

Question 1:

Discuss the concept of International Society. Critically Analyze its origin ----?

* Introduction:

International Society is a concept primarily articulated by English School of thought, given by Hedley Bull. It refers to group of states share common rules, norms, values and institutions which regulate their interactions. International Society emphasizes on order, law and shared values.

* Definition of International Society (IS)

Hedley Bull defines International Society as:

“A society of states which are conscious of certain common interests and values and share in the working of common institutions.”

* IS and Realist Perspective:

IS describes states according to realist perspective. According to IS, interaction of states are based on power politics, survival

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security, which are core realistic views.

• IS and Liberal perspective:

IS emphasize on institutional cooperation guided by shared norms, values and rules, which is core liberal views.

• Origin of International Society

↳ Treaty of Westphalia (1648)

Before this treaty there was Supra Theocratic Christian Polity in Europe. Politics, economy and religion were aligned and under one authority, their followers were called catholic.

Under the leadership of Martin Luther King, a movement started to end church rule and have sovereign states, their followers were called protestants. Initially, it was ideological, then turned into full fledged war, famously known as European Thirty Years War (1618-1648), war ended with the Treaty of Westphalia.

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↳ Main Principles .

- 1) Territorial Integrity : states will have territory
- 2) Equality and freedom : of people with in states
- 3) Political Independence of states with
- 4) Sovereignty of each state . They will be independent in decision making
- 5) Recognition and non-Intervention . No state will intervene to other.

Such . These are structural principles of International society .

* Evolutionary Process of IS

↳ Plurist Phase

The plurist version of IS emphasizes on coexistence of sovereign states . It promotes diplomacy , treaties and balance of power . Plurist perspective is basically linked with classical realism - that states ~~fight~~ strive for survival but cooperation is possible

↳ Solidarist Phase

This incorporates norms and values. eg. human rights & global justice. It is linked with **liberal institutionalism** that says institutions mitigate anarchy & promote order.

↳ Institutional & Global Governance

In this phase of IS evolution formation of institutions took place. After WWI - LON (1919) and WWII UN (1945) made. Other organisations like ICC, ICJ, WTO also made.

Rationale of 'International System' and contemporary challenges:

★ **Rationale** : IS focus on interstate interactions and balance of power guided by shared norms and values.

Shared norms : These are the basic principles of Treaty of Westphalia such as : non intervention, sovereignty of states & Equality & freedom.

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shared rules : Economic rule such as capitalism, Nation state system (democracy), International law.

In International Society states will follow shared norms, values, interests. IS integrates both **realist (power politics)** and **liberal (norms)** perspectives

→ Globalization - a challenge

Globalization promotes interconnected economies; finance migration that challenges the rationale of **States sovereignty** under IS. When economies are integrated state sovereignty in policy decision-making is compromised

→ Terrorism, Separatism and Non-state actors - a threat

Global terrorism, separatist tendencies are major threat of today's world. IS focus on **shared response and collaboration through institutions like INTERPOL, UN counter Terrorism**. But non-state actors are outside state based norms and IS in **state-centric approach**.

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↳ Climate change and Environmental crisis,

IS supports collective action against global warming and environmental degradation. - through institutions like UNFCCC. **Solidarist** perspective encourages moral obligation to protect planet. But gives **no mechanism for implementation** that is need of the hour to counter climate challenge.

Conclusion:

English school concept of IS combines power politics and norms and institution in order to define state interactions. IS remains relevant in present world challenges but must expand beyond state-centric pluralism ~~and~~ to address contemporary challenges of non-state actors and climate ~~response~~ change.

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Question 4:

Examine issue of water security in south Asia. ——— ?

Introduction

In International Relations, Water security comes under non-traditional security threat and resource geopolitics. South Asia is a classic case of hydro-politics where transboundary rivers intersect with historical rivalry & climate stress. The Indus Water Treaty - a model of liberal Institution - has recently come under strain due to hydro-aggression. This can have severe implications for regional security between two nuclear powers.

Water Security as a non-tradition Security threat:

According to Barry Buzan's Security framework, security extends beyond military threats to

- ↳ Environment security
- ↳ Economic security
- ↳ Societal security

Water insecurity in

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South Asia acts as a threat multiplier, exacerbating food shortages, economic instability & internal unrest.

Indus Water Treaty - A Liberal Institution

IWT was signed in 1960 between India and Pakistan, about division of common rivers, brokered by World Bank. It allocated:

- Eastern Rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) to India
- Western Rivers (Indus, Chonab, Jhelum) to Pakistan

It established Permanent Indus commission and Third Party conflict Resolution framework.

This treaty survived wars - validating liberal views that institutions can mitigate unrest and anarchy.

Recent Hydro - Aggression

↳ Indian Hydro - Politics
India has not

formally abrogated the treaty

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threatened to do so which is illegal under international law. Furthermore, India has also accelerated construction of dams, such as: Kishanganga and Ratle, on Pakistani dams.

India, being upper riparian, transpires this advantage into structural power and doing hydro aggression using water as coercive instrument to put pressure on Pakistan. India is behaving as a Realist state

↳ Legal Reality of Unilateral Abrogation.

TWT lacks an exit clause. Furthermore, under Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, Unilateral abrogation is invalid.

Impact of Indo-Pak Water Conflict on Regional Security.

1) Regional instability and Nuclear Risk.

Water disputes deepen security dilemma. Water disputes

between China - India and India - Pakistan, increase risk of misperception in crisis and add stress to nuclear deterrence stability. Water, a non-traditional security, can become a cause of fear, fledge traditional war because it is threatening national security of states.

2) Human Security Implications

Water conflict threaten food security, economic stability, and intensify climate-induced damages.

24% of Pakistan's economy depends on Agriculture. Any threat to water sources directly impacts already weak Pakistan's economy - an important National Security element. Hence, ~~water~~ hydro-aggression can disturb regional peace. because water is essential for survival & to protect survival countries can go to war.

3) Failure of Regional Institutions.

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may rise due to
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Regional instability ~~at~~
~~the~~ failure of Liberal Institutions
such as SAARC, SCO etc.
Unilateral abrogation of IWT
is an aggressive action
of a state - pursuing realist
school of thought, under Modi's
Government.

Ensuring Regional Stability through IR perspective

1) Revitalizing Liberal Institutionalism.

Restore dispute
Resolution mechanism of
IWT. Depoliticize
technical disagreements
over an important security
element - water. Restore
role of World Bank to
play ~~not~~ mediating role.

2) Cooperative Security and Confidence building.

Data sharing mechanism
between Pakistan and India should
be ensured to tackle
climate risks and dams
construction concerns. In addition

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add climate related clauses in IWT.

↳ Improve Domestic Resilience - Classical Realism.

Strong domestic capacity enhances bargaining power. Pakistan needs to improve water governance, also build storage capacity.

Conclusion:

Water security is. South Asia has tendencies to disturb regional peace and stability. Present situation depicts the show of power politics through hydro-aggression. Although, the need of the hour is to strengthen liberal institution - such as IWT, to prevent ~~and~~ any instability in region.

"Control over water can determine peace or war, making rivers instruments of strategic leverage"

Prof. Peter H. Gleick

Question 7:

What are the silent features of mercantilism? Describe the concept--?

Introduction:

Trade has become a central instrument of state power and strategic competition in contemporary world order. While globalization increased economic interdependence, it also created vulnerabilities that states exploit for the sake of their national interests. Trade wars are the application of mercantilism and realist policies that states use to enhance power, assert influence and achieve strategic interests.

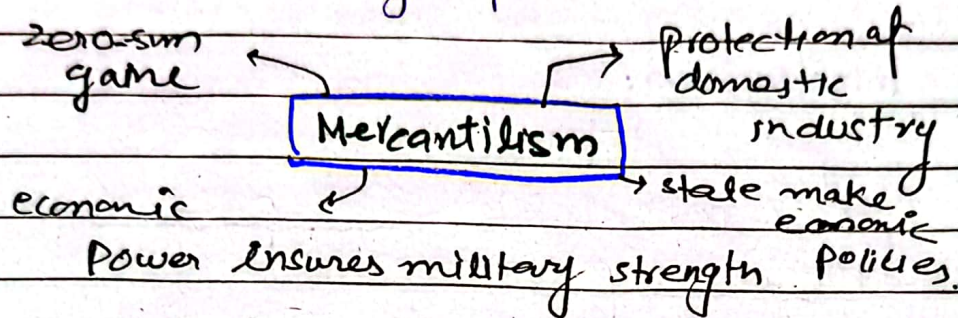
Mercantilism:

Mercantilism is a state-centric economic and political doctrine that says state power is best secured by accumulating wealth through favourable balance of trade, strict state regulation of economic policies and protection of domestic industries. They see international economic relations as zero-sum game.

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with absolute gain of one country.
 If assumes economic strength.
 is mandatory for political
 and military power.



Silent features of Mercantilism

1 State-centric Economic control:

State actively participate to regulate trade.

2 Wealth accumulation:

National power is linked with wealth surplus.

3 Protectionism

Tariffs and restrictions are applied to protect domestic industry.

4 Export Promotion

Exports are encouraged while imports are discouraged.

5 Strategic use of Resources:

Accumulation of wealth for the purpose of strong military might to gain strategic interests.

Concept of Trade wars in Contemporary Relations.

Trade wars occur when states impose tariffs, quotas, sanctions, or export controls to protect domestic industry or coerce rival. Trade wars serve as coercive diplomacy allowing states to influence others economically ~~not~~ without military conflicts.

Contemporary Examples:

4 US - China Trade war

US-China are currently over a tug of trade with each other to achieve global hegemony. In the high time of war (2018-19) US imposed tariffs of worth **\$350bn** on Chinese goods, while in retaliation China imposed tariffs of worth **\$110bn** on US goods, reflecting a classic real mercantilist struggle for global trade dominance.

4 Japan - South Korea Trade dispute:

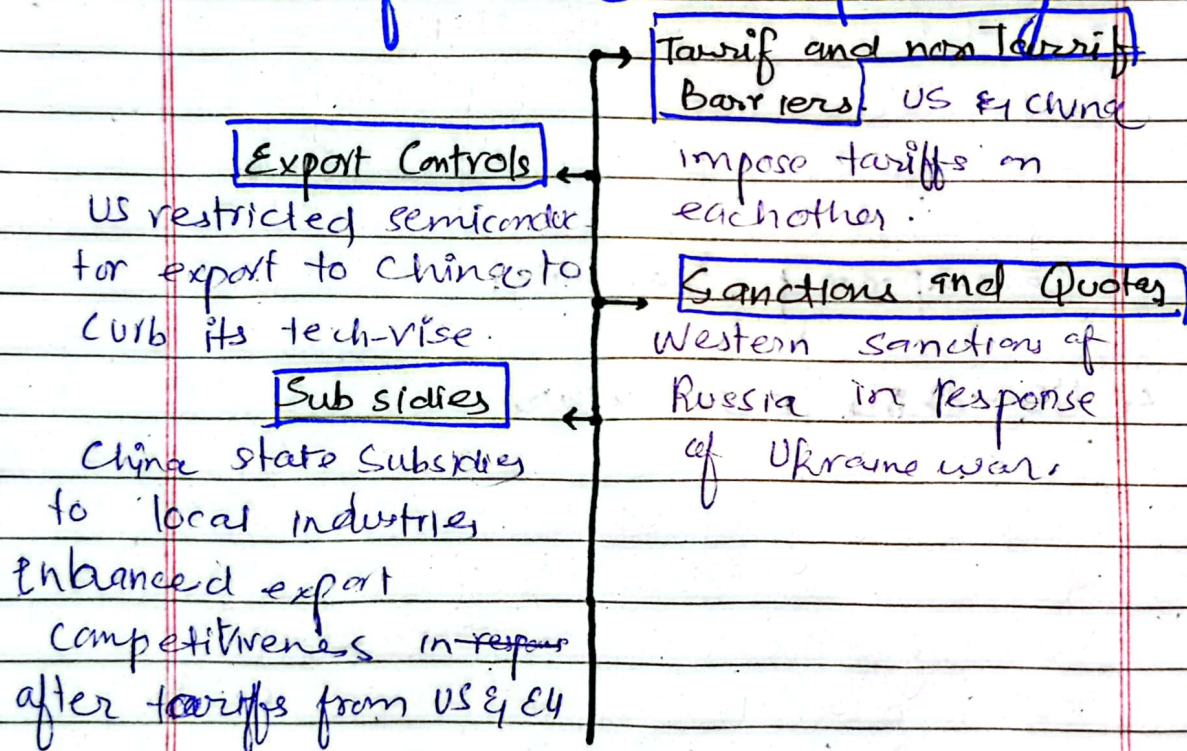
Export restrictions on semi-conductor materials

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- ↳ China - Australia Trade conflict
Tariff and import bans due to political disagreements.
- ↳ Russia - Ukraine Sanctions Regime
Trade & financial sanctions alongside military pressure.

Mechanism of Trade wars as Tools of Coercive Diplomacy.



Challenge to liberal world order.

- ↳ Trade wars undermine liberal world order which is based on free trade, multilateralism.
- ↳ Economic Nationalism contrast with liberal principle of

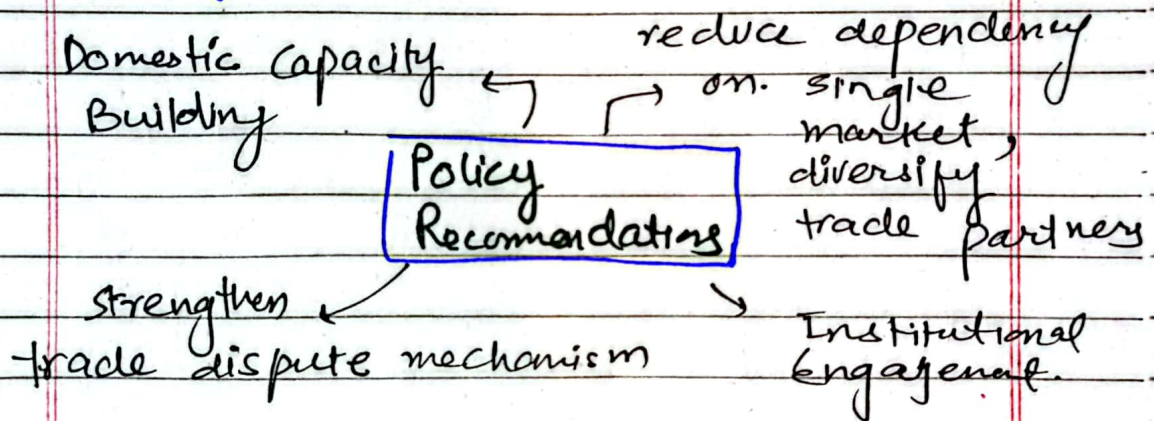
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- global cooperation
- Strategic use of trade weaponises interdependence
- Mercantilism and trade wars are purely Realist strategies.

Policy implications



Conclusion:

Merchantilism is a power and wealth accumulation policies of economic nationalism. Trade wars are the modern form of merchantilism. Under which coercive diplomacy is applied to weaponized interdependence that ultimately challenges liberal world order.

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Question 3:-

Determinants of foreign policy

Introduction:

Foreign policy decision making reflects a complex interplay of domestic politics, international structures and economic considerations.

US recent evolution of foreign policy illustrates how states navigate these determinants, balancing hardpower and softpower, pursuing objectives through coercive and cooperative instruments.

Determinants of Foreign Policy - Case Study of US Evolving Foreign Policy :-

[1] Domestic Determinants

a) Political Leadership & Priorities

Leadership, ideology, party preferences and presidential priorities guide policy directions.
For Instance:

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Biden's Administration emphasized on alliance building and multilateralism, in contrast with the Trump's America First Policy. Biden strengthened NATO and ^{increased} Indo-Pacific engagement.

2) Public Opinion and Media

Public opinion influences largely on foreign policy frameworks. Democratic states consider public pulse and approval while engaging in foreign interventions. An apt example is:

US withdrawal from Afghanistan was influenced by domestic anti-war sentiments.

3) Interest Groups Politics

Defence contractors, large MNCs influence foreign policy of a state because they contribute largely in country's economy and politics. In case of US,

Large tech companies in US influenced foreign policy making by restricting semiconductor

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export to china to curb
china tech rise, so that these
companies dominate tech-sector

[2] International Determinants

1) Strategic Rivalries and power competition

states design ^{foreign} policies
to maintain relative power advantage
Same is the case with US, which
make policies vis-a-vis China & Russia.

The Indo-Pacific strategy of US
(QUAD, AUKUS) reflect an offensive
realist approach to counter
rising China.

2) Global Norms and Multilateral institutions.

States foreign policy
is also determined by multilateral
organizations, international expectations,
values, rules and norms. In case of
US, the cycle of joining, leaving
and rejoining international
treaties like Paris Agreement
on Climate has diminished global.

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norm of 'pacta sunt servanda'
that means agreements must be kept.

Historical timeline: US and Paris Climate Agreement.

• 2016 - joining

US joined Paris Climate Agreement under President Obama.

• 2022 - leaving

US left agreement under President Trump.

• 2021 - Rejoining

US rejoined Paris Agreement under President Joe Biden.

• 2026 - Withdrawal initiated

President Trump initiated US withdrawal by signing an executive order "Putting

America first in International Environmental Agreements"

3) Alliances and Regional Crises and Conflicts.

Threats in neighbours and regions affect foreign policy choices. States show hard power by their military involvement to their supported country and show soft power by mediating between two rival states.

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In case of US :

US support Ukraine by showing hard power - NATO involvement in Ukraine - to counter threat of Communist Russia

US depicts soft power by playing the role of mediator:

US projects its influence through soft power by mediating between India and Pakistan conflict in May, 2025.

[3] Economic Determinants

1) Trade and Technology.

Trade policies and tariffs are used as tools to gain strategic leverage. For instance

US restrictions on Huawei and Chinese Tech companies depicts coercive diplomacy to gain technical technological advantage over China

2) Energy Security

Energy Security plays a vital role as foreign policy of a state. Energy security makes state to ~~not~~ develop partnerships and do interventions in other states. US is no different.

US put tariffs on India to punish because India was buying oil and gas from US rival - Russia.

US supplies energy to Europe to maintain its influence.

US supply LNG to Europe to enhance energy leverage and maintain geopolitical influence.

Conclusion

In a nutshell, foreign policy of a state is determined by multiple factors, including: domestic situation, international determinants and economic requirement. US is also pursuing its foreign policy based on these factors.

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The evolving US foreign policy is shaped by show of hard power and soft power, coercive, or cooperation strategies in order to secure US National interests. US is following foreign policy to maximize state power (realist approach) against rivals and ~~to~~ to increase ~~to~~ cooperation (Liberal approach) with friends.

