

WHY STATES EXIST, ARE IMPORTANT, AND WILL BE LONG-LASTING?

States exist to deliver to their populations political goods, which include broadly and narrowly defined security, education, health services, economic opportunity, environmental surveillance, a legal framework of order and a judicial system to administer it, sources of identity, fundamental infrastructure, and the basis for political action. (From Paul and Rotberg)

There is no other institution currently available to provide those political goods to the diverse populations of the world.

There is no other institution likely to come into existence in the foreseeable future to provide those goods.

Why do stateless nations seek to become states?