

1. Rise of the Nation-State System:

- **Origin:**

Treaty of Westphalia (1648): This treaty ended the Thirty Years' War in Europe and marked the beginning of the modern nation-state system. It recognized the sovereignty of states, ending the Pope's authority to intervene in their affairs.

Roman empire broke, Spain England and France initial nation states

Seek economic opportunities
critical thinking
wars

Spain, England, France were initial nation states. People started going out of Europe, population of New Land started increasing and this led to formation of International Law.

#Rights of States recognized #Self determination of recognized # Peace Congress for upcoming wars (restoration)

Outcomes Sovereign territory 2) Religious freedom

Characteristics #Clergy before Westphalia had maximum land # Feudalism can't go with democracy # Gort Started defining boundaries # legal equality # Nationalism # Authoritative trend! # Each state started having its own army. # Imposed taxes to feed army.

Challenges :- #Blow to equality (introduction of nuclear power #BOP, BOT, MAD # Weapons of mass destruction # Compromises on national interests # Role of public economy # Globalization #Traditional (border), nontraditional threats (nature climate) food, hunger

Developments:

- **Consolidation of Sovereignty:** The concept of sovereignty was fully recognized. Each state became supreme within its borders, commanding loyalty from its citizens in exchange for protection and governance.
- **Nationalism's Role:** Nationalism in the 17th-19th centuries strengthened the nation-state system, linking national sovereignty with individual rights. The American (1776) and French (1789) Revolutions promoted national unity and self-determination.
- **Napoleon Bonaparte:** Napoleon used nationalism to expand French power, but his defeat in 1815 showed the enduring strength of nationalism across Europe, which ultimately contributed to his downfall.
- **Unification of Germany & Japan:** The unification of Germany (1864-1871). The modernization of Japan

- **Industrial Revolution (19th Century):** This period further consolidated nation-states by driving economic and social changes that fostered internal unity and economic self-sufficiency.

2. Features of the Sovereign Nation-State System:

- **Sovereignty:** Sovereignty was considered the hallmark of the nation-state, both internally (controlling its people) and externally (interacting with other nations). The state could act independently in international relations, and war was seen as a legitimate tool to protect sovereignty.
 - **Internal Sovereignty:** States controlled the behavior of citizens within their borders.
 - **External Sovereignty:** States were free to formulate foreign policies based on their interests and could engage in warfare if necessary
 - Recognized rights to protect national interests, including war as a policy tool.
- **Nationalism:** Nationalism was the philosophy that linked individuals to the state. Citizens were bound to obey the state, which provided them with services and protection. Strong nationalist movements also led to struggles for independence in Asia and Africa, where colonized peoples sought sovereign nation-state status. Fueled movements for independence in colonized regions and contributed to global conflicts like the World Wars.
- **Territorial Integrity:** The nation-state was viewed as a territorial entity, responsible for defending its borders and people. The concept of territorial integrity became intertwined with the preservation of sovereignty.
- **Legal Equality:** All nation-states were recognized as legally equal in the international system, regardless of their size, population, or military strength. This principle of legal equality was fundamental to the functioning of international relations.

3. Decline of the Nation-State System:

While nation-states initially thrived post-World War II with new sovereign states emerging in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, several factors began to erode the dominance of the nation-state system: Here's a more detailed yet concise version:

- **Increased Interdependence:** Advances in technology, communications, and mass production have created a highly interconnected global economy. Nations depend on each other for trade, resources, and services, reducing their ability to act independently. For example, wealthy nations need raw materials from poorer ones, while poorer nations rely on imports for essential goods. Globalization has further weakened state sovereignty, forcing nations to align policies with international systems.

Universalism vs. Nationalism: The rise of international objectives, like peace and disarmament, often conflicted with narrow national interests. Even powerful states like the US and USSR were compelled to engage in arms control and peace efforts, diluting traditional nationalist agendas.

Peace: time btw 2 wars

neg p: war tension although no war happened

- **Regional Integration:** The formation of economic and political blocs (e.g., the European Union, ASEAN, SAARC) further diluted the power of individual nation-states. These unions fostered economic and political cooperation, reducing the importance of national borders and sovereignty.
 - **Global Organizations:** International organizations like the United Nations and the World Trade Organization played an increasing role in mediating conflicts, promoting cooperation, and enforcing international law.
- **Nuclear Age:**
 - Rendered traditional defense mechanisms obsolete.
 - Even nuclear powers struggled to secure goals.
 - **Example:** The US had to withdraw from Vietnam, and the USSR faced a similar issue in Afghanistan, despite being superpowers.
- **Non-State Actors:** Multinational corporations and NGOs challenge nation-state dominance, influencing policies and promoting human rights and environmental protection, especially in developing countries.
 - Multinational corporations (e.g., Apple) and NGOs (e.g., Amnesty International) gained influence in global affairs.
 - Non-state actors now significantly shape international policies and economies.
- **Globalization:**
 - Free flow of goods, services, and ideas eroded traditional sovereignty.
 - Soft borders and economic interdependence weakened nation-state dominance.
 - **WTO & Global Markets:** Membership in organizations like the WTO requires states to adhere to international regulations, limiting their control over economic policies.

4. Is the Nation-State System Dead or Dying?

Despite the challenges posed by globalization, interdependence, and non-state actors, the nation-state continues to play a critical role in international relations:

- **Adaptation of the Nation-State:** The nation-state has shown resilience and adaptability. Although its role has evolved, it continues to serve as the primary actor in international relations.
- **Political Sovereignty & Legal Authority:** The nation-state still retains political and legal sovereignty over its people, particularly in the areas of law enforcement, military power, and governance.
- **Role in Global Governance:** While international organizations and non-state actors play important roles, nation-states are still the primary actors in global governance. International organizations operate with the consent and cooperation of nation-states.
- **National Identity:** Even in the era of globalization, people continue to identify strongly with their nation-states. National sports teams, cultural symbols, and historical events continue to reinforce national allegiances.
- **Transnationalism vs. Nation-State:** Although transnationalism and globalization have gained ground, the nation-state has not become obsolete. States still mold and regulate the activities of non-state actors, and people remain citizens of their respective states.

Conclusion:

- The nation-state system has undergone significant changes due to globalization, technological advances, and the rise of non-state actors, but it remains a central actor in international relations. While its role has been diminished, it continues to shape global politics and economics, adapting to the challenges posed by an increasingly interconnected world.