

Is World Peace Possible?

Outline

I- Introduction

Thesis Statement: World peace is certainly possible but it also has certain challenges which need to be countered in order to make this planet peaceful and conflict-free.

II- How The World Peace is Possible?

a) Growing interdependence and multilateralism makes world peace possible.

b) Transition from geo-~~economics~~^{strategic} to geo-economics.

d) Democracy and increased literacy promotes a sense of peace.

e) War is no more a profit-making venture.

f) Isolation and sanction on countries that try to erupt war.

g) Nuclear weapons ensuring deterrence and peace in the world.

III - Challenges in the way of World Peace

a) Rise of multipolarity and tension amongst states.

b) Economic hegemony of world leaders: a hurdle to world peace.

c) Emergence of transnational threats exacerbating world peace.

d) Growing intolerance and polarization among people.

e) Media promoting hostile narrative triggering hybrid warfare.

IV- Roadmap to Ensure World Peace

a) Encouraging de-escalation and diplomacy instead of confrontation.

b) Strengthening globalization and economic interdependency.

c) Combatting trans-national threats like terrorism, pandemic and climate change.

d) Promoting biased-free media narrative to ensure world peace.

V- Conclusion

Essay

Peace is one of the most desirable things that a man wants. The last few decades have been the most peaceful era in history. Whereas in early agricultural societies, human violence caused upto 15% of all human deaths, and in the twentieth century, it caused 5 percent, today it is responsible for only 1 percent. With the development of institutions like European Union and United Nations, world is certainly moving towards greater peace. Hence, world peace is certainly possible but it also has certain challenges which need to be countered in order to make this planet peaceful and conflict-free. It is worth-mentioning that growing multilateralism and paradigm

shift from geo-strategics to geo-economics can ensure world peace. Democracy and increased literacy are also the cornerstones of world peace. Moreover, war is no more a profit-making venture because of deterrence of nuclear weapons and isolation of countries that erupt war. Unfortunately, there are certain ^{challenges} in the way of world peace like rise of multi-polarity and economic hegemony amongst the states. Trans-national threats are also major obstacles in the road to world peace. However, world peace can be achieved by strengthening diplomacy and socio-economic globalization. In this way, a biased-free and peaceful future of the world can be ensured.

It is evident from the increased globalisation, growing interdependence and multilateralism that peace is certainly possible in the world. For instance, the Belt and Road Initiative of China is the clear manifestation of growing interdependence and multilateralism among more than 100 countries in the world. Yuval Noah Harari, in his book, 21 lessons for 21st century also unveils the fact that China has adopted the economic means instead of military for the prosperity of his country and the world. Hence, it depicts that world peace is possible owing to the increasing multilateralism and interdependence among countries.

Besides multilateralism, the world is also inclining towards geo-economics

instead of geo-strategics. This is evident from the National Security Policy of Pakistan (2022-2026) launched in 2021. The policy provides a clear framework and roadmap that the focus would be on human capital and geo-economic domain. This will not only benefit the Pakistani citizens but if implemented in true spirit, it would also ensure regional connectivity and hence, peace in the world.

Moreover, democracy and education have also increased in the world. Peace can be promoted in the world as democracy and education are the hallmark of world peace. The European Union is the resilient example of increased democracy and literacy. The member countries witnessed a lot of violence during the

two world wars. However, the countries rose from ashes by promoting democratic norms and ensuring a robust education system. These are even examples for the war-torn countries like Afghanistan, Syria and Libya to name a few, that vibrant and pragmatic reforms can turn the war-prone regions into peaceful ones. Thus, democracy and increased literacy are the cornerstone for establishing peace in the world.

Adding up, it is worth-mentioning the fact that war is no more a profit-making venture in the era of globalisation and increased interdependency in the world. This can be illustrated from the examples of the United States withdrawal from Vietnam and Afghanistan and the

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics withdrawal from Afghanistan in 1989 after its debacle in Cold War. These examples depict that wars and invasion only bring destruction, violence and economic catastrophes in the world without any victory. Therefore, these military debacles prove that war is of no use (while) and world peace is certainly possible.

Besides these military debacles, the countries that try to erupt war also get isolation and sanctions at international level at the outcome of war. This not only tarnishes the image of country but also bring economic catastrophe in the war-induced countries.

For instance, after the Russian invasion in Ukraine on 24th February, the United States of America, ^{and} the European Union

imposed heavy sanctions on Russia which disrupted the global supply chains and significantly decreased the Russian exports of gas. Moreover, the Central Asian Republics and the Balkan countries also isolated Russia. Therefore, it is evident that the concept of isolation and sanction on countries reduce the possibility of war while increasing the possibility of world peace.

Furthermore, the presence of nuclear weapons ensures deterrence and peace in the world. The importance of nuclear weapons cannot be ignored as their deterrence has not let the world war three happen. This can be illustrated from the example of nuclear-powered countries of South Asia, India and Pakistan who are at logger-heads with each other

but their nuclear deterrence has ensued that there is no major war between them. Hence, the presence of nuclear weapons manifest that world peace is certainly possible even in this ~~world~~ nuclearised era.

Though, the world peace is possible but the road to world peace is rough and tough as there are certain hurdles in the way of world peace which are discussed below:

There is no doubt that the world is leading towards multi-polarity which has resulted in rift between the Eastern and Western world. Mainly, the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine is the major hurdle in the peace possibility. This has even given formation to bloc politics and camp formation. Hence,

the emergence of camp politics and tension between the East and the West are the major challenges in the way of world peace.

Similarly, the economic hegemony of world leaders is another impediment in the way of world peace. According to some global politics expert, this economic hegemony is paving way to a new Cold War mainly between the United States and China. The trade war between these two countries and military confrontation in the Indo-Pacific region are the clear examples of economic hegemony. Thus, the increasing economic lust and stand-off amongst countries derail the importance of world peace.

Besides these hegemonic ambitions, emergence of transnational threats like

Climate change, Covid pandemic and terrorism exacerbates world peace. These existential threats have derailed the prosperity and regional connectivity since few decades. Moreover, these challenges cause violence, chaos and even loss of lives. Therefore, these ongoing threats cannot be ignored as they are great hurdle in the way of world peace.

Another challenge in the way of world peace is the growing intolerance and polarisation among people. These challenges induce fear among people and give rise to extremist beliefs, sectarianism and xenophobia. Moreover, this has given rise to religious conflicts which ultimately results in war. For example, the Shia-Sunni divide in the Middle East has made it

a cauldron of religion conflicts and tensions. Hence, the growing intolerance and sectarianism is a major hurdle in the way of world peace.

Additionally, hybrid warfare has disrupted the world peace at an unprecedented level.

Media is the main culprit in inducing hostile narrative which has given rise to information warfare and psychological warfare. There is no doubt that media acts as a two-edge sword. It can also prevail peace and at the same time, it can erupt warfare. Hence, the use of media for unfair purposes is a major obstacle in prevailing world peace.

As the above mentioned challenges pose a great threat to world peace, there are certain robust suggestions

which can ensure a peaceful and conflict-free world.

The first and foremost responsibility of states and international organisations is to encourage de-escalation and diplomacy instead of confrontation. There is a need to adopt peaceful legislations regarding nuclear weapons.

Moreover, assessing the lethality of weapons and making accountability mechanism is the need of hour. In this way, confrontation can be reduced and world peace would be established.

Similarly, it is worth-mentioning the fact that globalisation and economic interdependency can prove to be gamechangers in ensuring world peace. In the era of globalisation, this will ensure global connectivity as well

as economic boost. Furthermore, this will also bridge the gap between developed and developing nations so that they can also revitalise their economies. Hence, there is a need to strengthen the global economies in order to achieve a peaceful world.

Among the suggestions, it is necessary to combat trans-national threats like terrorism, covid pandemic and climate change as they pose great challenge to world peace. The world leaders need to cooperate on these emerging issues by zero tolerance towards terrorism and curbing pandemics and global warming through robust policies and actions. Therefore, it is high time to combat these threats for a conflict-free and disaster-neutral world.

There is no doubt that media plays a vibrant role in the prevailment of world peace. As it is the fourth pillar of state, it is also considered as the cornerstone to world peace. It should promote biased-free content remaining loyal to the country and not to certain elites. It can be used as a tool for ensuring accountability and transparency rather than promoting hybrid warfare amongst countries. Therefore, a biased-free and transparent media can be gamechanger in promoting world peace.

In a nutshell, the importance of world peace cannot be ignored as it is the hallmark of development, prosperity and sustainability across the globe. On the other hand, war is nothing

but destruction and chaos. It is high time to realise the importance of world peace from the past events and examples of various countries. Moreover, in order to materialise the possibility of world peace, several steps have been taken but more needs to be done to eradicate the challenges in the bumpy road towards world peace. Hence, world peace is certainly possible as there is no instance of a nation benefitting from prolonged warfare.

"Mankind must put an end to warfare before war put an end to mankind."

(John F Kennedy, Former US President)