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English Essay

NEW WAR FRONTS LIE IN

ECONOMIC ZONES

(A) Introduction:

Thesis Statement: As the world transitions from geopolitics to geoeconomics, nations now engage in strategic battles over economic dominance, leveraging trade, technology, and resource control to assert influence and power, making economic zones the new front lines of global conflict.

(B) Economic zones have become the new war zones of the global conflict:

1. The world has shifted from geopolitics to geoeconomics, making economic zones extremely important in contemporary global strategy,

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2. Economic warfare has become the new battleground as economic sanctions have become more common than military interventions,

3. Tariff impositions, particularly between global powers like the China and US, leading to trade war,

4. Devaluing currencies to gain trade advantages creates tension between nations,

5. Strategic locations like the Strait of Hormuz can become conflict zones due to their importance in global trade,

6. Contemporarily, cyberattacks aim to disrupt financial systems, stock exchanges, and trade networks,

7. Proxy economic wars are led by the foreign powers competing for resources in Africa,

8. South China Sea Dispute occurred due to its significance as a trade route,

9. Control of global institutions like the World Bank and IMF as a form of economic influence,

10. The dominance of global payment systems (i.e., SWIFT) being used as economic leverage,

11. Nations trapped in debt, leading to dependency and conflict,

12. Economic zones like the EU, ASEAN, and NAFTA compete for regional dominance,

13. Nations using environmental policies to stifle economic growth in rival states,

14. The rise of decentralized financial systems threatening the dominance of national currencies,

(C) Conclusion

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Throughout history, territorial expansion and military might were the ultimate measures of a nation's strength. Empires were built on the back of armies, and global influence was carved out through conquests, battles, and control over strategic land masses. Nations fought to secure borders, dominate regions, and expand their reach through sheer military force. However, in today's world, the importance of traditional territorial control has diminished. Instead of battalions and bombs, nations now flex on their economic muscles. Trade agreements, financial sanctions, cyber warfare, and control over critical resources have become the new tools of power. Rather than invading any rival or competing state, nations now impose economic sanctions and trade tariffs to make them weak. These tactics have led to a new war phenomenon known as trade war. Moreover, instead of military control, states such as US control other nations through economic influence. For this purpose - financial institutions like the World Bank and IMF are used to trap countries in a new type of imperialism, known as neo imperialism. Adding to this, strategic locations such as Strait of

Hormuz and South China Sea have become bone of contention among many states due to their great significance as trade routes. Therefore, keeping in view the aforementioned examples and much more, it can be stated that as the world has transitioned from geopolitics to geoeconomics, nations now engage in strategic battles over economic dominance, leveraging trade, and resource control to assert influence and power, making economic zones the new frontlines of global conflicts.

Therefore, the world has shifted from geopolitics to geoeconomics, opening new war-fronts. This war does not include territorial control, but economic resource control. This has led to the exploitation of peripheral states, such as Africa. Moreover, nations are being trapped in a vicious debt cycle, leading to dependency and control. Nations are also using environmental policies to stifle economic growth of rival states, despite the fact that they themselves are the major contributors to global warming and climate change. Thus, the battlegrounds have shifted from physical territories to economic zones. Nations no longer rely on

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military might to assert dominance. As economic zones continue to drive international competition, it is clear that the future of global powers will be shaped not by armies, but by the strategic control of economic resources and networks. The new frontiers lie not in the trenches, but in boardrooms, data centres, and trade routes.