

# Terms

1. Diplomacy is a statecraft, skill and tact, technique to conduct foreign policy.
  - Diplomacy is the management of international relations by ambassadors and envoys; the business or art of the diplomatist. (Oxford English Dictionary)
2. Foreign policy is briefly defined as "the sum of official external relations conducted by independent actor (usually a state) in international relations." (*Changing Politics of Foreign Policy, 2003, P.3*)
3. Accord : Synonym with "treaty".

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4. Treaty : An international agreement between states in written form and governed by international law , whether embodied in a single instrument or more and whatever its particular designation. (Article 2, Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties of 1969. Nepal is a signatory but not yet a party to the Convention.)
  - The term "treaty" is defined by the and Nepal Treaty Act, 2047, Section 2(a), as "an agreement concluded in writing between two or more states or between any state and any inter-governmental organization and document of this nature, irrespective of how it is designated."
  - A treaty creates legal rights and duties. It is concluded for matters of some gravity that require more solemn agreement.
5. Agreement : Agreement are less formal and deal with a narrower range of subject-matter than treaties.

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6. Substitute words for treaty: "memorandum," or "protocol," or "exchange of notes," or "declaration," or "convention," or "charter," or "covenant," or "Act," or "statute," or "*modus vivendi*," or "agreed minutes," etc.
7. Convention : is now generally used for formal multilateral treaties with a broad number of parties. It is normally open for participation by the international community or by a large number of states.
8. Protocol: The term is used for agreements less formal than those entitled treaty or convention.
9. Process-Verbal: is an instrument that contains a record of certain understandings arrived at by the contracting parties.

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10. Declaration : is used for various international instruments. However, they are not always binding.
11. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) : is an international instrument of a less formal kind. It does not require ratification.
12. Exchange of Notes: is a record of routine agreement. The agreement consists of the exchange of two documents, each of the parties being in the possession of the one signed by the representative of other.
13. Asylum: Granting of refuge. Diplomatic asylum means granting of refuge in diplomatic (or in consular) premises.
14. Casus Belli : An event or act which precipitates or is used to justify resort to war.

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15. Diplomatic bag: A package which, to permit and protect free communication between a state and its diplomats, may not be opened or detained en route, whether it contains classified material or not. It must be sealed with the official stamp of the sending state or mission. It may be in the charge of diplomatic courier or diplomatic agent.
16. Capitulations : Privileges extended by the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire to foreign states for the benefit of their locally resident subjects. It is related to protection given to foreign envoys in Istanbul in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.
17. Diplomatic illness: An illness feigned (pretended) by a diplomat in order to avoid an official engagement.

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18. Aide-Mémoire : An informal summary of diplomatic interview or conversation/call on that serves merely as an aid to memory. It is prepared without courtesy phrases and not signed.
19. Diplomatic privileges and immunities: The special legal position accorded to diplomatic agents by receiving states. Details of such privileges and immunities are given in the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961. Privileges means tax exemption whereas immunities are referred to immunity from the jurisdiction of the receiving state private and criminal acts.
20. Consular Privileges and Immunities : are accorded to career consular officers. Details are given in the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, 1963. Consular premises and documents are inviolable, as are consular communications.

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21. Suo Motu : (Latin legal term) On its own motion. The government acted suo motu (on its own cognizance).
22. Démarche : Representation, individually or collectively, by one or more governments/ ambassadors, which may be views/suggestion on or protest/criticism against policy or action of the host government. It could be in the form of letter, aide-mémoire and non-paper).
23. Full powers: Powers granted by the government to negotiate, conclude and sign a treaty or an international agreement. The credentials prepared for a delegation to participate in the diplomatic or plenipotentiary meeting consists the full powers granted to the delegation to carry out the business connected with the session (meeting/conference).

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- 24. Diplomatic Corps : refers to the heads of diplomatic missions and their staffs within a capital. The vehicles are assigned with the number plate as CD meaning Diplomatic Corps.
- 25. Special Envoy: A diplomatic agent/representative designated for a particular purpose for a temporary period.
- 26. Persona Non Grata (PNG): The process by which an ambassador or other diplomatic agent who is personally unacceptable to the receiving government is removed. Expulsion or request for recall of the diplomat, refusal to receive or to continue to receive the diplomat when a diplomat has personally offended the receiving state. The receiving state would request the recall of a diplomat and for the sending state to comply with such request (Art.9, VCDR).



Finally,

My sincere thanks for your  
kind attention !