

Q2.

US Presidential Election System

US presidential election is a multi-step process that consist of primaries, caucuses, presidential national conventions and electoral college.

① Primaries and caucuses

Primaries and caucuses select the nominees for the president. caucuses are the local gatherings where party members discuss and vote for candidates. In primaries, state-level elections lead to select their preferred candidates.

② National Conventions

In national conventions each party formally holds a convention where delegates formally nominate their candidate. The presidential candidate also announces their running mate.

③ General Election

Held on 1st Tuesday of november where candidates vote for electors pledged to their preferred candidates.

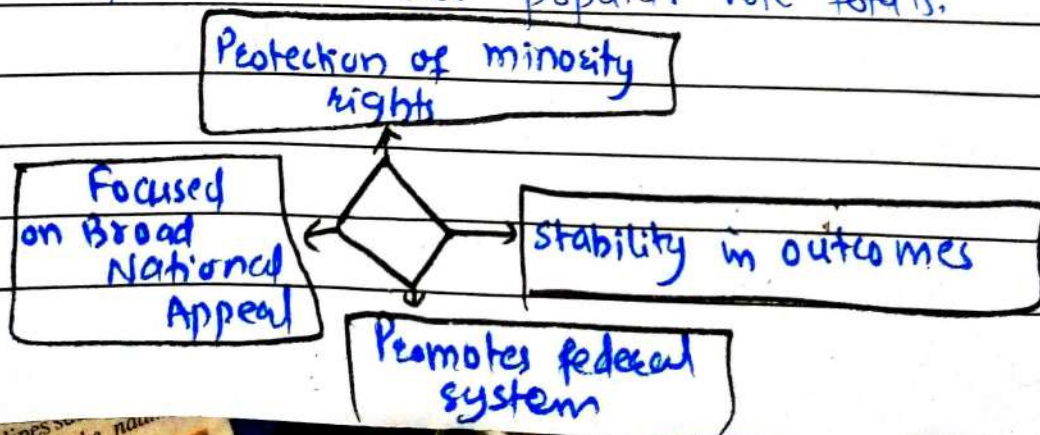
④ Electoral college

The President is elected indirectly through voting in electoral college. It consists of total 538 members (435 in House of representatives, 100 members in senate and 3 members in Washington D.C.)

The presidential candidate needs 270 of the total votes to win. Most of the states use winner takes all system where the most popular votes receive all the electoral votes in all the states except Maine and Nebraska.

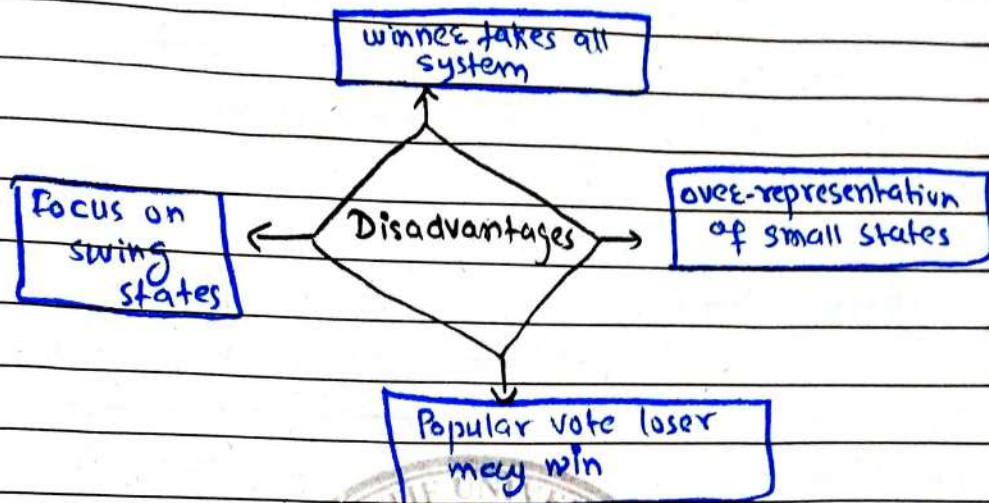
Advantages Of Electoral College

- ① Electoral college ensures that all the ~~can~~ parts of country are involved in selecting the president of US.
- ② Electoral college was created to protect the voices of the minority from being subjugated by the voices of the majority.
- ③ It reflects the structure of federal system by balancing state ~~interests~~ and national interests.
- ④ It provides clear outcomes, reducing the likelihood of protracted disputes created over popular vote totals.



Disadvantages of electoral college

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① Winner-takes-all system

It disenfranchise the minority party voters in each states because the ^{major} votes taken by a party would take all the remaining votes as well. The winner-takes-all system discourages voter turnout in blue and red states.

② Over-representation of small states

The small states have disproportionately higher representation due to minimum of three electors regardless of population.

③ Popular vote loser may win

It happened in US-elections of 2000 and 2016 where candidate who won popular votes lost in the election. Hence, it reduces the credibility of democratic system.

④ Focus on swing states

The electoral colleges gives too much power

to swing states and allows presidential election to be decided by handful of states.

Impacts of Electoral College on Democratic System

Positive impacts

It maintains federalist system by allowing state level participation. It encourages the national campaign strategy.

Negative impacts

It poses challenges such as disreputation of democratic representation. The candidate winning majority votes may lose in U.S elections. It creates disproportionate influence of smaller states as compared to larger states.

Conclusion

The system of electoral college undermines the principle of equal representation. ^{However,} some of the reforms or its abolition may encourage inclusivity and its legitimacy.

Q3.

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Ans.

Introduction

The transition from President Joe Biden to President Trump significantly affect the foreign policy, their priorities of interests causing a shift in alliances of U.S. The change in President of America impacts on global stability and U.S foreign commitments as there are changes in trade policies, tax laws and economic ~~prop~~ priorities.

Impacts on US Foreign Policy

① Trump's "America first Doctrine"

The transition of U.S President from Joe Biden to Donald Trump places America ~~ag~~ once again in "America first Doctrine". President ^{Trump} focuses on its country's national interest emphasizing on economic protectionism and reevaluation of ~~na~~ international alliances and agreements.

② Reassessment of alliances

The president Trump may reassess

the participation of America in international treaties and organization as Trump unilaterally pulled America from climate of treaties in past. There may be increased pressure on NATO alliances to increase defence spending as well.

③ Stringent economic policies

President Trump seeks to ~~return~~ ^{bring back} stringent economic policies ensuring protectionism of economy. He has imposed strict tariffs on Chinese products and he could alter economic relations with key partners including European Union.

④ Middle East strategy

President Trump may take unilateral approach in Middle East, potentially affecting relations with countries such as Iran. He might influence dynamics of Israel-Palestine conflict, Taiwan influence and Russia-Ukraine war.

Implications for Global Stability

① Uncertainty in International Relations

The transition of US President

from Joe Biden to Donald Trump creates an uncertainty in international relation. President Trump being a populist leader and his abrupt policy changes can create unpredictability challenging the diplomatic relations potentially leading to geopolitical tensions.

② Shifts in Global power dynamics

The unilateral and rigid stance of Donald Trump may provide opportunities for other rivals such as China and Russia to increase their influence on the world. As China is already increasing its impact on globe through Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) shifting the world from geo-politics to geo-economics.

③ Economic Volatility

The revised trade policies and stringent tariffs by President Trump may destabilize global economy, affecting the international global markets.

Implication On US- Foreign Commitments

① Potential Withdrawal from International Agreements
The Trump administration may

reconsiders the international treaties and agreements and U.S. involvement in global accords. This would impact on global initiatives on significant issues such as climate change and arms control.

② Redefinition of military engagements

President Trump could reassess global military engagement by U.S. He may shuffle military presence on global points, influencing global security arrangements and defence commitments.

Conclusion

The transition of U.S. Presidency to Trump's administration would change the America's internal and external policies. It may bring significant changes in foreign policy, international relations, and economic strategies. There may be shift in alliances and change in global stability. The extent of these implications would be apparent on the administration's specific policy implementations and response of various global actors on these shifts.

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Woodrow Wilson's Foreign Policy

Woodrow Wilson's foreign policy was guided by his principles of moral vision and democratic values. He kept America neutral through World War I through his diplomatic efforts and peace commitments. Wilson believed that America had a moral obligation to promote democratic values and global peace worldwide. He never supported global war or secret grievances. Due to his peace effort, he was awarded Nobel prize after World War I.

Key Principles Of Wilson's Foreign Policy

① Moral diplomacy

Woodrow Wilson emphasized on promotion of democracy, moral values and human rights. He opposed imperialism and autocratic regime. Due to his diplomatic efforts, America maintained neutrality during World War I.

② Non-interventionism

Wilson adapted policy of non-interference. He advocated for America's neutrality and non-intervention in global conflicts.

③

Economic and strategic interests

Wilson - emphasized on free trade and global economic relations. He opposed colonial exploitation of resources and maintained American economic ties globally.

④

League of Nations

Woodrow Wilson strived hard for league of nations after world war I. He wanted nations to never repeat the same that happened in first world war. He championed the establishment of League of Nations to prevent future conflicts through collective security and diplomacy.

Difficulties Of Maintaining American Neutrality

At the time of World War I, Wilson declared America ^{the} neutral, reflecting the public desire to avoid involvement in European conflict. However, several challenges made neutrality increasingly difficult:

①

Unrestricted sub-marine warfare

In 1915, German submarine U-boat torpedoed British liner ~~the~~ Lusitania killing 128 Americans. Despite Wilson's strict warrants, Germans resumed sub-marine warfare in 1917

in which several American ships were sunk leading to death of Americans along with economic losses. These challenges compelled America to shift from neutral stance.

② Economic Pressures

US trade & several alliances like Britain and France grew significantly, leading to economic dependency on these victory.

③ Zimmerman Telegram

In 1917, an American intelligence identified the German proposal urging Mexico to enter in the war for territorial gains against U.S. This revelation of Zimmerman telegram provoked United States.

④ Cultural and Political Divisions

The ethnic groups divided America in their support for either Germany or other allies. While many American stood neutral, still cultural and political factor divided them, Germans American and Irish Americans supported central powers and Anglo-Americans tilted towards other allies.

Conclusion

Wilson's commitment to neutrality was rigid that continued until 1917. But the economic pressures, submarine warfare and Zimmerman telegram compelled the United States to enter into war. The aim was to protect democracy and peace. The foreign policy of Wilson initially sought to keep America out of war but the complexities of geo-political dynamics and disruption of democratic principles compelled the United States to abandon neutrality.

The Louisiana Purchase

The Louisiana purchase was defining moment in the history of Thomas Jefferson's presidency. He led America to gain acquisition of Louisiana in 1803 from France for \$15 million. This purchase significantly increased territorial land, doubling the size of America and reshaping its geography, economy and politics.

Geographic Transformation

① Expansion of Territory

It extended from Mississippi River to Rocky mountains and from Gulf of Mexico to Canadian border. It provided access to vital waterways such as Mississippi river and the port of New Orleans, which were critical for westward expansion and trade.

② Catalyst for westward expansion

It opened vast tracts of land for trade, agriculture and exploration.

Economic Impacts

① Agricultural Opportunities

The purchase added fertile lands to support agrarian economy. It also enabled the growth of cash crops like cotton, which became a cornerstone of southern economy.

② Control of Trade routes

This purchase secured U.S access to trade route to Mississippi River and the New Orleans, ensuring vital trade and export routes.

③ Stimulus for economic development

Increased land ownership opportunities for Americans, encouraging migration and economic activity in new territories.

Political Impacts

① Impact on Native Americans

The expansion led to the displacement

and marginalization of indigenous people as settlers moved westward.

②

Set Precedents for future acquisitions

The Louisiana purchase established a model for territorial expansion, setting the stage for future acquisitions like Florida, Texas and Oregon.

Conclusion

The Louisiana purchase was a significant achievement of Thomas Jefferson's presidency. It reshaped America on geographic, economic and political grounds. This bold decision demonstrated Jefferson's ability to adapt his principles to secure the nation's growth and presidency.