

Question-04

Answer:

1. Introduction:

The Study of International relations (IR) aims to understand the patterns of conflict and co-operation that define the interaction between the states and non state actors on the global stage. IR theory offers distinctive paradigms to explain these behaviors, each grounded in a unique set of assumptions about how the international system operates. Among the many approaches **Realism**, **liberalism**, and **constructivism** stand as the most influential and enduring schools of thoughts. These paradigms not only shape academic course but also provide practical tools for analyzing ongoing geopolitical phenomena. From conflict like the Russia Ukraine war to cooperative efforts such as the Paris Agreement on Climate

changes, these theories help explain the underlying motivations and mechanisms of state behavior.

2. Realism: Power and the Struggle for Survival:

Realism, rooted in the words of classical thinkers like Thucydides, Hobbes, and Morgenthau, views international relations as the perpetual struggle for power in an anarchic system where no central authority exists.

"The core of international relations is politics and politics is the pursuit of power." - Hans Morgenthau

States, as the primary actors, prioritize their survival and security, often leading to conflict. Realists argue:

"Cooperation is fragile and temporary, dictated by the balance of power rather than genuine trust."

Key Principles of Realism:

(9) Anarchy and Security Dilemma:

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It is the absence of global governing authority, states must rely on self help, leading to competition and the possibility of conflict.

b) Balance of power:

States create alliances to counter threats and maintain stability.

c) Pessimistic view of Human nature:

Conflict is seen as inevitable result of states pursuing their interests.

• Case study: Russia - Ukraine Conflict

The ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine is the prominent example of realism. Russia's actions of annexing Crimea in 2014 and invading Ukraine in 2022 stem from its desire to maintain strategic influence over Eastern Europe and counter NATO's eastward expansion. NATO's growing presence near Russia's borders is perceived as a direct threat to its security, prompting aggressive actions.

Realists' justification of Russia's actions:

Russia's strategic interest in Ukraine is evident in its need to control Black Sea via Crimea and maintain a buffer zone against western powers.

"The west and, particularly NATO has been provoking Russia since the end of cold war by expanding its sphere of influence into what Moscow considers its historical backyard" (Mearsheimer, Foreign Affairs, 2014).

Similarly, since the end of cold war, fourteen countries, many bordering Russia have joined NATO. Russia's constant opposition to Ukraine's NATO aspirations highlights the security dilemma at the heart of realist thinking.

3. Liberalism: The promise of cooperation

Liberalism offers an optimistic view of international relations emphasizing the potential for cooperation despite the anarchic structure of the system. Liberalists believe that economic interdependence, democratic governance, and international institutions

can mitigate conflict and foster stability.

Key principles of liberalism:

(a) International institutions:

Organizations like United Nations (UN), World Trade Organization (WTO), and International Monetary Fund (IMF) help enforce rules, resolve disputes, and promote cooperation.

(b) Economic interdependence:

States that trade with one another are less likely to go to war due to mutual economic costs (Commercial Peace Theory).

(c) Democratic peace theory:

Democracies are less likely to engage in conflicts with other democracies, as shared governance and accountability promote peaceful resolutions.

Case Study: European Union

"Commerce is a pacific system operative as long as systems abstain from aggression"
(Immanuel Kant).

The EU exemplifies liberalism in practice. Established after WWII, it

sought to integrate European economies to prevent future conflicts. By creating a shared market, a single currency (Euro), and robust political institutions, the EU ensured decades of peace and prosperity among member states.

• Liberal Justification of EU:

The EU's success demonstrates how institutional can transform historical rivals into cooperative partners. Trade and economic cooperation are the core of the EU's peace building machine. For instance, Germany and France, once bitter adversaries, have become pillars of European unity. And, by 2022 trade among EU members accounted for 58% of their total trade showing EU's economic success (Eurostat, 2023).

4. Constructivism: The power of ideas and identity:

Constructivism diverges from the material focus of Realism and liberalism by emphasizing ideational factors such as norms, values, identities, and perceptions. Constructivism argue that state behavior is not predetermined.

by structural factors but shaped by social interactions and shared understandings.

"Anarchy is what states make it"

(Alexander Wendt, 1992).

Key Principles of Liberalism:

- (a) Norms and Social Structures: International norms (sovereignty, human rights) shape state actions and expectations.
- (b) State Identity: A state's identity influences foreign policy priorities.
- (c) Dynamic System: Ideas and norms evolve over time, reshaping the international system.

Case Study: Paris Agreement on climate change:

The global response to climate change, particularly the adoption of Paris agreement highlights the constructivist emphasis on shared norms and moral responsibility. Unlike power driven or materially motivated agreements, this accord is grounded in the recognition of a collective obligation to address environmental degradation.

Constructivist justification of Paris Accord:

States are not merely pursuing economic or security interests but also responding to global norms. As 196 parties signed the accord in 2015, on behalf of their constructive ideas.

5.

Comparative Analysis of Paradigms

	Conflict (Realism)	Cooperation (Liberalism)	Transformation (Constructivism)
Actors	States	MNCs, States, IGOs	States, transnational knowledge
Goals	Power maximization Security, BOP Survival	Cooperation, collective good, world peace, coordination	Community building
Preferred Int. order	BOP, self help alliances to maintain world order	collective security, liberal democracy trade, institutions	norms, collective identity, global and regional security
Major Variants	Neo-Realism	Neo-liberalism	Critical Constructivism

6.

Conclusion:

Realism, liberalism and constructivism provide robust frameworks for analyzing international relations. Each paradigm offers unique insights into the motivations behind state actions, whether rooted in power dynamics, institutional cooperation, or evolving norms and identities. Together, they paint a comprehensive picture of a complex and interconnected world, enabling policy makers and scholars to better navigate the challenges of global governance.

Question-03

Answer:

1. Introduction:

In contemporary international relations, diplomacy has often leaned on symbolic and visible strategies to project power and influence. The metaphorical representation of "Football Stadium" highlights the use of large-scale public or symbolic gestures in international relations.

This concept echoes Kenneth Waltz's observation that "Power, whether economic or military, is both the means and ends of foreign policy." And, Joseph Nye's assertion that "Soft power rests on the ability to shape the preferences of others." Historically, this approach has evolved hosting grand events, constructing infrastructure projects, or engaging in high visible actions to project power, foster alliances, or enhance a country's image globally. In the contemporary era, such tactics remain central to global politics.

but have evolved to encompass diverse strategies shaped by geopolitical, economic and cultural dynamics.

8. Concept of dynamism in foreign policy and diplomacy:

(a) Foreign policy:

Foreign policy refers to state's strategies and decisions to achieve its national interests and seeks to maximize state power, influence and security.

(b) Diplomacy:

Diplomacy represents the art and practice of negotiations, dialogue and communication between states or international actors to resolve conflicts, foster cooperation and advance mutual interests. It can take many forms including bilateral or multilateral negotiations, public diplomacy and cultural exchanges.

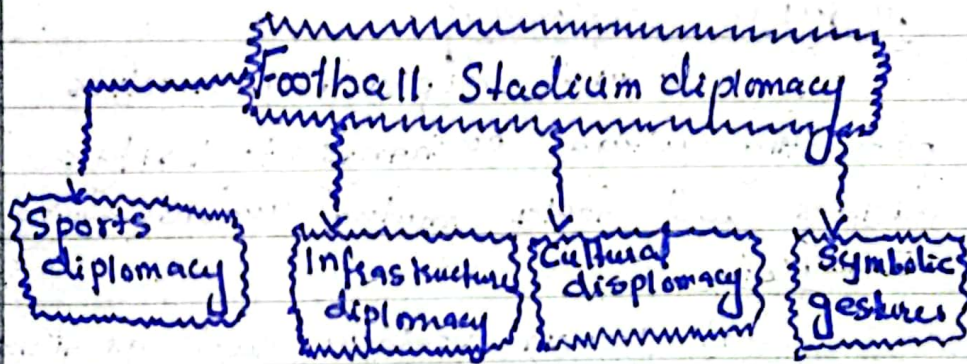
(c) Contemporary dynamics:

Globalization has interconnected states making foreign policy decisions more impactful and requiring careful navigation.

of complex international systems:

3. Football Stadiums' diplomacy in Practice:

This concept metaphorically underscores diplomacy characterized by spectacles, mass appeal, and soft power. Following are the key ways this approach manifests in international relations.



(i) Sports diplomacy:

Sports events like FIFA world cup or the olympics are used to project national pride, foster goodwill, and build global visibility.

Example:

Qatar's hosting of 2022 FIFA world cup served as a platform to elevate its global status and influence.

(ii)

Infrastructure diplomacy:

Large scale construction projects or aid initiatives aim to solidify partnership and expand influence.

Example:

China's BRI ^{initiative} includes stadium building in developing countries. illustration
Waltz's notion that "Economic means often enforce political ends."

(iii)

Cultural diplomacy:

Cultural diplomacy involves promoting cultural exchanges to bridge divides and foster mutual understanding.

Example:

Soft power strategies such as films, arts, and sports align with Nye's view that "cultural appeals can often persuade others to want what you want."

(iv)

Symbolic gestures:

Leaders often engage in visible actions resonating with domestic and international audiences, akin to the atmosphere of a football stadium.

Example:

Summit meetings and publicized

aid initiatives serve as a tools of symbolic power.

4. Implications of "Football Stadium" diplomacy for contemporary international relations:

(i) Power projection:

Countries use high visibility diplomacy to assert their presence on the global stage, echoing Morgenthau's argument that, "Power is not only what you have but also what others think you have."

(ii) Alliance building:

Football stadium diplomacy fosters regional and global alliances by creating platforms for collaboration and shared identity.

Example:

African nations benefitting from Chinese-funded stadium may strengthen ties with Beijing, demonstrating Waltz's idea that alliances often serve as a balance of power mechanism.

2-(iii) Geopolitical rivalries:

High profile gestures can exacerbate tensions, especially when rival powers see such actions as undermining their influence.

Example:

U.S. tries to contain China in South China Sea to hinder its BRI. Similarly, U.S. criticizes China's soft power strategies in Africa reflecting Thucydides' timeless insights:

"The strong do what they can, and the weak suffer what they must."

(iv) Domestic consumption:

Football stadium diplomacy serves dual purposes: engaging foreign audiences and bolstering domestic legitimacy by showcasing achievements. As Joseph Nye notes:

"Successful diplomacy often relies on the ability to combine hard and soft power effectively."

5. Challenges and Criticism in the way of "Football Stadium" diplomacy:

"Football Stadium" diplomacy share certain achievements which are evident globally. However, it also faces some challenges like:

5.1 Superficial engagement of "Football Stadium" diplomacy:

Critics argue that this diplomacy lack depth and fail to address underlying issues in international relations.

5.2 Debt - Trap diplomacy:

Infrastructure projects tied to foreign policy goals may lead to unsustainable debts for recipient countries.

5.3 Cultural insensitivity:

The "Football Stadium" diplomacy overemphasizes on grand gestures. It sometimes overlook the nuances of local contexts.

"Cultural artifacts of political power can sometimes create

imagined solidarities, but without genuine integration, they may crumble under the weight of unresolved tensions."

(Benedict Anderson)

6. Conclusion:

"Football Stadium" diplomacy, with its emphasis on spectacle and symbolism, aligns with the enduring principles of power and influence in international relations. As Morgenthau, Nye, and Waltz remind us, the tools of diplomacy are as much about perception and appeal as they are about tangible power. In a world shaped by globalization, and soft power, the resurgence of such diplomacy reflects states' ongoing quest to blend visibility with strategic intent to navigate the complexities of the international system.

Question-07

Answer:

1. Introduction:

In today's global landscape, the concepts of nationalism and globalization stand in contrast yet coexist, influencing political, economic, and cultural dynamics. Nationalism emphasizes the autonomy and interests of individual nations, while globalization advocates for interconnectedness and collective cooperation across borders. These two factors shape the way countries interact with each other. Nationalism often focuses on local sovereignty and protectionism, while globalization fosters international trade, communication, and cultural exchange.

2. Comparison and contrast of Nationalism and Globalization:

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(a)

Definition:

Nationalism:

As political theorist Benedict Anderson argues in his seminal work, "Nationalism is ~~an~~ ^{the} idea that nations are 'imagined' communities with shared characteristics such as culture, language, and history. It prioritizes national sovereignty and often ~~prioritizes~~ emphasizes resistance to foreign influence. Nationalist movements can be seen in various forms, from right-wing populism to separatist movements.

Globalization:

In contrast, globalization is the process of increasing interdependence among countries, driven by technological advancements and the liberalization of markets. According to Thomas Friedman in "The World is Flat", globalization has "flattened" the world, enabling businesses, people, and ideas to cross borders more freely than ever before.

(b) Core values of Nationalism and Globalization:

• Nationalism:

Nationalism values autonomy, preserving national identity, and prioritizing the interests of one's own nation above others. It often arises in response to perceived threats to a nation's culture, economy, or security. For instance, Viktor Orbán, Hungary Prime Minister, has championed nationalism by promoting policies that limit migration and reject the EU's influence on Hungarian sovereignty.

• Globalization:

Globalization celebrates diversity, mutual benefits, and international cooperation. It encourages collective solutions to global problems, such as climate change, ^{and} poverty, which transcend national boundaries. The Paris Agreement on climate change, for example, demonstrates how globalization fosters cooperation among nations to tackle shared challenges.

(c) Economic perspectives of Nationalism and Globalization

Nationalism:

Economically nationalism advocates protectionist policies such as tariffs and trade barriers to safeguard domestic industries. Former President of U.S.A Donald Trump's "America First" agenda, which included the imposition of tariffs on China is a prominent example.

Globalization:

On the other hand globalization promotes free market capitalism, open borders for trade, and reduced tariffs. WTO works under the economic perspective of globalization.

(d) Cultural perspectives of Nationalism and Globalization:

Nationalism:

Nationalists view globalization as a threat to their cultural identity and manifest cultural conservatism. Poland's right wing government emphasizes ^{traditional} Catholic values and reflects cultural nationalism.

Globalization:

Globalization promotes cultural exchange, blending and leads to ~~either~~ ^{both} richness and

homogenization of culture. global platforms like Netflix, and social media illustrate the ways through cultures are shared worldwide.

(e) Political perspectives of Nationalism and Globalization:

• Nationalism:

Nationalism focuses the influence of nationalism on political decisions and rejecting the influence of international bodies. The UK's decision to leave EU (Brexit) was a key political moment driven by nationalism.

• Globalization:

In contrast globalization promotes cooperation through UN, IMF, WTO, WHO, WB and EU, which aim to solve global problems collectively. The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the necessity of global cooperation, with organizations like WHO, playing a pivotal role in coordinating the response of health crisis.

(f) Criticism on Globalization and Nationalism:

• Globalization:

Critics argue it exacerbates economic

inequality, as MNCs often benefit disproportionately while local economies suffer. Noam Klein in his book 'No Logo', highlights how globalization often leads to the exploitation of workers in developing countries, with little regard for human rights or environmental consequences.

Nationalism:

Critics of nationalism argue that it led to isolationism, xenophobia, and even conflict, as seen in historical instances like the rise of fascism in the 20th century. The populist movements in countries like Brazil and Poland have been criticized for fostering intolerance and divisions in the world.

(9) Which concept dominates global politics today?

Both globalization and nationalism play significant roles in world politics, but in the contemporary world, nationalism seems to take the lead. It is because globalization remains deeply embedded in economic systems and technological advancements, nationalism has surged as the pre-

valuing force in global politics. This dominance is evident in several ways due to several reasons:

1. Resurgence of Sovereignty driven policies:

Countries are increasingly asserting their independence from international institutions and agreements. UK's exit from EU (Brexit) and U.S.'s retreat from Paris Agreement are key examples of this.

2. Rise of Populist leaders:

Leaders promoting national agendas have gained traction worldwide. Leaders like Narendra Modi emphasizing Hindutva, Donald Trump struggling for America first, Putin attacking Ukraine for its nationalistic policies and Viktor Orban seeking revival of Catholicism are all on top of the list.

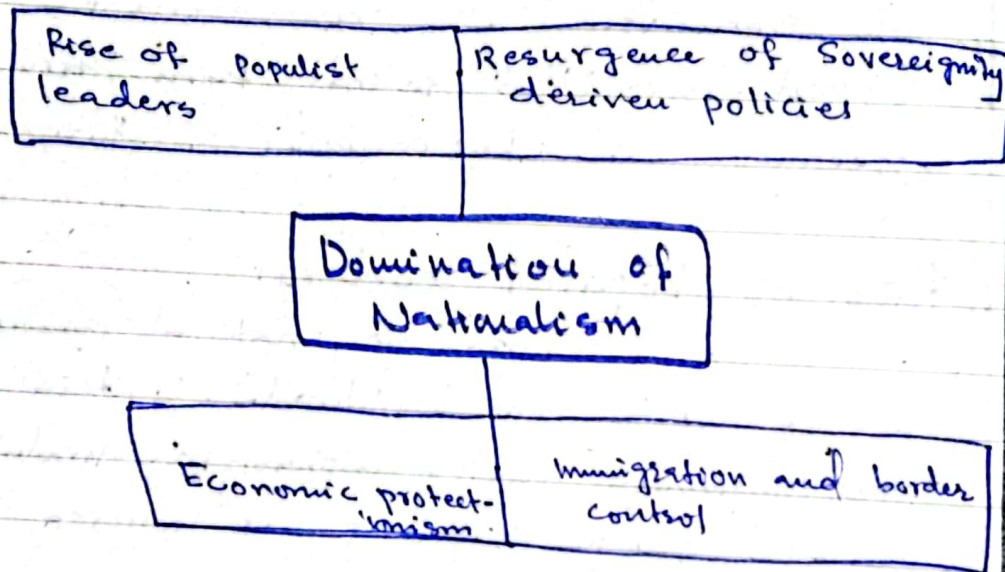
3. Economic protectionism:

The rise of tariffs, trade wars and protectionism of U.S.-China (trade war) highlight economic nationalism and its dominance globally.

4. Immigration and border control:

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Nationalistic policies are especially evident in stricter immigration laws and border control measure. As U.S. in Trump's tenure planned to make physical wall between U.S. and Mexico and immigrants from eleven muslim countries were banned.



Conclusion :

In conclusion, Nationalism and globalization are different from each other in their economic, political, cultural perspectives. Globalization is criticized for overinfluencing sovereignty of nations, while, nationalism isolates states and causes xenophobia. However, in contemporary world nationalism dominates the system due to rise of populist leaders, economic protectionism, immigration and border control and resurgence of sovereignty driven policies.

Question - 2

Answer:

1. Introduction:

In today's globalized world, supra-national actors play a pivotal role in shaping international relations and global politics.

The term refers to the entities that operate beyond the authority of individual ~~person~~ nation-states, possessing the ability to influence or make decisions affecting multiple countries. Supranational actors often facilitate cooperation, arbitrate disputes, and spearhead collective action on transnational issues such as climate change, trade and security. As Henry Kissinger once observed, "The task of the leader is to get their people from where they are to where they have not been," a sentiment that supra-national organizations embody by transcending national interests for the greater good.

Q. What are Supra-National Actors?

Supranational actors are organizations or institutions that transcend national boundaries and derive their authority from individual nation-states, often wielding binding decision making power.

• Key characteristics of Supra-National actors:

• Shared Sovereignty:

Member States voluntarily transfer or pool aspects of their sovereignty for collective decision making.

• Binding decisions:

In many cases the decisions of Supra-National actors take precedence over national policies.

• Global or regional scope:

They address issues that no single state can resolve independently, such as climate change, global health crises, and international security.

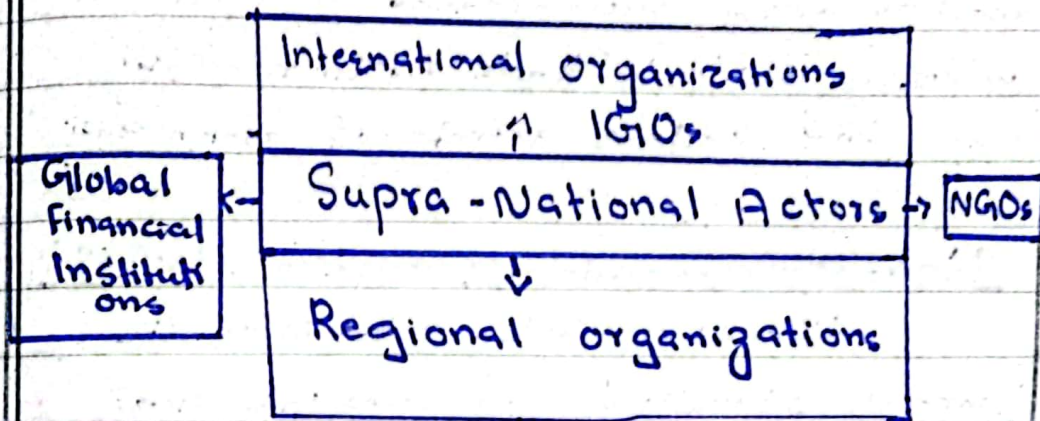
As Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary-General said,

"More than ever before in human history, we share a common destiny."

"We can master it only if we face it together."

3.

Types of Supra-National actors



3.1

Intergovernmental organizations

IGOs are entities created by treaties among sovereign states to achieve shared goals. Some, like the UN, exhibit supra-national characteristics by enforcing international norms.

Example:

The UNSC has the power to pass binding resolutions to maintain international peace and security. For instance, its sanctions against North Korea aim to curb nuclear proliferation.

3.2

Regional organizations:

These entities operate within

Specific geographic regions and often feature deeper integration among member states.

Example:

The European Union stands as the most advanced supra-national organization. Its authority extends to trade policies, monetary union, and certain aspects of foreign policy.

3.3 Non-Governmental organizations (NGOs):

While non state actors NGOs like Amnesty International and Greenpeace exert significant influence on global issues, shaping international norms and policies.

3.4 Global financial institutions:

Institutions like IMF and WTO regulate financial and trade policies that member states are obligated to follow. As the IMF's structural adjustment programs often impose binding economic reforms on recipient countries, influencing domestic policies.

4. Decisive roles played by Supra-National actors:

Supranational actors play

their roles" in conflicts and resolve them through binding rules. Moreover, they promote economic development, address global issues, advocate human rights, and trade and financial regulations.

(a) Conflict Resolution and peace building:

Supra-National actors play a central role in mediating disputes and preventing conflicts through diplomacy, sanctions and peace keeping missions.

Example:

The UN peace keeping forces have successfully stabilized conflict zones in Liberia and Sierra Leone, demonstrating the organization's ability to maintain international peace:

"Peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek, but a means by which we arrive at that goal."
(Martin Luther King Jr)

(b) Economic Integration and development:

Supra-National actors fosters economic stability and development through regional and global mechanisms.

Example:

The EU's single market allows the

free movement of goods, services, capital, and labor among its members, boosting regional prosperity.

"The Euro is powerful symbol of European integration and unity"
(Christine Lagarde, President of European Central Bank).

(c) Addressing global challenges:

Global ^{problems} platforms like climate change and pandemics require supra-national solutions. Supra-national actors serve as platform for collective action.

Example:

The Paris agreement under UNFCCC is a landmark global effort to combat climate change. It united 196 countries in committing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

"We are the first generation to feel the impact of climate change and the last generation that can do something about it" (Barack Obama).

(d) Human rights advocacy:

Supra-national actors uphold international human rights norms and prosecute violators.

Example:

International Criminal Court released the arrest warrant orders of Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his defence minister for genocide in Palestine.

(e) Trade and financial regulation:

Organizations like IMF and WTO regulate global trade and finance, ensuring fair practices and stability.

"Trade is the engine of growth that create jobs and improve lives?"
(Robert Azevedo, former DG of WTO).

5. Criticism and challenges faced by Supra-National actors:

Despite their contributions these actors face criticism and challenges.

(1) Erosion of sovereignty:

Critics argue that these entities undermine national sovereignty by imposing binding decisions. For example EU's fiscal policies are often criticized for limiting economic autonomy of member states like Greece.

(2) Power imbalance:

Wealthier states often dominate over smaller nations. As the IMF voting system dis-

(3) proportionately favor developed economies like U.S.A.
Democratic deficit:

Many supra-national actors lack direct accountability to citizens, raising concerns about transparency. For example: EU's bureaucratic institutions are often accused of being disconnected from citizens.

(4) Bureaucratic inefficiency:

Decision making in supra-national organizations can slow down due to need for consensus. As UNSC frequently experiences deadlock due to vetoes by P5 permanent members.

6. Conclusion:

Supra-national actors have become indispensable players in global politics, addressing challenges that transcend national boundaries. They facilitate cooperation, enforce international norms, and provide solutions to complex global problems like climate change, conflict, and economic instability. However, their effectiveness depends on balancing their authority with respect for national sovereignty and ensuring equitable representation and accountability. Supra-national actors strive to unify diverse nations towards collective progress in an increasingly interconnected world.
