



Must International Studies Be A Science?

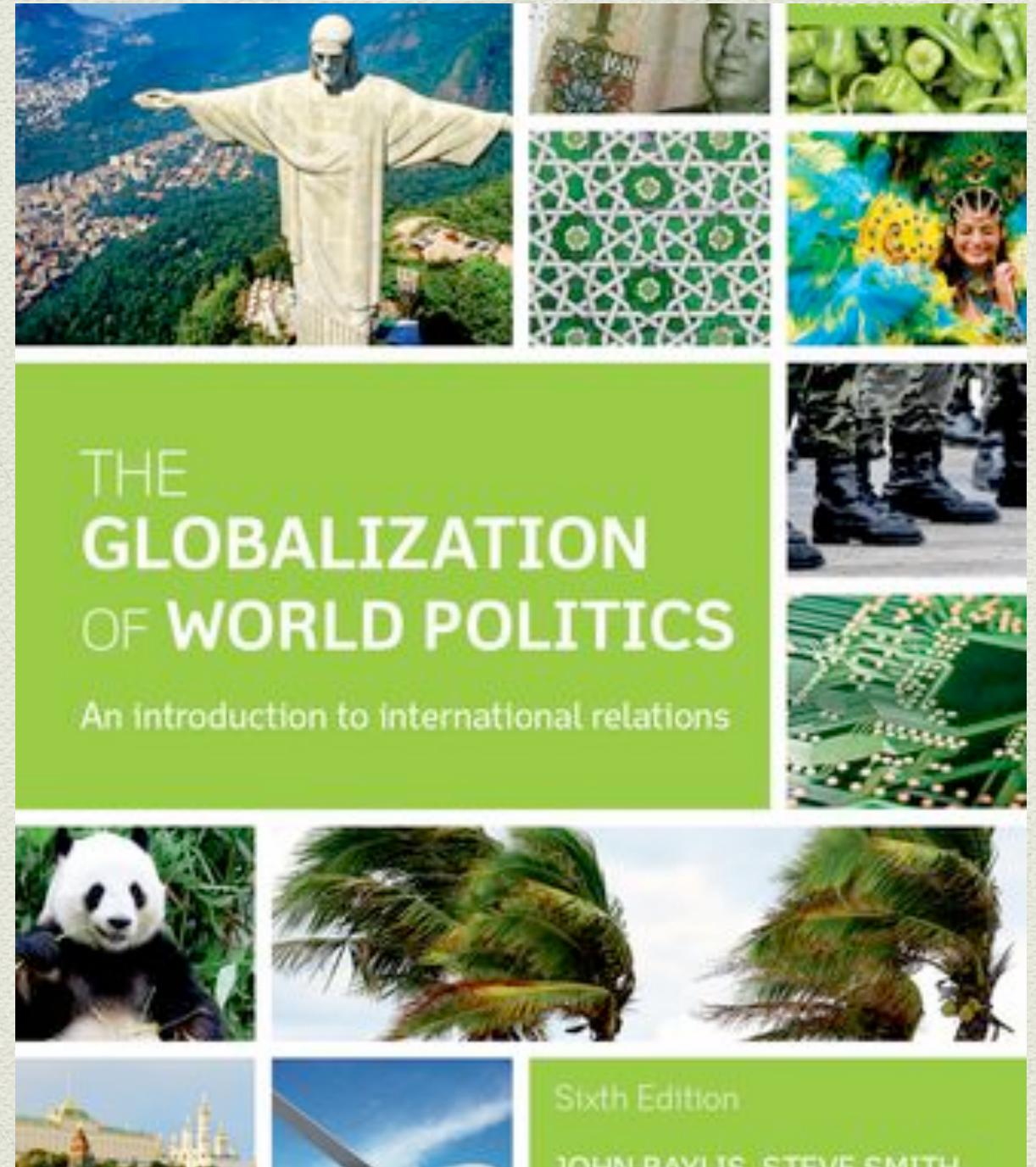
Patrick Thaddeus Jackson • The American University

October 2014

No.

International studies

- the pursuit of knowledge of international phenomena



International studies

- ❖ the pursuit of knowledge of international phenomena
- ❖ “international”: *the encounter with difference across boundaries*

An Introduction to International Relations

SECOND EDITION

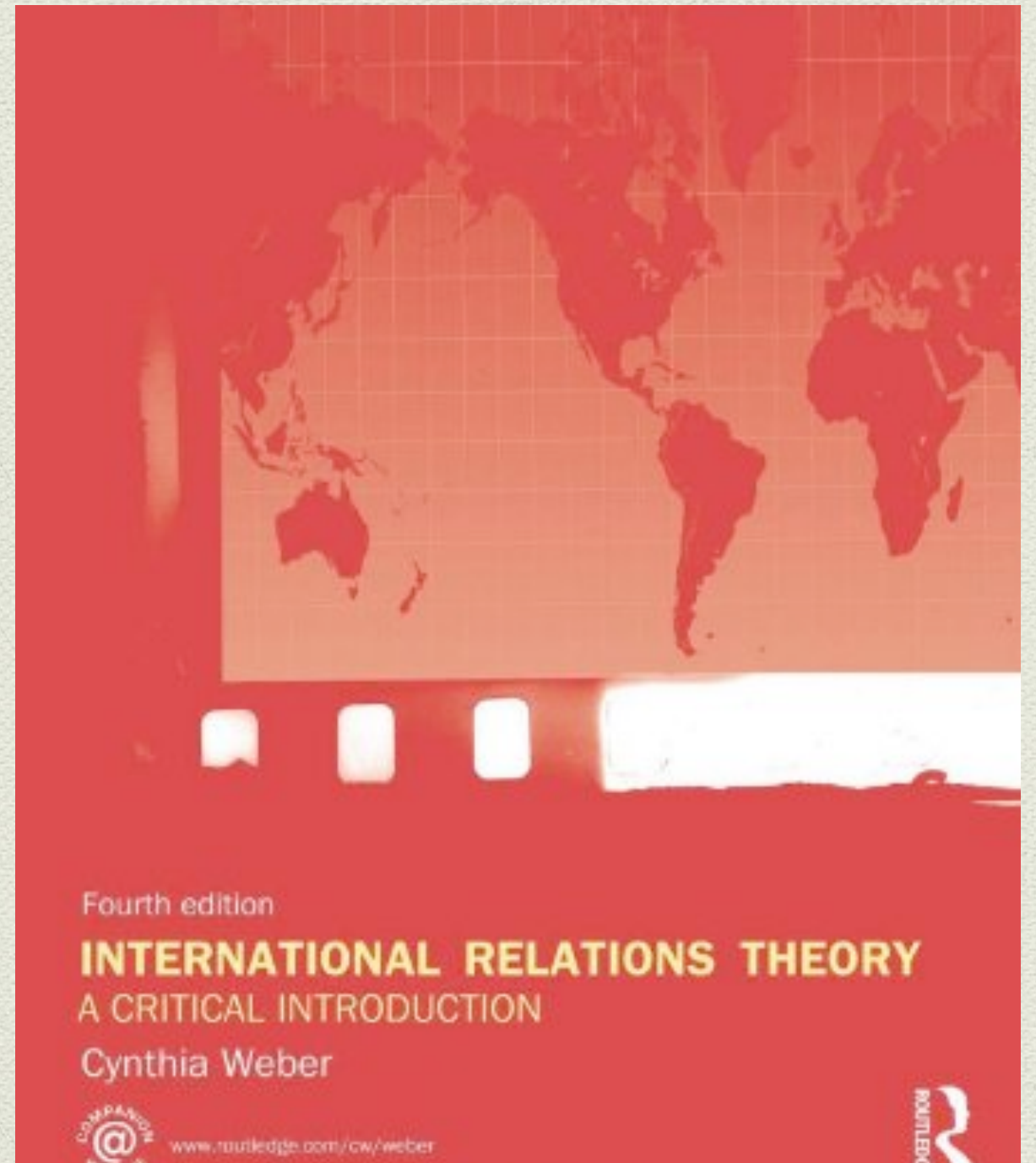
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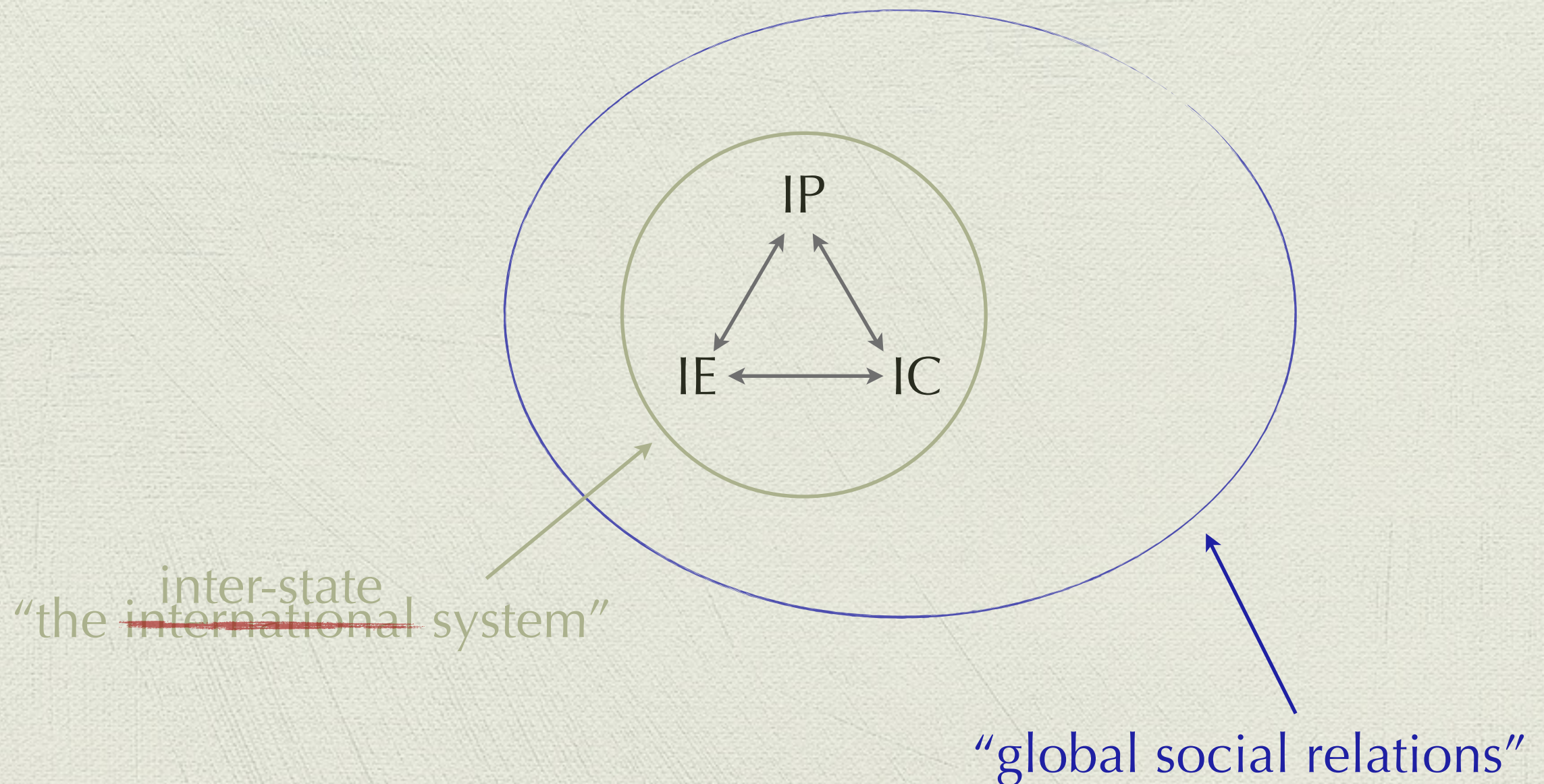
International studies

- ❖ the pursuit of knowledge of international phenomena
- ❖ “international”: *the encounter with difference across boundaries*
- ❖ bigger than inter-state politics



International studies

“transactions and encounters among multiple worlds”



Science

- ❖ *systematic, methodical links between premises and conclusions*
- ❖ *subject to public criticism and improvement*
- ❖ *focused on producing worldly facts*



Science

dualism

monism

phenomenalism

neopositivism

analyticism

transfactualism

critical
realism

reflexivity

Scotch Whisky



Scotch Whisky

◆ an international product

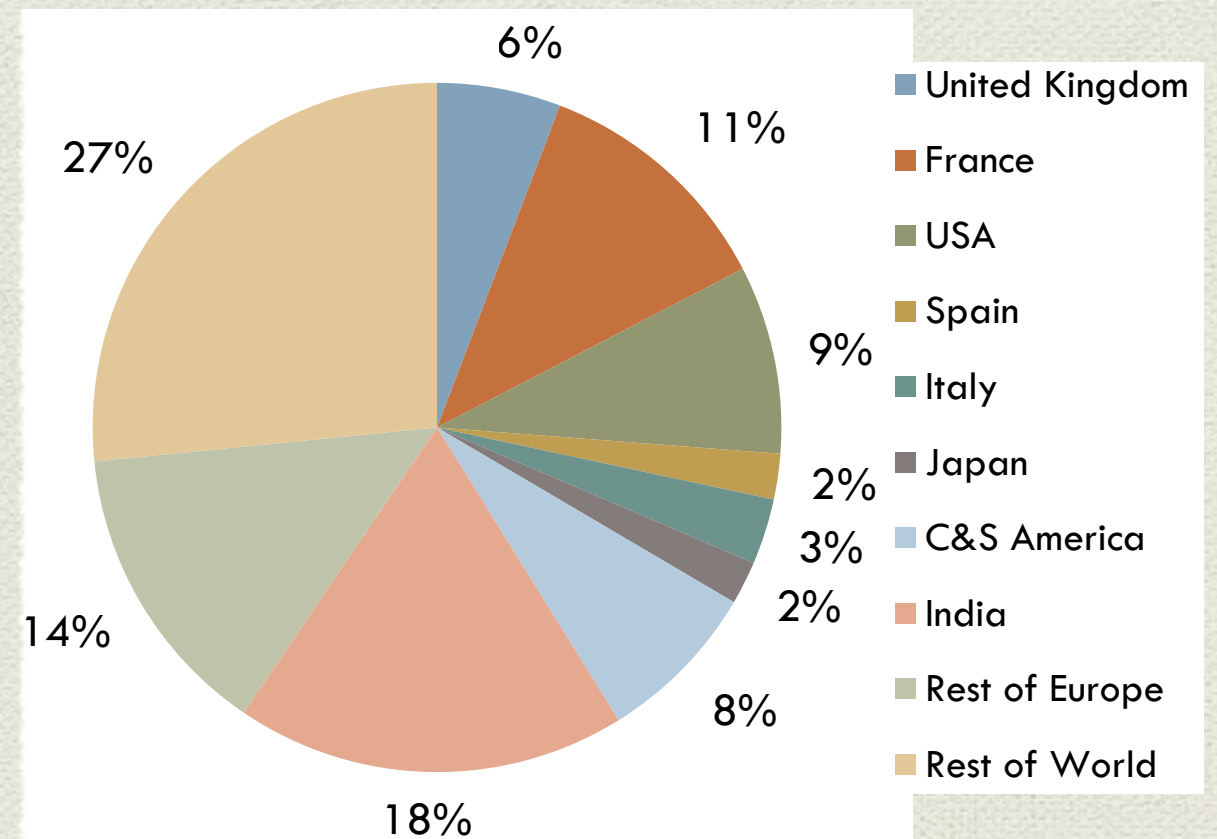
9 EXPORTS OF SCOTCH WHISKY TO THE MAJOR MA

	% of Market	Malt		Gr
		Bottled	Bulk	
EU ex UK	32.71	15,030,684	684,347	2,048,4
France	11.94	6,060,178	13,556	500,7
Spain	4.66	1,246,933	9,883	60,8
Germany	4.08	2,908,284	93,156	199,6
Poland	1.49	52,856	-	652,7
Estonia	1.29	168,589	-	3,0
Italy	1.24	1,341,997	514,183	57,4
Netherlands	1.21	1,641,421	5,510	267,8
Others	6.79	1,610,426	48,059	306,0
USA	9.89	4,871,461	10,172	72,6
Singapore	4.98	1,601,947	-	216,4
India	4.55	821,689	10,075,856	5,3
South Africa	4.13	2,009,215	445,854	54,2
Brazil	3.58	1,764,379	2,736,700	6,6
Mexico	2.74	112,248	6,072	28,2
Thailand	2.61	30,395	4,457,717	11,6
UK	6.99	3,095,500	-	
Total All Markets	100.00	33,826,697	22,112,101	6,463,0

Scotch Whisky

- ◆ an international product
- ◆ domestic market too small to support the industry

MARKET DISTRIBUTION OF 2012 SALES OF MALT SCOTCH WHISKY



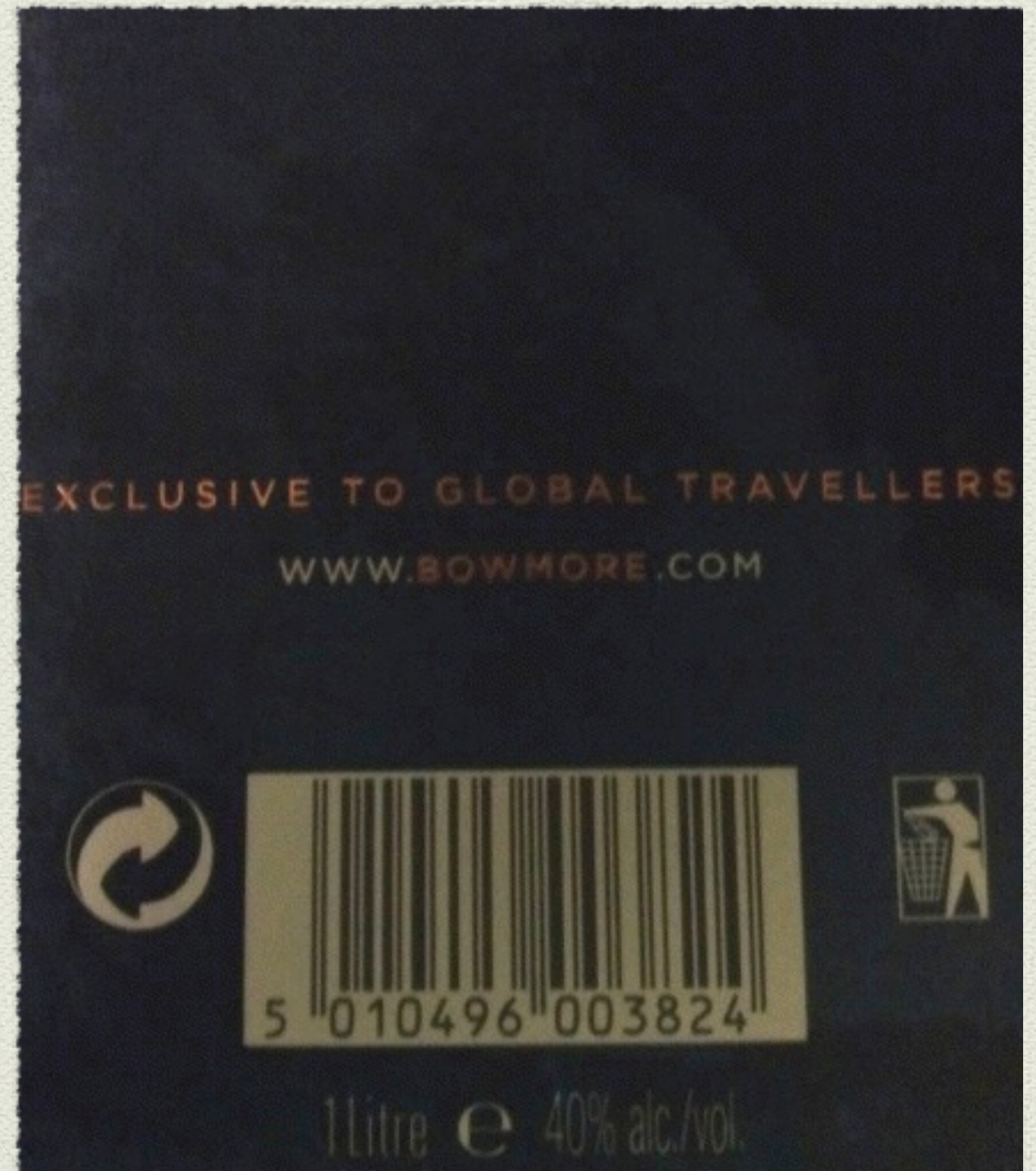
Scotch Whisky

- ❖ an international product
- ❖ domestic market too small to support the industry
- ❖ *terroir* as a selling-point



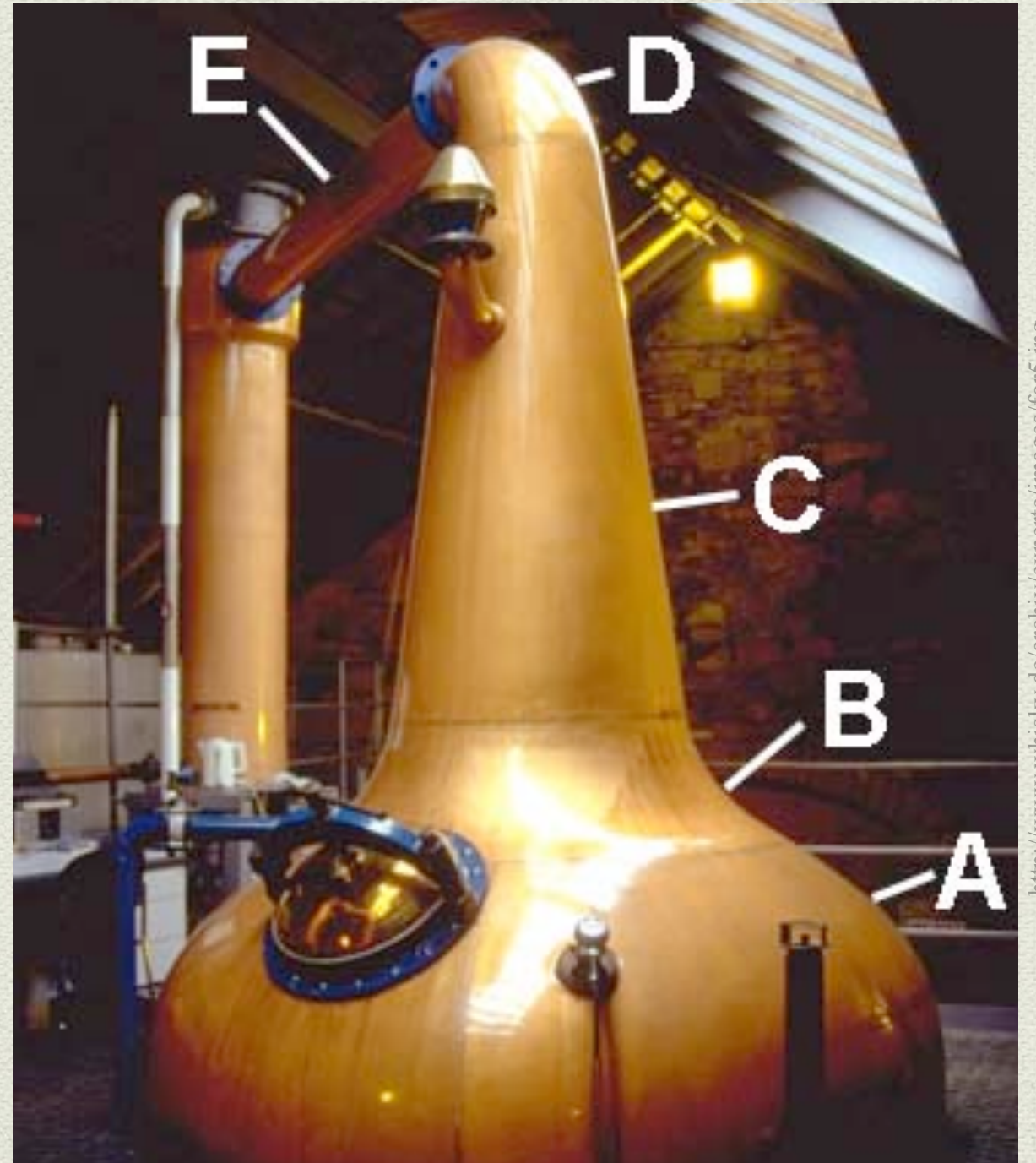
Scotch Whisky

- ◆ an international product
- ◆ domestic market too small to support the industry
- ◆ *terroir* as a selling-point
- ◆ “duty free”



Knowing about whisky

- ❖ the effects of different shapes of pot stills
- ❖ *causal* claims: intend to tell you how to make something happen



<http://www.whisky.de/archiv/experte/images/for5.jpg>

Knowing about whisky

- ◆ sip it straight or with a few drops of water, don't add ice and don't shoot it
- ◆ *interpretive* claims: intend to tell you how to “go on,” i.e. what the rules are



Scientific knowing

- ❖ evaluate claims for systematicity, publicity, and worldliness
- ❖ applies equally to causal *and* interpretive claims
- ❖ “objectively” valid facts
- ❖ “knowing-that”



Other kinds of knowing

- ❖ how to actually make whisky from barley and water
- ❖ *technical* knowledge: skills, “know-how”



Marcus Brooke/Getty Images

Other kinds of knowing

- ◆ appreciating the experience
- ◆ making distinctions in accord with “the culture of a period” (Wittgenstein)
- ◆ *aesthetic* knowledge: “tasting notes”



Other kinds of knowing

- ❖ taxes on amount distilled, at least since the 17th century
- ❖ excise warehouses for maturing whisky, at least since 1853
- ❖ *ethical* knowledge: moral status of the activity



Science

dualism

monism

phenomenalism

neopositivism

analyticism

transfactualism

critical
realism

reflexivity

Ways of knowing

- ◆ ways of evaluating claims
 - ◆ epistemic
 - ◆ technical
 - ◆ aesthetic
 - ◆ normative
- ◆ “disenchantment”
privileges "scientific" ways
of knowing



Ways of knowing

technical

normative

Ways of knowing

impersonal
("view from
nowhere")

value-expressive

technical

normative

Ways of knowing

representational

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Ways of knowing

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Science

Engineering

value-expressive

Art

Ethics

Ways of knowing

	representational	evaluative						
impersonal ("view from nowhere")	<table><tr><td>N</td><td>CR</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">~~Science~~</td></tr><tr><td>A</td><td>R</td></tr></table>	N	CR	~~Science~~		A	R	Engineering
N	CR							
~~Science~~								
A	R							
value-expressive	Art	Ethics						

THE NEOPOSITIVIST'S VIEW OF THE WORLD

	Representational = phenomenonism	Evaluative = transfactualism
Impersonal = dualism	Science (neopositivism)	critical realism = Engineering
Expressive = monism	analyticism = Art	reflexivity = Ethics

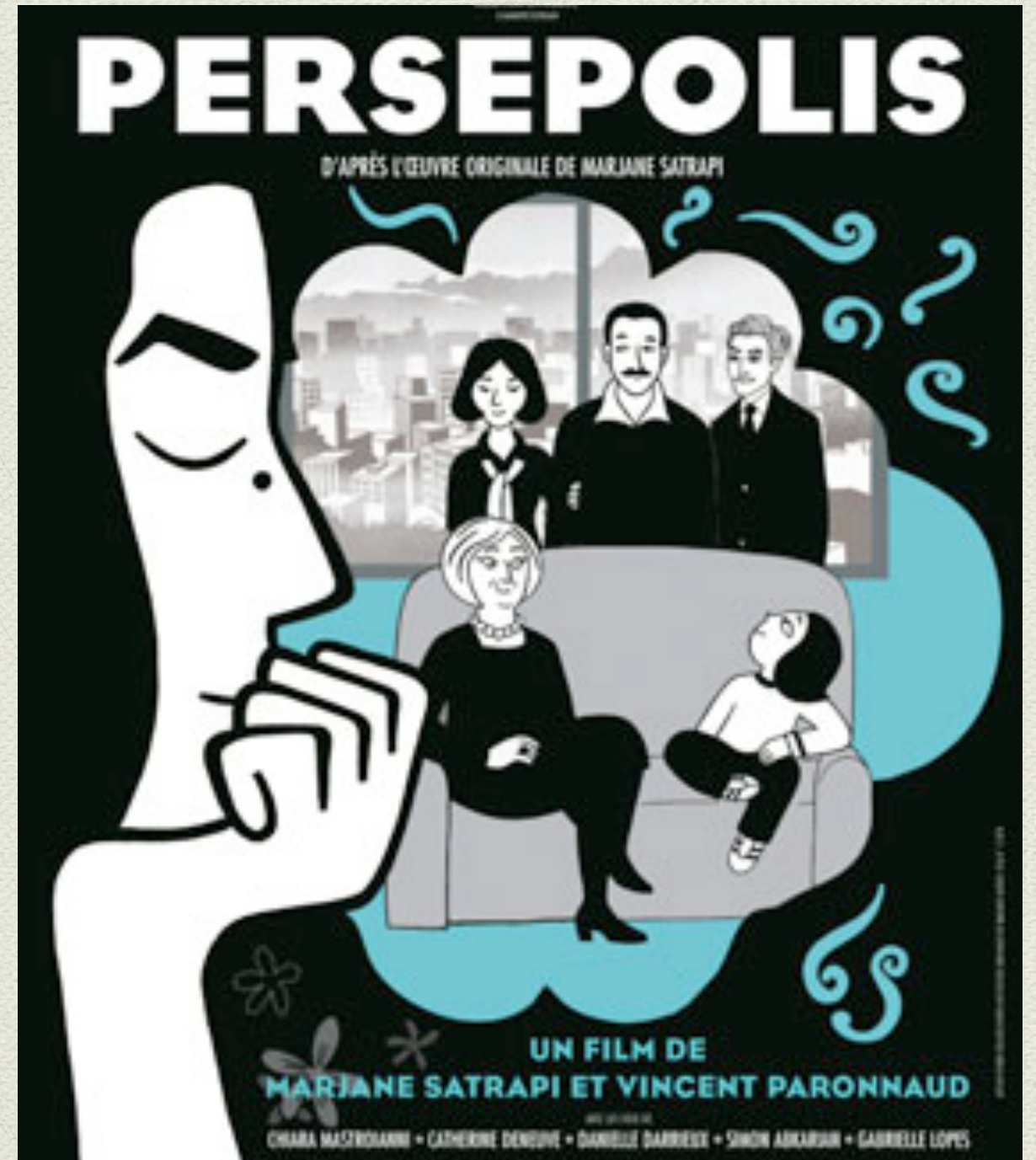
Technical know-how

- ◆ “getting things done”
- ◆ consistency matters less than results or effectiveness
- ◆ diplomacy
- ◆ local experience / expertise



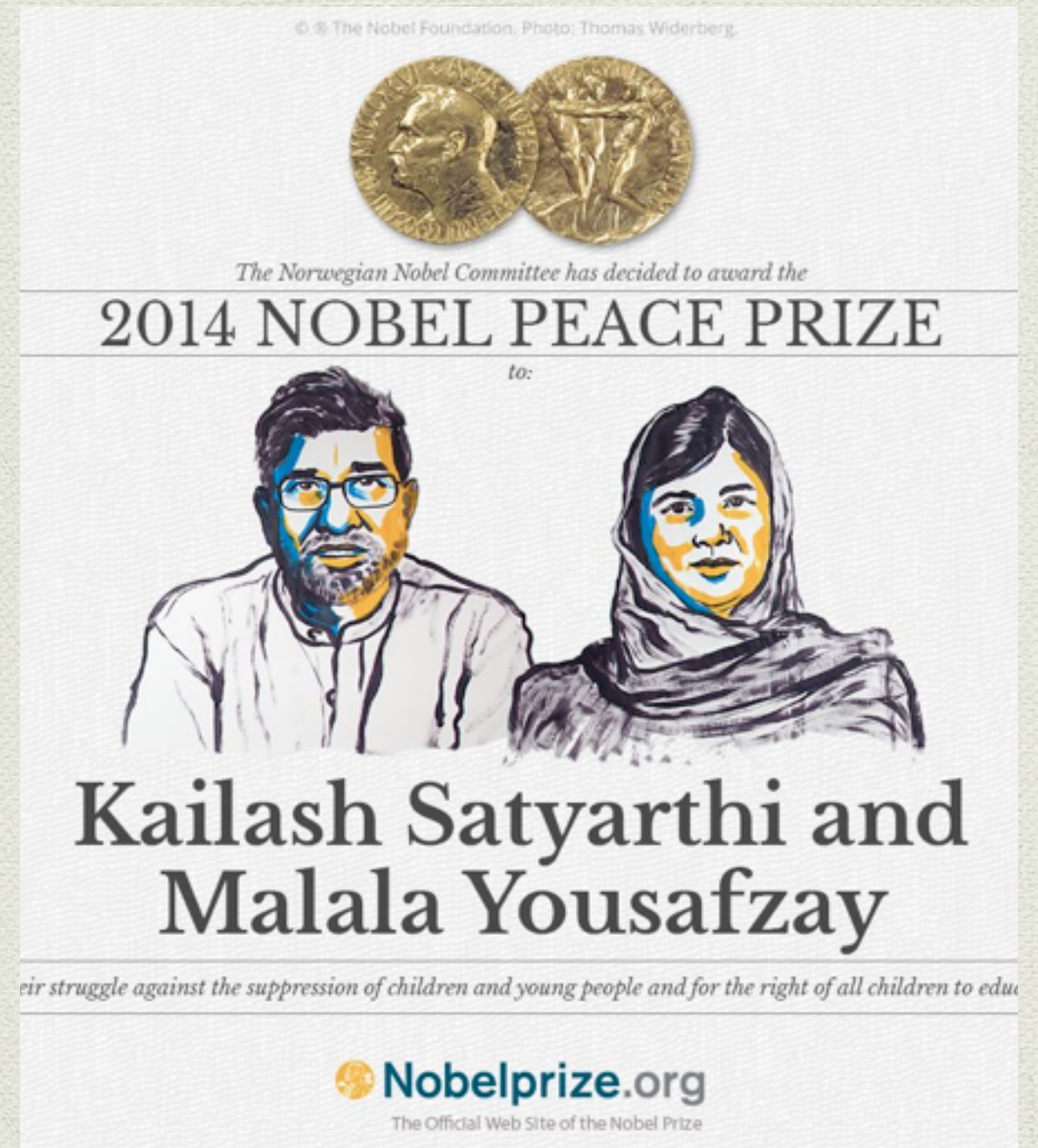
Aesthetic knowing

- ◆ “expressing a vision”
- ◆ authenticity or recognition
- ◆ “progress” somewhat meaningless
- ◆ representations *of* international affairs...
- ◆ ...and international representations



Ethical knowing

- ◆ “what should be”
- ◆ expresses a value and evaluates what we actually have in light of that
- ◆ justice or rightness
- ◆ theology, and “secular theology”



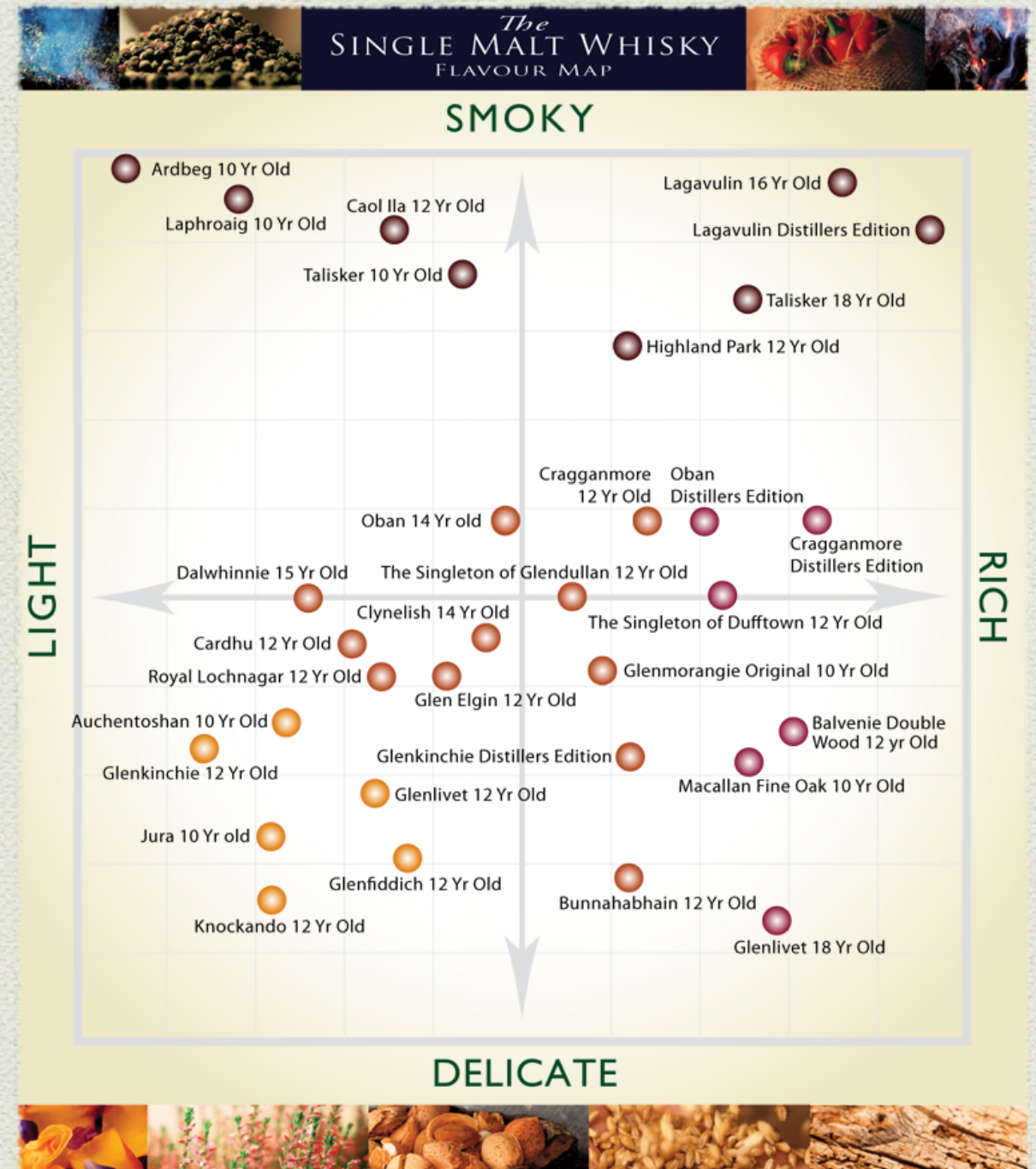
Against mixing

- ◆ forms of knowledge are limited in their scope
- ◆ representational knowing *leaves the world as it is*
- ◆ impersonal knowing *does not tell us what to do*



Against mixing

- getting the *intention* right is crucial
- "human beings are created in the image of God"
- "agents and structures are mutually constituted"
- "democracy causes peace"
- that requires close attention to *context* because intention is not in the head



Against mixing

- blended scotch whisky tastes like *nothing in particular*
- serious global challenges call for a broad range of contributions
- diversity *keeps us humble*

