**DELEGATE**: SAAD MOHIB KHAN

**COUNTRY**: ITALY

**SCHOOL**: INDIAN SCHOOL AL GHUBRA

**TOPIC**: Assessing the effectiveness of sanctions

***“Justice is the means by which established injustices are sanctioned.”***

***Anatole France***

Sanctions are nothing but measures taken by individual countries or organizations against other states or organizations to protect national security, international law and defend any threats against global peace. These include transient impositions or restrictions on trade, economic, diplomatic or cultural activities and are uplifted when the posing danger or threat is removed. The UN has taken several sanctions in the past and continues to do so through different forms, including embargoes, travel bans and financial restrictions. It has applied sanctions to support peaceful transitions, constrain terrorism and protect innocent human lives.

Talking of sanctions, Italy has for most of her part implemented the sanctions imposed by the EU and UN organizations. However, Italy does have a sanction regime and has a specific military items export sanctions on countries that have either violated certain UN principles or with policies that conflict with specific articles of its constitution. The Italian Republic also has legal framework for executing trade embargoes and implementing UN/EU financial sanctions against financing of terrorism and other illicit activities endangering international peace and security. In particular the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance has acted upon the proposal of the Financial Security Committee and may freeze funds and other economic resources held by entities or subjects it views as a threat as per the criteria established in the UN resolution and may remain in effect for six months.

Based on the previous implementations of sanctions against individual states and non-state actors, it is evident that sanctions are nevertheless ineffective. Quite often they have worked contrary to what is expected of them. The intended purpose of a sanction is to keep undesirable activities at bay. Some solutions to this include maintaining a proper co-operation balance. Many a time several countries have failed in complying with the same and have continued regular trade with sanctioned countries. This results in decreasing the overall effectiveness of sanctions and can be resolved by maintaining a check of countries who wish to address the general interest of imposing sanctions against a belligerent. While sanctions may restrict economic trade with a country, it may undermine the basic facilities of the locals, unknowingly increasing human rights violations. A creative solution to this problem is that international relief agencies shouldn’t be restricted from providing their services to such countries and should be accompanied with proper levels of security.

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