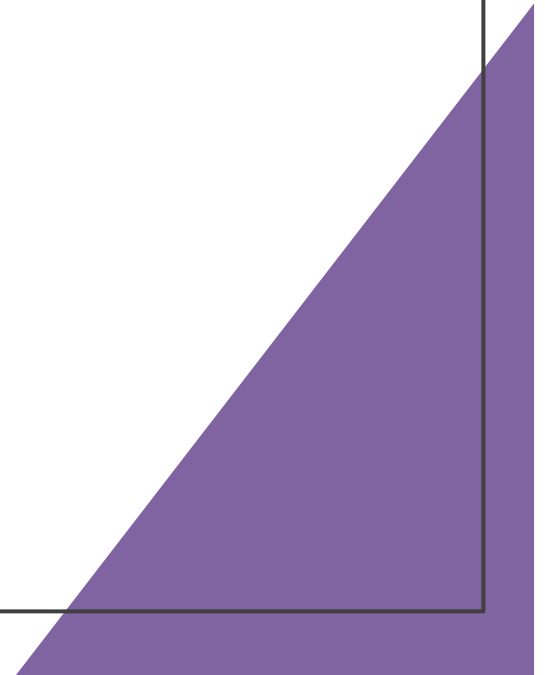
Understanding the Interregnum

- Challenges to the Existing World Order
 - W. Andy Knight
 - Canada–Caribbean Institute Symposium
 - UWI – St. Augustine



We Are Between Orders

- The post-1945 order is eroding
 - No clear successor has consolidated
 - We are in the Interregnum



Not a
Rupture
— A
Structural
Shift

- More than disruption
 - Systemic transformation of global order
 - Architecture under reconstruction

Cox's Three Pillars of World Order

Ideas | Material Capabilities | Institutions

Conceptual Visualization

Material Capabilities Shifting

- U.S. share of global GDP declining (~25% today vs 40% post-WWII)
 - China now ~18% of global GDP (PPP basis larger)
 - BRICS expansion signals alternative power blocs

Ideas Under Contestation

- Liberal multilateralism challenged
 - Rise of sovereignty-first politics
 - Competing governance models emerging

Institutions Under Strain

- UN Security Council paralysis (record veto usage)
 - WTO Appellate Body inactive since 2019
 - Debt distress affecting over 50 developing countries

Post- Hegemonic Possibility

Networked / Post-Hegemonic Order

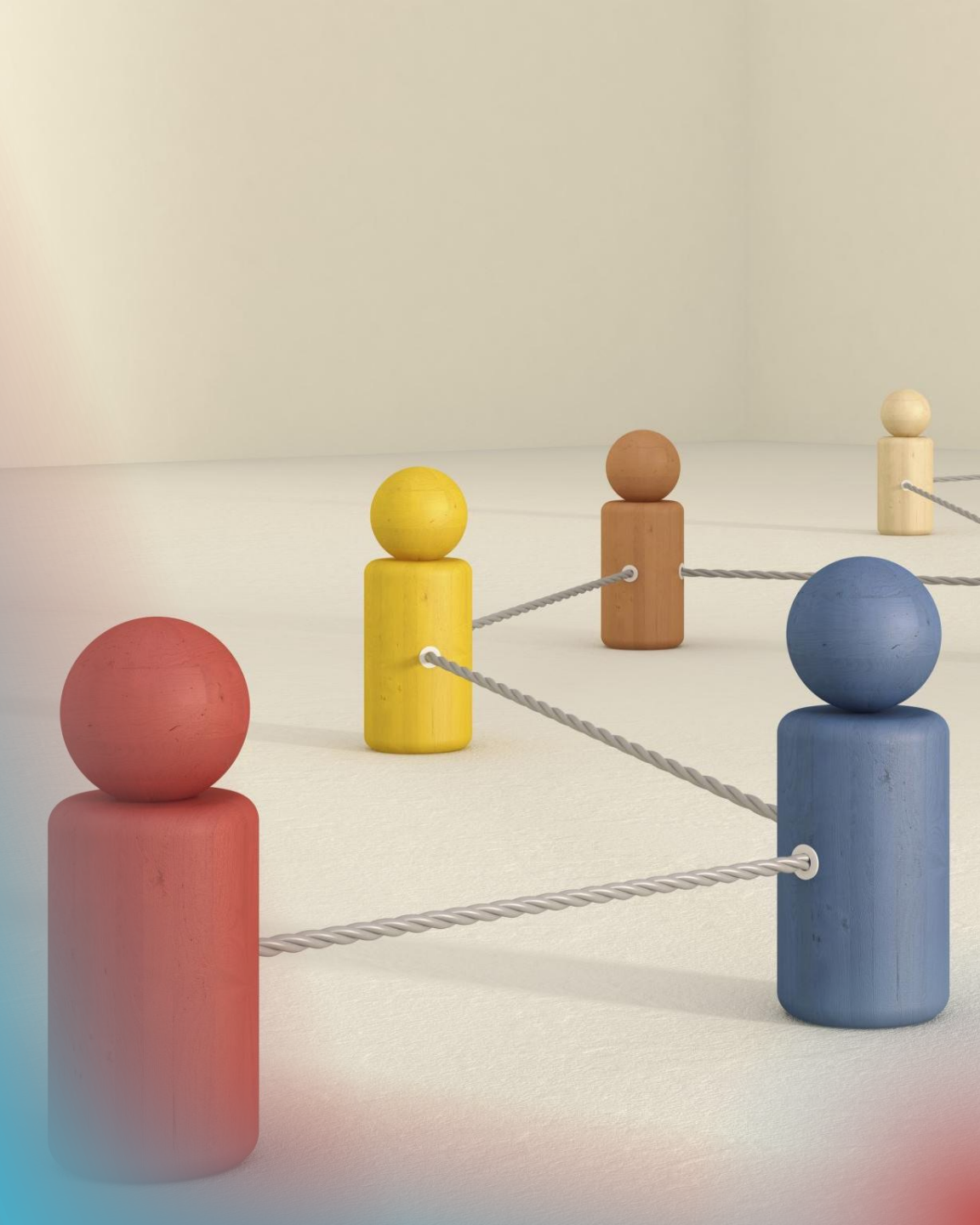
Conceptual Visualization

Why This Matters for the Caribbean

- Caribbean contributes <1% of global emissions
 - Region among most climate-vulnerable globally
 - High debt-to-GDP ratios in several states (>80%)
 - Strategic courtship by major powers

Strategic Options

- Bandwagoning
 - Passive Non-Alignment
 - Active Non-Alignment (Jorge Heine)



Active Non-Alignment Means

- Engage multiple poles
 - Preserve policy autonomy
 - Diversify partnerships
 - Avoid strategic entrapment

Punching Above One's Weight

- Norm entrepreneurship in climate diplomacy
 - Bridgetown Initiative leadership
 - Regional moral authority



Redefining Security

Climate, Debt & Security Interlinkages

Conceptual Visualization



The Strategic Imperative

- Practice Active Non-Alignment
 - Strengthen Regional Unity
 - Shape — Don't Await — the New Order
 - Construct a Just & Sustainable Future