



Changing geopolitical landscape and the implications for democracy

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The concept of democracy

- The Greek tragic root
- Renaissance and the birth of liberalism
 - Domestic liberalism: liberal democracy
 - International liberalism:-
 - The principles of Westphalia 1648



The concept of authoritarianism

- Dictatorship
- Totalitarianism



The concept of illiberal democracy

- Competitive authoritarianism
- Democratic autocracy



Changing geopolitical landscape and the rise of illiberal democracy





Globalization



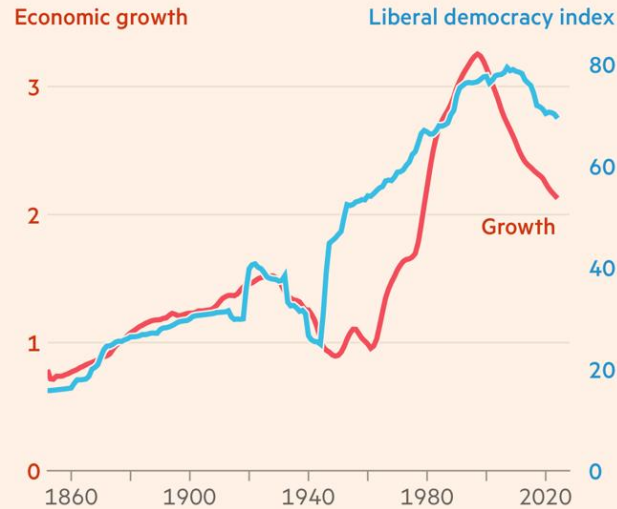
**Ageing
societies**



**Declining
economic
growth**

Liberal democracy grew alongside economic growth, and is eroding as growth weakens

Average annual GDP per capita growth (%) vs V-Dem index of liberal democracy* (0-100) in high-income countries

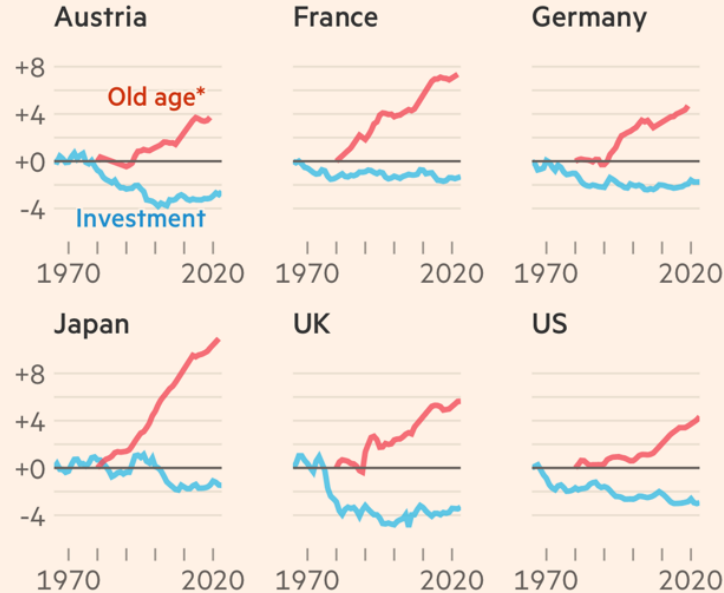


*Measure of the extent of voting rights, freedom and fairness of elections, freedoms of association and expression, civil liberties, and executive constraints

Sources: Maddison Project Database; OECD; V-Dem
FT graphic: John Burn-Murdoch / @burnmurdoch
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Government spending on older people has risen; public investment is down

Change in government spending, by category (%-pts of GDP)



*Old age spending includes pensions / social security as well as health spending on people aged 65+

Source: FT analysis of OECD, European Commission, United Nations

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Technology and social media

- The end of enlightenment
- AI and the existential threat of Homo Sapiens



Trumpism and the corollary

- The end of the west
- Changing new world order:-
 - From ruled-base to the Hobbesian law of the jungle.
 - DonRoe doctrine and the spheres of influence
 - Trump tariffs
 - Four horsemen of the Apocalypse
 - Populism
 - Protectionism
 - Nativism
 - Isolationism



Regional conflicts and conflagration

- Middle East
- Ukraine- Russia war of attrition
- Indo-Pacific



Post American World

- The end of Pax Americana
- The Axis of adversaries: CRINK



The changing geopolitical landscape and the implications for Thailand



Economic dimension

- Trade and investment diversification
- FTA expansion



Political dimension

- BRICS
- Global South realignment
- ASEAN Reorientation



Implications for Thai democracy

