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ForumIAS

POLITICAL SCIENCE & IR (OPTIONAL)

Name Of Candidate	SWARNIM BHARDWAJ		
Roll No.	1910070871	Date:	22/08/22

Maximum Marks: 250

Time Allowed: Three Hours

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION	
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile).	
1			2. There are EIGHT questions divided in two Sections in the question paper. Question 1 and 5 are compulsory. You can attempt any THREE out of the remaining, Choosing at least ONE Question from each section.	
2			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.	
3			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.	
4			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.	
5			6. Content is more important than content length.	
6			7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.	
7			Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/ Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.	
8			----- -----	
Total:	250			
Evaluator's Discretion:			For Student Only	
			Start Time 2:00 pm	End Time 5:00 pm
Total Marks:			Mode Of Examination:	Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
Evaluator's Discretion: This is the marks awarded at the discretion of the evaluator based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy.			For Office Use Only	
			ECN CODE:	EG:
			Evaluation Date:	

Note: You can discuss your evaluated copy with the Mentor. Raise a ticket from your portal to schedule a mentor call or visit the offline centre to meet mentor (all 7 days, Timings - 11 AM to 6 PM). Further if you are unsatisfied with the evaluation, you can seek re-evaluation of the copy.

Parameters	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Language						
Structure						
Presentation						
Handwriting						
Content						
Attempt						

ADDITIONAL REMARKS

Section- A

Q.1) Comment on the following in not more than 150 words. (10*5 = 50 Marks)

a) Discuss the political sociology approach of the comparative political analysis (10 Marks)

Political sociology approach aims to study the interplay between politics and society.
Eg; role of caste on elections [Rajni Kothari]

Maurice Duverger emphasises on its contribution :

- (1.) it established empirical study in politics.
- (2.) emphasised on essential unity between social sciences.
- (3.) recognises that politics does not take place in isolation.

Foucault's theory of power flowing through channels in society; slogan of 'Personal is political' by feminists are instances of political sociological approach.

Utility of approach lies in study developing countries do 'constitution exists but constitutionalism'. Further, source of power in these countries lies in social

Cleavages such as caste, religion also social basis of change in political institution e.g. Welfare state
The approach examines how social identities influences voters' turnout, political participation e.g. Yogendra Yadav's first and second democratic upsurge.

Use of sociological methods lie in crafting political strategies to garner votes.

However, there was a realisation that the subject may lose its 'identity' and hence scholars like Theda Skocpol called for 'bringing the state back'.

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b) Differences and similarities in pressure group politics in developed and developing countries
(10 Marks)

Pressure groups are forms of organisation that exert pressure ~~off~~ on political system of a country.

In words of Finer, they are 'invisible empires' which play role of 'interest aggregators' in a pluralist democracy.

For comparison of pressure groups in developed and developing countries; models proposed by Gabriel Almond and Jean Blondel may be employed.

Four types of pressure groups :

- (1) Anomic - 'Normless' pressure groups
- (2) Institutional - comprises of members of state
- (3) Associational - participation by civil society
- (4) Non-associational - based on social cleavages & caste.

In developing countries, Institutional pressure groups are prevalent especially in

States such as Pakistan due to occurrence of 'deep state'.

Further, non-associational groups based on religion (e.g. Majlis), caste are prevalent. Anomic pressure groups, too, emerge in the short-term.

In developed countries, associational pressure groups employing lobbying e.g. in U.S.A are present owing to their stage of development.

Jean Blondel, takes dynamic view of pressure groups to demonstrate how in developing societies, non-associational, protectionist groups prevail. In developed societies, associational, developmental groups dominate.

To conclude, developed & developing world are far too complex to restrict analysis to 'ideal types'.

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c) Compare the nature of state found in developed countries and in developing countries

(10 Marks)

Nature of state in developed and developing countries differ due to their colonial past where former were 'Colonisers' and latter were the 'Colonised'.

Post-decolonisation, developing countries adopted 'socialist' economy model to address concerns around poverty. Developed countries continued with 'capitalistic' model.

Developed nations imposed the idea of a 'nation-state' which had varied implications.

According to the Behaviouralists such as F. N. Leys, developing states were 'primitiv societies' caught in a 'development trap'.

Dependency theorists opined that developing states acted as 'periphery' countries supplying raw material and cheap labor to 'core' countries i.e. developed countries.

Post - 2008 financial crisis, the developed states have acknowledged the weaknesses of Neo-liberal policies and adopted 'social liberalism'.

However, in developing states/ economies, the ones which were formerly socialist have moved towards mixed economy. Imperfect market model in few countries such as China, Russia has given rise to authoritarianism or Neo-Nazism.

There has been a rise in 'far-right' in countries such as Poland, Hungary which are developed.

To conclude, post Covid-19 pandemic the states have become 'protectionist', however, glaring inequalities exist between developed & developing states.

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d) Main assumptions of structural functional approach

(10 Marks)

Structural-functional approach to comparative politics was introduced by Gabriel Almond and Powell in 1970s.

It takes into account, not only the structural components of institutions but also their 'function' in the system.

Assumptions

(1.) Political system is made of institutions such as political parties, pressure groups, executive etc.

(2.) Structures are insufficient to compare two countries but what needs to be compared is the 'function' performed by them.

(3.) Institutions such as pressure groups perform an 'input' function for government to generate an 'output' i.e.; policy.

(4.) Political systems must continuously

adapt to changing socio-political context.

Further, Almond and Powell expanded the ~~the~~ theory and acknowledged the role of 'political culture' in determining characteristics of a system to be compared.

Critics of (Marxists) believe that 'value-free' analysis in this approach is a 'myth' and they justify 'western political systems' as ideal. They validate the dominant ideology to capitalist thought.

To conclude, the approach is limited in its scope and hence limited in operation.

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e) Role of nuclear taboo

(10 Marks)

A nuclear taboo is a normative inhibition against first use of nuclear weapons.

Nina Tannenwald in 'the Nuclear Taboo' argued that the reluctance to use nuclear weapons since Hiroshima and Nagasaki (1945) is due to widespread moral inhibition against it.

She challenges the 'conception' of 'deterrence' as a method of preventing nuclear war.

However, a nuclear taboo's role may be overstated as the world order undergoes a change.

From a realist prism, in an increasingly multi-polar world, there is a 'threat of war' which creates security dilemma in states and hence acquisition of nuclear weapons.

Against the backdrop of Russia-Ukraine invasion (2022), nuclear threats have emerged once again.

The current world order indicates 'breaking of norms' by authoritarian forces or Pariah states. Norms of democracy, multilateralism, humanitarian law are under seige. The nuclear taboo is just another norm under threat.

The power to use nuclear weapons is in the hands of leadership which may be irrational while taking decisions.

Nonetheless, a restraint on use of nuclear weapons has been due to a mix of the taboo and Realist principle of deterrence. The taboo must be strengthened through substantive, verifiable agreements on ban of use of nuclear weapons.

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Q.2) a) Bring out the established theoretical traditions in International Relations. What are major debates and why do the debates often linger on without any conclusive winner? (20 Marks)

Theoretical traditions in international relations have provided the 'discipline' with its 'concepts', 'processes' and 'theoretical framework' to analyze issues.

Established theoretical traditions include : Realism, Marxism, Liberalism, Feminism, Social Constructivism and Green Politics.

Realism was given by Hans J. Morgenthau according to which the anarchical world is characterised by 'struggle for power' between states bereft of universal morality.

Marxism established on works of Marx, V.I Lenin and Mao Zedong studies the undercurrents of global capitalist

Order. Gramscian perspective talks about 'cultural hegemony' of the west to maintain oppressive capitalist system.

liberalism represented by Keohanne and Nye highlights '3D chess model' of the world where states are in a state of 'complex interdependence' so much so that it ensures their security.

Feminism highlights masculine dominance as a source of war. Social Constructivist talk about shaping concepts like nuclear proliferation through 'discourses'. Green Politics highlights environmental critique of global capitalist order.

Reasons of inability of single theoretical phenomena to reach to conclusion :-

Realism overlooks the changing nature of state due to globalization from 'egoistic' to 'cooperative'. eg; emergence of European Union, ASEAN.

Liberalism puts over confidence in 'cooperation'. On advent of multi-polarity, emerging states such as china are threatening states & USA, India to desert its hegemony. As Bob Jensen opines, states are becoming competition states.

Marxism fails to take into account the fact that free trade was responsible for technology transfer in developing countries leading to poverty alleviation (Bhagwati)

Feminism, Social Constructivism

have failed to conduct empirical enquiry into the issues for developing verifiable, testable theories.

However, all traditions, cumulatively help in understanding contemporary issues e.g; climate change and offer solutions.

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Q) Highlight the difference between Functionalism and Neo-Functionalism. How they strengthen the liberal framework of International Relations. (15 Marks)

'Form follows function'.
- David Mitrany

Functionalism is a theory in international relations which entails that certain functions can be better performed collective - ly than in individual capacity.

Once the functions are demarcated, 'form' or institutional structures to enable functions are formed. Hence, 'form follows function'.

An archetypal example of functionalism is European Union which carries out the 'economic' function ~~through~~ through 'forms' such as European Economic Community.

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Neo-functionalism has been given by Ernst Haas (1964) whereby once cooperation in one realm, say economic, has been achieved; then there is "spill over" of cooperation in other realms such as 'security realm'.

An example of such a tendency can be found in European Union's formation of Council of Europe (1949) to enforce 'rule of law'.

Liberal framework in international relations is characterised by 'complex interdependence' to ensure mutual prosperity, security (Kohanne & Nge)

Functionalism strengthens the framework as it consolidates a region

into one single unit to ensure that future wars are prevented through interdependence. For instance, formation of E.U to avoid Franco-German hostility and formation of ASEAN to prevent itself from hegemonism of rising powers.

However, votaries of functionalism put too much faith in cooperation. Recent withdrawal of U.K from E.U along with failure of ASEAN to emerge as a security community; too much of form but lack of function in SAARC (C. Rajamohan) has put a question mark on efficacy of these theories and triumph of liberalism.

Nonetheless, the theory holds importance is it is easier to break one twig and difficult to break a bundle of them.

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e) Discuss the contribution of traditional institutional approach in the field of comparative politics. Bring out the factors responsible for the development of modern approach. (15 Marks)

Comparative politics is a sub-field of political science dealing with study of diverse political systems.

Temporal classification of the discipline can be done on the following basis →

- (i) Before World War II : Traditional approach
- (ii) After WWII : Modern approach.

Traditional approach according to Macridis was : Eurocentric, Static, Parochial, Value laden.

Contribution of Traditional approach includes :

(i) Aristotle's prescription of best form of government i.e.; 'Polity'.

(ii) Study of 'Constitutions' across systems in legal-institutional sense.

(c) Establishment of 'concepts' such as 'rule of law' by A.V Dickey.

However, post-decolonization, there was an emergence of diverse political systems in diverse societies e.g. Communism in China, democracy in India.

Traditional approach was insufficient to usher comparison; thus modern approach was propounded. In such developing nations, constitution existed but constitution-alism didn't.

Developing countries has 'prismatic societies' where societal faultlines impacted political processes. Hence, political sociology approach was born (Maurice Duverger)

Further, political economy impacted political system as reflected in failure of market model in countries like Russia leading

to breeding of authoritarianism. Thus, political economy approach was born to compare the confluence of economics & politics.

Manifestation of the modern approach can be found in prominent works such as Comparison of India & China's political economy by Amartya Sen.

Thus, evolution of field of comparative politics has appropriately taken place to prescribe policies in countries across the world.

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Q.3) a) Do you agree with the view that Ukraine crisis is primarily the West's fault? To What extent the crisis can be blamed on Russian aggression. (20 Marks)

The Russia-Ukraine crisis (2022) finds its genesis in Cold War nostalgia, Russian renauchism in Eurasia, realism and emergence of new world order.

The crisis is a product of both NATO expansionism and Russia's imperialism tendencies.

As a global hegemon, the US-led NATO endeavoured in eastward expansion of NATO which was an irritant on Russian side.

'Insecurity has been the national sentiment of Russia' (Robert Kaplan) and thus, fearing loss of a 'buffer state' such as Ukraine, Russia launched an invasion in 2022.

The rationale of the invasion emanates from following:

(1.) Creation of 'buffer zone' comprising of Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan to ensure exposure from NATO.

(2.) Ethno-Nationalism : Russia repudiates Ukrainian identity and consider them a part of the Salvic heartland. [Ivan Krastev]

(3.) To denounce hegemony of the west in an increasingly multi-polar world.

(4.) To enable access to Black sea from Luhansk and Donetsk region.

(5.) Faith in the idea that 'antidote' to European influence lies in Eurasianism [Gumilyev]

However, it is worthy to be noted that the invasion is

in response to hegemonic and expansionist tendency to include Ukraine in NATO.

Such a move would have stationed NATO forces closer to Russia, threatening its security. Thus, the invasion is instilled in 'Realpolitik'.

Further, the conflict exacerbated in an increasingly multi-polar world [as predicted in polarity of power thesis].

With retrenchment of USA and emergence of an authoritative china; Russian invasion became a reality. Multilateral institutions such as United Nations Security Council failed to contain the situation.

To conclude, the conflict does not have a monolithic cause but a 'set of causes' emerging from an increasingly unstable world order.

Feedback

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b) What is the role and importance of political parties in democratic polity? Bring out the difference between the scope of functions of political parties and pressure groups. (15 Marks)

Political parties are a group of people coming together to pursue a 'common goal' of attaining power'. Example: BJP, INC, Republican Party.

Role of political parties lie in 'aggregation' of various interests across different sections of society. Example: BJP's Manifesto (2014) laid down enforcement of uniform Civil code, minimum governance, disinvestment.

According to Rajni Kothari, they are agents of political development. For instance, emergence of regional political parties extended for demand for reservation of backward classes.

They enable opening up 'public sphere' (Habermas) for communicative action. Eg; Green political party in Europe.

In multi-party democracies, they offer opposition to check authoritarian tendencies of majoritarian government.

Cadre-based parties such as Communist party of China provides a strong organisational base for mobilisation of the masses.

Pressure groups are 'invisible empires' (Finer) where group of people pursue a 'common goal'. Example: Narmada Bachao Andolan.

They are 'interest articulators'. Unlike political parties, they focus on specific issues e.g. gender equality to pressurize policy-makers to make favorable policies.

They do not function ~~within~~ within precincts of constitution. Rather, they

use methods such as Dharnas, ghorajs.

Political parties endeavour to come to power, however, pressure groups endeavour to shape policies.

Political parties act as reservoir of leaders; however, pressure groups mobilize students, lawyers etc.

Political parties have strong organizational structures eg; presence of spokespersons etc. Pressure groups are informal in that sense.

Nonetheless, both play a crucial role in mobilising the ~~pass~~ masses to assert power from below. (Polyarchy)

Feedback

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c) What is your view with respect to the newly emerging balance of soft power in international politics. (15 Marks)

Joseph Nye in 'Bound to lead' gave the idea of 'soft power' which entails influencing outcomes on the basis of 'attraction' and not 'coercion' (as in case of hard power)

Post-Cold War era marked with Neoliberal processes in the world system ushered a shift from 'Billiard ball' model to '3D chess model'.

It further led to 'complex interdependence' on economies, denouncing war, 'cooperation' over conflict.

Thus, arose 'soft power' as a means to achieve outcomes.

Balance of soft power, then, means acquiring of soft power by nations to balance emerging soft power to ensure security.

In present context, China has developed considerable amount of soft power in the world due to following reasons:

- (a) manufactures cutting edge technology
eg; cheap smartphones, 5G communication system
- (b) supplier of crucial raw material eg; lithium plus 'face mask' diplomacy.
- (c) Infrastructural diplomacy in Pakistan, Sri Lanka.

However, its 'soft power' is gradually translating into 'hegemonism' as visible in 'debt-trap' diplomacy, 'weaponization of supply chains'.

Thus, emerges the response from across the world to balance such power:

- (1.) formation of QUAD to ensure 'rules based' order in Indo-Pacific region.

- (2.) 'Build Back Better' initiative by USA ;
'Aatmanirbharata' to integrate deeply in
supply chain by India.
- (3.) Indo-Pacific Economic forum : to
stabilise supply chains.
- (4.) I2U2 → to enable decoupling
from china's economy.
- (5.) India's partnership with countries
like Japan to contain infrastructural
diplomacy by china.
- (6.) 'Neighbourhood first Policy' : acting as
first responders in case of economic crisis
in Sri Lanka (2022)

In present times, overdependence
on chinese economy is perhaps the best
way to exercise soft power by china
which can be countered effectively
by decoupling from it.

Feedback

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Section - B

Q.5) Answer the following in about 150 words.

(10 * 5 = 50 Marks)

a) Difference between dependency theory and world system theory (10 Marks)

Dependency theory and World systems theory emanated from Marxist school of thought which explores the under-currents of global capitalist system.

World systems' theory by Immanuel Wallerstein lays down that the 'core' countries use 'semi-peripheral' countries to extract raw material, cheap labor and wealth from 'peripheral' countries to maintain their economic dominance in world system.

The fundamental assumption of this theory is that 'states' are the sole actors in the world system.

On similar lines is the Dependency theory which entails that

there is a constant 'drain of wealth' from 'Periphery' to the 'core' which explains the cause of poverty and underdevelopment in third world despite 'decolonisation'.

It differs from World systems theory as it explains how organisations such as IMF, World Bank; Transnational actors such as multi-national corporations affect drain of wealth.

Both the theories hold immense relevance in explaining massive inequalities amongst nations even in the 21st century.

Feedback

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b) Highlight the relevance of 'polarity of power' thesis

(10 Marks)

Polarity of power thesis given by Waltz and Mearsheimer holds that the degree of distribution of power in the world determines its stability.

According to the thesis, the World orders and their implications are :

(1.) Unipolarity : When one power gains dominance in world affairs.

Eg; US hegemony in post-Cold War era.

It implies an unstable world order dictated by single power.

(2.) Bipolarity : Emergence of two rivalrous powers. It is the most stable form. Eg; USA and USSR

during cold war.

(3) Multi-polarity : characterised by more than one/two poles of power. It is the most unstable form of world order likely to 'degenerate' into enhanced conflict.

Relevance

It helps in understanding 'chinese hegemonism'. According to the thesis, China was a 'free rider' in US-led world order and rose to challenge it ultimately.

It further helps in understanding contemporary multi-polar world order and recent Russian encroachment in Ukraine as a consequence of that.

Further, it will help in addressing increasingly unstable world order by establishing coping mechanisms through issue-based coalitions.

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e) Comment on the New social movements in developed and developing countries (10 Marks)

Social movements are an instance of collective action by civil society to pursue a common goal.

New social movements emerged post-World War and post-decolonization during 1960s-70s. In words of Herbert Marcuse, they attempt to challenge socio-cultural milieu as opposed to socio-economic milieu like old social movement did.

New social movements in developed countries began with 'assertion of identity'. Example: Black consciousness movement. They evolved to cover issues around gender equality, environmental issues and anti-capitalism [Battle for Seattle, 1999]

In developing countries, they addressed issues in 'over developed state' or 'prismatic societies' eg; movement

against corruption, Narmada Bachao Andolan.

In contemporary times, they are manifested through social media
Example: Peoples' march for climate (2014);

Me Too movement.

New social movements cut across the globe irrespective of nationality. They are mobilized by advocacy groups. Example; Greta Thunberg's movement against climate change.

These movements are not loud rather they usher a 'silent revolution'. However, the movements have been accused to blocking economic growth in developing countries. & Greenpeace's mobilization against nuclear plant in Tamil Nadu.

Nonetheless, movements manifest-
 What Mary Kaldor calls 'globalization from below'.

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d) Examine the assumptions of general system theory

(10 Marks)

Systems theory of international relations focuses on the structure of international system to explain the behaviour and interactions of systems' units.

(ie; states)

It is an intellectual brainchild of General Systems theory introduced by Ludwig von Bertalanffy. It formulated general principles of systems so that all branches of social sciences & natural sciences can develop their own theories.

Systems approach by Kaplan

Assumptions are as follows :

(1.) International relations can be analyzed as set of relations among international actors.

(2.) It is not an international political system as there is no overarching authority.

(3.) Two category of actors : national actors

- (states) and supranational actors (U.N, EU)
- (5) Interactions in international system occurs for preservation of 'self interest'.
- (6) There are regularities in patterns of interaction.
- (7) Objective on analysis is to build a theory.

The application of the approach can be found in works of following theorists:

- (1) Morton Kaplan : six models of international system
- (2) Kenneth Waltz : Neorealism
- (3) Keohane & Nye : 'complex interdependence'
- (4) Alexander Wendt : 'constructivist' perspective of a system.
- (5) Wallerstein : world systems approach

The approach, thus, lays a distinctive framework to analyse international relations.

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e) Comment on the notion of 'security communities'

(10 Marks)

Karl Deutsch in 'Political Community and North Atlantic area' defined security community as a 'group of people' believing that 'they are in agreement at one point that common social problems must and can be resolved by processes of peaceful change'.

Hence, in such an area large scale use of violence has become unlikely or unthinkable.

Deutsch divided security communities into two parts →

(1) Amalgamated: Two or more previously independent states come together to form a common government.

(2) Pluralistic → states retain their independence. They are easier to establish.

Deutsch identified 2 conditions to form pluralistic communities:

(1) Capacity of states to respond to each other's needs.

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(2) compatibility of major values relevant to political decision-making.

Post-cold war, the concept of security community was adapted by constructivist scholars. Emanuel Adler and Michael Barnett in 'Security Communities' (1998) redefined security community by 'shared identities, values and meanings'.

Further, Raimo Väyrynen and Andrzej Turcisny differentiated between

- ① Interstate security community: Where war between states is unlikely. Eg; Southeast Asia.
- ② Comprehensive security community: Where inter-state wars & civil wars are unthinkable. Eg; Western Europe

Even though the idea is contradictory to Mandal theory of Kautilya, yet, it remains desirable for a stable world.

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Q.7) a) "Liberalism's decline is evident in the growing strength of autocracies such as China and Russia" (Fukuyama). Do you agree with the view that liberalism is in peril? (20 Marks)

Liberalism in international relations views relations between states as 'complexly interdependent' to the extent that 'cooperation' is chosen over 'conflict'. [Keohane & Nye]

liberal view of relations push for multilateral institutions such as U.N.O to foster cooperation. For them, Transnational actors like MNCs, Advocacy groups are channels to foster cooperation.

As shivshankar menon noted, the current world order is a dangerous one. It is characterised by a shift from:

Democratic Norms → Autocratic Norms

Neoliberal processes → Mercantilist Processes

Unipolarity → Multi polarity

Such a tendency can be explained using 'Polarity of Power' thesis whereby the

global hegemon is dominated or challenged
(USA)
by emerging power (China).

The upshot is that there is a sharp deviation between norms perpetuated by USA and China. Former is Neoliberal and democratic whereas latter is Mercantilist and authoritarian.

Further, the imperfect market model in Russia has become a breeding ground of Neo-Nazism. Such a tendency is visible in flouting of international norms in its' invasion of Georgia (2008), Guinea (2014) and Ukraine (2022).

Threat of rising Chinese hegemonism and Russian revisionism has led to decline in the spirit

of complex interdependence.

Events such as Global financial crisis (2008), Covid-19 pandemic have exacerbated 'protectionist' tendencies amongst states.

Being members of Permanent five of U.N.S.C, the two countries have constantly stalled resolutions accusing them of human rights violations. It indicates towards decline in credibility of multi-lateral organisations.

Despite growing autocratic norms, the world has been able to preserve liberal norms as:

(1.) formation of issue-based coalitions such as QUAD, I2U2 to ensure security of supply chains and sea lanes of communication.

(2.) Active decoupling from china and Russia.

(3.) Sustaining multilateral organisations such as World Food Programme to address humanitarian crisis.

To conclude, the world order has been affected by totalitarian and autocratic states and definitely the liberal world order is on decline. Yet, interdependence persists as long as comparative advantage of one nation over the other persists.

Feedback

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b) How eurocentrism poses a challenge to the study of comparative politics. Discuss the response of the discipline to this challenge? (15 Marks)

Comparative politics is a sub-field of political science characterised by study of diverse political systems.

Traditional comparative approach (before World War II), as Macridis opined was eurocentric, static and parochial.

Eurocentrism in the field emanates from the fact that before WWII, the construct of modern-nation states was restricted to Europe. The rest of the world was 'colonised' by European nations such as France, UK, Dutch.

Limitation of eurocentric study emanates from:

(1.) Homogenous population of European nations as opposed to heterogeneous population of developing countries. Thus, different

tools needed to be designed.

(2.) study was legal-institutional; whereas processes in developing countries were affected by socio-cultural factors.

(3.) It lacked the 'third world' perspective eg; to describe causes of poverty.

The limitations of Eurocentrism was overcome by modern approaches such as political sociology, political economy, systems approach.

The addressed the limitation in following manner:

(1.) Imbibed Behavioural methods: empirical, verifiable tools for cross global study.

(2.) Inculcated socio-cultural processes and their effect on politics eg; Rajni Kothari's

Work on role of caste in politics.

(3-) Elaborated on 'theories of underdevelopment' to show economic dependency of third world on developed world.

(4-) Added to 'dynamism' of the discipline as it took into consideration 'changes' in concepts such as power. Robert Dahl's theory on 'polyarchy' is a case on the point.

To conclude, the modern approaches have broken the tyranny of Eurocentrism in intellectual sphere only to pave way for better policy recommendations for developing world.

Feedback
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e) Discuss the reasons behind the pessimism of Realist about human progress and cooperation beyond the boundaries of the nation state. (15 Marks)

Realist school of thought is based on the premise that states are in 'struggle for power' as opposed to liberal school which insists in 'cooperation' within amongst states due to 'complex interdependence'.

Pessimism of Realism about cooperation between states can be traced to two schools of thoughts :

(1) Classical Realism (Hans J. Morgenthau)

Whose assumptions are →

- (a) States are 'egoistic' and hence, clash.
- (b) International system is 'anarchical' and hence, states are in conflict.
- (c) States acquire power in national interest
- (d) National morality may not be in tandem with universal morality.

(2.) Neo-Realism [Waltz & Mearsheimer]

assume that :

(a) states are bound to clash because international system is anarchical and hence, threatening.

(b) states acquire power to ensure their security through expansionism (Mearsheimer / offensive realism)

(c) states acquire power with sole purpose to defend themselves [Waltz / defensive realism]

Physical manifestation of realism in contemporary times can be witnessed in :

(1.) Russian invasion of Ukraine : an attempt to 'recolonise' (Ivan Krastev) to ensure 'buffer zone' between itself & NATO.

(2.) Chinese expansionism manifested in 'debt-trap' diplomacy, flouting of international norms in South China Sea.

(3.) attempts of Iran to acquire nuclear weapons to ensure its security from USA, Israel.

(4.) decline in credibility of multilateral institutions.

To conclude, realism has made a comeback in the current emerging world order especially post-2008 financial crisis and Covid-19 pandemic.

Nevertheless, liberalism remains an anti-dote to realism and must be preserved through reforms in multilateral organisations.

Feedback

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Structure/
Question
Content
Value
Total