In my approach I examine Eurasia as a whole. In this approach, I combine the Rimland theory of Nicholas J. Spykman with the Heartland theory of Halford J. Mackinder in a certain way. My hypothesis is that only the Rimland had the potential of industrialization and maritime expansion. But for a region within the Rimland to be able to fulfil that potential, it also needed to be in a safe distance from the Heartland to avoid disturbance in its evolution by invasions from the Heartland. To be more specific, regarding the crucial early-modern period, this requirement meant a safe distance of the Genghisid Mongolian Empire, and its successor states. As main geographical units of my analysis of the Rimland, I focus on the four subcontinents of Eurasia defined by Mackinder: East Asia, Europe, the Middle East and South Asia.