# The Crisis of Ethics and Morality in International Politics

## Outline

1. Introduction
   a) Defining ethics and morality in wider paradigm
   b) The crisis of ethics and morality in international politics
   c) Thesis statement

2) The Reflection of Ethics and Morality Crisis in International Politics
   i) States prioritize national interests over moral principles, leading to unethical decisions;
      a) The US invasion of Iraq in 2003
   ii) The realist approach in international relations places power and survival above morality;
      a) Case in point: Use of proxies by the US and Soviet Union during cold war era.
   iii) Nations bypass international frameworks to pursue their national agendas

a) Withdrawal of US from Paris Climate Agreement

b) Russia's withdrawal from CTBT

iv) <u>Inadequate response to global crisis highlight moral failures:</u>

a) Failure of world leaders to prevent Rwandan Genocide 1994

v) <u>Neocolonial practices in trade, and resource exploitation by powerful countries:</u>

a) Exploitation of African natural resources and minimal benefit to its population

vi) <u>Rise of populism and nationalism undermines global cooperation and moral responsibility:</u>

a) Imposition of tariffs by Trump

b) Narrative of '<u>America First</u>'

vii) <u>Selective application of international justice undermines trust in global institutions:</u>

a) International Criminal Court's focus on African leaders

b) '<u>Hunting Africans</u>' — Amnesty International's analysis on ICC's behaviour

viii) Minpulation of global cooperation by multinational bodies for profit gain;

   a) Delay in climate action due to lobbying by oil companies

## 3. Actionable Solutions to Address Crisis in Ethics and Morality

   i) Formulating accountability framework in the United Nations

   ii) Adherence to ethical and moral diplomacy;

      a) Advocacy for Kant's principle of <u>Perpetual Peace</u>

   iii) Punishing anarchist tendencies in global politics

   iv) Educating future leaders and nations

## 4. Conclusion

# Essay

Ethics and morality are foundation of human values, shaping governance and interactions at both individual and collective levels. However, in international politics, these principles often collide with pursuit of power, national interests, and economic ambitions. As nations navigate towards prosperity, moral and ethical dilemmas emerge, exposing the fragility of universal human values. The crisis of ethics and morality in international politics is a prevalent scourge which manifests in many ways such as prioritization of national interests over moral values and realist approach of power and survival. Nations often bypass international framework to pursue their agendas and inadequate response of other nations to it, highlights severe crisis in moral and ethical values. Moreover, the rise of nationalism and populism halts multilateral cooperation and pushes the world toward instability. Neolo-Neocolonial practices in trade, economics, and geostrategic paradigms also depicts the

failure of moral and ethical values in international politics. In the same line, selective justice by international bodies also undermines the trust of people and governments in international institutions, which may push both towards moral crisis (in moral and ethical values.) Reversing the looming situation by bringing actionable solutions is a imperative to reform ethics in international politics. It is need of the hour to formulate ~~account~~ accountability framework under the ambit of the United Nations ~~state~~ which will ensure adherence to moral and ethical diplomacy. Last but not least, ~~push~~ punishing the anarchist tendencies and education future leaders are necessary to ~~bring~~ rescue international politics from further moral decline. In summation, this essay will discuss the multifated reflections of crisis in ethics and moral principles in international politics due to vested interest of nations and leaders, and suggests workable solutions to bring international politics under the umberelle of ethics and morality.