

World Peace is a choice of Superpowers.

Outline

(1) Intro: Superpowers disturb world peace by meddling in the affairs of small states. To secure their national interests, superpowers have completely controlled the autonomy of nations with soft and hard power. Peace in the world is possible when superpowers act according to the covenants of the U.N.O.

(Thesis Statement)

(2) How and why are superpowers credited as destroyers of world peace.

(3) The interests of superpowers determine the state of peace or conflict in the world.

(Thesis)

(a) Superpowers have waged wars to secure their interests and destroyed world peace.

(b) Wars stimulate economic growth of superpowers at the expense of world peace.

(c) Superpowers have chosen to keep the U.N.O ineffective.

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- (d) Superpowers have given nuclear nightmare to the world.
- (e) Superpowers (Great powers) divide world into camps and encouraged proxy wars.

(4) Peace is a responsibility of all states of the world (Anti-thesis)

(a) All states promote or destroy world peace in a globalized world.

(b) Superpowers promote cooperation because of win-win situation.

(c) Innate structural flaws, lack of resources and capacity issues make the UNO ineffective.

(d) Likewise superpowers, small states are nuclear threat to world security.

(e) Domestic politics and interests of small and medium state compel them to be part of proxy wars.

(5) Thucydides: "The strong do as they can, and weak suffer as they must."

(Synthesis)

(a) In international system all members exist, but superpowers dominates all others.

(b) Bilateral trade (open trade) widens inequality, inflation and instability in small states.

(c) The structural reforms of the U.N.O are in big powers' hand, but not in their favor.

(d) Amid nuclear threats, misinformation and miscommunication can lead to nuclear disaster.

(e) Superpowers are protectors of global peace; cannot exploit domestic politics.

(6) Conclusion

Mario Cocchia says, "International politics, like all politics is a struggle for power. Power is always immediate aim." Superpowers struggle to maximize their power has overlooked world peace. History demonstrates that in wars superpowers have gained economic advantage and build war economies. Superpowers have preferred to keep the UNO ineffective as their decisions can not be checked. Great powers did hesitate to give the nuclear nightmare to the world. They sacrifice peace when they can not wage direct war; they prefer proxy wars and block politics.

Another perception is that all global actors such as, states, MNCs, civil societies are responsible for world peace. This second school of thought advocates that superpowers prefer equal economic growth. Besides, now small states possess the nuclear capability as well.

Above school of thought is opposed by following arguments: In international system small states are weak; so they have no political say in that.

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The Bilateral trade only favour superpowers and small states face trade imbalance. Superpowers do not allow member states to reform to make it powerful. Although superpowers have advocated the nuclear non-proliferation, yet they continue to make weapons. And, they can use small states for their advantage as they are protectors of world peace. Superpowers disturb world peace by meddling in the affairs of small states. To secure their national interest they have completely controlled the world's autonomy of nations with soft and hard power. World peace is possible when superpowers would act according to the covenants of the U.N.O.

Superpowers are chief architects for global peace or conflict in the world. They choose conflicts because conflict help them to maintain power. The interest of any nations is to secure their borders and people. But, superpowers interest are different from the interests of small states.

Superpowers not only defend their demarcated border, but also their sphere of influence. For example, the U.S.A's sphere of influence is the Middle East, the South China Sea, Russia's sphere of influence is Eastern Europe and Central Asia. And, China claim for the South China Sea and the South East Asia. As a ^{result} regions are highly volatile in the world. In these regions the domestic politics and bilateral relation become insignificant, and big powers politics dominates. In the world of big powers, small states have limited agency to maintain peace in the world. Instead, they form alliance that suits them. In a nutshell, the destiny of global peace is in superpowers' hands.

The accounts of history informs that superpowers or big powers have taken advantage from wars. In the words of Henry Kissinger from 'Diplomacy', "the war is last resort of foreign policy. The foreign policy goal is clear to secure national interest." During the 18th century, the Napoleonic wars, France

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expanded boundaries. In 1914, WWI caused 20 million casualties, but the USA became a strong economy. WWI and the 1918-1919 influenza pandemic plagued the world peace and the US became the leaders of the world. Similar trend is observed in the Cold War. Russia and the USA engaged in conflict and became two super powers. On the other hand, small states, no doubt, engaged in wars, but their scope is limited and global peace is threatened less. Therefore, superpowers have always taken advantages from wars and disturbed peace.

Wars stimulate the economic growth of superpowers. Rutman, in 2006, defined it as, "as a result of war, the supply and demand effects, military outputs, productivity, and technological growth of superpowers and interrelated economies." For example, during the continental system, a blockade by France against the UK, the UK economy suffered setbacks at initial stages, but later it grew due to its strong

navy and colonialism ✓
and the WIN II, the USA economy flourished ✓
currently, there is trade war between ✓
the USA and China which is followed ✓
by protectionist policies. These ✓
policies trigger global inflation and ✓
instability. Thus, war is an opportunity ✓
for superpowers to catalyze their ✓
economic growth.

According to Article 24 of the UN ✓
charter, the global peace is a responsibility ✓
of the Security Council (SC) of the UNO. Five ✓
permanent members of the SC control ✓
it. This means peace is in hands and ✓
mercy of superpowers. P5 have always ✓
used it in their interests. Any resolution ✓
that hampers any of the P5 member ✓
interest that country veto it without ✓
calculating consequences for world peace. ✓
For example, the USA vetoed against ✓
Israel and Hamas cease-fire resolution ✓
and Russia vetoed against Ukrainian ✓
cease-fire. In future, any resolution ✓
that is against P5 interest will be ✓
vetoed and the UN will be powerless to fulfill ✓
its mandate because of superpowers.

priority to secure their vested interest.

Who is responsible for Hiroshima and Nagasaki nuclear bombings and future nuclear war. Superpower or small states?

Definitely, superpowers are the sole responsible for the nuclear race and

age. For this catastrophic invention of superpowers Einstein wrote, "The unleashed power of atom has changed everything save our modes of thinking and we thus drift towards unparalleled catastrophe." (Oxford Essential Quotation)

Today, there are nine nuclear member states due to superpowers. Furthermore, the IAEA is concerned that terrorists may acquire nukes. This is because of nuclear invention. Superpowers with their advanced technology invented nuclear weapons and now, world is under nuclear threat.

Instead of harmonizing the world, superpower are indulged in proxy wars and block politics to divide the world. During the Cold War, North Korea and South Korea; South Vietnam

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and North Vietnam were divided between the USA and USSR. After the Post-Cold War world order, the world is divided between China and the USA. Proxy wars ^{again} affect regional instability, triggers food insecurity, hike refugees influx, skyrocket poverty and increase terrorism. In contrast, superpowers benefit from proxy wars: reduced cost of wars and preservation of balance of powers. J.R.D. Taftie explain this as, "the purpose of proxy war was to maintain or change the balance of power between superpowers." In a nutshell, superpowers divide world into different camps, and diverge the world from peace to conflict.

In another perspective to consider is that the world peace is choice of all states, MNCs, NGOs, civil societies and terrorist outfits. For example, being small states, Pakistan and India are antagonistic powers in the South Asia. Because of their rivalry, the South Asia Regional Co-operation (SAARC) is dysfunctional and the

is unstable. Furthermore, terrorist organization, such as TTP and other, are responsible for terrorism and causalities. In addition to terrorism, MNCs are involved as well as in global affairs. Donald Trump emphasized the role of MNCs in his meeting with Tim Cook, in 25 April, 2018, by saying that "MNCs are political actors, not by-standers." In summation, the contemporary world is an amalgam of many actors those are responsible for world peace.

In longer terms, economies do not flourish in war time; they prefer peace in the world. The notion that wars stimulate the economic growth of countries has limitations. During wars countries economy expands due to increased demand effect in military and related economies. As wars ends the demand curve is decreased, and economy start to shrink. The contraction of economy has negative effects on war-states.

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Unemployment skyrocket, poverty increases, agriculture suffers and peace is disturbed. Consequently, import is increased and export is reduced i.e. trade deficit. Russia is best case study in this regard in the Cold War. Therefore, superpowers do not want to continue war and free trade.

There are many reasons that make the UNO ineffective to fulfill its mandate to maintain peace. The veto power is one reason. Corruption, lack of resources, capacity issues and structural flaws are other reasons. The Commentary Magazine report "How the UNO is Corrupt" argues that during Indonesian tsunami relief funds were disappeared.

Despite corruption scandals and other ills, the UNO is successful in peacekeeping missions. If we look systematically across the record, most of peacekeeping works? (Professor Lisa Howard, Power in Peacekeeping). Therefore, superpowers involvement is not only reason for its ineffectiveness. And, the organization is working.

Nuclear threat is not passed

by superpower rather by all nuclear states and terrorist organization. Superpowers are members of the IAEA which regulate their nuclear activities and equip them with safeguard in addition to this, the great powers are members of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The eminent threats are small states and terrorist orgs. For example, India and Pakistan are two rival nuclear states. Whenever situation get intense, they threat each other with nuclear attacks. India and Pakistan have signed a Nuclear Non-aggression agreement in 1988. But this treaty does not prohibit use of nuclear weapons in response to conventional weapons. In summation, superpowers acts responsibly with nuclear concern because they are member of ^{the} treaties and regulations. But other states pose serious threats.

It is believed Superpowers select small states and compel them to be a part proxy wars; they instigate instability. However, small states take part willingly into proxy

wars and camps. Within states, there are many antagonistic groups, when they can not fight with each other, they acquire support externally. Whereas at international level, state can not stand against their rivals, they choose to go into block politics that support them and supporting country fulfills its foreign policy goals. For example instance, India is rival country to China former country seeks help from the USA who is rival to China. This means small country want to maintain relations wisely. For this type of politics Handel said in 1981 that they [small states] are quick to take advantages of opportunities arising from any given international system. They learn to manipulate the competition of great powers to their ends and in this way, they exert considerable influence.

Superpowers induce instability by controlling global economies. The control of global economies benefit great powers and disperse

inequality that results in conflict of interest between superpowers and small and medium powers. This phenomenon is defined by "the World System Theory" given by Immanuel Wallerstein. The theory explains as superpowers are core countries. These have sophisticated technology, military, human resources, industrial infrastructure, and political clout. On the other, medium and small states are peripheries. Peripheries lack everything mentioned above. As core countries have advantage over peripheries, therefore, core countries purchase cheap raw material from peripheries and sell them expensive finished goods. As a result, peripheries experience 'trade deficit'. Amid this situation, WTO has not implemented proactive measures yet. In a nutshell, superpowers' open trade policies have resulted in inequalities and instability in world.

In globalized world it's believed that superpowers are not hegemonic powers. Because it existing world

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order every state is "subject of international law" and has equal rights and duties to "maintain peace". Analysis of international system illustrates that states, being subjects, are unjustly treated and no true representation. In the UN veto power supersedes all the other members, IMF has given unequal decision making power to superpowers, security alliance is dominated by America and the Great Britain, World Trade Organization ensures trade surplus of superpower and vice versa. For this type of inequality and non-representation George Orwell in his book Animal Farm has written, "All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others."

The structural reforms of the UNO are in the hands of big power but not in their favour. The ineffectiveness, transparency, coherence and productivity can be increase if the big powers allow to do so. The functional organization threatens their interests. The practical illustration is the difference

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between the GA and SC. Every resolution in the GA is passed which stands on moral, legal and democratic principles. The resolution possess power to punish aggressor. When these resolutions are tested in the SC, any of the great power veto it due to their conflict of interest. Due to this, the concept of collective defense (Article 5 of the UN charter) is never used to curtail conflict. Thus, the covenants of the UNO and will of small powers have capability to make peace through the UNO but superpowers interests keep the organization toothless.

Although superpowers are parties of many treaties that discourage use of nukes, yet these does not ensure they (superpowers) will never use nuclear weapons. Any miscommunication and misinformation can cause use of nuclear weapons. It is a possibility that due to miscommunication one state can perceive nuclear threat by other state. As George Bernard Shaw says, "The single biggest problem

in communication is the illusion that it has taken place. In 26, Sep, 1986, Russia got a false nuclear alarm in the height of the Cold War. If Russia had identified it lately, the world would have experienced a nuclear war. Existence of nukes are always security concern.

Superpowers can not allow small countries to be a part of their politics. The UNO charter prohibits states to intervene in domestic affairs of nations. Superpowers can take part in prosperity and welfare but can not drag countries into camps and proxy wars. Superpowers have claimed themselves as ^{the} protectors of world peace. "The United State is the only guarantor of global peace and stability." (George W. Bush). So, small states indulge small states in proxy wars and divide and rule politics is prevailed which threaten global peace. This result in provocation of conflict, more bloodshed, anarchy, injustice and poverty. Therefore, superpower role in proxy war and division of world is against global interest to maintain peace.

From the above discussion it can be concluded that superpowers are chief architects of world peace. Their decisions determine state of peace or conflict in the world. And superpower pursue "Realpolitik" to prioritize their national interest. They have military, economic, political and technological advantage over small states so they exploit them instead of making a harmonious world. They use proxy wars, divide and rule policy, intergovernmental organizations and trade embargo as tools to rule that results in chaos and anxiety. On the other hand, it is argued that small states use proxy wars to pursue their national interests. Intergovernmental organizations are inherently incapable to maintain global peace. Terrorist outfits reasons for global instability. This perspective is viewed by many as superpowers make the UNO toothless. In addition to this, superpowers are labeled as guarantee of peace but they break their mandate through illegitimate actions in global area. The need of the hour is that America

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China, Britain, France and Russia
follow the covenants of the UNO and
foster global peace ✓