

4. **Trace the historical debate on whether national interest can be objectively defined, citing examples from Plato's philosophy.**
5. **What are the complications involved in identifying national interest, and how do official statements contribute to this complexity?**
6. **Elaborate on the various criteria, as outlined by Colmbis, that are used in defining national interest.**
7. **Compare and contrast the realist and idealist interpretations of national interest.**
8. **Evaluate the role of philosopher kings in Plato's philosophy and its potential application in modern governance.**
9. **Examine the impact of bureaucratic debates on the formulation of foreign policy and the identification of national interest.**
10. **Discuss the significance of power as a primary instrument in realizing a country's national interest in international relations.**

Explanation:

Operational Philosophy:

Bold and Sweeping vs. Caution and Experimental: Operational philosophy in decision-making involves two major styles: synoptic, characterized by bold and sweeping actions, and incremental, characterized by caution, probing, and experimental approaches. The former assumes enough information to predict or control consequences, while the latter recognizes the complexity of political and economic problems, seeking to perfect existing elements.

Criteria for Determining National Interest:

Ideological Criteria: Governments often base relations on ideological criteria, identifying friends or enemies based on ideology. During the Cold War, communism and capitalism ideologies were significant in establishing cooperation or conflict with countries.

Moral and Legal Criteria: States are expected to act morally and legally in international relations. Moral behavior includes keeping promises, avoiding exploitation, and standing up for accepted principles. Legal behavior involves abiding by international laws or acting in the spirit of equity and justice.

Pragmatic Criteria: Pragmatic orientation involves low-key, matter-of-fact decision-making. Decisions are based on scientific analysis of cost and benefit, emphasizing practical utility over moral considerations.

Professional Advancement Criteria: Actions may be influenced by the need for professional survival and growth. In large bureaucracies, conformity is often seen as a path to success, referred to as the "go along to get along" effect.

Partisan Criteria: Actions may prioritize the survival and success of a political party, ethnic, or religious group, sometimes leading to battles among different offices for budget allocation.