

Foreign policy

Foreign policy, after all, is not cartography.

**It's orienteering – racing madly through
dangerous, unknown territory.**

**And theorists aren't mapmakers, they're
coaches; their job is to help players race better.**

**Maps provide crucial information,
but the players have to use them out in the field,
trying to move as fast as possible
relative to others without getting hurt.**

**Offered two bad maps,
smart players wouldn't pick one or toss both.
They'd take both along and put them to use.**

**Policymakers should do the same, carrying
both realist and liberal maps of the world
with them as they go,
filtering and combining them as possible.**

**Gideon Rose,
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