

Topic

Q3

## Dynamics of Foreign Policy and Diplomacy

### 1 Introduction

Football stadium approach to diplomacy is re-emerging on international arena. With the scale of new global conflicts and emergence of non-traditional security threats, states are looking for a collective secure approach to address these challenges. The concept of foreign policy and diplomacy is not new and it plays a significant role in global politics to address security challenges.

### 2. Concept of Foreign Policy and Diplomacy

Foreign policy is a tool of international <sup>political</sup> security policy that

delineates the interest of a nation state while interacting with other nation states. While, diplomacy refers to the cooperation that states pursue to interact with each other.

### 3. Dynamics of Foreign Policy and Diplomacy

#### i) National interest

States have the primary role in international relations considered as rational and unitary actors. These nation-states pursue their national interest because of a self-interest nature of individual. As said by Aristotle "Man by nature is a social animal; likewise, state represent and cooperate with other states about its interest."

#### ii) State security

States according to realist

perspective need self-help in anarchic world to ensure their security from other powers. Foreign policy help states to align their security and make alliances against aggressors. For example, NATO was established to ensure collective security from threat of USSR expansion.

### (iii) Cooperation among actors

According to liberal perspective, to ensure peace and avoid war, cooperation among states is required. International organization can help states to cooperate with one another.

States cooperate with one another making it an essential element of Foreign Policy. For instance, UN role in climate cooperation by emphasizing the importance of nation-state cooperation.

#### iv) Economic interest

Economic interest is another essential element in foreign policy of states. States trade with each other for economic expansion resulting in creation of economic interdependence. Economic strength is also viewed as power of state to influence other states.

#### v) Representation of soft image

In changing global dynamics, states pursue use of soft image to execute their foreign policy. This is the ability of state to exert its influence through shared values.

### 4. Nature in contemporary IR

- i) Emergence of non-traditional security  
Post cold-war, the concept of non-traditional security emerged

emphasizing global cooperation. These threats include terrorism, climate challenges, cyber security, and human security. These threats require global cooperation and changing dynamics of foreign policy and diplomacy like a football stadium approach.

### ii) Emergence of global conflicts

Emergence of global conflict including Ukraine war, Israel-Palestine conflict, Sudanese Civil war, fall of Damascus, require global cooperation to address these challenges to ensure human security. These challenges can be addressed by following international laws mediated by United Nation.

### iii) Emergence of new Powers

Transition from unipolarity

towards multipolarity is evident with the rise in powers like China, Brazil, India and EU. This transition requires change in behaviour of foreign policy towards a football stadium approach to enhance cooperation and impede future conflict.

## 5. Conclusion

Foreign policy includes determinant that state follows to preserve its national interest. The dynamic global landscape demands football stadium approach to diplomacy which can be achieved by realigning the foreign policies of state through enhanced cooperation. This will help in countering global conflicts, balancing relations amid emergence of multipolar world, and fighting non-traditional threats.

## Q5 Causes of War

### 1. Introduction

War is a conflict between two or more parties for a common or different cause. States fight each other and start war to save its interest. The concept of war is explained by the realist perspective that assume state as a unitary actor that tend to protect its interest in anarchic system of world.

There are several causes of war explained by International theorists. Theorists present levels of analysis to explain these causes that shows interconnectedness of conflicts with respect to their emergence.

### 2. Causes of War

#### i) Individual Analysis

## a) Personal Ambitions and experiences

Theorists explain the role of leaders in the emergence of war. Leader's personal experiences and ambition influence the decision of a state to start a war. As a follower of Zionist Ideology, Israel's Prime Minister Netanyahu's action in Gaza demonstrate role of leader to start a war.

## b) Ideological ambition

Ideological ambition is another cause of war that can be studied at individual level analysis. Stalin's ambition to spread communism against capitalism led USSR into cold war against US.

## ii) State-level analysis

### a) Threat to National Security

States went into war



When faced with emerging threat towards their national security, Russia's invasion of Ukraine started after Ukraine bid to join NATO. Russia perceives NATO as a major threat to its sovereignty.

### b) Balance of Power Disruption

States acquire power to balance against adversaries or other states. When this balance of power is disturbed, the aggressive state pursues war to weaken the defensive state.

Disruption of power in WW2 led Germany into a military conflict against Allied nations.

### ii) International level analysis

#### a) Anarchic International System

According to Realist theorists,

states face <sup>threat to security</sup> security Dilemma that led them into war due to anarchic structure of world. Each state struggle to preserve self-interest by aligning and balancing. This anarchic system in international relation is one of the major reason behind the war.

"The strong do what they have to, the weak suffers what they must"

~ Thucydides.

### 3. Ongoing Middle East conflicts

#### i) Israel-Palestine

The ongoing Middle East Conflict of Palestine started from October 7, 2023 Hamas attack can be explained through the lens of individual and state level

analysis. Israel's war cabinet include leaders that stubbornly follows Zionist ideology making it a individual cause to start war. On the other hand, Israel claims that eradicating structure of Hamas from Gaza is essential for its national interest.

## ii) Israel-Iran

Iran's proxy Hezbollah started firing missile on Israel on 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, to support Hamas. After weakening Hamas, Israel invaded Lebanon pushing Hezbollah's capacity back. This invasion was to disrupt balance of power and weaken Iran's axis of resistance which explains the state level cause of war.

## Conclusion

In international relation, states tend to start war to protect its interest. This concept is explained under the lens of realism that argue states are unitary actor that preserve its interest with self-help in anarchic world. There are several causes at different level of analysis that explain emergence of conflict. The interconnection among these causes is coherent over majority conflicts of the world.