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Issues that resulted in onset of WW-II

1. Introduction

World war two is also called total war or great war. During this war, Allied powers and Axis power fight for controlling resources. This is mainly due to increasing nationalism, treaty of versailles, failure of league of nation, economic depression in Europe. Classical realism describes this WWII as a result of aggressive leaders while according to neo-realism this was because of increasing nationalism and militarization. While neo-liberalism stresses on the failure of League of nation as cause of ww-II. Similarly Constructivism consider myth of superior military identities and increasing imperialism among members. Similarly, Propaganda of Soviet, Germany and Fascist Press.

2. Issues that led to WWII through theoretical lens of IR

Following are the key issues Post World war I which resulted in onset of WW-II, which would be discussed through theoretical lens of IR.

(i) Classical Realism and WWII

i) Aggressive leaders

According to classical realism WWII erupted to aggressive nature of leaders of Germany, Soviet Union and Italy.

a) Adolf Hitler - Germany's Leader

Adolf Hitler introduced a sort of fascist government in Germany.

b) Benito Mussolini - Italy's Leader

Benito Mussolini was the leader of Italy. He established the fascist party and established fascist govt in Italy.

iii) Joseph Stalin - USSR Leader

Joseph Stalin had strict control in USSR and he introduced Communist control.

(ii) Key issues that led to WW II and Neo-Liberalism

i) Policy of Appeasement failed

According to neo-liberalism, policy of Appeasement failed which resulted in World war 2.

USA's president Woodrow Wilson introduced 14 points to enhance collective security and global peace. Initially, league of nations was established. But no one give importance to global cooperation or individual cooperation which led to WW II.

(iii) WW II and Neo-Realism

i) Expansionist nationalism of

Japan, Italy and USSR leadership

Japan, Italy and USSR leadership had been characterised by expansionist nationalism. Japan attacked China's region Manchuria.

Similarly Italy and USSR tried to expand their nationalism.

ii) Treaty of Versailles and Militarization of Rhine Land.

Germany was not happy with the war reparations of WWI and ridiculed treaty of Versailles. As a result, Germany started to militarize Rhineland which it should be given to Germany.

iii) Balance of Power: Tri-partite Pact and Rome-Berlin

According to neo-realism, alliances b/w states were reason for eruption of WW II

Rome-Berlin pact was a military alliance between Italy and Germany formed in 1936

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Similarly, tripartite pact was alliance between Germany, Italy and Japan.

iv) Neo-Liberalism and WWII

Failure of League of Nation

Neo-Liberalism stresses on the failure of league of nations as cause of WWII.

League was failed to prevent Japanese invasion of Manchuria in China and German invasion of Poland in 1939.

v) Constructivism and WWII

i) Anti-Communism and Anti-Semitism of Hitler

Adolf Hitler, the German leader and chancellor, was characterized by anti-communist and anti-semitic thoughts.

Since communism was a system established in USSR, therefore it attacked Russia and tried to defeat it.

Similarly, he was anti-semitic and opposite to jew. He killed the jew and oostered them.

- ii) **Myth of Superior Military Identity**
Germany and Russia signed a peace before WWII, that they would not attack each other. But Adolf Hitler attacked Russia because he thought that Germany is much stronger and as a result Russia entered on side of Axis power and WWII erupted.

vi) **Post-Modernism and WWII**

- i) **Propaganda of Totalitarian leaders**
Italy, Japan, German and USSR leaders used propaganda to spread the greatness of their government and achieve public support.

Trump's foreign policy and its global implication

Introduction

From the previous tenure of Donald Trump, and his speeches during the elections campaign one can expect the changes in the foreign policy of Donald Trump. His foreign policy would be characterised by containment of China, make America great again and pivot in Asia rather than Europe. His foreign policy priorities include peace in middle east and cease fire in Russia-Ukraine war. This foreign policy has global implication. China would diversify its markets. Similarly, BRICS+ member would face western sanctions and making of new alliances in Asia.

Donald Trump's foreign policy

i) Containment of China

In the previous term of president Trump, he introduced various protectionist measures against China which were also regulated by his successor Joe-Biden. Most probably, Donald Trump would counter the China with more intensity.

ii) Peace in Middle east

Peace in Middle east would be Trump's priority. According to international expert John Mearshiemer, Trump would want peace in Middle so that it can focus on towards east Asia.

iv) Cease fire in Russia Ukraine.

Donald Trump would desire to commit a ceasefire in

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Russia-Ukraine war because a peaceful Europe is in the interest of USA.

v) Pivot from Europe to East Asia

According to John Mearsheimer "USA should pivot from Europe to East Asia, as future lies in the east and far from west." By establishing peace in Europe and regulation through NATO in Europe, USA should focus on East Asia.

vi) Taiwan crises and USA's cover

Unless the chips requirements of USA are fulfilled and its chips ^{industry} protected, it would defend Taiwan from China offensive measures.

vii) Trade restrictions

Trump had declared to make Canada as 51st state of USA through economic means. Similarly,

He had threatened to rename Gulf of Mexico as Gulf of America. Similarly, he threatened to control Panama canal.

★ Implication of USA Foreign policy globally.

- 1) **India as a counter-weight to China**
China has become a direct competitor of USA. To counter China, USA has presented India as a counterweight in Asia. For this reason, India and USA have signed many military, strategic and economic deals to increase bilateral cooperation.
- ii) **More sanctions on BRICS+ member**
BRICS+ has introduced ~~the~~ trade in their own currency rather than dollars. So USA has threatened BRICS+ members to reverse their decisions, otherwise

they would face sanctions.

(iii) Bad impact on climate resilience efforts.

Donald Trump in his previous term, withdrew USA from Paris agreement which had declined the effectiveness of climate Agreement. However, USA rejoined in Joe-biden's term but it is most likely Trump would again withdraw from climate related agreements because he considers climate change a myth. This would badly impact the climate resilience efforts.

iv) Prominent presence in Asia Pacific

USA prominence in Asia Pacific would increase.

USA would implement QUAD and ANZUS agreement with more vigour. This effort is done to counter China in Asia Pacific and South-China sea.

Causes of Ukraine-Russia War Through IR Theory

1. Classical Realism - causes of Russia Ukraine war

Aggressive Leader

Classical realism stresses on the aggressive leadership as the cause of Ukraine-Russia war. Vladimir Putin, the President of Russia, quest for increasing power is the cause of Russia-Ukraine war.

2. Expansion of NATO - Balance of power - A concept of Neo-realism
Neo-realism states that when western countries tried to expand NATO in Ukraine. It attempted to shift balance of power and considered as act of war declaration on Russia. As a

result Russia attacked Ukraine
in Feb 2022.

3. Classical idealism - failure of policy of Appeasement

When all the efforts
to prevent war failed. The
Russian president Vladimir Putin
warned the west not to
expand NATO in Ukraine and
at the border of Russia. But
these efforts failed and as
a result Russia-Ukraine war
started.

4. Neo-Liberalism - failure of United Nations

United nation has failed
to protect its members from
wrath of aggressive ones. Since
UN has failed in controlling
or preventing Russia from
attacking Ukraine, this has
resulted in Russia Ukraine
war.

5. Constructivism theory - Russia considers independence of autonomous regions its responsibility

The autonomous regions of Donetsk and Luhansk consists of Russian ethnics and Russia has recognized their independence. So make them independent from Ukraine, Russia, attacked on Ukraine and war started.

6. Post-modernism - Russian and western media propaganda

Both Russian and western medias have started

propaganda against each other. As a result, when this propaganda reached a certain level, war b/w Russia and Ukraine started.

Causes of Israel-Hamas War through theory of IR

1. Aggressive leadership in Israel - Classical realism

According to classical realism, aggressive nature of leader is the main cause of war. Since Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime minister of Israel, is a aggressive leader. He did not stop despite many sanctions and reactions from other states and continued the genocide of Palestinians.

2. Attack of Hamas on Israel - Militarization - Neo-Realism

Hamas attacked on Israel on 07 of October in 2023. This operation was called Al-Aqsa flood by Hamas. Many argue that this was the immediate cause of

war between Hamas and Israel. But the fact is that Hamas Israel war is a result of decades of Palestinian struggle for independence against Israel.

3. Expansionist mind of Israel in Gaza: Neo-Realism

Israel was made as a result of Balfour declaration in Palestinian territory of Ottoman Empire. However, it gradually expanded into whole of Palestine. The only territory remained was Gaza and West bank which the Israel also want to control. So according to Neo-realism expansion of Israel in Gaza was the cause of Hamas-Israel war.

4. Neo-Liberalism- Failure of UN and west dominated peace.

United Nations have failed to prevent the Israel - Hamas

from happening. Also USA supported Israel in the war instead of preventing the war

5. US consider Israel as an important ally in Middle east-
↳ Constructivism

US thought Israel as only democratic ally in the Middle. Therefore, it support Israel in its every legal or illegal act. Due to which, Israel having US on the back of his strength, did not feel hesitant to attack on Hamas or Gaza in true sense. It did not even stop despite other state reaction.

Even the UN passed many resolution against Israel which were vetoed by USA. (UN, 2024)