

# The Crisis of Ethics And Morality In International Politics

## Outline

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- b) What actually ethics and morality depict
- c) Thesis Statement

### B. Instances of International politics that shaped international relations

### C. What are the prevailing crisis of Ethics and Morality in International Politics

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  - i) Nazi Germany's treatment of European Jews showed crisis of ethics and morality.
3. Breaking blocs by way of cold wars,
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4. USA's hunger for international hegemony,  
Case in Point: Involvement of USA in international conflicts

5. Backing war on terror and infringing rights of civilians in Afghanistan  
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6. Crisis of morality in Russia-Ukraine war.

i) Warrants of arrest issued by International Criminal Court for Vladimir Putin

7. Gaza felling pray to Israel's atrocities highlighting lack of ethics and morality.

i) Commission of war crimes

ii) Challenging the international law.

8. Donald Trump 2.0 president elect and his severe warnings to many countries shows dismal crisis of ethics and morality.

i) Talk about Canada

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9. Redundant role of UN, ICT, ICC in international politics.

D. **How the crisis of ethics and morality in international politics can be removed**

1- Strengthening ties of diplomacy with neighbouring countries.

2- Mutual efforts for political stability

3- Harmonious conducting of various international conferences for eliminating ill practices.

4- Formation of Axis of resistance against unethical and immoral groups

E. **Conclusion**

## The Essay

From the very beginning of international relations among various nations on the globe, the basic norm of politics rests in the validity of legal principles. The urge to do right and abstain from wrong also forms the basis of Hans Kelson's theory. The theory says that following



legal principals and doctrines in all affairs is the basic element to run the international system justly. Similarly, in the present day arena, the debate over ethics and morality is of vital aspect. All states which form ties with other states usually keep their own interests before them. These interests are therefore of vital nature for the benefit of those countries. For achieving the set objectives, many countries delve deeper into any kind of actions for acquiring the desired goals. Thus, many states use their powers in negative ways and therefore leave no stone unturned to obtain the settled objective. This comes under the umbrella of crisis of morality and ethics in the international politics. The ethics are generally the defined rules that are to be abided by all nations whereas, morality is the basic distinction between right and wrong. Thus, the crisis of ethics and morality in international politics comes with many alarming signs of further deterioration of



international order and violation of sovereignty of many states alongwith infringement of human rights.

History is axiomatic of the fact that there are many instances in international relations that formed the causes of forming friendly ties. The example of these ties include the relationship of Pakistan with Iran after the inception of Pakistan in 1947. Not only this, but also the relation of China and India despite their conflict over Ladakh and other territorial regions. As Chanakya an Indian philosopher, once said, "All things begin with counsel." Same is the case of international relations and ties, when one country comes in closer connection with the other. Their diplomatic ties strengthen and they start trade, investment and many other ventures together.

Similarly, there are many crisis in the ethical and moral aspect that has prevailed throughout the history and



is still prevalent in the present day. This includes the ideology of realpolitik which says that any thing can be performed for achieving the required results, whereas, on the other side of the coin is the theory of wellpolitik which believed in the attainment of as much <sup>land</sup> as possible to maintain international stronghood. Likewise, opposite to these is the theory of idealism, where only idealistic goals are settled, that are usually less likely to see the light of the day. These different ideologies formed by political leaders are the reasons of shaping national and international goals.

Furthermore, in the ledger of history, the event of holocaust where Nazi Germany wreaked havoc on European Jews and started antisemitic movements showed the crisis of ethics and morality in international politics. This example showed, how the extremist ideologies pave the way for immorality



and create an ethicless society. This kind of region is usually deprived of basic human rights and innocent lives are taken with cruelty with each passing moment.

In a like manner, the lust for attaining superior powers and for ruling the world tend to instill immorality and unethical properties in many leaders. This became clearer when after world war two, the American foreign policy took a different turn and opted for cold war to disintegrate USSR and become a hegemon over the world. The dream of USA became true in early 1990's when USSR disintegrated and Russia was pulled out of Afghanistan by using Mujahideen as third party actors. This mujahideen organs, then formed the basis of radical Islam and Islamophobia in European nations and thus the politics of immorality and short of ethics led other countries into shatters.



Besides the abovementioned instance, the goal for ruling the world most oftenly lead many countries into unwanted conflicts to harvest various benefits in one way or another. The example of this includes the USA, plunging into war's globally, like, Cuban missile crisis, Syrian civil war, Afghanistan crisis, regime change operations in various countries, use of propaganda, hacking various websites and above all, the role, decisive in nature, played by USA in the elections of many countries. These aforementioned instances include the uprising trend of crisis of morality and ethics in the international politics.

For the same scenerio, the violation of human rights and civilian assaults inflicted by American forces in the Afghanistan during war on terror also highlights the grave reality of crisis of morality and ethics during war. The war-torn regions usually faces piles of problems from domestic issues depending



on economic problems to health issues etc. The severity of crisis of morality is mostly increased when innocent civilians become bates to cruel propagandas. Usually resulting in the regional backsliding and shattered human rights conditions.

While highlighting the trend of crisis ridden immorality and ethical condition that are prevalent across the world, the case of Russia and Ukraine war is not unknown to anyone. The stance of Russia against Ukraine for her joining of NATO formed the root cause of war and the humanity suffers in the struggle for attaining security and national agenda's. Millions of people are killed till date on both sides during this war.

The war also impacted the international economy, trade, sea routes, currency and food security. Thus this elaborates how international politics is crisis ridden by moral and ethical point of view.

Not only this, but also the atrocities on Gazan people



after October, 07, 2023 inflicted by Israel is of no match in the history of human kind. The unprecedented bombing on civilian areas and west bank, followed by the destruction of infrastructure including hospitals, school, water pipelines, electricity connection, roads and other vital necessities truly depicts that how worst the crisis of ethics and morality can be made in international politics.

The commission of war crimes on the part of Israel's head of government, Benjamin Netanyahu and his sheer stance towards the rulings and orders of international global organizations highlighted how short he and his state is of morality and ethics. This tends to set a precedent for other states to follow the suit of Israel for obtaining international position by means of cruelty and immorality.

On the other hand, the re election of President Trump, who is well known for his isolationist policies also showed that the



The international politics is not in safe hands. The way his threats and severe warnings to states in the past formed unethical stages of governance and policy formation. Similarly during his second presidency it is more likely discussed by various international reporters that his government of strict behaviour paves the road towards weakening of moral values and ethics.

Trump policies for second term include expansionism where he harassed many countries and mockingly said that "Canada should become fifty-first state of USA" directly attacked the sovereignty of the state. Other case include the threats of increasing tariffs on China. This highlights that the saviour of the human rights across the world is herself entering into the quagmire of immorality and unethical politics while setting the trend for other states to follow the suit.

Keeping in view the



The aforementioned examples of crisis of ethics and morality in international politics, the role of United Nations, International Court of Justice and International Criminal Court is of vital importance to mention. These principle organizations were formed to carry out the foundations of peace and prosperity in the world, but viewing the negligent and overt behaviour of various countries like Israel, Russia etc shows that they have also become redundant. The notorious and obnoxious behaviour by these aforementioned unethical states tend to harm the sovereignty of these global organizations too. Thus leading their position to downgrade.

After debating on the various instances where international politics has seen crisis of ethics and morality, let us view how these crisis can be overcome and through which initiatives.



Firstly, the crisis of ethics and morality can be removed by building strong ties between nations. The strong bonds of interconnection via trade, cultural exchange, education etc can foster strength and harmony. These dependent policies and mutual upricing of national objectives can put the states on the trajectory of prosperity and strengthening of diplomacy thus leaving less space for propaganda, harm and negative attitude of the states towards each other.

Secondly, for putting end to crisis of ethics and morality the mutual efforts should be reached between two neighboring countries based on strong dialogues and agreements between them. This can help in achieving political stability. This political stability anywhere in the world leads to strong national cohesion and eradicate immorality and unethical attitude towards other nations.



Thirdly, the evil of immorality and unethical behaviours in the international milieu can be stopped by conducting various conferences taking into consideration the major causes of eruption of such evils. These dialogues and agenda's by various nations can help in running the wheel of international politics well-oiled by strong adherence to the settled principals and objectives.

Fourthly, the menace of crisis of morality and ethics can be removed by formation of strong axis of resistance against those powers who are working on international agenda's of spreading hatred in the world community and propagating ill practices. By this the peace can be achieved on regional level as well.

In a nutshell, it can be said that the history is



full of many instances where crisis of morality and ethics prevailed in international politics.

The present day situation is not different from the past. All across the world the national objectives of becoming dominant by all means became the underline cause of spreading crisis of ethics and morality.

This ultimately leads to injustice and deterioration of society. As Martin Luther King, once said, that, "Injustice anywhere is the threat to justice everywhere." Same can be inferred to the scenarios of crisis of ethics and morality, <sup>which</sup> can lead to the prevalence of immorality and war every where in the world and ultimately puts the world into a centre-stage of war, destruction and injustices.