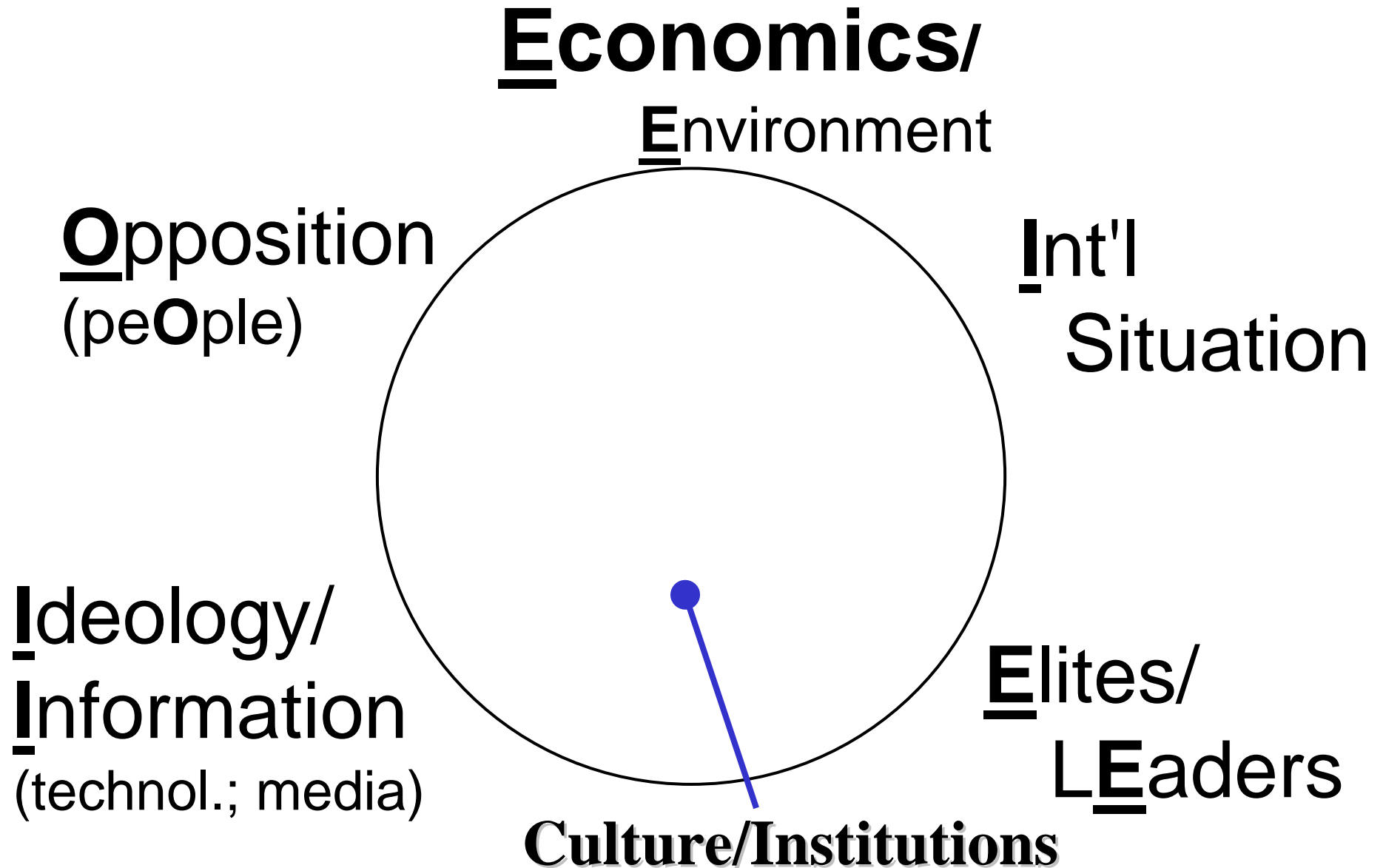


Model of Causes



The Uses of Theory

Béla Balázs (Hungarian film critic), 1925:

Theory is not "gray."

It is ... a roadmap that shows new ways of doing old things, and new places to go. ...

Theory breaks the ruts of coincidence and gives us the courage to undertake voyages of discovery. ...

Theory does not have to be true to inspire great works--most great discoveries were based on false hypotheses!

Causes in History

- **Question:** What factors played a role in *causing* the French Revolution?
In general, what things play a role in allowing and making historical events happen?
- **Answer:**
6 broad categories, interconnected:
 - **Economic** factors (Marxism: these underlie all others)
 - **International** factors (diplomacy, intervention)
 - **Elites** (behavior of groups w/ special access to power)
 - **Ideology/Information/Media**: perception of the world (Knowledge: technology, strategic innovations, ...)
 - "**O**pposition": pe**O**ple, human agents
 - **Culture, Institutions**: Govern how the above 5 interact

Recap: Causes of French Revolution

- **On overlay—textbook pp. 634f, 642f**
 1. Economic: bad harvests, taxes
 2. International
 - Wars bankrupted (econ.); radicalized (fear)
 3. Elites (not siding w/ king), Leaders (who?)
 4. Ideological (Enlightenment, natural rights)
 - St. D. (p.654): rather African land use patterns
 5. “Masses”
 6. Institutions (Estates general, monarchy)

Haitian Revolution: Causes

- Carolyn Fick, “French Rev. in St. Domingue” (1997):
“It can be argued therefore that the abolition of slavery in Saint Domingue resulted from a combination of mutually reinforcing factors that fell into place at a particular historical juncture. No single factor or even combination of factors—including the beginning of the French Revolution with its **catalytic ideology** of equality and liberty, the colonial revolt of the **planters and the free coloreds**, the context of **imperial warfare**, and the obtrusive **role of a revolutionary abolitionist** as civil commissioner—warranted the termination of slavery in Saint Domingue in the absence of independent, **militarily organized slave rebellion . . .**”
- [Which single factor does Fick consider to be the *sine qua non* (one without which nothing would have happened)?]

Model of Causes in History

(EIEIO)

Economics/Environment

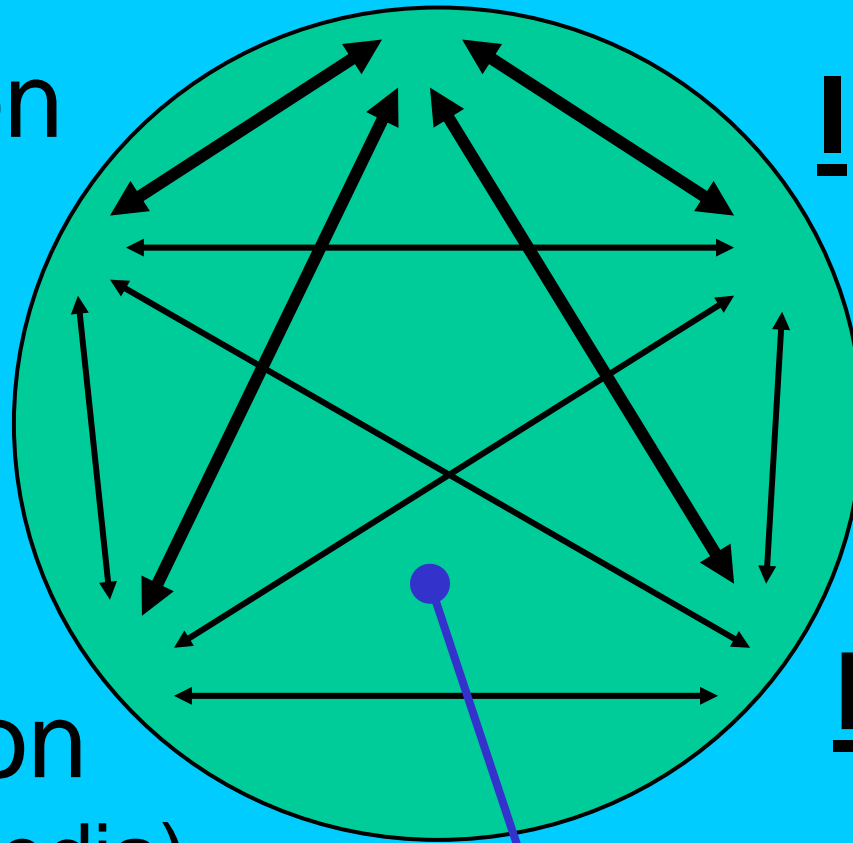
**Opposition
(peOple)**

**Int'l
Situation**

**Ideology/
Information
(technol.; media)**

**Elites/
LEaders**

Culture/Institutions

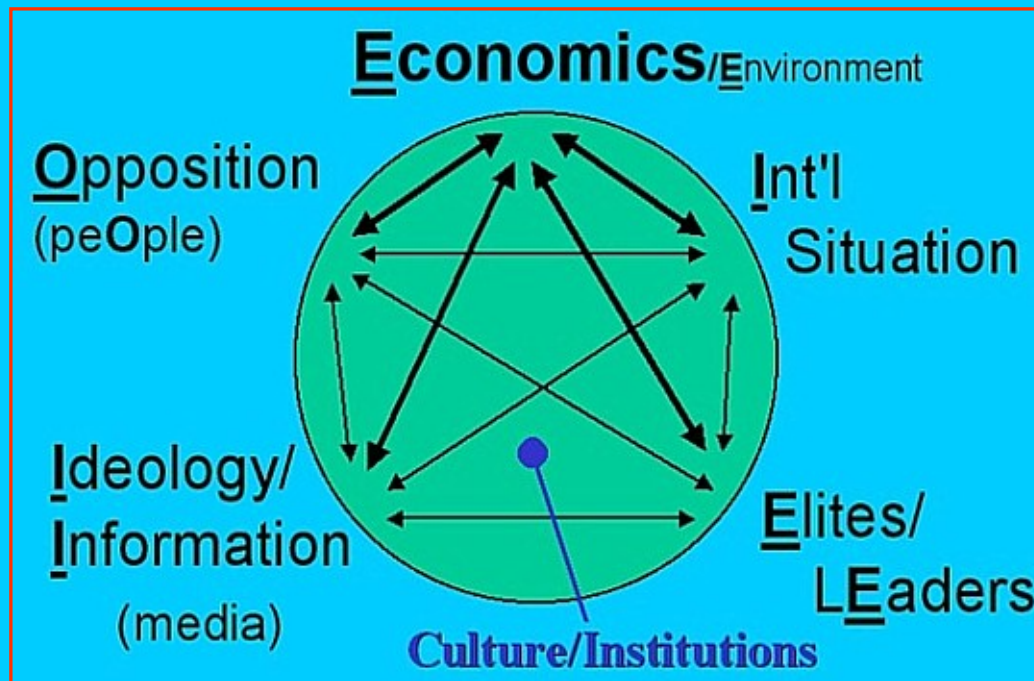


Ind. Rev.: Confluence of factors

**Demographic revolution
(climate, resources)**

coal, iron,
money/capital

more people:
**urbaniza-
-tion**
(innovators)



**trade
colonies
*slavery***

**New mindset:
here & now
(rights vs. racism)
inventions**

**infrastructure:
transportation, *finance*,
land & tax laws**

**innovators
bankers
planters**

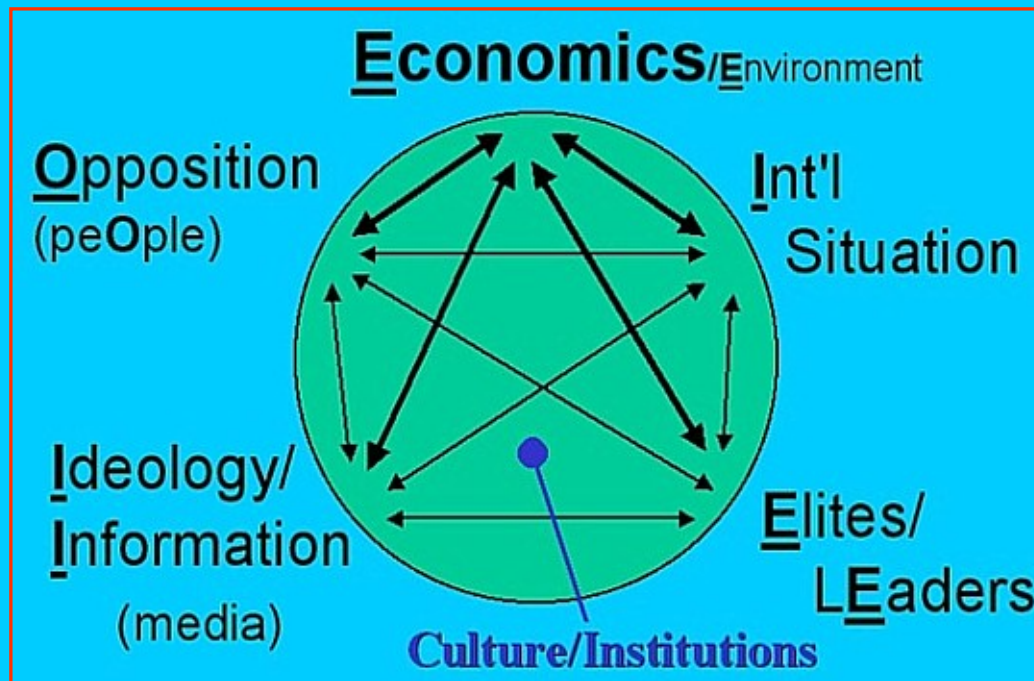
- *[Note: italics indicate economic factors]*

Latin American Independence

**Mercantilist
restrictions**

**Growth without
development**

**Free men
follow
charismatic
leaders or...**



**Napoleon
takes over
Spain**

Enlightenment

representative gov't

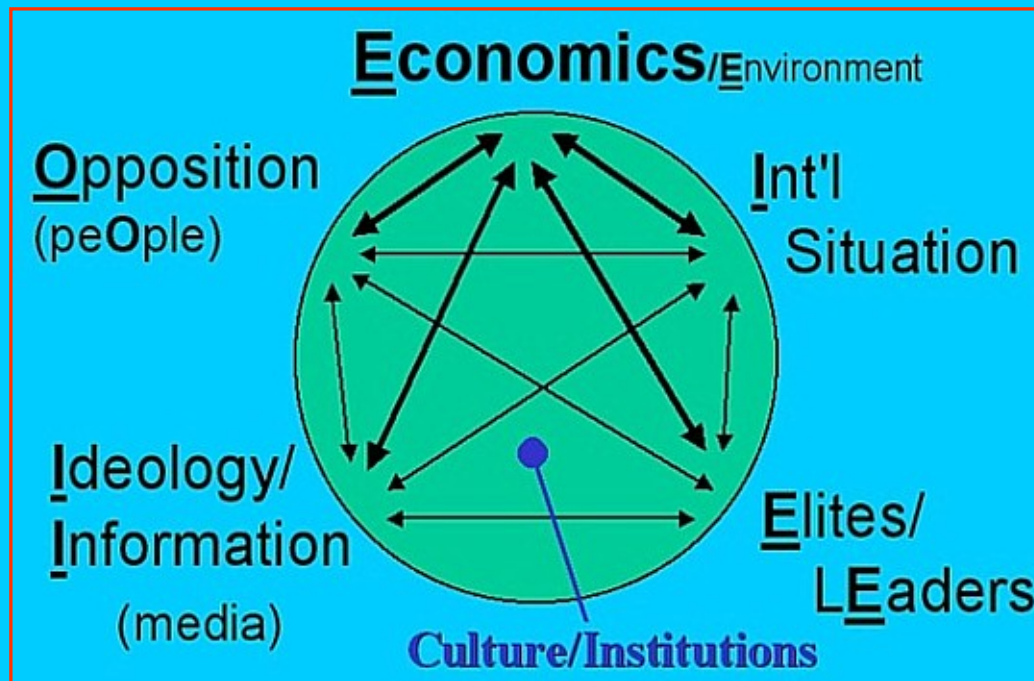
**Bolivar,
San Martin,
creoles,
caudillos**

Abolition of Slavery

shift agriculture ->
manufacturing

declining
profitability

slave
uprisings,
day-to-day
resistance



British
policing;
military
alliances

Clarkson,
Granville,
Equiano,
l'Ouverture

Bible,
Enlightenment;
belief in econ.
inefficiency

representative gov't