

NOA Final Mocks

Political Science - Paper II

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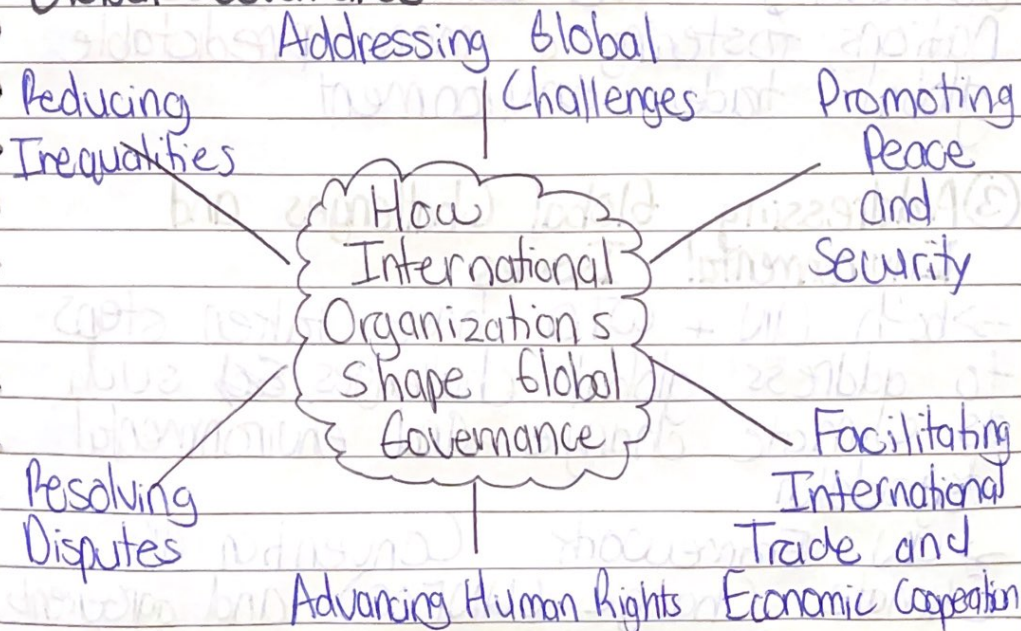
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Q.3)

Introduction

International organizations such as the UN and the WTO play a pivotal role in shaping global governance by providing platforms for multilateral dialogue, fostering cooperation, and addressing transnational challenges. These institutions aim to promote peace, development, trade liberalization, and equitable decision-making among member states. While these ~~organizations~~ organizations have made strides in fostering collaboration and addressing global issues, questions persist about their ability to ensure fairness and inclusivity.

Role of International Organizations In Shaping Global Governance:



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① Promoting Peace and Security

→ UN, through its security council and peacekeeping operations, is tasked with maintaining international peace + security

→ provides a forum for conflict resolution, sanctions enforcement, and military interventions when necessary

↳ E.g. Peacekeeping missions in nations such as South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo

② Facilitating International Trade and Economic Cooperation

→ WTO plays a vital role in shaping global trade by setting rules, ~~reducing~~ reducing trade barriers, and resolving disputes

→ its mechanisms, such as the Dispute Settlement Body, have been pivotal in addressing trade conflicts between nations, fostering a more predictable global trade environment

③ Addressing Global Challenges and Environmental Issues

→ both UN + WTO have taken steps to address global challenges, ~~set~~ such as climate change and environmental degradation

→ UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and agreement

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like the Paris Agreement demonstrate the UN's leadership in coordinating global action on climate change

→ Similarly, WTO is involved in discussions on trade's role in sustainable development

④ Advancing Human Rights and Social Development

→ UN, through its agencies such as UNICEF, UNHCR, and the Human Rights Council, plays a significant role in promoting human rights, providing humanitarian aid, and advancing social development

↳ E.g. Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and subsequent treaties have established a global standard for human rights

⑤ Resolving Disputes and Building Consensus

→ both organizations provide platforms for dispute resolution and consensus-building

→ the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body has resolved numerous trade conflicts, while the UN General Assembly serves as a forum for dialogue on global issues

→ these mechanisms aim to prevent unilateral actions and promote multilateralism

⑥ Fostering Development and Reducing Inequalities

→ UN, through programs like the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the WTO, through initiatives aimed at integrating developing nations into the global economy, have sought to reduce inequalities and promote inclusive growth

↳ E.g. UN's Development Programme supports capacity-building and poverty reduction efforts

Assessing The Success of These Institutions In Addressing Power Imbalances Among Member States:

Providing a Platform For Multilateral Dialogue

Facilitating Development and Capacity Building

Success of These Institutions In Addressing Power Imbalances

Reducing Trade Barriers for Developing Nations

Irreversible
Access
to
Resources
and ~~the~~
Influence

Failure of These
Institutions In
Addressing
Power Imbalances

Dominance
of
Powerful
Nations in
Decision
Making

Limited Enforcement
of Fair Policies

How Institutions Are Successful
In Addressing Power Imbalances:

① Providing a Platform for Multilateral Dialogue
→ UN and WTO provide forums where
nations, regardless of size or economic
power, can participate in global decision-
making

↳ UN General Assembly operates on the
principle of "one country, one vote"
ensuring that smaller nations have
equal representation

② Facilitating Development + Capacity Building
→ UN + WTO implement programs that
target development in less-privileged
nations, helping them compete on a more
equal footing
→ through the Sustainable Development

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Goals, UN addresses systemic inequalities by targeting poverty, education, healthcare, and gender equality
→ UN Development Programme has provided critical support for infrastructure development in countries like Rwanda and Nepal

③ Reducing Trade Barriers for Developing Nations

→ both UN and WTO have worked to reduce trade barriers and promote preferential treatment for developing countries

↳ E.g. UN Conference on Trade and Development has been instrumental in advocating for special trade preferences for least developed countries

How Institutions Are Not Successful in Addressing Power Imbalances:

① Dominance of Powerful Nations in Decision-Making

→ despite their multilateral nature, both the UN and WTO are often criticized for being dominated by powerful nations

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→ Structure of the UNSC gives veto power to the 5 permanent members - this privilege allows these nations to block resolutions even if a majority of member states support them

→ these structural inequalities undermine the ability of these institutions to act as neutral arbiters, reinforcing rather than addressing power imbalances

② Limited Enforcement of Fair Policies

→ even when international organizations create mechanisms to address inequalities, enforcement often remains weak, particularly against powerful nations

→ these enforcement gaps weaken the credibility of international organizations and perpetuate inequalities by allowing powerful nations to evade accountability

③ Inequitable Access to Resources and Influence

→ Developing nations often lack the financial and institutional resources to engage fully in these organizations, leaving them at a disadvantage.

E.g. Participation in WTO negotiations requires substantial legal and technical expertise, which many

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developing nations lack
→ without equitable access to
resources, developing nations face
systemic barriers to full participation,
limiting their ability to influence
policies and address their priorities
effectively

Conclusion

The UN and the WTO have
significantly influenced global governance
by facilitating cooperation and addressing
complex global challenges. However, their
success in reducing power imbalances
among member states remains mixed.
Ultimately, the impact of these
organizations lies in their ability to
evolve and adapt to the changing
dynamics of international relations.