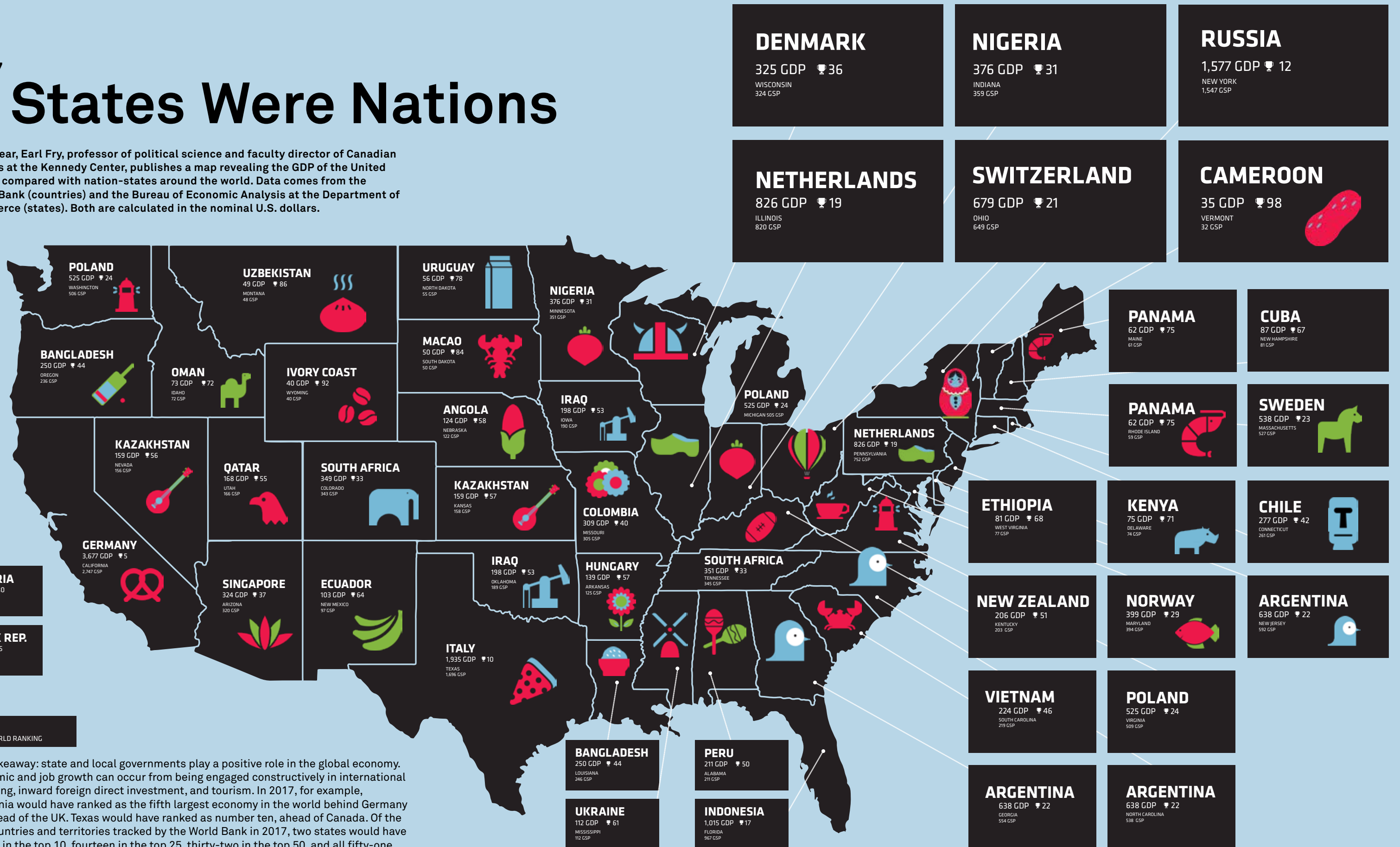


2017

If States Were Nations

Each year, Earl Fry, professor of political science and faculty director of Canadian studies at the Kennedy Center, publishes a map revealing the GDP of the United States compared with nation-states around the world. Data comes from the World Bank (countries) and the Bureau of Economic Analysis at the Department of Commerce (states). Both are calculated in the nominal U.S. dollars.



KEY
 🏆 : WORLD RANKING

One takeaway: state and local governments play a positive role in the global economy. Economic and job growth can occur from being engaged constructively in international exporting, inward foreign direct investment, and tourism. In 2017, for example, California would have ranked as the fifth largest economy in the world behind Germany but ahead of the UK. Texas would have ranked as number ten, ahead of Canada. Of the 200 countries and territories tracked by the World Bank in 2017, two states would have ranked in the top 10, fourteen in the top 25, thirty-two in the top 50, and all fifty-one (including the District of Columbia) in the top 98.