The Journey of Humanity
The Origins of Wealth and Inequality
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May 10, 2022
A Book’s Trilemma

**Breadth:**
300,000 years of human history

**Depth:**
Insights from decades of frontier research

**Readability:**
Concise argument, 250 pages
Deep Roots of Comparative Development: A Unifying Thread

- **Capital** and **Labor**: proximate factors, investment, population
- **Technology**: combination of factors, production function, Solow
- **Human Capital**: endogenous growth theory, increasing returns
- **Institutions**: extractive, inclusive, colonialism, North, AJR
- **Culture**: trust, long-term orientation, loss aversion, Weber, Putnam
- **Geographic** determinants: natural endowments, E&S, Diamond
- **Neolithic** Revolution: agricultural revolution and early prosperity, risk
- Human and population **diversity**: hump-shaped effect, serial founder
Interplay with Key Topics for the Latin American and Caribbean Region

• **Income Inequality**: between and especially *within* countries.

• **Conflict**: some interstate wars, but mostly crime and violence.

• **Population** and fertility transition: family planning, forced sterilizations, migration and aging.

• Population **diversity** in the *least* diverse region of the world: distance from Africa and migration waves (Argentina vs. Bolivia).

• **Washington Consensus**: one size fits all recommendations versus policies that are more aligned with countries unique histories, cultures, natural and human compositions.
Broader Topics for the Future Global Agenda

• Policymaking in a **deep-rooted** world for topics such as:
  
  - **COVID-19** and future pandemics: globalization, immunity, diversity and technology.
  - Russian – Ukrainian **conflict** and future wars: ethnic divisions.
  - Political **polarization**: divisions *within* societies like the American one on topics such as race, abortion, immigration, guns and healthcare.
  - **Climate change**: the ultimate challenge to economic growth, role of technology and cooperation.

• A narrative of hope / optimism?