

- Q) Write a short note on the following:
- a) National Interest
 - b) Non-Traditional Security Threats

a) 1) Introduction:

National interest is a fundamental concept in international relations and geopolitics, referring to the strategic goals, priorities, and objectives that a nation seeks to achieve to ensure its security, prosperity and well-being. It is essentially the driving force behind shaping the country's foreign policy.

2) Components of National Interest:

2.1) Security and Defense:

Ensuring security and sovereignty of a nation is a central part of national interest. Countries often work to build strong defense capabilities, forge alliances, and maintain a stable security environment to protect themselves from threats.

2.2) Economic Prosperity:

Economic well-being is crucial for any nation's development. Pursuing policies that promote economic growth, trade, investment, and technological advancements are essential elements of national interest.

2.3) Political Influence:

Nations aim to extend their political influence and leverage to shape regional and global affairs according to their interests. This can involve partaking in international organisations, engaging in diplomacy etc.

2.4) Resource Security:

Ensuring access to essential resources, such as water, food and energy, is critical for a nation's sustainability.

Example:

Germany, though adamantly averse to Russian invasion of Ukraine, has not completely ~~defect~~ imposed sanction of Russian Gas imports since it is heavily dependent on it.

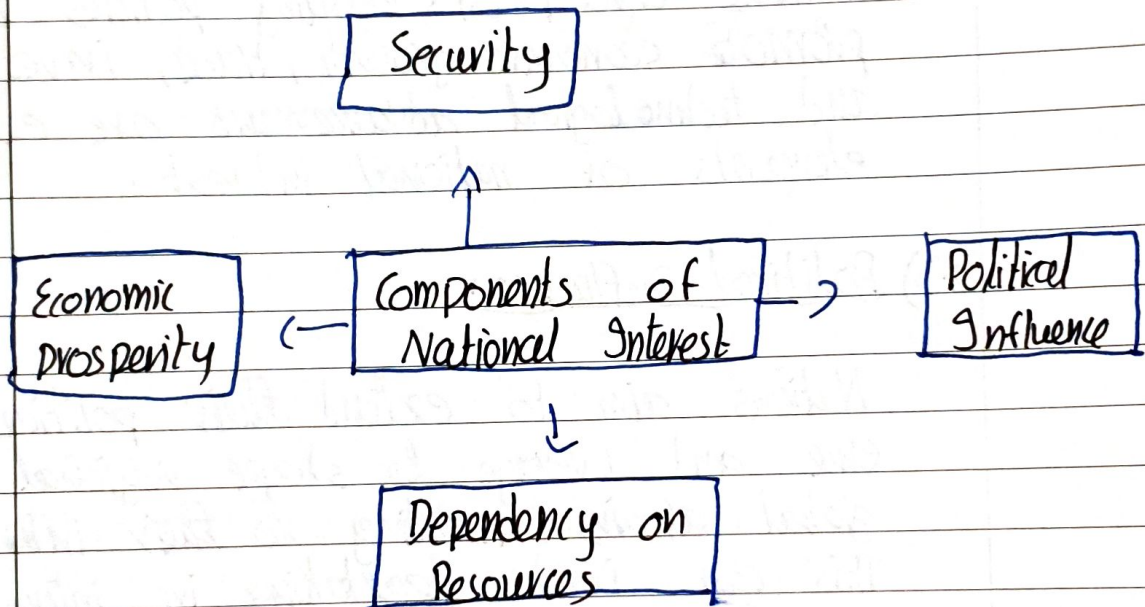


Fig 1: Component of National Int

3) Determinants of National Interest:

3.1) Geo-political Context:

A nation's geographical location and regional dynamics heavily influence its national interests. Proximity to conflict zones, neighboring countries, and strategic resources play a role.

3.2) Historical Factors :

Historical experiences, conflicts, alliances and colonial legacies can be weighed by a country in shaping its national interest and its relations with other nations.

3.3) Economic Priorities :

Economic factors such as trade dependencies, investment opportunities including foreign investment and other financial support can impact a country's definition on its national interest.

b) 1) Introduction :

Non traditional security threats are challenges to a nation's security and well-being that extend beyond traditional military threats. Unlike conventional security threats, which primarily involve military aggression, non-traditional security threats encompass a wide range of issues that can have several social, economic

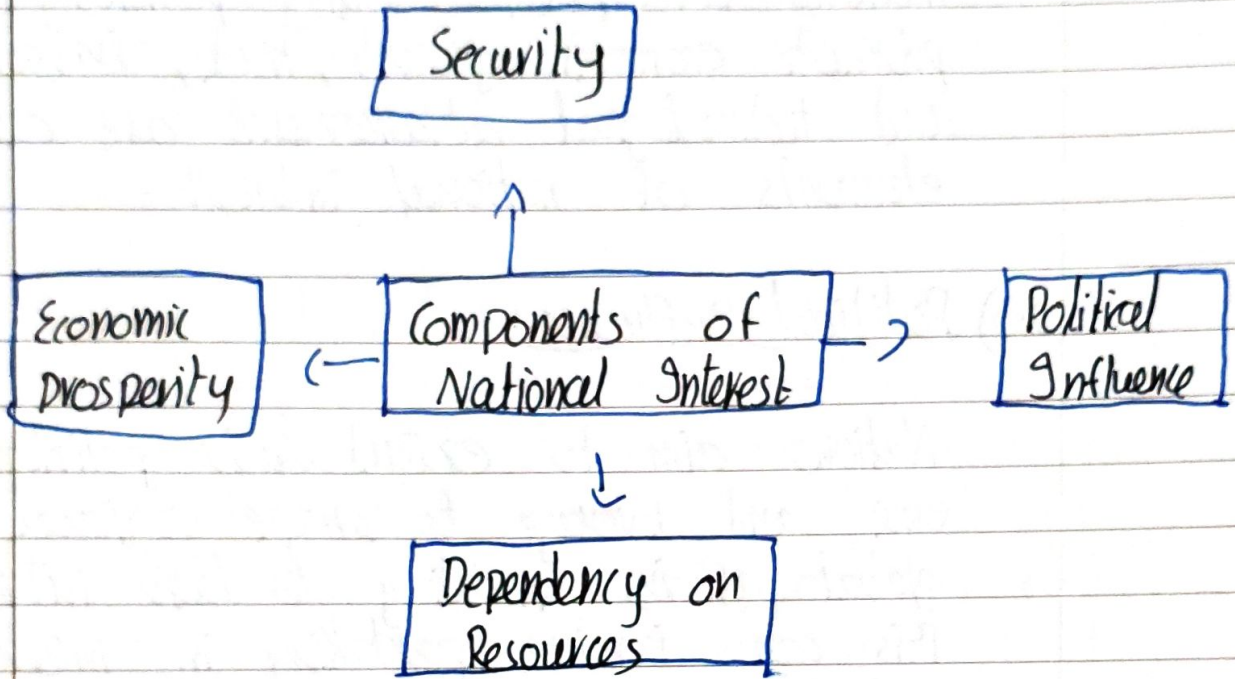


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Political and environmental impacts.

2) Categories of NON-Traditional Security Threats :

2.1) Environmental Degradation :

Climate change, deforestation, loss of biodiversity, and natural disasters pose serious non-traditional security threats. They can lead to resource scarcity, displacement of populations, and destabilization of regions.

2.2) Public Health Crisis :

Epidemics, pandemics, and the spread of infectious diseases like Ebola are non non-traditional security threats.

Example :

The spread of covid-19 was considered a global pandemic that engulfed most of the world taking a huge toll on economic and public health sectors

2.3) Energy and Resource Security:

Dependency on energy resources and the scarcity of essential commodities can lead to economic vulnerabilities and geopolitical tensions.

2.4) Economic Instability:

Economic crisis, market fluctuations, and financial disruptions can result in unemployment, poverty, and social unrest, ultimately affecting stability and security.

2.5) Migration and Refugee Flows:

Large-scale migrations and refugee movements driven by conflicts, economic disparities, or environmental factors can strain resources, create social tensions, and challenge the stability of host countries.

2.6) Transnational Organised Crime:

Illicit activities such as drug trafficking,

human trafficking, cybercrimes, and privacy have far-reaching consequences, including destabilizing societies, undermining governance, and affecting economic growth.

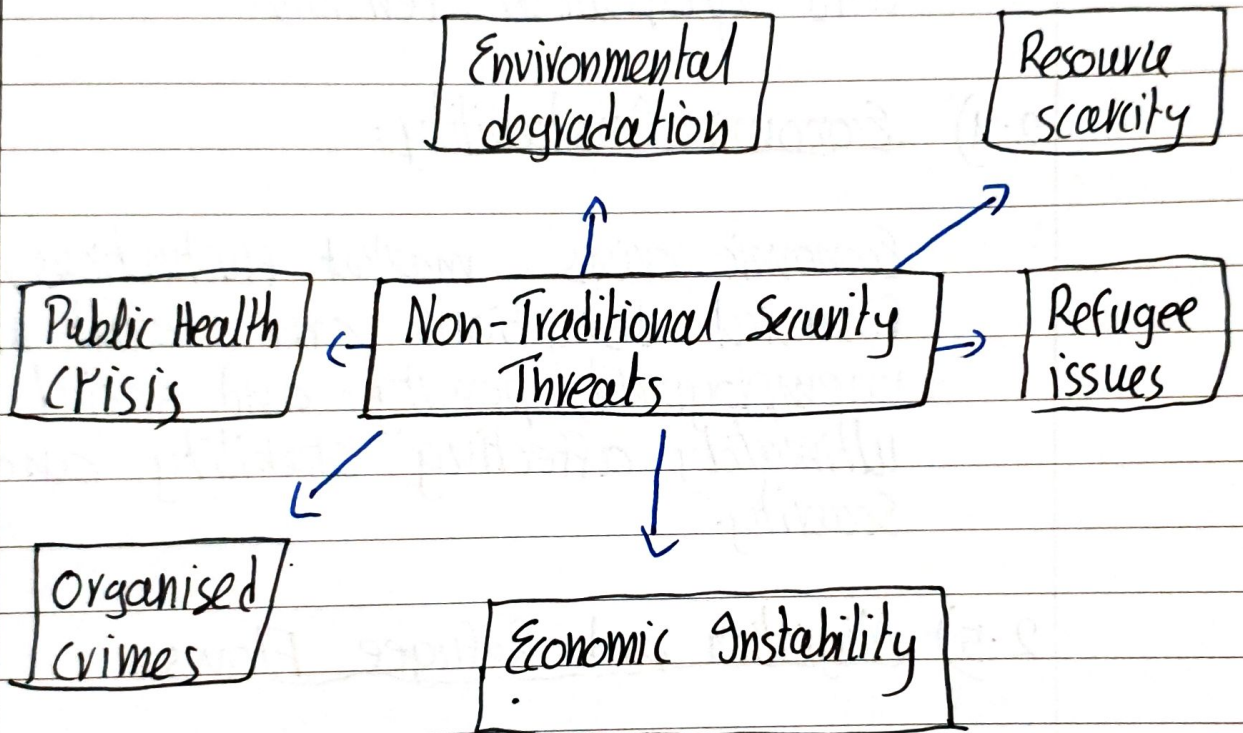


Fig 2: Overview of NTS threats.