

Q: Finland's joining of NATO, and its implication for the world?

Ans:- Introduction:

The world is experiencing dramatic political changes. The war in Ukraine has further aggravated the political situation in Europe.

Russian aggression has threatened western countries especially its neighbors like Finland. The aggressive Russian policies have more strengthen NATO countries and the body itself.

Finland's joining of NATO:

On April 4, 2023, Finland officially joined NATO as its 31st newest member. Finland is a neighboring country of Russia, having 1340 km of border. The further expansion of the organization in post cold war era has significant implications for Russia and the whole world. Russia seems to be the only loser in the game as it hoped for

halt to further Eastward expansion of NATO, when it attacked Ukraine in February 2022.

Moreover, the criticism on NATO in the contemporary world for its relevance will be made silent because of proving its importance in today's world of Politics. Finland will enjoy significant importance on world stage after joining of NATO. It can become party in Russia-Ukraine conflict, by sending conventional military assistance like other NATO countries such as UK, Germany and Poland etc. Finland has large standing army exceeding two lac personnels, which is more than three times that of UK's army.

Finland would feel more secure on its border with Russia, as it would easily excess western military technology and military aid. Finland in near future could also provide airfields and grounds for other NATO troops.

Moreover, the security of Europe will be further enhanced with the joining of scandinavian country, while leaving no space for Russian interests.

## Implications For Russia :

Russia has increased ~~the~~ numbers of its hostile countries, a blunder Putin committed by sending troops to Ukraine, which eventually threatened its neighbour Finland, which was neutral since World War I.

Putin's miscalculation just provided another reason for NATO to strengthen the body by expansion of its members. This move of Finland would make Russia vulnerable as the borders of NATO had doubled, seeming further encirclement of the Russian Federation. The Russian security threat will not stop here, it could be aggravated as Kremlin alienated its neighboring countries with its wrong moves. Another example is of Sweden, another near-border country of Russia is in waitlist of NATO and is hoping to join the body in near future as soon as the Turkiye element is resolved.

Moreover, the relations of NATO with Russia will become more ~~more~~ tense in near future implying a beginning of new cold war and military race. Russia will be contained with military installments followed by stringent economic sanctions. The Russian economy has proved more resilience to western imposed sanctions as still European countries rely upon Russian gas, and tackling with energy prices. Though in terms of military and defence capability, Russia lags behind because it already exhausted its large chunk of military hardwares and army in ongoing Ukrainian invasion.

Implications for USA:

The implications for USA are of positive one, it can easily increase its influence in the Scandinavian region while further squeezing Russia more militarily and economically.

She could be able to station its army, tactical nukes, air-superiority jets and strategic stealth bombers in the backyard of Russia.

Implications for rest of the world :  
China on the other hand, the close ally of Russia will not feel directly threatened but she can be compelled to go with Russia, helping her militarily and financially, because China can not just see ~~it~~ a regime change of any kind in its neighbor backed by western countries or ~~any~~ can bear weakening of Russia.

However, if NATO proceeds further like many experts believe that Japan and South-Korea could also join as the threat of China grows, China may be forced to support Russia openly.

Moreover, it could have bad implications in a sense that tight economic sanctions will further increase energy prices, which will be devastating news for developing economies like Pakistan and India. World, especially South Asia, South-America and Africa could experience another economic recession in Post-Covid era.

## Conclusion :

Security situation and collaboration of NATO countries will improve, while security threat of Russia will be present. NATO expansion will further go on, and imposition of economic sanctions on Russia will remain.

Any spark could bring tensions and devastating news for whole world, especially the developing countries.