

QNO 1

Critically analyze the global dynamics under Trump's leadership, assessing whether his policies have facilitated global peace or deepened divisions. Furthermore, evaluate the strategic implications of the USA-China rivalry within the broader context of the shifting world order.

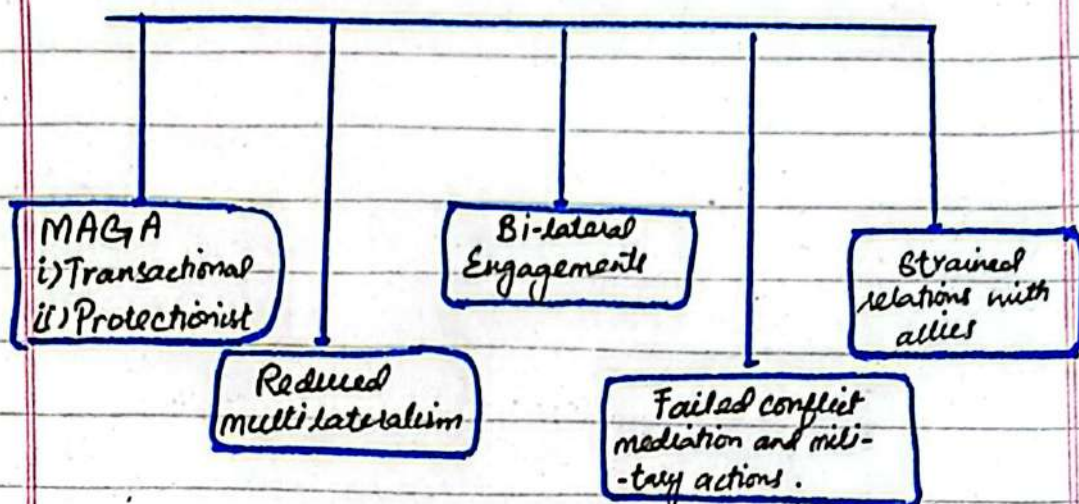
Introduction: "The world sees conflicts and divisions during the transition of the global order". This quote of Henry Kissinger from his book 'The world order' aptly underscores the present global dynamics. Trump's leadership have shocked the world particularly his MAGA (Make America Great Again) policies, bilateralism and coercive behavior towards the multilateralism. Similarly his military actions have divided the world even the American allies are endangered by his policies. Current global dynamics are explaining the fragmentation particularly by the Trump's protectionist and transactional behavior. Furthermore, Trump 2.0 policies do not see China as adversary but the healthy competitor. It can be changed as the security establishment of US still consider China as the threat. Shifting world order has many strategic implications with respect to the US-China rivalry.

Global dynamics under Trump's leadership

Global dynamics are being considered as contradictory to the liberal rule based order under President

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Leadership and policies. These dynamics include:



i) MAGA (Make America great again) policy of President

Trump.

President Trump introduced this policy during his election campaign. This policy explains his transactional approach beyond adopted echo chambers. This policy ensures what other countries can offer US. Similarly, economic protectionism of the US president is also explained under this. Globalization has denied the US interests and US is disengaging it from financial stocks abroad. This is the common explanation of the US administration 2.0.

ii) Reduced multilateralism

under Trump 2.0

Since his first term as president of the US, Trump considers multilateralism as meaningless efforts and engaged with other states bi-laterally. He exited from Paris agreement on climate change and weakened the collective problem solving. Similarly, NATO is also tactically weakened by Trump as he declared Continental

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Europe to increase the budget in defense sector upto 5%.

iii) Shift of US towards bilateralism under Trump 2.0.

US reversed from its decades long institutional and coalition building to narrow transactional security of interests in the form of bilateralism. Current appearance of President Trump shows that he is not interested in multilateral forums like AU, UN and G20, not long term but present. US National Security Strategy (2025) aptly explains this frustration of President Trump under second tenure in office.

iv) Failed conflict mediation and military actions by the US under President Trump

Despite his multiple attempts to effectively mediate the war in Gaza and Ukraine, he remained failed to stop them yet. Trump's MAGA slogan also underscored that the US would not engage in conflicts abroad but he wanted failed to pursue his commitments. US attacked Iran in June 2025 and Venezuela in Jan 2026. These are the global dynamics under Trump's leadership.

v) Strained relations with allies in trans-Atlantic and Indo-Pacific regions

The relations of US, which definitely affects the global

the global dynamics, has been fragile with even its allies in trans-Atlantic and Pacific Indian regions. He warned Canada and said to annex Canada as American. State 51. Similarly, NATO fragmentation has been exposed under Trump. Trump's policy of imposing tariffs strained relation with India when he imposed 100% tariffs on the Indian goods. This is how the global dynamics are shaped under Trump 2.0.

How his policies have deepened the divisions

i) Erosion of law based global governance under Trump's policies

Rule based liberal order has seen visible slip from controlling global dynamics. Trump's policies damaged global governance by sidelining US from the multilateralism. One of the most prominent example is the NATO deadlock over Ukraine war. Trump is trying his best to stop the war by giving desired terms to Russia while Europe is trying to support Ukraine to fight war as much as it can. This is how the divisions have deepened.

ii) Trade wars and protectionist policies weakening WTO rules

The trade war idea has weakened global cooperation and elevated economic tensions. Liberal free market economic idea, due to the policies of president Trump, has been eroding badly. WTO, established to institutionalize the trade rules, is on the weakest in its history.

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(ii) Hardpower power usage abroad by the US under President Trump

Trump policies have divided the global arena through one of its implications: The Hard power projection. Trump attacked Iranian Nuclear Facilities through B-2 bombers in 2025 after Iran-Israel war in June 2025. Similarly, Retal ceasefire in GAZA many times only in 2025. This how, with clear contradictions with the election slogan of non interventionism, US, under Trump, has divided the world more through its policies.

Strategic implication for the world in the broader context of US-China rivalry and the changing world order.

US-China rivalry is the cornerstone of the modern geo-politics. This rivalry is shaping economic and political frameworks of the world with broader strategic implications.



Nature of US-China rivalry under Trump 2.0.

The most significant pivot is: Trump does not consider China as adversary but a healthy competitor in economic, technology and military domains.

Trump imposed 200+ % tariffs on the Chinese goods to eradicate the trade deficit between two countries. US has realized that it can not completely decouple it from

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China. The primary aim of tariffs is to reduce US dependence on China and to curb the Chinese industrial rise.

Similarly, the technological competition is rising because of technological leadership of China. The semiconductor technology and the refining of the rare earth minerals are heavily ruled by China.

Furthermore, the Indo-Pacific region military posturing is present but with reduced intensity by the US. National security strategy of US 2025, tacitly acknowledges the Indo-Pacific region as the Chinese sphere of influence. Trump is not interested to exploit the Taiwan issue but the future can be different.

Strategic implications for the global order with respect to the US-China rivalry:

i) Fragmentation of global supply chains, affects global order.

Trade tensions accelerates supply chain diversification away from China, often towards ASEAN and Mexico, reducing interconnected global markets and fostering regional blocs.

ii) Multipolar and institutional erosion

As the US retreats from certain global institutions due to protectionism, China and the EU increasingly

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Shape alternative governance frameworks. This diffusion of power weakens US. global primacy and signal a shift towards multipolarity.

III) Escalation risk due to increasing competition

Elevated rivalry, even if not direct military conflict, raises the risk of flashpoints, notably around the Taiwan, Strait of Malacca and South China sea disputes especially in the scenario of weak diplomatic stands.

v) Multipolarity and fragmented system

Chinese embolment in global markets and infrastructure and US strategic block shaping the post Cold war liberal world order into complex multilateral forums based multipolar order (SCO and BRICS).

vi) Emergence of Regional Blocs

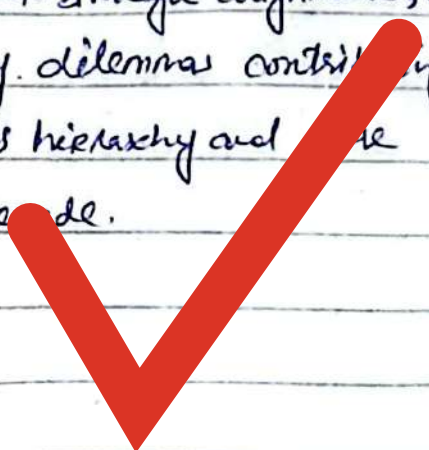
Reinforced coalition, alliance like QUAD and AUKUS with deeper Indo-Pacific partnership from counterweights to Chinese influence, but the system resembles competitive bloc rather than integrated global governance.

Global peace is tactically intervention influenced under trump with, global division due to protectionism and transactionalism. Similarly, US-China rivalry

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escalated on economic and security fronts by him and due to this the world order is shifting from liberal rule based unipolarity to multipolarity.

Conclusion: Donald Trump's leadership has not broadly facilitated sustainable global peace. It has deepened divisions by undermining multilateralism based cooperation, stressing allies, and intensifying great-power competition especially with China. Strategic alignments, economic systems, and security dilemmas contributing to a world order with less hierarchy and more contested than previous decade.



QNO3

Critically analyze the 27th Constitutional Amendment, focusing on its curtailment of judicial powers. How does it relate to the debate on judicial restraint and activism, and what are its implications for the trichotomy of power in Pakistan?

Introduction: The 27th Constitutional amendment, passed by the Parliament of Pakistan in 2025 with two-thirds majority, introduces many structural changes in the judicial and constitutional adjudication frameworks. These changes include: The formation of Federal Constitutional Court, Transfer of cases from Supreme Court to the FCC, elimination of Supreme Court from its original jurisdiction, executive control over judiciary, and conditions imposed on judges. There are many other changes as well but judicial curtailment is discussed alone. Many people declare it as step strengthening the hybrid model of governance but others appreciate as a well needed step toward state stability. It has implication of the power structure of Pakistan as it faded the theory of separation of powers.

Curtailment of Judicial powers: Mechanisms and effects

1) Dilution of Supreme courts original jurisdiction

One of the core change through 27th Amendment with respect to the judiciary is the dilution of Supreme court's original jurisdiction of entertaining constitutional interpretation and public importance (Article 184(3)). That power enabled judiciary to check executive policies. Under the new amendment, a parallel court has been established called Federal Constitutional Court to interpret the provisions of the constitution. Supreme court only entertain the civil and criminal procedure cases.

Creation of new parallel judiciary

Structure

This amendment has established a parallel judicial structure in the form of Federal Constitutional Court rather than strengthening the existing one. FCC judges appointment is heavily influenced and done by the executive branch. Supreme court now only entertain civil and criminal procedure cases with less or zero role in constitutional interpretation.

Executive control over judicial

Personels

The amendment introduced provisions which allow the President, on the advice of PM, to appoint, transfer and even forced retirement of judges. Theory of separation of power is heavily influence and executive has a upper hand to shaped judiciary for its compliance.

Judicial restraint vs Judicial activism in Pakistan

Judicial restraint philosophy holds that courts should not overstep into policy decisions. This theory underscores that democratic legitimacy should be protected. In the case of Pakistan, judicial activism introduced hybrid model and heavily remained politicized. Recent judicial history of Pakistan was also beyond its constitutional boundaries.

Judicial activism justifies strict judicial review and proactive use of power to protect fundamental rights to hold check on executive and uphold constitutionalism. This activism tacitly involve judiciary in executive matter and becomes politicize.

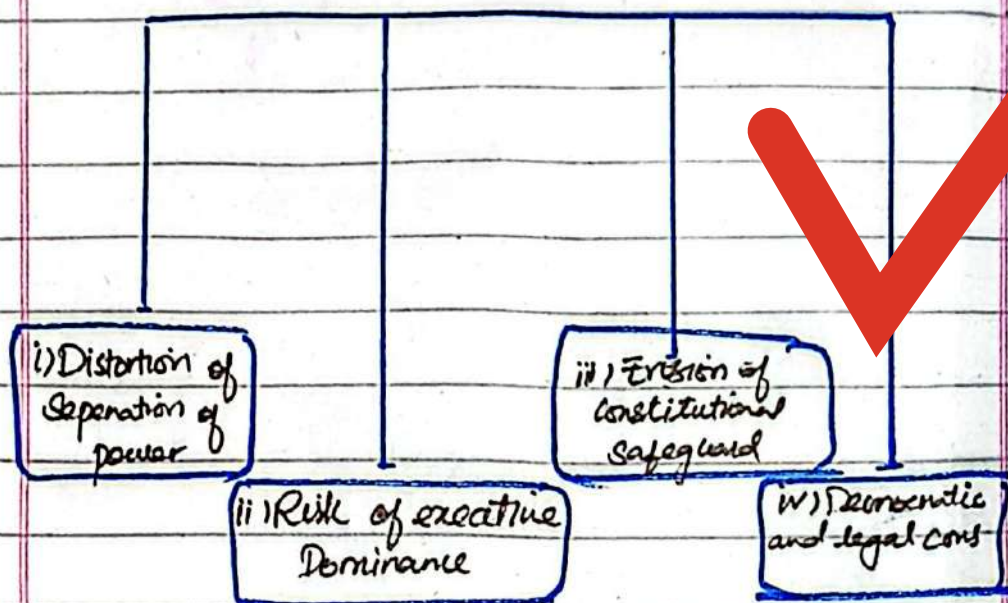
How the amendment fits into this debate

The 27th Constitutional amendment is explicitly ideologically aligned with judicial restraint with respect to the recent judicial history. Therefore, the amendment is seen not as genuine restraint aimed at restoring institutional balance, but as a structural reallocation of power that favors the executive at the expense of independent judicial system. This is more closer to the command and control governance, where constitutional adjudication is subordinated to political interests rather than rights protection.

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Implications for the Power Structure of Pakistan

The 1973 constitution is a structure of separation of power among legislative, executive, judicial segments of states. Independent judiciary is essential to maintaining this balance to control state affairs.



The removal of original supreme courts jurisdiction, and political executive control over judiciary distorted the separation of power. Executive and legislative action are not independent of the sight of judiciary. Unchecked majoritarianism and tyranny are now remained unchecked due to horizontal accountability mechanism.

The role of judiciary as the equal constitutional partner is curtailed and become the subordinate of executive.

ii) Risk of executive dominance

This amendment has implication in the form of enhanced executive dominance by allowing greater control over judicial selection and tenure. Strengthening centralized control over selection/selected constitutional adjudication and reduced institutional checks on executive power.

iii) Erosion of Constitutional Safeguard

The judiciary historically acted as the guardian of fundamental rights and provider of remedies. Weakening its powers, especially suo motu authority, reduces the court's ability to act as proponents of right-centric constitutionalism.

iv) Political polarization in the country.

The amendment deepens political polarization, with judicial acts (including resignation of the senior judges as protest) symbolizing broader institutional discontent. However, judiciary itself is the culprit of this power curtailment to some extent.

v) Constitutional litigation and backlash

Numerous petitions have been filed challenging the amendment's constitutionality, arguing it violates the constitution's basic structure, separation of powers, and judicial review principles.

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Conclusion : The 27th Constitutional Amendment represents a profound institutional shift in Pakistan's constitutional framework, with serious implications for the judiciary, separation of powers, and democratic governance. Rather than fostering a balanced and restrained judicial role, the amendment's structure reforms risk entrenching executive dominance and curtailing the foundational principle of the order of the constitution of Pakistan.