

IR Paper - 1

Question: Examine the relationship between globalization and security. How has global inter-connectedness influenced both traditional and non-traditional security threats - ?

Globalization

The ever increasing phenomena of Political integration, economic interdependence and technological interaction among states, individuals and societies at global level, which results in time compress between states, people and societies and turns the world into one global village is called globalization.

Globalization is liberalist point of action, wherein states and societies engage in cooperation, promote free trade, exchange culture and education. Moreover, globalization is considered to be anti nationalism as it strictly prohibits xenophobia and allows free movement of people from one place to another.

For example, European Union is the best example that works on the principle of globalization wherein all the member states allow free market economy (economic liberalism) and free movement of people from one country to another.

Security

Security is considered to be ability of nation, state or society to protect its national interests and maintain its sovereignty inside its territories. The concept of security has been the oldest in international system.

Wherein Romans and Greeks protected their territories and resisted against influence. However, due to religious influence on these empires, there was noted to be a compromise on security, mainly due to divine beliefs.

However, Peace of Westphalia which ended the thirty years of war in Europe also gave a clear stance on security - creating a Nation States system in which absolute sovereignty of every state within its territories was stressed, including the principle of non interference.

For example, Security in terms of Pakistan means its ability to protect its territories, its national interests and independent foreign policy. If any of these aspect is under threat, then it is ultimately a threat to security of a country.

Relation between globalization and security:-

Globalization is considered to be a threat as well as a reassurance for security by the theorists of international relations. In this regard, following views merit attention.

a) Realist perspective

Realism theory of International Relation (both classical and neo realism) consider globalization a threat to security. Classical realist Hans Morganthau stated that only the dominant global powers benefit from global interconnectedness.

Where in, the weaker Powers are vulnerable to zero sum game -

Further more, realist theorist stress that globalization forces the weaker states to compromise on their national interest, territorial integrity and absolute sovereignty -

In the absence of global sovereign, there is no supra national authority to ensure that every state benefits equally from globalization, leaving the poor and weaker countries vulnerable -

Idealistic Perspective

Both classical idealist and neo-liberalists declared the cooperation through globalization, significant for prosperity and peace - Although classical idealists stressed more on altruistic nature of humans who are keen on cooperating, neo-liberalists made it clear that the only solution to prevent war and bring peace (that will ensure safety and security) is globalization, cooperation and free movement of goods and people -

Constructivist views regarding globalization and Security -

Constructivist theorist of International Relations maintained the stance that if the experience of state (who are connecting through globalization) is good then it will benefit both countries - Same goes with bad relations or experience that will only result in zero sum game - Thus,

Alexander Wendt maintained his view that globalization and security are dependant on ideas, views, beliefs and previous experiences.

For example, if globalization is connecting ASEAN members it will benefit their security due to their positive ideas or experiences. However, if globalization is in the SAARC, then due to bad experiences and beliefs among members, it will put a threat to security.

Influence of Global interconnectedness on Traditional and non traditional Security threats :

Global interconnectedness influences both traditional and non traditional security threats at both domestic and international level.

Global interconnectedness and traditional security :

One of the most important factor of traditional security is military ~~power~~ - security.

As per the realist theorist of IR, military power is the most important factor that ensure the security of any nation and helps it in its immediate survival. Moreover, globalization puts a direct threat to military strength as it forces compromises.

For example, global interconnectedness allow the states to rely on their allies or international institutions to protect

them during conflicts. However, this reliance on others makes it dependant and forces the country to compromise its ~~on~~ its national interests.

Thus, globalized interconnectedness weakens the security of countries by forcing a compromise and over reliance on Allies rather than focusing on balance of power by strengthening its military capability.

Global interconnectedness and non traditional security:

Global interconnectedness also impacts non traditional security of any country as follows:-

Economic Security

As per theory of dependency, globalized interconnectedness only benefits the core and damages the periphery countries. Case in Point is that globalization promotes free trade among countries and claims win-win game. However, in the absence of Superpower ~~who can~~ who can ensure the relative gains, the powerful economies benefit more than the weaker countries.

Thus, global interconnectedness has ~~impact~~ an adverse impact on economic security, wherein it only benefits the powerful nations.

Political Security

Globalization also puts threat to Political security of weaker states. ~~Interdependency theory of~~ ~~LR states that~~ Globalization promotes

* ~~the~~ extra territorial sovereignty also free movement of citizens. Thus, states compromise on their territorial negatives.

Moreover, International Non Governmental Organizations, International Governmental Organizations, Multinational Corporation ~~the~~ impact decision making of the state. Thus, global interconnectedness also ~~put~~ influences the Political security.

~~Environmental Security~~

Environmental Security

Environmental security of non traditional security is least impacted by global interconnectedness.

However, free movements from one country to other sometimes results in pollution, energy consumption, deforestation in one country whose host the large number of immigrants.

Conclusion

In this backdrop, it is evident that globalization and security are both inter related having the direct or indirect impact on each other. However, theorists of international relations have divided opinion on positive or negative impact of globalization on security. Whereas, globalization does not impact military, political, economic and environmental of any country, state or society in their own respective ways.

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Critically assess the Proposition that sustainable peace and stability in South Asia are contingent upon a stable Afghanistan and a resolution of Kashmir dispute. What are the principal obstacles to achieving these conditions - ?

Significance of Stability of Afghanistan

Instability in Afghanistan is posing a direct threat to stability of South Asia as a whole and specially ~~the~~ its immediate neighbour Pakistan - To understand the importance of ~~significance~~ ^{stability} of Afghanistan for South Asia, following points merit attention as per theories of International Relations ~~to determine the extent of threat~~

A. Afghanistan Connects South Asia With Central Asia :-

According to Emmanuel Kant's Peace model theory of liberalism, Peace in the region is only possible if countries promote free market economy and trade with each other.

Afghanistan is the only trade route for South Asian countries to access central Asia Republic via its Wakhan Corridor. However, due to terrorism and political instability in Afghanistan, South Asia remains disconnected from a large economic market.

Thus, Afghanistan's stability is the only way to ~~to~~ enhance free market economy and build peace in South Asia.

Instability in one country, threatens stability of others :-

As per Domino Theory of International Relations, if there's instability in one country, then it can challenge the stability of its neighbours due to the

demands effective border control.

Pakistan is the second largest country in South Asia and an immediate neighbour to Afghanistan. Due to

terrorism in Afghanistan, Pakistan also remains vulnerable to state terrorism wherein, terrorist groups use the territory of Afghanistan against it. If Pakistan gets unstable, it will automatically threaten the stability of its neighbour India and so on.

Hence, stability in Afghanistan is essential to promote peace in South Asia.

(- Threat to territorial sovereignty of Pakistan :-

As per realism theory of international relations, due to absence of global sovereign, states seek power maximization to ensure their survival and protect their absolute sovereignty.

① Afghanistan's instability allows the terrorist organizations and insurgent groups to use its territory without any fear against Pakistan. This, in turn, forces Pakistan to maximize its military capabilities to counter the threats. Moreover, this scenario leaves no ground for cooperation at any state.

In this backdrop, no cooperation between the neighbouring states to minimize the possibility of ~~conflict~~ peace in the region.

Importance of Stability in Kashmir :.

On the other end, Kashmir lies between the largest Strategic Powers of South Asia, wherein four direct wars have been fought ~~to~~ on the Kashmir issue - Stability in Kashmir is also obligatory for stability in South Asia - Following arguments shed light on given stance - :

Risk of nuclear war

~~Both India and Pakistan are~~

As per the theory of liberalism, war is more likely to happen, when the cooperation between the states fail.

India and Pakistan are two largest countries in the South Asia and are also nuclear armed countries. Moreover, both countries have fought four direct wars and few minor conflicts over the Kashmir issue. If Kashmir issue remains undecided, it can bring both the countries at the verge of Nuclear War, that can not only destroy the whole South Asia but puts whole world under threat.

In this regard, instability in Kashmir is a direct threat to Peace in South Asia.

Failure of regional organizations

According to Emanuel Kant Peace model, Peace is unlikely to contain itself if there are

active regional or multilateral organizations.

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation remaining ineffective due to Kashmir dispute

between India and Pakistan. This leads to failure in both bilateral and multilateral cooperation between the regional countries.

In this context, Kashmir issue causes ineffectiveness of regional organizations resulting in threat to peace and stability in South Asia as a whole.

No trade agreements between South Asian Countries:

~~Demot~~ Liberalism theory of International Relations stresses that peace is only possible if countries engage in trade with each other, promoting free market economy.

However, due to Kashmir dispute, India and Pakistan do not promote free market or trade with each other. Moreover, Pakistan's geographic location also is the only connection of South Asian Countries with Afghanistan and Central Asian Republics.

Thus, Kashmir dispute undermines the trade among South Asian Countries and puts peace at stake.

Obstacles: to achieving Peace and Stability:-

Following obstacles are relevant that make peace and stability in Afghanistan and Kashmir challenging -

Indian hegemonization in the region

According to neo realism theory of IR, due to anarchic global structure, power states undermine the smaller states for their territorial and other gains. India wants to keep its hegemony in South Asia by controlling other states. However, Pakistan maintains balance of power and keeps territorial sovereignty due to which India never agrees to have talk on Kashmir issue.

Failure of Democracy in Afghanistan

As per Democratic Peace theory, absence of democracy leads to war and leaves no space for peace -

Afghanistan has been taken over by theocratic regime, without leaving any possibility of democracy in the country - In this aspect, Afghanistan remains unstable and puts its neighboring countries under threat of instability -

Expansionist nationalism of India

Expansionist nationalism is the form of nationalism in International Relations wherein states try to expand their territories and expand -

India has developed expansionist nationalism ideology, due to which it wants to take territorial control over its neighboring countries including Kashmir -

Thus, ~~from~~ expansionist nationalism of India ~~is~~ never allows to solve dispute in Kashmir -

Internal state dynamics in Afghanistan:

Afghanistan is considered to be rich in natural resources in which it contains large reserves of rare earth minerals and other resources.

Internal state dynamics concept in International Relations explains that peace becomes unlikely due to fights over resources in any country.

Conflict over Structure in Afghanistan:

Another concept in IR explaining threat to peace is conflict over structure. Afghanistan is a country

with different ideologies, ethnicities and cultures.

Due to absence of democracy, different groups are in a quest for taking over the government. This quest never allows stability in Afghanistan.

Millitization

International Relations expert maintain that powerful state strengthen their economy by selling weapons to others. This is done only if the countries are at war. India and Pakistan remain a market for weapons selling, thus global powers put no effort to resolve the issue of Kashmir.

Traditional Nationalism in India

Finally, India has developed the ideology of Hindutva wherein it seeks for greater India. This aggressive stance of its leadership and even public forces it to become a war monger and don't talk for peace.

Strategic Culture of India

Indian strategic culture is built on power maximization and ideas of dominance in South Asia.

~~Conclusion~~ This current strategic culture of India also remains a hurdle in cooperation or bilateral talks over resolution of Kashmir dispute.

Conclusion

Above in view, stability in Afghanistan and Kashmir is necessary to promote peace and stability in South Asia. However, failure of democracy in Afghanistan and Indian warmongering hegemonization remains a hurdle in ~~the~~ stabilizing both Afghanistan and Kashmir.