

"Nations don't love nations; they love their national interest"

## Outline

### 1- Introduction

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Thesis statement: While nations strategic partnerships exhibit their affection for one another, global wars, reshaping alliances, emerging conflicts and climate diplomacy reflect that nations only follow their vested interests. To counter shared global challenges, nations need to come out the same page.

### 2- How Nations Only Consider Their National Interests Supreme and Keep Loyalty With Other Nations Aside?

2a) Establishing peaceful or conflictual relations based on national interests

- US iron-clad support to Israel while sanction on Russia

2b) The biased nature of multilateral organizations

- 'Israeli Lobby and The US Foreign Policy' by Mearsheimer and Stephen

2c) Spreading Western-led world order in the name of upholding human rights

- US invasion in Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan

2d) Forging global alliances to attain political hegemony

- BRI, B3W, BRICS

2e) Economic globalization to secure economic supremacy

- China's String of Pearls and India's Necklace of Diamonds

Strategy

2f) Multilateral institution as new form of colonialism

- McDonalds

2g) Resurgence of nationalist policies to extend national interests

- 'On Populism' by Jane Werner Muller

2b) Developing climate diplomacy  
to enhance national agendas

- COP 29

2i) Supremacy in technology  
to entrench global power

- Tech war between US  
and China

3) Why Countries Need To Develop  
Amicable Relations Instead Of  
Blindly Following Their National  
Interests?

3a) To mitigate shared global  
challenges

- Climate change, poverty

3b) To subvert global wars and  
maintain global peace

- Israel-Palestine war

3c) To safeguard human rights

- UDHR

4) Application of theoretical perspective  
on the topic: theory of constructivism

5) Conclusion

"Nations don't love nations; they love their national interest"

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Just as a plant flourishes in fertile soil and withers in barren land, nations cultivate alliances with prosperous economies and sever them with struggling ones.

Multiple historical events cast shadow on this bitter reality of forging and stifling international relations.

Good engripping introduction

Among them the most prominent ones were the US and China friendship during cold war to disintegrate the Soviet Union. After dismemberment of the Soviet Union, US and China have become global rivals. Therefore, nations have no interest in each other, they only love their national interests. On the basis of national interests, nations make or break alliances. Above all, they want to gain influence on the world stage. It needs to explore how nations propagate their

national agendas. While nations strategic partnerships exhibit their affection for one another, global wars, reshaping alliances, emerging conflicts and climate diplomacy reflect that nations only follow their vested interests. To counter shared global challenges, nations need to come out the same page. Lord Palmerston, the former British Prime Minister, reiterated the concept of national interests as:

"We have no eternal allies, and we have no perpetual enemies. Our interests are eternal and perpetual."

Starting with the interdependence of countries as the standard parameter, which defines their peaceful or conflictual relation with one another. For instance, in the case of Russia-Ukraine war, US imposed sanctions on

Russia while in Israel Palestine war, US has supported the Israel's genocidal campaign in Palestine. It underscores that US supports Israel because it has vested interests in the Middle East. US wants to maintain its hegemony in the Middle East. Similarly, China build strategic relation with Russia after the alienation of Russia by the US and European countries. It reflects China's national interests to secure its global power. It emphasizes that nations have no loyalty for one another, rather than they seek to achieve their national interests.

To further comprehend this perspective, the biased behaviour of nations in the multilateral organizations provides evidence that nations only love their national interests. The

United Nations Security Council, designed to secure global peace, also became victim of nations national interests. It can be illustrated by the complicity of the US to Israel in preventing ceasefire resolutions in the UNSC. John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt in 'Israeli Lobby and the US Foreign Policy' argues that the US has vetoed thirty two ceasefire resolutions out of total 47 resolutions, highlighting the priority of national interests over global rules and norms.

Building on this fact that nations only perpetuate their national interests rather than showing sincerity with other nations, the leaders of Global North profess themselves as advocator of human rights throughout the world. However, the invasion of USA in Iraq, Iran and

Afghanistan dismantles this idea of global leaders' interest in upholding human rights. In these cases of invasion, human rights had greatly been violated. Many people have suffered, including women and children. Therefore, such global events provide evidence that nations have no interest in securing other nations' rights, they only want to achieve their national interests.

Expanding this idea, nations make alliances to attain political hegemony. The China's Belt and Road Initiative, USA's Build Back Better World and Asian countries BRICS demonstrate global alliances of countries on the basis of their national interests. In Particular, USA B3W and China's BRI projects are crafted to



counter balance each other's political power. Moreover, India has strategic partnership with USA. On the other hand, India is also the member of BRICS countries. It largely showcases that nations do not love each other, rather than their purpose is to follow their national interests.

Moving ahead towards another justification, economic globalization is the nations agenda of safeguarding economic supremacy. In global arena, all nations are at economic war with one another. For instance, the India's Necklace of Diamonds policy and the China's String of Pearls policy in the Indo-Pacific region highlight the nations lust for economic power. As Indo-Pacific region has a great strategic importance, both China and

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India wants to attain hegemony in this region. They made these policies just to integrate their economies with regional countries. They want to make regional countries dependent on them for their economic development. It shows that nations only strive to achieve their national interests.

~~90~~ continuation of the previous argument, multilateralism is regarded as new form of neo-colonialism, showing that internationalism's inherent idea of helping nations is an illusion. The multilateral institutions such as McDonalds have branches in several countries. Their inherent purpose was to increase jobs for member countries and to foster economic development. Nevertheless, they have diluted the sovereignty of countries,

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reflecting the opposite case. Therefore, it is considered the new form of colonialism. These multilateral institutions have controlled economy of nations, which shows that there is no place for national loyalty, only national interests.

Following this line of reasoning, the resurgence of nationalism reinforces the fact that nations only love their national interests. 'On Populism', by Jane Werner Muller, argues that the revival of populist leaders has threatened national policies. He gave example of anti-immigrant policies of the USA, France and Germany. These are the countries that are regarded as global leaders of Western-led internationalism. However, their xenophobic policies counter their global image of supporting internationalism. It can be clearly

shown by the Trump's isolationist policies in USA. Therefore, it clearly illustrates that nations reshape their policies according to their interests.

Another crucial aspect to consider is the climate diplomacy is the new version of safeguarding national interests. Climate change has posed greater threat to the whole world. It has become a global issue. It has driven all the nations together on the same page. Even those countries that are rivals to each other have joined hands in achieving climate diplomacy. The United Nations Convention on the Climate Change (UNFCCC) based COP29 is its evident example. In Conference of parties, all members of United Nations come on the same boat and pledge to restrict global temperature

to 1.5°C. Such events show that nations can come together to get their national interests.

Lastly, artificial intelligence is the new weapon of the contemporary world, which has reshaped global alliances. Those nations, which were previously foes have become strategic friends to achieve supremacy in technology. Its striking example is the US-Indo nexus. US has made strategic ties with India to gain power in technology in the South Asian region. On the flip side, US has started tech-war with China. Both countries have imposed sanctions on each other's technological import. For example, US has passed executive order to prevent semiconductor export to China. In return, China has blocked export of

Gallium and Lithium to USA.

It highlights that nations are largely driven by their national interests in global arena.

After expounding that nations bolster or break relationships with other countries on the basis of their vested interests,

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it is imperative to discuss why nations need to build friendly relations with all countries, rather than following only their national interests

Firstly, countries should strive to build empathy for one other to mitigate shared global challenges. The global challenges such as climate change, poverty and burgeoning population have posed greater threat to the existence of human beings on this earth. Therefore, it is indispensable

for nations to ignore their rivalries and join hands to curb these draconian challenges of the world. Otherwise, these issues will engulf the global peace and prosperity. Its stark example is the disastrous impacts of climate change throughout the world. All countries, whether rich or poor, are grappling with this giant issue. Hence, nations should participate in mitigating such challenges.

Secondly, the resurgence of global wars has reverberating impacts on all countries. Hence, nations should keep aside their national interests and strive to stop genocidal wars in the world. As Antonio Guterres said, "the eruption of third world war will likely be nuclear war". It reflects the

grave situation of global conflicts throughout the world. To prevent third world war, it is mandatory that all global stakeholders struggle to curb these conflicts. They should take collective actions against war-mongering countries. In this way, global peace can be maintained.

Thirdly, nations should uphold human rights instead of their national interests. Humanity must be the priority of all nations. A Universal Declaration of Human rights ensure the fundamental rights for all individuals, regardless of their culture, caste or creed. Such international laws should be stringently implemented to make human rights priority for all nations. In the case of extending national interests, nations forget the upliftment



of human rights. It leads the suffering of humans, particularly women and children worldwide. Therefore, human rights should be preserved by sidelining national interests.

Applying theoretical perspective on the aforementioned arguments, the theory of constructivism explains the fact that nations construct international relations on the basis of converging and diverging interests. Those nations that have converging interest are friends. On the flip side, nation with diverging interests are foes. It reinforces that there are no permanent friends or enemies in the international world, only permanent interests. Therefore, nations do not love with other nations, only national interests are their reality.

In conclusion, nations build international relations on the basis of their national interests, demonstrating by multifarious events occurring throughout the world. It entails the resurgence of wars, emergence of new conflicts, cultivation of national bonds, integration of global economies and revival of nationalism. These incidents highlight that nations loyalty for one another changes according to the demand of their national interests. However, nations must strive to develop cordial relations with each other by keeping their national interests aside. It will help them to hamper the global challenges, engulfing the world. It is high time to take actions. Today's actions will determine the future of this world.