

DEPT, OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

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#### **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**



### **Meaning of International Relations**

• Meaning : Our richly connected, complex world demands professionals skilled in international relations, an exciting field of study that presents a globally oriented perspective on issues that transcend national boundaries. And also Man is a social, not by choice, but by necessity.

# Definitions of International Relations

1. Prof Quincy Wright defined : "It is not only the nations seek to regulate, varied types of groups-nations, states, governments, people, region, alliances, confederations, international organizations, cultural organizations, religious organizations must be dealt with in the study of international relations if the treatment is to be made realistic." (Quincy Wright)

- 2. Prof Hoffman defined : "International relations is concerned with the factors and activities, that affect the external policies and the powers of the basic units into that the world is divided." (Hoffman).
- **3. Prof Trevor Tayor :** "International relations is the discipline, that tries to explain political activities across state boundaries (Trevor Tayor).

- 4. Palmer and Perkins defined : " the study of international relations id not a science with which we solve the problems of international life. At its best it is an object and systematic approach to those problems".
- International relations as " relations between powerful groups defined by Prof Quincy Wright.

6. Prof Encarta : "International relations is the branch of political science that studies relations between countriesof the world."



#### **Scope of the International Relations**

International relations topic cover diplomacy, treaties, question of war and peace, global happenings, commercial, cultural, educational. social, religious international alliances and international organizations etc. The scope of international relations can be discussed. **Establishment of League of Nations.** In modern time the field. of the study was widened with the establishment of the League of Nations in 1920, after the First World War due to the sincere efforts of Woodrow Wilson of USA. The establishment of the League of Nations contributed to the study of international relations. Therefore, the study of international organizations and international institutions was also included in its preview. Emergence of USA and USSR as a Super Powers. Emergence of USA and USSR as superpowers further widened the scope of international relations. After the second World War the world transformed into bipolarity from multi– polarity with USA and USSR flourishing in international affairs. Both the superpowers conducted international relations according to their own interests.

**Establishment of United Nations.** After the end of World War II various international conferences were held. Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin met at Tehran and Yalta. They agreed in principle to form a worldwide international organization for peace loving states. Therefore, an acceptable charter was signed on 26th June 1945. United Nations is a global organization of independent and sovereign states and its main aim is "to maintain international peace and security." The establishment of the UN also contributed to the study of international relations to great extent. Emergence of USA as a Superpower (New World Order). I'he end of USSR as a superpower in Dec, 1990 changed the whole world and USA emerged as a superpower that adopted international politics in such a way that majority of the nations of the world visualized themselves as the subjected mission of the single power. The Gulf War of 1991 paved the way for USA to emerge as a superpower that resulted in the USA's N.W.O under that USA became the master of the world politics. Emergence of USA as a superpower also extended the scope of international relations.

Globalization. Due to certain reasons the scattered world is going towards integration. The world is now a single village and states are incomplete with one another. This situation increased the scope of international relations



Technological Development. Technology exercises profound influence on the power base of a state as well as the course of international relations. Technology at least in three spheres, industrial, communication and military, has greatly influenced the power of the state. Due to technological development the world has become a global village. Technological development also extended the scope and value of international relations.

### **Nature of International Relations**

In the very beginning of the civilized world the states were mutually interlinked. In modern times the world has greatly shrunk as a result of scientific and technological development. As a result, events in one part of the world have an immediate impact on the rest of the world. Therefore the states maintain regular relations with other states of the world. As an alone individual is nothing similarly, a state without **other** state is nothing and in the present complex life, a state without relations with other cannot survive. Materialistic needs, religion, economic requirements, industrialization, security matters and trade etc. brought the states together. Inter-states wars yielded post-war treaties, economic and friendly agreements and international organizations. All these things are studied by international relations.

International relations are an old subject and can be traced in the old tribes. It was utilized by the Greeks and Romans in their relations. As a regular subject, international relations took start in the World War–I era and specially because of the second World War, Cold War between USA and USSR, disintegration of USSR, New World Order (NWO) of USA, global role of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) emergence of international organization and diplomatic relations etc. developed this subject to great extent.

## Importance of International Relations

• We are all part of international relations because of our identities, religion and cultural backgrounds, places where we live and choices that we make. Even if we are not interested in international relations, international relations are interested in us. Modern international relations give us deep cultural understanding that is a foundation for interaction with cultures with different values and beliefs. And we, as well as countries, need to communicate to survive. All nations depend on the trade and exchanges with others can be beneficial in many ways.

At the same time, today's world is rapidly changing. As a new countries becoming more powerful and significant on the international stage, the developing world continues to grow. Center of gravity has shifted in international affairs, moving towards Pacific which itself defines new roles for almost all major actors. The global scene is more fluid than ever before in human history. All these changes are starting to have profound impact on foreign relations in the decades to come. That's what makes international relations so inspiring and intriguing, not to mention important nowadays.

## Thank you

- Reference : internet ( enotes.com )
- International Relations by U. Sharma
- International Relations by R. Chkravarthi.