

International Relations - I

PART-II

Question #2

'Supra-national actors' seem to be playing decisive role in global politics and international relations. Comment on the statement while clearly explaining the concept and types of the term.

Introduction

The world is dominated and run by different actors that are divided into state and non-state actors. These actors learn to run the international relations, which is interest based political and non-political relation among all global actors at international level. The most superior actors which play a significant role in international relations are known as supra-national actors. These actors are superior to every other in international relations. These actors are seem to be playing decisive role in global politics and

international relations.

I- Supranational actors:

The term 'Supra' illustrates the level of high superiority and national actors define all national or state level actors in international relations. These actors have enough power to control other national actors which befalls under them. Control of national actors by supranational actors range from social control, economic control, Political control to strategic control of nations. These actors drive geo-politics and international relations.

II. Concept of Supranational actors' as a decisive decisive role in global Politics and international relations:

Supranational actors play a decisive role in global politics and international relations through different means. This concept is further elaborated in points mentioned below:

A- Power projection in geo-politics and IR.

Supranational states have strong power projecting abilities. These states have strong military power, economic power and political strength.

B- Muscle Flexing in geo-politics and IR

Supranational states mainly operate on the concept of **might is right**. These states spend massive amount of money to enhance their military capacities and dominate the decisive role in geo-politics.

C- Control over institutionalism and internationalism

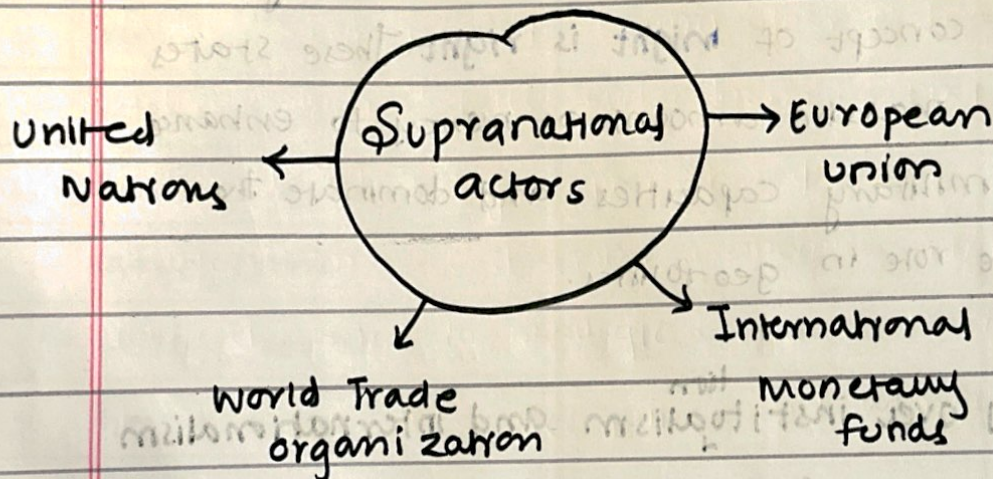
Supranational states control all global and regional level institutions and international systems. The decisions proposed through these means are influenced by interests of supranational states.

D. Colonial and Imperialist mindset of supranational actors

The dominating urge of supranational actors, takes them towards colonial

and imperialist mindsets. These ~~these~~ states desire to continue their dominance irrespective of any proposals in national and international level.

III - Supranational actors in global politics and international relations.



A - The United Nations as supranational actor in global politics and international relations

The United Nations, is a global level institution which comprises of 193 members. The UN plays its decisive role in global politics through its **veto power of UNSC**. The permanent members of UNSC have full tendency to control international relations.

Any one veto has power to stop any decision irrespective of four other vetos in power. For example, US has posed 40 vetos in UN and out of these 40, 36 were against Palestinian recognition. Resultantly, delaying the notion of Palestine recognition because of veto power of US.

B- The World Trade Organization

The WTO is a global level supranational actor, it controls the trade and commercialism in global market through proposal of agreements. The agreements proposed by WTO are most driven by developed nations. These agreements are seen to control trade of developing. Through these agreements, WTO plays a vital role in global politics.

C. International Monetary Fund

The IMF is the most superior international monetary or financial organization. IMF tends to control the debt states into debt trap and control their domestic policies.

through structural Adjustment Programs. For example, the recent bailout of Pakistan from IMF in September, 2024, has decreased the public spending by 35% by implementing austerity measures through SAPs.

D- European Union as supranational actor

The European Union is one of the superior national actor, it controls 27 European states under this union. It has its own policies, currency and economic framework. The legislature of European Parliament controls the acts and bills of EU. This supranational actor targets the superiority of all nations under it. Brexit in 2016, was proposed on the basis of its ignorance of superiority under EU. British/UK disagree to work or coaliate under EU because of its supranational nature in global politics.

Conclusion

Supranational states such as UN, EU, WTO or IMF, play significant role to control many other actors in international relations. Through westernization, colonialism and imperialism these states control the global politics and international relations.

Question #4

Discuss three paradigms of international relations theory and use them as explanatory variables for various on-going conflict and cooperation scenarios in international relations.

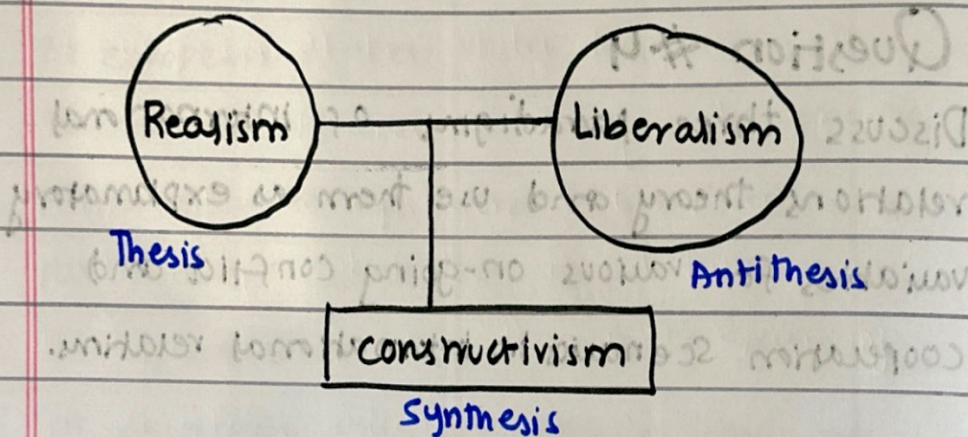
Introduction

International Relations is interest based relations between global actors which interact through political and non-political ~~relations~~ relations based on their interest in international level. According to Hegel Dialectic mechanism, there are three paradigms to understand IR; Realism, liberalism and

constructivism. Every Paradigm is interconnected with another through response of the next.

These paradigms are interconnected through concept of thesis, antithesis and synthesis.

I- The three paradigms of international relations theory



Hegel Dialectic Mechanism

A- Realism

The realist school of thought mainly focuses on power maximization. The proponents of this paradigm focuses on egoist nature of human and mistrust among states at global level due to difference in

capabilities. The difference in capabilities results in mistrust in international relations and drive other states into **security dilemma**. This dilemma disturbs the global equilibrium resulting in disturbance in balance of power. The main focus on realist school of thought is pursuit of power for attainment of **National Interest**. States in international relations get into conflict because of the drive of **muscle flexing** and **power maximization**.

B- Liberalism

The liberalist school of thought merely focuses on peace, harmony, diplomacy and **cooperation**. The proponents of this school of thought believe that humans are altruistic in nature and they are exploited which results in war or conflict. Liberalism focuses on multilateralism, cooperation and collaboration, they deliver the concept of **commercialism**, **internationalism** and **institutionalism** to interconnect the global states together without

any drive for power military or muscle flexing. They argue that States should spend on human development (Dr. Mehboob-ul-Haq) instead of spending large sum of money in military. Liberalists further states that security dilemma is vicious cycle, which never ends, so it is more reliable to solve global issues through diplomacy and cooperation. It focuses of pursuit of cooperation for peace and harmony in international relations.

C- Constructivism

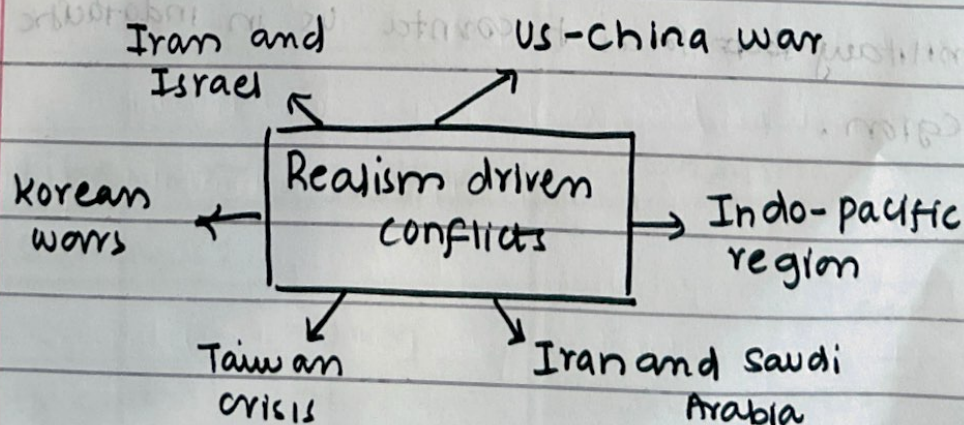
Constructivism is the synthesis between the two extremes of power maximization and cooperation. According to Alexander Wendt, there is no anarchy, instead it is what state makes out of it. The global politics are driven by concept of ideas and thoughts. The proponents of these school of thought believe that there is no need for cooperation and power maximization or war ~~for~~ completely depends upon the

Ideas and behaviour a state project towards another. These thoughts drive the state towards harmony or hatred.

II- Implementation of three paradigms in various on-going conflicts and cooperation scenarios in international relations

A- Realism in various on-going conflicts:

Realism focuses on conflict in international relations, they believe that conflict is the main driver of ~~set~~ any nation, if there is no conflict there would be no growth. It is dominated by military, power maximization and pursuit of power to attain national interests.

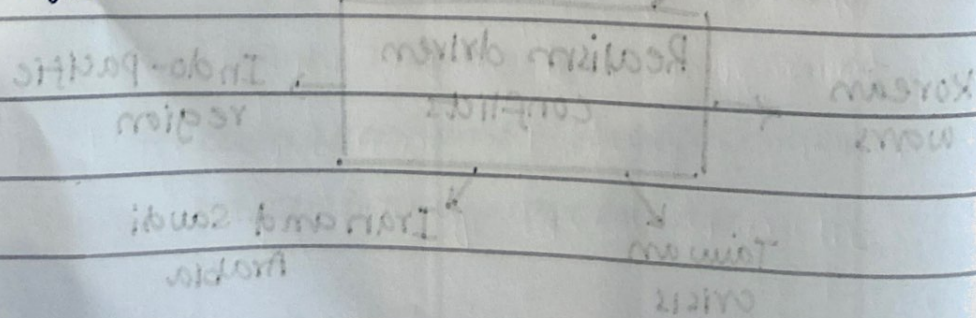


i- US-China war driven by realism

The notion of dominance of power and military expansion clearly signifies that US and China are driven by realism. These nations maximize their power to counter each other. China tends to increase military capabilities to counter unipolarity of USA, by emerging as revisionist global power.

ii- Indo-Pacific region conflict is driven by realism

The military deployment and naval fleets in Indo-Pacific region signifies that the greater the military control a nation has over Indo-Pacific, the greater power it would have to control regions. The power maximization of US by increasing military deployment extends security dilemma of China, which move ahead to form alliances with Russian military forces to counter US in Indo-Pacific region.



ii- Korean wars from realist perspective

The precedent was between North Korea and South Korea, portrays that both nations get into war because of the concept of might is right. South Korea is mainly backed by USA to counter against North Korea. The military alliance between South Korea and US, increases security dilemma resulting in power maximization.

iv- Iran with KSA and Israel

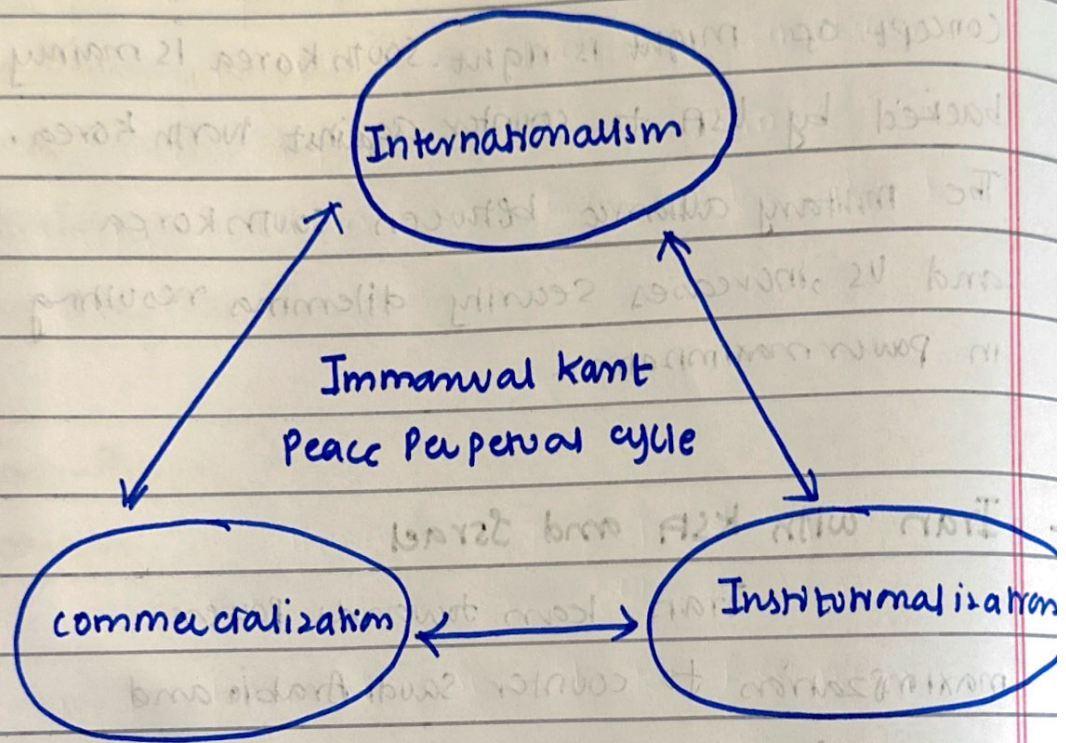
Iran, lean towards power maximization to counter Saudi Arabia and Israel. The difference in capability among states has enhanced the notion of mistrust, ultimately resulting in power maximization between states. Iran and Israel, move towards increasing nuclear weapons to counter each other.

B- Liberalism in various cooperation

Scenarios:

Liberalist school of thought focuses to enhance cooperation among states. They

belief that notion of diplomacy and cooperation is the only mean to settle any global political crisis or conflict in international relations.



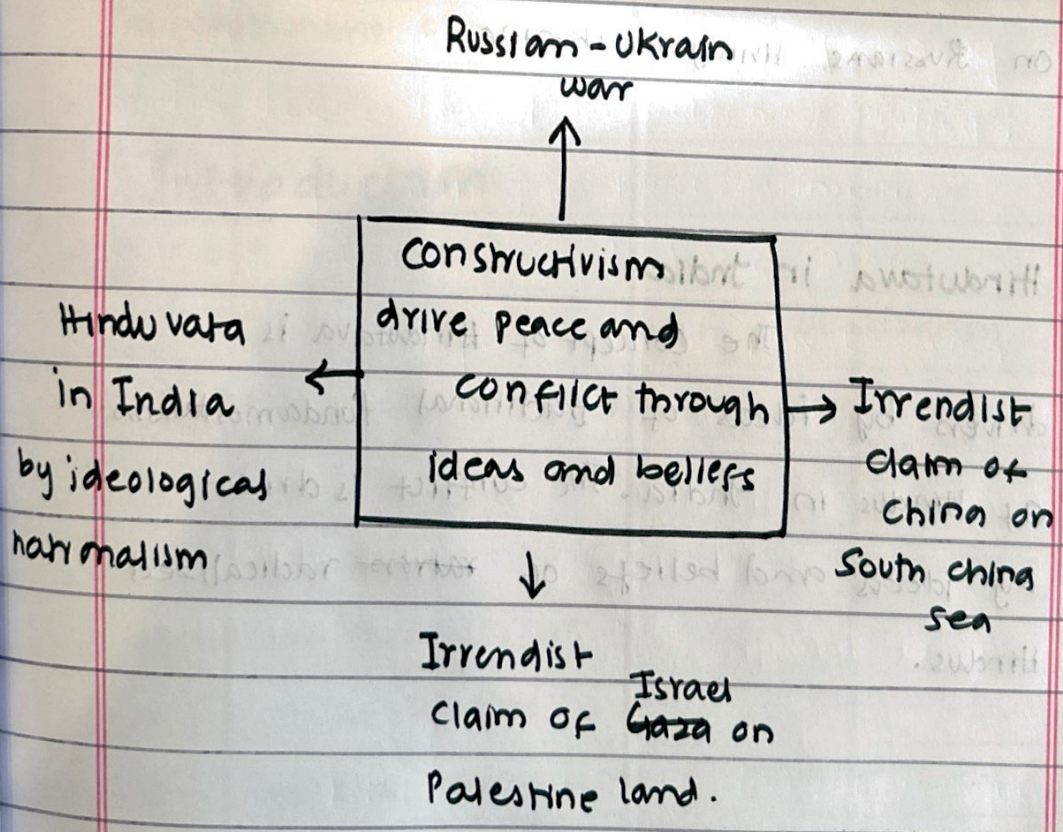
i- The United Nations as a main body for perpetuating peace and harmony

The UN is one of the global level institution, it aims to overcome any conflict through proper agreements and proposals. UN paves way for solving global conflict through diplomacy and cooperation.

ii- The World Trade Organization as a body for commercialism for peace

The WTO is a global level financial institution. This institution proposes agreements to the trading partners to continuing high-value trading through reduction in economic sanctions, non-tariffs and tariffs. This increases cooperation among nations.

C- Constructivism in various on-going conflicts and cooperation



i- Irrendist claims by China and Israel

Constructivism states that conflict and cooperation depends upon the ideas and beliefs any state possess against another.

The irrendist claims of China on South China Sea and Israel on Gaza or Palestinian territory results in war between the global powers.

ii- Russia - Ukraine war

The war is propagated by Russians to expand their power over Ukraine in a sense to dominant west and take possession on Russians living in Ukraine.

iii- Hindutava in India

The concept of Hindutava is driven by ideas of traditional fundamentalism of Hindus in India. The conflict is driven by ideas and beliefs of ~~return~~ radicalized Hindus.

Conclusion

The three paradigms of Hegel dialectic mechanism clearly explains how realism, liberalism and constructivism are connected. Almost all of the global affairs and international relations are driven by the three paradigms of IR.

Question # 7

Compare and contrast the concepts of nationalism and globalization. Which seems to dominant global politics today?

Introduction

Nationalism and Globalization are two of the most important domains in international relations. They possess different ideas and are not interlinked by any means despite the norms to run the global politics. Nationalism is most driven by realistic model, where as globalization is combination of

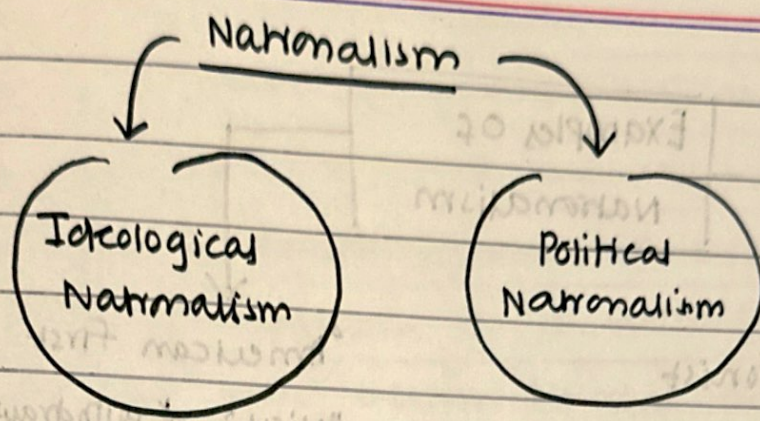
liberalist school of thought and Constructivism.

I- The Concept of Nationalism

Nationalism is an ideology driven by the concept of state centrism. The nations combine together under one umbrella of culture, language or identities. Nationalism is driven by **Ethnocentrism**, which means that through nationalism states merely focus on the dominance of their nations over other nations. State is seen to be a principle actor in the concept of nationalism, different nations comply to nationalism to strengthen their traditions, norms, cultures as well as economy or political dominance.

Statism for survival through self-help

The nations focus on unitary principle of state to survive in international market. They tend to strengthen the capabilities present within state without relying on any other. Nationalism is divided into; Ideological nationalism and Political nationalism. Ideological focuses on enhance of territory or ideology, whereas political nationalism focuses on fight for right.

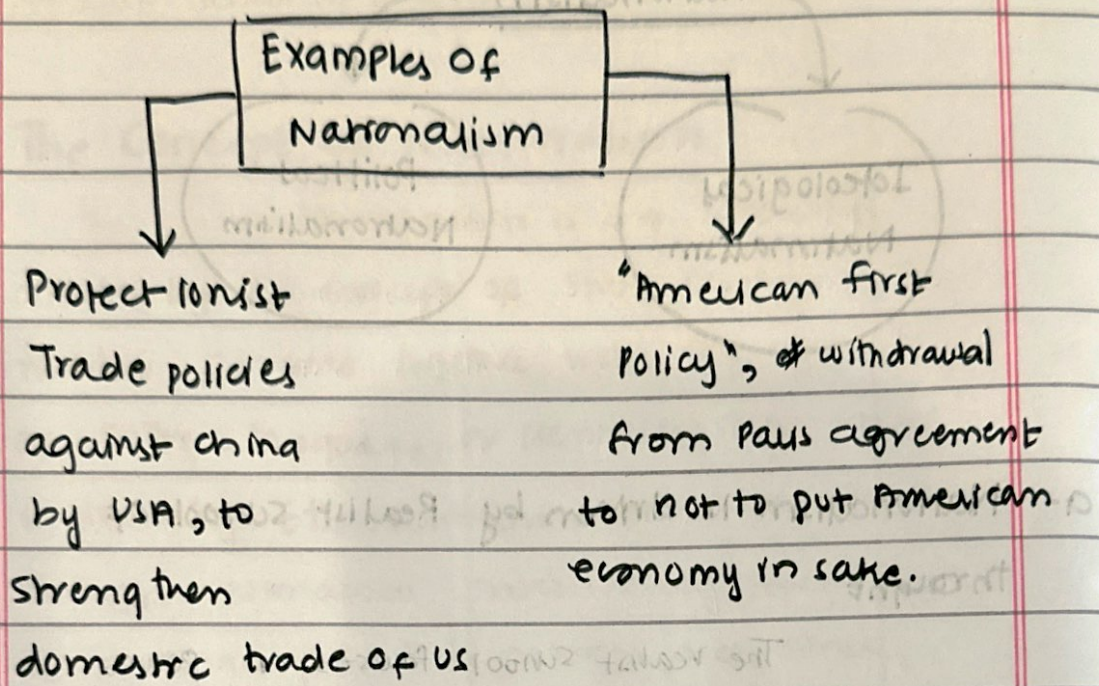


a- Nationalism is driven by Realist school of thought

The realist school focuses on power maximization within state and strengthens its military to lean towards isolationism without depending upon anyone. It forces states to project their power upon other lower level nations.

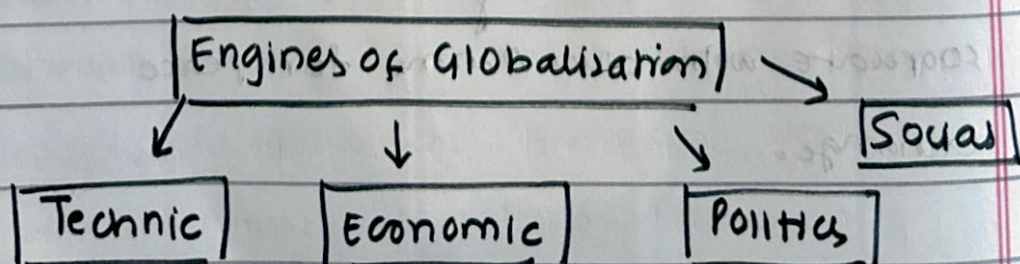
b- Nationalism driven by liberal school of thought

The liberalist school of thought focuses on cooperation and diplomacy. States with dominating nationalism should cooperate with other nations for peace exchange.



II The concept of Globalisation

Globalization is interconnection or interdependency of the world together. It connects the whole world into a web without any boundary differences. Globalization has result in global village. The main drivers or engines of globalization are technology, economy, politics or social



Globalization interconnects the whole world through its main engines by all means of technology, economic, politics and social.

Few school of thought explain it as western colonialism or imperialism as it controls the whole world under western school of thought.

a- Globalization is driven by liberalism

Globalization interconnects nations through cooperation and politics.

It brings peace and harmony among nations.

b- Globalization is driven by constructivism

Globalization propagates ideas, thoughts, beliefs through porous borders. This results in exchange of ideas and thoughts through constructivism and globalization.

III. Nationalism and Globalization both seem to dominate global politics:

The global politics are shaped by nationalism as well as globalization.

i- Nationalism in global politics

- ↳ Dominancy of US
- ↳ South Korea and North Korea
- ↳ Dilemma of Rouge states
- ↳ Protectionist policies
- ↳ Enhancement of expansionist ideology
- ↳ Projection and isolationist foreign Policy.

ii- Globalization in global politics

- ↳ Chinese Dragons Policy
- ↳ Indo-Pacific region
- ↳ Role of international institutions such as IMF, WTO or IMF
- ↳ comm ecialization between global powers
- ↳ Towards attainment of Balance of power

Conclusion

It is evident in global politics that the world is driven through nationalism as well as globalization. In spite of different concepts both of the domains drive the global politics.

Question # 5

Explain the causes of war at different levels of analysis. Furthermore, apply the causes to on-going war in middle East.

Introduction

War is the concept of transition from one equilibrium state to another equilibrium state. The causes of war differ among different level of analysis which ranges from ~~global~~ individual level to global level.

A- Individual level analysis

The war is caused by the leader or specific individuals, that might be

because of traditionalist mindset, the leaders are said to be egoist in nature which in turn causes war in all out global level.

This level is driven by classical realism.

Examples of war by Individual level

analysis include:

a- Russia - Ukraine war because of Putin and Zelensky

b- Netanyahu vs Masoud Pezeshkian

B- Domestic level analysis.

The war is caused by problems

in domestic level, such as problems in economy, politics, ideology, cultural, identity.

Example of domestic level analysis include:

a- Hindutava against other ethnic groups.

b- Syrian war

C- State level analysis

The war is driven by nature of relations between two different states. The relations ~~is~~ could be peaceful or conflictual.

Example of war by state level analysis

a- Iran - KSA

b- Iran - Israel

D- Global level analysis

The war is driven by different level of capabilities between the states. The global anarchic causes the states to fall into war

Example of war by global level analysis

a- US proxy in Israel and Gaza
Conflict

b- Russian support to Iran

Conclusion

The causes of war differs depending upon the level of analysis to judge or interpret conflicts in middle east.