

AVIATION IN THE AGE OF CHAOS

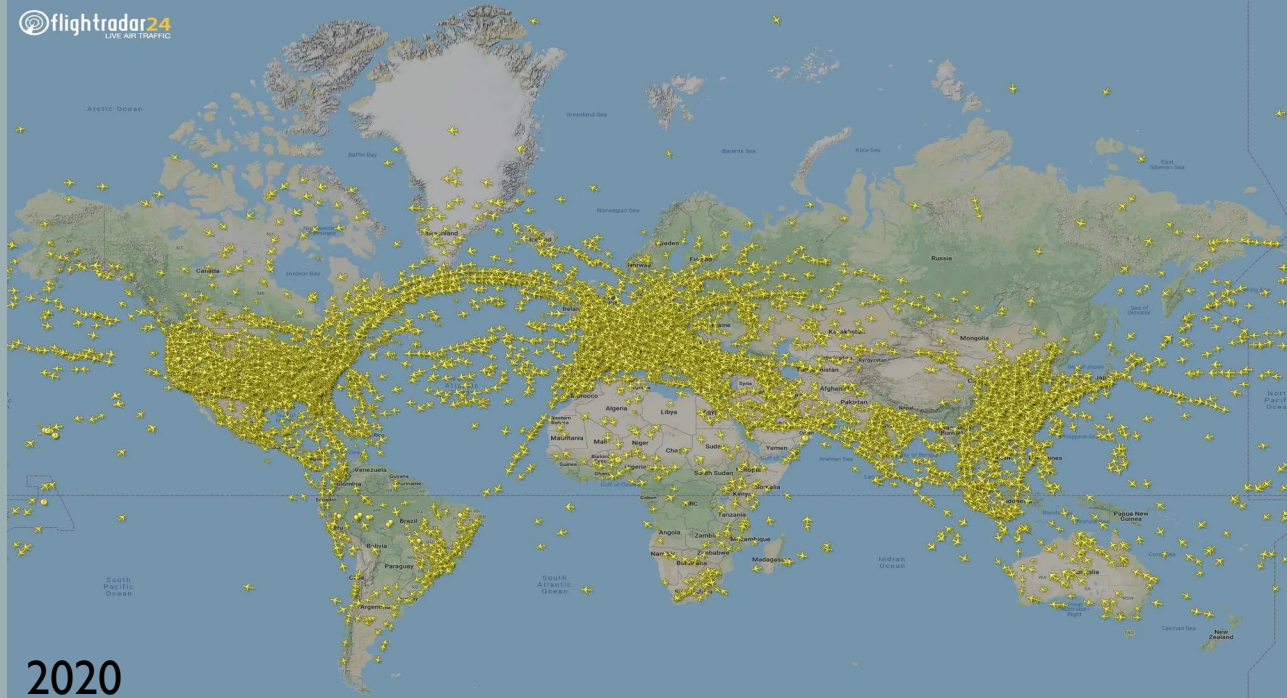
How geopolitics is changing aviation

ABOUT ME

- UK Foreign Office 1998 – 2014
- Postings in Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen, Nigeria, Caribbean
- British Ambassador to Trinidad & Tobago 2010 – 2014
- Now a consultant, author, speaker



AN AGE OF UNCERTAINTY?



AVIATION IS ALWAYS ENTWINED WITH GEOPOLITICS

1956 Lloyd Aereo Boliviano DC-4 first
political hijacking

1968 – El Al 426: advent of air terrorism

1994 Air France 8969

2001 9/11

2014 MH17

2020 UI752

2021 Ryanair 4978

1960s – 1980s Israel– Palestine, Red
Brigades

1990s – Algeria, the crucible of jihad

AQ – the plane as a weapon

States target aviation

THE BREAKDOWN IN GLOBAL ORDER 1999-2022

UN Charter, Article 2

“All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations.”

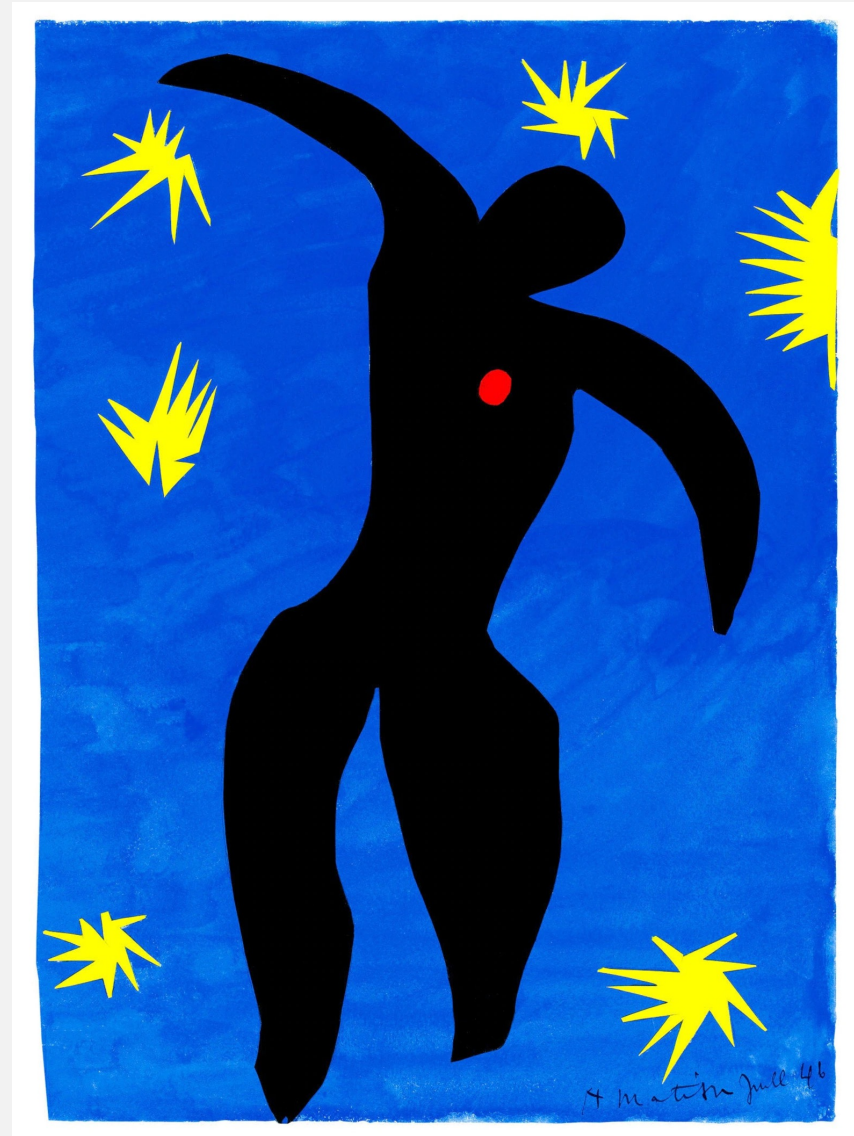
- 1999 – Kosovo
- 2001 – 9/11 attacks
- 2003 – invasion of Iraq
- 2008 – Russia invades Georgia
- 2009 – Afghanistan surge
- 2011 – Libya intervention
- 2014 – Islamic state seizes Mosul, E. Syria
- 2014 – Russia invades Ukraine
- 2015 – Saudi Arabia’s Yemen intervention
- 2016 – Brexit and Donald Trump
- 2021 – China ends Hong Kong’s democracy
- 2022 – War in Ukraine

THIS ISN'T JUST ABOUT USA, CHINA, RUSSIA

- The Age of Chaos: countries believe the rules no longer apply to them
- Because aviation has symbolic significance it is a core element of geopolitical strategies (Ryanair/Belarus, spy balloons!)
- Increasingly, cyber threat will impact booking systems, ATC, aircraft?
- Climate change, deglobalisation, insecurity: all present headwinds
- This isn't all bad for the aviation business: look at Emirates, Qatar Airlines, Turkish Airlines – symbolic national assets
- But countries we used to think of as stable, whether in Europe or elsewhere, are increasingly less so
- Aviation has to be able to flex with this uncertain world

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOU?

- Ancient Greece: the birthplace of aviation?
- Daidalos and Ikaros were pawns in a complex geopolitical game between Athens and Crete
- Case study of a regional power (Crete) not bound by the rules
- Above all the importance of innovation and risk management in the face of challenge



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QUESTIONS?

