

POLS104 Examination Preparation.

Definitions:

International relations – External relations among nations, states and peoples.

Anarchy – the absence of any world government.

Security Dilemma – a situation in which action by a state heightens its securities which causes other states to do the same, and conflict therefore arises.

Realism – International relations theory, whose core beliefs focus on states working only to increase their own power and security relative to that of other states. Belief that conflict is inevitable. Main instruments used are military power and state diplomacy.

Liberalism – International relations theory, that emphasizes the broad ties among states, that have made it difficult to define national interest. Core belief of spreading democracy, having global economic ties and international organizations that will all strengthen peace. Focus on shared institutions and power. A Security dilemma can be overcome through cooperation. Main instruments used are international institutions and global commerce.

Idealism/Constructivism – International relations theory, that stresses the need for states to pursue moral goals and act ethically in the international arena. Core belief that politics are shaped by persuasive ideas, collective values, culture and social identities. Belief that anarchy is what states make of it. Humans role are as active agents, which is essential in promoting new ideas and helping to construct the behaviors of the states. Main instruments used are ideas and values.

State – political unit or country that claims and is internationally recognized as possessing sovereignty.

Sovereignty – independence from other states and the power to self-rule.

Territory – Geographical area under the jurisdiction of a sovereign state. OR. A non-sovereign area under the jurisdiction of a foreign government, or lacks the powers granted to other territories under the jurisdiction of the same state.

Nation – A people sharing a common language and/or territory, traditions, ethnicity.

Citizenship – An individual legally recognized by a state or commonwealth.

MAD – Mutually Assured Destruction: the idea that a nuclear armed state would not attack another nuclear armed state because both would be destroyed, making victory for either impossible

R2P – Responsibility to Protect: the idea that if a state is not willing or not able to protect its citizens from mass slaughter, then other states have the responsibility to intervene

History:

Treaty of Westphalia (1648) – Marks the end of a thirty-year war between Catholics and Protestants, and the end of religious rule and the secular authority. This treaty, resulted in the modern state system, which spreads throughout the world from Europe. Notion that territories exist and those should remain intact.

The Peloponnesian war (431-404 BCE) - Fought between the Peloponnesian League (led by Sparta) and the Delian league (led by Athens). Athens grew more and more powerful, as Sparta grew more fearful of their rising power. Early example of a security dilemma - tension escalated. Peloponnesian war shaped the Greek world - poverty widespread (Athens completely devastated). Role of power and security - key feature of realism today.

Machiavelli – Offered a radical teaching to pursue one's self-interest. Methods of warfare should maintain ethical standards. All means are justified to achieve political ends. Defending the rich and bring honour to the state.

Hobbes – Importance of power. Developed the fundamental thought that the rights of individuals and all political power must be representative and based on the consent of the people. Based on a social contract. Three assumptions that men are equal, interaction in anarchy and are driven by competition.

Birth of IR - Did not appear until after WWI. In the formative years, it questioned war and sought for ways to produce lasting worldwide peace among states and peoples. Establishment of the League of Nations to maintain world peace through collective security (idea that each state in the system accepts that the security of one is the concern of all). IR was born out of WWI but transformed by WWII.

International Ethics - The study of the nature of human duty in relation to strangers (how should members of "bounded" communities, primarily nation-states, treat "outsiders"?).

Clash of Civilisations - Samuel Huntington's (1993) concept to describe the transformation of global politics after the end of the Cold War. Religion-based civilizational differences would create conflict.

Concepts:

Nuclear Weapons/Cold War.

- **Nuclear Weapons** – a device designed to release energy in an explosive manner as a result of nuclear fission (atomic bombs), nuclear fusion (hydrogen bombs), or a combination of the two processes.
- China, France, Russia, UK and USA – officially recognized Nuclear-Weapon states.
- Cold War; The ongoing geopolitical and ideological tensions that emerged post WWII between the Soviet Union and the Western Bloc (led by the United States).
 - No large scale fighting directly.
 - USSR v USA
 - Capitalist v Communist.
 - Defined the political role of the US post WWII.

Humanitarian Intervention.

- What should the international community do to protect global civilians experiencing massive human rights violations?
- **Genocide** – actions committed with intent to destroy a national, ethnic, racial or religious group. E.g. Armenian Genocide, Rwanda genocide, Pol Pot in Cambodia.
- **Crimes Against Humanity** – acts that are part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against any civilian population. Acts include human experimentation, forced disappearance, kidnappings, cannibalism, rape, torture, slavery and oppression. E.g. Nazis in Holocaust.
- **War Crimes** – can be committed against a diversity of victims. E.g. Prisoners of War.
- **Ethnic Cleansing** – acts that are serious violations of international human rights and humanitarian law that may themselves amount to one of the atrocity crimes against humanity.

Clash of civilizations – Terrorism and Global conflict.

- One argument is that the principles of human rights, liberal democracy and free markets would shape the destiny of the entire world. An alternate theory is that the primary source of conflict is cultural divisions.
- Evolution of conflict;

- *Post-Westphalia* - conflicts were largely among princes-emperors, monarchs attempting to expand their bureaucracies, armies, economies and territories. Through this process the nation state was born.
- *From the French Revolution* - principal lines of conflict were between nations rather than princes.
- *End WWI/Russian Revolution* - conflict of nations yielded to the conflict of ideologies.
- *End of Cold War* - International politics moves out of its western phase, and centrepiece becomes the interaction between the west and non-western civilisations.

Ecological intervention.

- Robyn Eckersley.
- **Ecological intervention** - threat or use of force by a state or coalition of states within the territory of another state and without the consent of that state in order to prevent grave environmental damage.
- **Ecological defence** - the preventative use of force in response to the threat of serious and immediate environmental harm flowing into the territory of a 'victim' state.

Global inequality.

- **Global inequality** – refers to the economic differences between countries.
- Some nations have developed along a trajectory of wealth and growth, while others have not.
- Early theories of economics and development assumed that all nations could achieve wealth at the expense of others.

Global Ethics.

- Ethics have a dual role;
 - To provide people with a structured framework to assess the moral dimension of our collective behaviour and think about the role moral evaluation might play in politics.
 - Ethics also shapes our character.
- The dominant approach to ethics in world politics concerns three types of relations
 - 1) what we do to them (vice versa)
 - 2) what they do to each other; and
 - 3) what everyone does to everyone else.

Non-Western IR.

- Alternative approaches from the West, such as Marxism, Critical Theory, Feminism.
- Asian IR;
 - 7 pillars; Free market economics, science and technology, meritocracy, pragmatism, culture of peace and rule of law and education.

Australian IR and Migration.

- Prior to WWI, the traditional frame of reference for IR had been put in place in Australia's thinking about its social, regional and global identity. It was by now a society characterised, paradoxically, by both a strong, resilient and independent character and an enduring sense that it could not defend itself without the protection of Britain, its first and closest 'great and powerful friend'.
- Migration is the movement of people from one place to another, with the intention of settling permanently.

- Internal migration is when people migrate within the same country or region - for example, moving from Adelaide to Melbourne.
- International migration is when people migrate from one country to another - for example, moving from Mexico to the USA.
- **Causes of Displacement:** Conflict, Development and Disaster.
- **Refugees** - a person residing outside his or her country of nationality, who is unable or unwilling to return because of "well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a political social group, or political opinion'.
- **Asylum seekers** - Asylum seekers are people who have moved across international borders in search of protection under the 1951 Refugee Convention, but whose claim for refugee status has not yet been determined.
- **Internationally Displaced Persons (IDPs)** - persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border.
- **Development-induced displaced** - people who are compelled to move as a result of policies and projects implemented to 'enhance' development. People displaced in this way are sometimes also referred to as 'oustees', 'involuntarily displaced' or 'involuntarily resettled'.
- **Environmental and disaster-induced displaced** - Sometimes referred to 'environmental refugees' or 'disaster refugees', most of those displaced by environmental factors or disasters do not leave the borders of their homeland. This category includes people displaced as a result of natural disasters (floods, volcanoes, landslides, earthquakes), environmental change (deforestation, desertification, land degradation, global warming) and human-made disasters (industrial accidents, radioactivity).
- **Smuggled people** - Moved illegally for profit; may include those forcibly displaced, as well as those who have left their homeland in search of better economic/social opportunities.
- **Trafficked people** - Trafficked people are those who are moved by deception or coercion for the purposes of exploitation.