

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
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PAPER III INTERNATIONAL POLITICS
UNIT- I



HISTORY AND
EVOLUTION OF
INTERNATIONAL
POLITICS

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How the international politics govern?

International politics is an outcome of 3 factors as follows:

- Interest- Dissimilarity or similarity of interest.
- Conflict- Caused due to dissimilarity of interest.
- Use of power

Many thinkers have
defined the international politics as
follows :

- According to **H.J. Morgenthau**, “International Politics include analysis of political relations and problems of peace among nations. Further he writes, It “is struggle for and use of power among nations.”

- According to **Quincy Wright** “International Relations is the relations between groups of major importance in the life of the world at any period of history and particularly relations among territorially organized nation states which today are of such importance.”
- **Palmer and Perkins** opine that “International politics is essentially concerned with state system. Since International relations includes all types relationships between the sovereign states, it is wider, and international politics is narrower in scope.”

History and evolution of the International Politics

*According to Kenneth Thompson, in the 20th century, there are **4 main stages** of evolution of the international politics as independent discipline.*

Stretches up to the
end of 1st World
War
(dominance of
historians)

Stage 1

Stage 2

Starts from the end of
1st World War -
(discipline came out
from the clutches of
history)

Pre world war 2
period
(Institutionalisation
stage)

Stage 3

Stage 4

Post 2nd
World War
era



Stage 1

- Monopoly of diplomatic historians

Stage 2

- Emphasized the study of current affairs/issues.

Stage 3

- The age of visionary reformism

Stage 4

- Concerned with theoretical investigation

Let us discuss them in

Stage 1: Monopoly of diplomatic historians

- Historians enjoyed the monopoly and the relations among nations were presented as historical descriptions without reference to how various events and situations fitted into the general pattern of international behaviour.
- The whole concentration was upon the chronological description of history of diplomatic Nations and little attention was paid to the necessity of relating the present with the past.

Stage 2: Emphasized the study of current affairs/issues.

- Necessity of studying relations among nations was realized and consequently the first chair of International Relations was established in 1919 at the University of Wales.
- The first stage remained concerned with the study of past without relating it to the present. Likewise the second stage, was concerned with the present without attempting to trace the historical roots of the problems and events. This stage also lacked an integral view of international relations.

Stage 3: The age of visionary reformism

- **Stage of Law and Organisation**
- The scholars adopted an idealistic outlook which focussed attention upon the task of reforming international relations by the development of international institutions like **the League of Nations**, and by the codification the rules of **International Law**.
- The **Paris Peace Conference** and the subsequent establishment of the League of Nations gave strength to the optimism that it was possible to make efforts towards an improvement of international relations for eliminating war, violence, tyranny and inequalities.

the Legal-Institutionalisms proposed three alternative approaches:

- Creation of **supra-national** institutions for guiding and directing the efforts towards the preservation of international peace and security.
- Securing a legal control of war by creating new international norms (International Law) for deterring war and should it occur, its destructiveness.
- By eliminating weapons through global disarmament and arms control, peace should be strengthened.

- No doubt the Law and Organisation approach rightly stressed the need for strengthening peace at international level, yet the solution that it offered was almost Utopian.
- It ignored the hard realities of international relations and instead adopted an idealistic approach which was soon found to be superficial and inadequate.
- **The outbreak of the Second World War in 1939 proved the idealistic and unhelpful nature of the third stage.**

Stage 4: Concerned with theoretical investigation

Desire for theoretical order

Emergence of new values and ideologies

Liquidation of colonialism

Growing concern for peace

- In September 2006, UN Member States adopted the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.
- League of Nations (Predecessor of UNO)
- the Office for Disarmament Affairs, work to advance international peace and security through the pursuit of the elimination of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction and peaceful use of nuclear energy



Supra-national institutions

- European Union



- World Trade organisation



- United Nations

New outlook towards UNO



- UN Security Council (1945)
- The Security Council takes the lead in determining the existence of a threat to the peace or an act of aggression. It calls upon the parties to a dispute to settle it by peaceful means and recommends methods of adjustment or terms of settlement.
- UN Human Rights

Technological development

○ Artificial intelligence- intelligence demonstrated by machines
autonomous vehicles (such as drones and self-driving cars)
search engines (such as Google search).



○ Nuclear Energy and nuclear technology – Weapons ,
in medical field (Radiotherapy) , generation of
electricity.



References

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