

讲义

## Political economy

政治经济学

## Turning up the heat

愈演愈烈

Soaring temperatures and food prices threaten violent unrest

气温和食品价格飙升导致暴力骚乱

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As the world warms, the link between heat and social disturbance is an increasingly important one and, this summer, an especially concerning one. Each upheaval has its own causes, but certain factors make disturbances more likely everywhere. Surging temperatures, rising food prices and cuts to public spending—three of the strongest predictors of turmoil—have driven estimates of the potential for unrest to unprecedented highs in recent months. These estimates will probably rise higher still this summer. Temperatures are unlikely to have peaked. Russia's exit from the Black Sea Grain Initiative to export supplies from Ukraine and India's recent ban on rice exports may raise the price of staples. Social unrest is already bubbling in Kenya, India, Israel and South Africa.

随着全球变暖，炎热的天气和社会骚乱之间的联系变得越发重要，而且今年夏天尤其令人担忧。全球每处的社会剧变都有其自身的原因，但某些因素使得全球发生骚乱的可能性更大。近几个月来，气温飙升、食品价格上涨和公共支出削减——三个最重要的预示动荡的指标——使发生社会动荡的几率达到前所未有的高度。今年夏天，发生社会动荡的可能性也许还会更大。今年夏天的气温还没有达到峰值。俄罗斯退出《黑海粮食协定（Black Sea Grain Initiative）》，这是从乌克兰出口粮食的协定，而且印度最近禁止大米出口，这可能会使得主食价格上涨。肯尼亚、印度、以色列和南非的社会动荡已经出现。

## 【词汇】

1. **threaten** /'θreɪn/ v. to seem likely to happen or cause something unpleasant 预示凶兆；有...危险

例：A storm was threatening.

暴风雨即将来临。

2. **unrest** /ʌn'rest/ n. 雅思/专八 a political situation in which people are angry and likely to protest or fight 动荡；动乱；骚动

例：There is growing unrest throughout the country.

全国各地日益动荡不安。

3. **disturbance** /dɪ'stɜːrbəns/ n. 六级/雅思/GRE/考研/专八 a situation in which people behave violently in a public place 骚乱；骚动；动乱

例：News of the arrests provoked serious disturbances in the streets.

逮捕的消息引起了严重的街头骚乱。

4. **upheaval** /ʌp'hiːvl/ n. GRE/专八 a big change that causes a lot of worry and problems 剧变；激变；动乱；动荡

例：I can't face the upheaval of moving house again.

我无法忍受再次搬家的折腾。

5. **turmoil** /'tɜːrmɔɪl/ n. 雅思/托福/GRE/专八 a state of great worry in which everything is confused and nothing is certain 动乱；骚动；混乱；焦虑

例：His statement threw the court into turmoil.

他的陈述使得法庭陷入一片混乱。

6. **unprecedented** /ʌn'presɪdntɪd/ adj. 专八 that has never happened, been done or been known before 前所未有的；空前的；没有先例的

例：The situation is unprecedented in modern times.

这种情况在现代还没有出现过。

7. **exit** /'egzɪt/ n. when someone stops being involved in a competition or business, especially because they have not been successful 退出〔尤指因未成功而停止参与竞争或事务〕

例：France's early exit from the World Cup

法国队在世界杯上的早早出局

8. **staple** /'steɪpl/ n. 雅思/GRE/考研/专八 a basic type of food that is used a lot 基本食物；主食

例：Aid workers helped distribute corn, milk and other staples.

救助人员协助分发谷物、牛奶及其他基本食物。

9. **bubble** /'bʌbl/ v. 四级/雅思/GRE (of a feeling 感情) to be felt strongly by a person; to be present in a situation 被强烈感受；充溢；存在

例：the anger that bubbled beneath the surface

内心潜涌着的愤怒

## 【背景信息】

1. **the Black Sea Grain Initiative**：黑海粮食协议，又称国际小麦协定，是 1929 年在罗马尼亚首都布加勒斯特签署的一个国际性协定，旨在限制黑海地区（包括苏联、罗马尼亚、保加利亚和土耳其）的小麦出口，并为出口国制造一个稳定的市场。该协定在第二次世界大战后失效，直到 2022 年 7 月，在俄罗斯入侵乌克兰后，由于乌克兰是世界上最大的粮食出口国之一，其粮食供应中断导致全球粮食价格飙升，引发了全球粮食危机。在联合国和土耳其的促成下，黑海粮食协议重新签署，旨在重新将至关重要的粮食和化肥从乌克兰出口到世界各地。

Verisk Maplecroft, a risk-intelligence company, maintains a civil-unrest **index** that forecasts the potential for business **disruption** caused by social disturbances, including violent upheaval, on a country-by-country basis. According to the firm's estimates, the risk of global social unrest in the third quarter of 2023 is the highest since the index was created in 2017. That is because of both heat and the higher cost of living, says Jimena Blanco, the firm's **lead** analyst. "High rates of food price inflation are a particular risk," she warns.

Global inflation seems to have passed a peak, and international grain prices are lower than last year's high. But that does not mean prices paid by consumers have stopped rising. In June annual food-price inflation was 17% in Britain, 14% in the EU and nearing 10% in Canada and Japan. It is higher still in many developing economies, especially those in Africa. Food-price inflation is close to 25% in **Nigeria**, 30% in **Ethiopia** and 65% in Egypt (the highest rate in the country's history).

风险情报公司 Verisk Maplecroft 有一个内乱指数系统，该指数以各个国家为基础，预测社会动荡（包括暴力动乱）对商业造成破坏的可能性。根据该公司的估计，2023 年第三季度全球社会动荡的风险指数是该指数自 2017 年创建以来最高的。该公司的首席分析师希梅娜·布兰科(Jimena Blanco)指出，这是炎热的天气和更高的物价造成的。她警告称：“食品价格的高通胀率是一个尤其需要注意的风险。”

全球通胀似乎已经度过了高峰，国际粮价也低于去年的高价。但这并不意味着消费者支付的价格就停止上涨了。6 月份，英国的年度食品价格通胀率为 17%，欧盟为 14%，加拿大和日本接近 10%。在许多发展中经济体中，特别是非洲的发展中经济体，这一比例更高。尼日利亚的食品价格通胀率接近 25%，埃塞俄比亚为 30%，埃及为 65%（该国历史上最高的通胀率）。

## 【词汇】

1. **index** /'ɪndeks/ n. a system that shows the level of prices and wages, etc. so that they can be compared with those of a previous date (物价和工资等的) 指数

例：the cost-of-living index

生活费用指数

2. **disruption** /dɪsˈrʌpʃn/ n. a situation in which it is difficult for something to continue in the normal way; the act of stopping something from continuing in the normal way 扰乱；使中断；打乱

例：We aim to help you move house with minimum disruption to yourself.

我们的宗旨是帮您搬家，并且尽量减少给您带来的不便。

3. **lead** /li:d/ n. the person in charge of a project, department, etc. 主要负责人

例：Sam is the lead on this project.

山姆是该项目的负责人。

### 【国家】

1. **Nigeria** /naɪˈdʒɪriə/ a large country on the west coast of Africa 尼日利亚：非洲西海岸的大国

2. **Ethiopia** /iːθiˈəʊpiə/ a country in north-eastern Africa 埃塞俄比亚（东北非国家）

Lower wholesale prices should in time feed through to consumers. But Russia's choice to scupper the Black Sea Grain Initiative on July 17th, which was followed by four nights of attacks on the Ukrainian ports of Chornomorsk and Odessa in the Black Sea, has disturbed food markets, pushing prices in the opposite direction. Dry conditions elsewhere are also likely to exacerbate difficulties. Yields of Australian barley and wheat are forecast to decline by 34% and 30% this harvest. Stocks of American maize, wheat and sorghum are down by 6%, 17% and 51%. Last year these countries were the world's two biggest exporters of the cereals by value.

较低的批发价格应及时地反馈给消费者。但俄罗斯选择在7月17日退出《黑海粮食协议》，随后在黑海的乌克兰港口乔尔诺莫尔斯克和敖德萨连续四个晚上发动袭击，扰乱了食品市场，将价格走向推向相反的方向。其他地方的干旱条件也可能使困境加剧。预计今年澳大利亚大麦和小麦的产量将分别下降34%和30%。美国玉米、小麦和高粱的库存量分别下降了6%、17%和51%。去年，按价值计算，这两个国家是世界上最大的谷物出口国。

### 【词汇】

1. **scupper** /ˈskʌpər/ v. 专八 to cause somebody/something to fail 使泡汤；使成泡影

例：The residents' protests scuppered his plans for developing the land.

居民的抗议使他开发这片土地的计划泡了汤。

<同义替换> foil

2. **disturb** /di'stɜːrb/ v. 四级/雅思/考研 to interrupt somebody when they are trying to work, sleep, etc. 打扰；干扰；妨碍

例：I'm sorry to disturb you, but can I talk to you for a moment?

对不起，打扰你一下，我能跟你谈一会儿吗？

<同义替换> interrupt

3. **exacerbate** /ɪg'zæsəreɪt/ v. 雅思/GRE/专八 to make something worse, especially a disease or problem 使恶化；使加剧；使加重

例：His aggressive reaction only exacerbated the situation.

他的挑衅行为只会使情况恶化。

<同义替换> aggravate

4. **barley** /'bɑːrli/ n. 六级/专八 a plant grown for its grain that is used for making food, beer and whisky; the grains of this plant (皮) 大麦；大麦粒

例：Malt whisky is made from malted barley.

麦芽威士忌是用大麦酿制的。

5. **maize** /meɪz/ n. a tall plant grown for its large yellow grains that are used for making flour or eaten as a vegetable; the grains of this plant 玉蜀黍；玉米

例：vast fields of maize.

广袤的玉米地

6. **sorghum** /'sɔːrɡəm/ n. very small grain grown as food in tropical countries; the plant that produces this grain 高粱；高粱米

例：They made sorghum into pig feed.

他们把高粱做成了猪饲料。

### 【短语】

1. **feed through** : to reach somebody/something after going through a process or system 最终得以提供给

例：It will take time for the higher rates to feed through to investors.

需要时日投资者才能最终得到较高的回报率。

### 【长难句分析】

But Russia's choice to scupper the Black Sea Grain Initiative on July 17th, which was followed by four nights of attacks on the Ukrainian ports of Chornomorsk and Odessa in the Black Sea, has disturbed food markets, pushing prices in the opposite direction.

句子的主干部分为：But Russia's choice to scupper the Black Sea Grain Initiative on July 17th has disturbed food

markets, 意思是：但俄罗斯选择在7月17日退出《黑海粮食倡议》扰乱了食品市场

which was followed by four nights of attacks on the Ukrainian ports of Chornomorsk and Odessa in the Black Sea 为定语从句，对前者进行补充说明，意思是：随后在黑海的乌克兰港口乔尔诺莫尔斯克和敖德萨连续四个晚上发动袭击

pushing prices in the opposite direction 为结果状语，意思是：将价格走向推向相反的方向

More concerning still are events in India, which produces roughly 40% of global rice exports, and has suffered from **debilitating** rains this year. On July 20th the government responded by banning exports of all non-**Basmati** rice from the country. This will reduce global rice exports by about 10%, with almost immediate effect. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation estimates that together maize, rice and wheat provide more than two-fifths of the world's **calorific** intake. Among the world's poorest populations, the figure may rise to four-fifths. If prices do not start to fall soon, people will only get hungrier. And hungrier people are more likely to **hit the streets**.

更令人担心的是印度的情况，印度生产的大米约占全球大米出口的40%，而今年又遭受了强降雨的灾害影响。7月20日，政府作出回应，禁止从印度出口所有非巴斯马蒂香米。该举措将使全球大米出口减少约10%，而且这一影响几乎立刻显现的。据联合国粮农组织估计，玉米、大米和小麦一共为人类提供了全球五分之二以上的热量摄入。而对于世界上最贫穷的人口来说，这一数字可能上升到五分之四。如果价格不能很快开始下降，人们只会变得更加饥饿。而饥饿的人更有可能走上街头发动骚乱。

### 【词汇】

1. **debilitate** /dɪˈbɪlɪteɪt/ v. GRE/专八 to make a country, an organization, etc. weaker 削弱（国家、机构等）的力量；使软弱无力

例：Prolonged strike action debilitated the industry.

长时间的罢工削弱了这个行业的活力。

2. **Basmati** /bæzˈmæti/ n. a type of rice with long grains and a pleasant taste 巴斯马蒂香米；印度香米

3. **calorific** /ˌkæləˈrɪfɪk/ adj. relating to the amount of energy contained in food or fuel （热）卡的；产生热量的

例：Waste plastics have a higher calorific value than coal and burn easily.

废塑料的发热量比煤高，容易燃烧。

### 【俗语】

1. **hit the street** : (idiomatic) To go out in search of something or for a specific purpose 指人们走出家门，进入街道，

通常是为了参加活动、购物或社交

**Fiscal** **austerity** may further destabilise things. Many governments have committed to raising taxes or cutting expenditures in order to bring debt under control after **lavish** spending during covid-19. Jacopo Ponticelli of Northwestern University and Hans-Joachim Voth of the University of Zurich investigated almost a century of data from 25 European economies. They discovered that each additional 5% cut in government spending increases the frequency of social unrest by 28%.

财政紧缩政策可能会进一步破坏社会稳定。许多国家的政府在疫情期间大肆挥霍后，宣布提高税收或削减开支，以控制债务。美国西北大学的 Jacopo Ponticelli 和苏黎世大学的 Hans-Joachim Voth 调查了 25 个欧洲经济体近一个世纪的数据。他们发现，政府支出每削减 5%，社会动荡的频率就会增加 28%。

### 【词汇】

- fiscal** /'fɪskl/ adj. connected with government or public money, especially taxes 财政的；国库的；国家岁入的  
例：the country's fiscal system  
国家的财政制度
- austerity** /ɔ:'sterəti/ n. 托福/GRE/专八 difficult economic conditions created by government policies aimed at cutting public spending (经济的) 紧缩；严格节制消费  
例：austerity measures and economic reforms 紧缩措施与经济改革  
<同义替换> squeeze
- lavish** /'lævɪʃ/ adj. large in amount, or impressive, and usually costing a lot of money 大量的；耗资巨大的  
例：They lived a very lavish lifestyle.  
他们过着挥霍无度的生活。

Countries beyond the rich world have a more concerning **outlook**. The damage done by unrest is about twice as large in emerging markets as in advanced economies, according to the IMF researchers, with lower business and consumer confidence, and heightened uncertainty, exacerbating the much greater risk of sudden **capital flight**. This **bodes ill for** what is set to be a year of rising

除了发达国家，其他国家和地区的未来更令人关切。国际货币基金组织的研究人员表示，动荡在新兴市场造成的损害大约是发达经济体的两倍，商业和消费者信心下降，不确定性增加，加剧了资本骤然外流的风险。这预示着今年将是食品价格上涨、天气炎热和削减开支的

food prices, **boiling** weather and spending cuts. Expect a long, hot, uncomfortable summer.

一年。这将会是一个漫长、炎热又令人难受的夏天。

### 【词汇】

1. **outlook** /'aʊtlɒk/ n. the likely future for somebody/something; what is likely to happen 前景；可能性

例：the country's economic outlook

国家的经济前景

2. **flight** /flaɪt/ n. the act of running away from a dangerous or difficult situation (从危险或困境中的) 逃避，躲避

例：a flight from harsh reality

逃避现实

3. **boiling** /'bɔɪlɪŋ/ adj. very hot 炽热的；很热的

例：You must be boiling in that sweater!

你穿着那件毛衣一定很热！

<同义替换> sweltering

### 【短语】

1. **capital flight**：资金外流

2. **bode well/ill (for somebody/something)** : to be a good/bad sign for somebody/something (对某人 / 某事) 是吉兆，是凶兆

兆，是凶兆

例：These figures do not bode well for the company's future.

这些数据对于公司的前景不是个好兆头。

### 【长难句】

The damage done by unrest is about twice as large in emerging markets as in advanced economies, according to the IMF researchers, with lower business and consumer confidence, and heightened uncertainty, exacerbating the much greater risk of sudden capital flight.

句子的**主干部分**为：The damage is about twice as large in emerging markets as in advanced economies, 意思是：新兴市场的损害大约是发达经济体的两倍，其中 done by unrest 为**后置定语**，意思是：由动荡造成的

according to the IMF researchers 为**状语**，意思是：国际货币基金组织的研究人员表示

with lower business and consumer confidence, and heightened uncertainty 为**伴随状语**，意思是：商业和消费者信心下降，不确定性增加

exacerbating the much greater risk of sudden capital flight 为**结果状语**，意思是：加剧了资本骤然外流的风险

## 总结

## 1) 文章架构

- **背景**
  - 全球变暖，炎热的天气和社会骚乱之间的联系变得越发重要
  - 气温飙升、食品价格上涨和公共支出削减使发生社会动荡的几率达到前所未有的高度
  - 肯尼亚、印度、以色列和南非的社会动荡已经出现
- **分析**
  - 食品价格的高通胀率是一个尤其需要注意的风险
  - 各国食品价格通胀率居高不下
  - 粮食出口危机：越发饥饿的人更有可能走上街头发动骚乱
  - 财政紧缩政策可能会进一步破坏社会稳定
  - 发达国家以外的其他国家和地区的未来更令人关切
- **总结**
  - 今年将是食品价格上涨、天气炎热和削减开支的一年
  - 这个夏天将会是漫长、炎热又令人难受的

## 2) 同义替换

## ✓ 动荡；骚乱

**unrest**

Soaring temperatures and food prices threaten violent unrest

气温和食品价格飙升导致暴力骚乱

**turmoil**

Surging temperatures, rising food prices and cuts to public spending—three of the strongest predictors of turmoil...

气温飙升、食品价格上涨和公共支出削减——三个最重要的预示动荡的指标...

**disturbance**

As the world warms, the link between heat and social disturbance is an increasingly important one...

随着全球变暖，炎热的天气和社会骚乱之间的联系变得越发重要...

**其他：upheaval**

例：Having a baby will mean the greatest upheaval in your life.

有了孩子意味着你的生活要发生重大的变化。

## ✓ 炎热的

**hot**

Expect a long, hot, uncomfortable summer.

这将会是一个漫长、炎热又令人难受的夏天。

**boiling**

This bodes ill for what is set to be a year of rising food prices, boiling weather and spending cuts.

这预示着今年将是食品价格上涨、天气炎热和削减开支的一年。

**其他：sweltering**

例: sweltering heat

酷热难耐的高温

## 3) 一词多义

✓ **bubble**

✓ 文章原句：Social unrest is already bubbling in Kenya, India, Israel and South Africa. 肯尼亚、印度、以色列和南非的社会动荡已经出现。

## ✓ 释义：

① (of a feeling 感情) to be felt strongly by a person; to be present in a situation 被强烈感受；充溢；存在

the anger that ~ beneath the surface

内心潜涌着的愤怒

② to make a bubbling sound (移动时) 发出冒泡的声音

I could hear the soup ~ away.

我能听到汤在咕嘟咕嘟地响。

③ to form bubbles 起泡；冒泡

The water in the pan was beginning to ~.

锅里的水开始冒泡。

✓ **commit**

✓ 文章原句：Many governments have committed to raising taxes or cutting expenditures in order to bring debt under control after lavish spending during covid-19. 许多国家的政府在疫情期间大肆挥霍后，宣布提高税收或削减开支，以控制债务。

## ✓ 释义：

① **to give an opinion or make a decision openly so that it is then difficult to change it** (公开地) 表达意见，作出决定

You don't have to ~ yourself now—just think about it.

你不必现在表态，只需考虑一下这件事。

② **to kill yourself deliberately** 自杀

Her father had ~ suicide.

她的父亲自杀了。

③ **to do something wrong or illegal** 做出(错事)；犯(罪)

to ~ a crime/an offence

犯罪/违法

## 4) 仿写训练

## ✓ 描述事物的复苏

## ✓ 文章原句：

Countries beyond the rich world have a more concerning outlook. The damage done by unrest is about twice as large in emerging markets as in advanced economies, according to the IMF researchers, with lower business and consumer confidence, and heightened uncertainty, exacerbating the much greater risk of sudden capital flight. This bodes ill for what is set to be a year of rising food prices, boiling weather and spending cuts. Expect a long, hot, uncomfortable summer.

## ✓ 句型及表达：

...has a...outlook. ...的前景是...

This bodes well/ill for what is set to be a year of ... 这预示着将会是...的一年

✓ 仿写示例：

The tourism industry has a booming outlook. The revival brought by newly rolled-out policy is unprecedentedly strong, according to the researchers, with higher business and consumer confidence, and more opportunities, generating much greater potential for prosperity. This bodes well for what is set to be a year of harvest.

✓ 仿写作业——描述事物的复苏

时尚产业的前景更加繁荣。业内人士表示，创新理念带来的产业振兴是势不可挡的，随着商业和消费者的信心更高，探索的领域更广泛，产生的繁荣潜力也更大。这预示着今年将是时尚复兴的一年。

## 5) 主题词总结

今日主题——全球状况	
1. social disturbance	社会动荡
2. global inflation	全球通胀
3. food-price inflation	食品价格通胀
4. capital flight	资金外流
5. spending cuts	削减开支