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A RETROSPECTIVE ON INDIA'S STANCE IN THE RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR: A LEGAL STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL SANCTIONS AND THEIR EFFECTS

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ABSTRACT

The neutral stance of India in the armed conflict between Russia and Ukraine has drawn sanctions from Western allies. This neutrality has both advantages and disadvantages affecting the economy and long-term diplomatic relationships of India. The war caused the global market to fluctuate, causing inflation in the global oil prices, fertiliser and pesticide, and depreciation of the Indian rupee against the US dollar. To achieve stability, India continued to maintain the oil trade with Russia despite backlash from Western countries, specifically the US and the EU. These sanctions have been used as a kind of colonial tool for pressuring the underdeveloped and developing countries to take a stand against their will.

This research investigates these issues of international sanctions and their effects using a critical analysis approach. India, being a sovereign power, has an international political stance of neutrality and no binding obligation under the UN charter, but is termed to be pressured by the sanctions. This phenomenon is studied by evaluating the neo-colonial hegemony of sanctions, its benefits and its impact. The research draws a conclusion through these issues by a balanced approach in diplomacy and retrospective empowerment of its local manufacturing.

Keywords: Armed conflicts, Sanctions, Neo-Colonial Hegemony, UN charter, Russia-Ukraine war.

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1. INTRODUCTION

India and Russia have long been all-weather friends, sharing relations across multiple fields, including defence, agriculture, and technology. These unwavering relations are the main reason that it remained a neutral spectator during the Russia-Ukraine war. However, this came with certain perks, disadvantages, threats, and many more, which, in a way, directly or indirectly impacted India. This research paper evaluates the same phenomena from a regional perspective, considering multiple perspectives on both negative and positive impacts, without leaving other strong, dominant agents acting passively in the war.

“On February 24, 2022, Russia launched its ‘Special Military Operations’ against Ukraine, which can be considered the start of the Russian invasion of Ukraine”.² Russia has also been blamed for its aggressive attack on the cities of Ukraine. For instance, the unlawful killings in Bucha, causing crimes against humanity, have been condemned by various organisations, and India also has condemned them, but kept itself away from directly pinpointing Moscow for its cause.³

The use of force as stipulated under “Article 2(4) of the U.N. Charter” stipulates that “Russia’s invasion of Ukraine” is considered as violative of international norms.⁴ To refute this from applying to them, Russia has asserted various reasons why it attacked Ukraine, which, according to them, seem to be justifiable actions. Those are that 1] Russia wanted to have Ukraine free from Western or NATO influence and not to provide the use of its land to external military blocs, as it causes serious security risks to the sovereignty and integrity of Russia.⁵ 2] Vladimir Putin wanted to have a greater dominance or political influence on Ukraine than that of Western hegemony, which they call it as denazifying.⁶ 3] The Russians denied the existence of separate nationhood to the Ukrainian and asserted that the Russians and Ukrainians were ‘one people’.⁷ 4] Russia also “claimed that Ukraine had been committing genocide and atrocities against Russian-speakers in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions”, so its “special

² Pankaj Saran, ‘Russia-Ukraine War: India’s Global Balancing Act’ (2022) *India and the World*, Special Edition 14.

³ “Raj Verma, ‘India’s Quest for Status and Neutrality in the Russia-Ukraine War: BRICS, a Case Study’ (2024) 79(1) *International Journal* 61”.

⁴ “Prabhash Ranjan and Achyuth Anil, ‘Russia-Ukraine War, ICJ, and the Genocide Convention’ (2022) 9 *Indon J Int’l & Comp L* 101”.

⁵ “Roy Allison, ‘Russia, Ukraine and State Survival Through Neutrality’ (2022) 98(6) *International Affairs* 1849, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iiaac230>”.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

military operation" was justified under "UN Charter Article 51 (self-defence)" and customary international law.⁸ The list of such causes goes on, and many countries have their own perspective and reason in favour of or against the armed conflicts.

The reason and counterclaims for the start of the armed conflict do not end, but how Western countries reacted, and their impact on other countries, is a matter of major concern, which this paper tries to evaluate. India has taken a neutral policy; it has neither condemned nor condoned Moscow for the invasion, indirectly claiming Moscow is not the sole instigator of the crisis.⁹ Hence, India's stance was independent, not of getting under any pressure from the Western side, where it believed that conflict could be solved and avoided through good faith efforts, diplomacy and negotiations, and by giving importance to the security interests of all sides.¹⁰ India, having its legacy in maintaining neutrality in international armed conflicts, whether it's during the Cold War between Russia and the USA or the recent Russia-Ukraine war due to which it has faced some advantages and disadvantages for taking this stand.

For this reason, it is important to analyse the benefits of this neutral stance as India has a major stake in imports from Russia in the field of energy imports and defence trade and how this has impacted India's economy. Also, there was a major backlash from Western countries for this stance, in turn pressuring India to impose sanctions, denying that it had indirectly affected its diplomatic relations with the EU and the US. So, the Matter of concern is whether these sanctions have a greater potential to affect the third world countries and are still maintaining their colonial hegemony on the independence and neutrality stance by India, which needs to be evaluated.

2. RESEARCH METHODS

The study is doctrinal in nature and adopts a descriptive and critical analysis approach. It aims at finding and critically examining qualitative evidence to prove or disprove the hypothesis that "Whether the sanctions imposed by the Western countries are a kind of neo-colonial hegemony affecting the neutral and independent stance of India in the Russia-Ukraine war". This can be

⁸ "Prabhash Ranjan and Achyuth Anil, 'Russia-Ukraine War, ICJ, and the Genocide Convention' (2022) 9 *Indon J Int'l & Comp L* 101".

⁹ "Raj Verma, 'India's Quest for Status and Neutrality in the Russia-Ukraine War: BRICS, a Case Study' (2024) 79(1) *International Journal* 61".

¹⁰ Pankaj Saran, 'Russia-Ukraine War: India's Global Balancing Act' (2022) *India and the World*, Special Edition 14.

achieved by analysing the benefits and disadvantages it has caused to India from such a stance. For the same, this paper takes into reference the UN charter, treaties, “cases dealt by the ICJ” and other international law concerning the Russia and Ukraine armed conflict as primary sources. Apart from these journal articles, newspaper reports are taken as secondary sources. “The scope of the study is focused only on the Russia-Ukraine war; however, to show its impact and prove the hypothesis, certain historical armed conflicts and the stance taken by India concerning such conflicts can also be mentioned and referred to. “The Limitation of the study” is posed by the contradictory argument made by the scholars in articles, which makes it difficult to achieve the objective of this research. Also, less “availability of articles or publications concerning the concepts” of Western sanction as a kind of neo-colonial hegemony affecting India. “For the same, multiple publications have to be taken that coincide with the ideas. Also, there is less availability of any specific books on addressing the issue directly”.

3. RESEARCH QUESTION

- 1] How has “India’s neutral stance in the Russia-Ukraine war” benefited its economy?
- 2] Are Western sanctions a kind of neo-colonial hegemony, constraining “India’s ability to maintain neutrality in the Russia-Ukraine war”?
- 3] How has India’s neutral position impacted its diplomatic relations with Western allies, particularly the U.S. and the EU?

4. LITERATURE REVIEW

1. “Pankaj Saran, ‘Russia-Ukraine War: India’s Global Balancing Act’ (2022) *India and the World, Special Edition 14*”.

This article is written by “Pankaj Saran”, who served as “Deputy National Security Adviser of India”. He discusses that due to the conflict, India took the path of neutrality, characterised by “caution, deliberately avoiding direct criticism or condemnation of Moscow”, and also repeated abstentions in United Nations votes in the initial weeks. He also discusses the hardship that India faced in evacuating over 22,000 students and the disruption in the energy prices and supply chain disruptions for essential commodities like fuel, fertiliser, and food, contributing to domestic inflation, but India defended its decision to import Russian oil at discounted prices despite Western pressure. According to the author, India was successful in handling the conflict in a balanced manner by explaining its position to the West and continues to “hold relations with the US and Europe”, strengthening partnerships like the Quad, reflecting India's close ties

with the US for strategic, defence, economic, and technological goals. However, the author is concerned about Russia's behaviour towards India's security interests concerning China and Pakistan while continuing with its policy of neutrality.

2. “Raj Verma, ‘India’s Quest for Status and Neutrality in the Russia-Ukraine War: BRICS, a Case Study’ (2024) 79(1) *International Journal* 61”.

The author “Raj Verma's” discussion in the paper can be divided into 3, firstly dealing with India's reluctant behaviour to directly criticise the “Russian invasion of Ukraine”. Secondly, the role of the BRICS, its Shared Goals and Mutual interests in its Functionality. Thirdly, the India-China Rivalry as a Case Study. In simple terms, the author tries to connect all 3 topics mentioned earlier, i.e. the bilateral tie, status in BRICS, and the supporting instance of conflict between India and China. According to the author, the BRICS is a forum that functions independently and is not driven by any bilateral conflicts or disengagements. Because the nations have joined to “develop and achieve significant national and foreign policy goals”, like achieving higher power status, “challenging US hegemony, and promoting a multipolar world order”. The main argument of the author is “that India's neutrality in the Russia-Ukraine war is not influenced by its quest for status through BRICS, but it is due to the bilateral relationship between India and Russia, and the disputes between India and Russia would similarly not affect India's quest for status through BRICS”.

3. “Prabhash Ranjan and Achyuth Anil, ‘Russia-Ukraine War, ICJ, and the Genocide Convention’ (2022) 9 *Indon J Int’l & Comp L* 101”.

The author in this paper elaborately discusses “International law” around the Russia-Ukraine conflict” and also makes an argument that Russia is not conforming to the laws. Whether it may be to “the UN charter, the ICJ or the Genocide Convention”. According to the author Russian invasion firstly violates the International norm of “the prohibition on the use of force in international relations under Article 2(4) of the U.N. Charter”. Secondly, the claim from the Russian side by justifying their invasion, stating it was due to the reason that Ukraine committed genocide in eastern Ukraine, “is acting in self-defence under Article 51 of the U.N. Charter,” which is disagreed with by the author. Thirdly, the author claims that although “Russia does not recognise the ICJ's compulsory jurisdiction”, Ukraine's decision to bring a case under the Genocide Convention is a valid one under “Article IX of the Genocide Convention”, and is legally binding. Fourthly, the non-compliance with the ICJ's binding order

by Russia is a gross violation of the UN charter, and the recourse can be taken by 'the Security Council', but as Russia, it can veto any decision against itself as it is a permanent member of UNSC. So, this, according to the author, is the misuse of the position and can lead to a decrease in its reputation on the global stage. The authors urge Russia to immediately cease hostilities and return to negotiations with Ukraine to resolve their differences.

4. "Pradip Kumar Das, 'Impact of Russia-Ukraine War Crisis on Indian Economy' (2023) 11(8) Archives of Business Research 60".

In this source, the author examines and describes "the impact of the Russia-Ukraine war crisis on the Indian economy". He covers the broadest area of economic factors like agriculture, Increased Demand for Specific Products, Benefits for Certain Producers like mustard oil and cotton growers, Potential for Digital Payment Systems (UPI and RuPay), and growth in the Aviation Industry. While these opportunities exist, the author also notes the negative impacts of the "Russia-Ukraine war crisis on the Indian economy" and calls it a "weighty catastrophe" to the Indian economy.

5. "Ruth Endam Mbah & Divine Forcha Wasum, 'Russian-Ukraine 2022 War: A Review of the Economic Impact of Russian-Ukraine Crisis on the USA, UK, Canada, and Europe' (2022) 9(3) Advances in Social Sciences Research Journal 144".

In this source, the author's main argument is that the "global financial sanctions" and asset seizures on Russia were originally planned to harm "Russia's economy and hinder its attack on Ukraine". But "the impact of the crisis extends significantly to the global economy", particularly affecting Western countries. Where the author gives instances of which all sector was affected, like Rising Inflation, Increased Costs for Households and Businesses, Supply Chain Disruptions, significant uncertainty in financial markets and stock swings, decreased investment due to political risks. These all caused a Slowdown in economic growth in the EU and an increase in interest rates in the USA.

5. INDIA'S NUETRAL STANCE AND ITS IMPACT

As the war created certain opportunities for the Indian market, it also affected certain sectors due to the main reason of global economic uncertainty. India, as it was 'recovering from the eclipse of COVID-19', the Russia-Ukraine war came as a bonus, where the inflation in the global oil prices, an increase in agricultural fertiliser and pesticide prices, and depreciation of

the Indian rupee against the US dollar due to economic instability.¹¹ Trade impacts are another area of problem for India, concerning firstly direct trade with Russia, goods involving items like oil, stones, boilers, fertilisers, and atomic energy have been disrupted. Secondly, disruption in the global supply chain, which impacted both imports and exports, eventually caused delivery delays and higher transportation costs.¹² Third, as there was a disruption in the oil prices, the stock market became more volatile, where the Sensex crashed by 2700 points, and as the Russian stock market had a great influence on the Asian stock market, India was also forced to face the instability.¹³

As these affected India, the economy stood firmly through having an independent economic policy by not blindly joining the Western countries in imposing sanctions. These measures taken were people-oriented and a nationalist move, whereby putting the nation's and citizens' interests forward rather than that of international pressure. A more important thing now is to focus on the area of diplomatic relations, as far as India's economy is concerned. India's economy grew by 13.5% in Q1 FY22-23 and 6.3% in Q2, putting it in a better position, and the probable harm that was caused during this period can be recovered through negotiation.¹⁴ But what matters is the diplomatic relation with the Western countries, as it is the one that, according to me, affects India in the long run.

India, I think, has and is going through the pressure to act in a certain way and the threat of being imposed with sanctions from the West for not directly criticising the Russia-Ukraine war. This can be understood by following 1] India's reluctance has caused the US to put pressure on India to align with Western positions on war. 2] As highlighted by Indian media, despite European countries putting sanctions on Russian oil, they continued to purchase the refined products of oil through India,¹⁵ which is an indirect purchase, but the hypocrisy is that they try to impose acceptance of their narrative by India concerning the war. 3] As India is a major consumer of defence equipment from Russia, the sanctions on swift transactions to certain

¹¹ "Tanya Jolly, 'Impact of Russia-Ukraine War on Indian Economy' (2024) 21(1) *Journal of Advances and Scholarly Researches in Allied Education* 200".

¹² "Pradip Kumar Das, 'Impact of Russia-Ukraine War Crisis on Indian Economy' (2023) 11(8) *Archives of Business Research* 60, DOI: 10.14738/abr.118.15233".

¹³ *ibid*

¹⁴ "Tanya Jolly, 'Impact of Russia-Ukraine War on Indian Economy' (2024) 21(1) *Journal of Advances and Scholarly Researches in Allied Education* 200".

¹⁵ "Małgorzata Bonikowska, 'India and China on the War in Ukraine: A Comparative Analysis' (2025) 5:2 *Stosunki Międzynarodowe – International Relations* <https://doi.org/10.12688/stomiedintrelat.17905.1> accessed 18 May 2025".

Russian banks directly affected the defence trade of India.¹⁶ This shows how the West wants to control India in terms of its military and the security of the country. And also forcing India to find Western countries for the sourcing of its military equipment. 4] The organisation with which India aligns with Western countries like QUAD and AUKUS could be successful in manipulating and putting India in cross roads during the voting in the UN, while initially abstaining, but later it voted in favour to allow the Ukrainian president to address the UN General Assembly by video, which also caused it to go in opposition to Russian interests.¹⁷ 5] “US through its Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA)”, shows its dominant power, and India also could face sanctions under this due to higher defence purchases from Russia, particularly the S-400 missile system.¹⁸ These kinds of pressure and demands are motivated by colonial hegemony, which is further discussed in the next part.

6. INDIA'S NEUTRAL STANCE AND ITS BENEFITS

India has maintained this neutral stance way before, from “the end of World War II and also during the Cold War”, and this legacy has continued in “the conflict between Russia and Ukraine”. The neutrality stance has its origin in the non-alignment movement taken by countries like India, Egypt, Yugoslavia, and others during the Cold War.¹⁹ The UN Charter also does not completely abolish the path of neutrality. Art. 25, Art. 48 & 50 have given certain exemptions for not conforming to the decision of the UNSC by certain states in an appropriate situation where the Security Council decides.²⁰ According to Author Abhishek Swami, a neutral state like India has no obligation under the UN charter, and it is purely an international political stance that could be taken by the sovereign states.²¹ This is neither negative nor positive towards such issues. This benefited India in achieving sustainability in its economy and also maintaining a decent diplomatic relationship with the US and the EU. But often these issues become a kind of political dominance showcase played by one state over another state. From the perspective of natural justice and equality, it is clearly valid to be neutral in these issues, which has to be obliged and facilitated by the dominant or developed country. However,

¹⁶ “Spenser A Warren and Sumit Ganguly, ‘India–Russia Relations after Ukraine’ (2022) 62(5–6) *Asian Survey* 811, <https://doi.org/10.1525/as.2022.1799235>”.

¹⁷ *ibid*

¹⁸ “Mohammed B E Saaida, ‘From Allies to Adversaries: The Potential Impacts of the Russian–Ukrainian Crisis on Russian–Indian Relations’ (2024) 162 *The Greek Review of Social Research* 91”.

¹⁹ “Abhishek Swami, ‘Law of Neutrality and India’s Position on the Russia–Ukraine Crisis’ (2022) 4 *Indian Journal of Law and Legal Research* 1”.

²⁰ *ibid*

²¹ *ibid*

these kinds of principles exist only as a morality theory, which is far from application.

The neutrality stance taken by India has certain characteristics, like- 1] Refusal to condemn Russia's aggression and abstaining in “Security Council, General Assembly, and Human Rights Council” votes condemning Russia's aggression.²² 2] No participation in sanctions and the multilateral sanctions regime against Moscow.²³ 3] Claim for solving disputes through dialogue and diplomacy.²⁴ 4] Emphasis on international law, like the UN Charter, Condemnation of atrocities, without blaming Russia, and maintaining normal relations and trade.²⁵ The stance taken by India has benefited India's economy in various fields, such as 1] Discounted Russian oil: - As Western countries started to impose sanctions against the import of oil, many traditional buyers shunned trade with Moscow, which gave India an upper hand in buying oil in increasing quantities at discounted prices.²⁶

This, in turn, benefited India by securing its energy prices and preventing scarcity during global fluctuations. 2] Agricultural Export sector: The war caused major global grain producers and exporters to halt their exports, thereby creating a lacuna for the supply of wheat, maize, millet, and processed food, which provided opportunities for the Indian agriculture sector.²⁷ 3] Western Business Interest: - As there was a situation of global tension where China was in opposition to the US during “the Russia-Ukraine war”, but India maintained its international relations stable, it provided an opportunity for India to attract Western business interest to the Indian subcontinent.²⁸ 4] Improvement in banking relations and UPI: nine banks were allowed to open special Vostro accounts for rupee trade with Russia, and also, as Russia was restricted from the SWIFT system by the US and its allies, an opportunity was created for India's Unified

²² “Raj Verma, ‘India's Quest for Status and Neutrality in the Russia-Ukraine War: BRICS, a Case Study’ (2024) 79(1) *International Journal* 61”.

²³ “Boas Lieberherr, ‘Russia's War in Ukraine: India's Balancing Act’ (2022) CSS Analyses in Security Policy No 305, Center for Security Studies (ETH Zürich) https://css.ethz.ch/en/publications/css-analyses-in-security-policy/details.html?id=r/u/s/s/russias_war_in_ukraine_indias_bal accessed 18 May 2025”.

²⁴ “Amrita Jash, ‘Why India's Neutral Stance in the Russia-Ukraine War Works’ (19 April 2022) *ThinkChina* <https://www.thinkchina.sg/why-indias-neutral-stance-russia-ukraine-war-works> accessed 18 May 2025”.

²⁵ “Raj Verma, ‘India's Quest for Status and Neutrality in the Russia-Ukraine War: BRICS, a Case Study’ (2024) 79(1) *International Journal* 61”.

²⁶ “Boas Lieberherr, ‘Russia's War in Ukraine: India's Balancing Act’ (2022) CSS Analyses in Security Policy No 305, Center for Security Studies (ETH Zürich) https://css.ethz.ch/en/publications/css-analyses-in-security-policy/details.html?id=r/u/s/s/russias_war_in_ukraine_indias_bal accessed 18 May 2025”.

²⁷ “Pradip Kumar Das, ‘Impact of Russia-Ukraine War Crisis on Indian Economy’ (2023) 11(8) *Archives of Business Research* 60, DOI: 10.14738/abr.118.15233”.

²⁸ “Małgorzata Bonikowska, ‘India and China on the War in Ukraine: A Comparative Analysis’ (2025) 5:2 *Stosunki Międzynarodowe – International Relations* <https://doi.org/10.12688/stomiedintrelat.17905.1> accessed 18 May 2025”.

Payments Interface (UPI).²⁹ As the coin has two sides, heads and tails, in the same manner, the pros of having a neutral stance by India during the Russia-Ukraine war came with certain disadvantages on the global stage. One of which this paper tries to analyse is the diplomatic relation with the Western legions, i.e. with the USA and EU countries, which is discussed in the next part.

7. SANCTIONS A NEO-COLONIAL HEGEMONY

There were various sanctions imposed by the EU and the US, some of which are- sanctions on major Russian financial institutions like Sberbank and Promsvyazbank, Exclusion from SWIFT, an asset freeze by the EU, US prohibition on paying debt using foreign currency.³⁰ “Trade restrictions like the EU banned EUR 43.9 billion worth of exports to Russia and EUR 91.2 billion worth of imports from Russia”.³¹ This list goes on, and “frustrated by Russia diverting trade to other sources”, Western countries started to put Secondary Sanctions through restricting countries supporting Russia from access to SWIFT.³²

As said by “External Affairs Minister of India, S. Jaishankar, at a conference in the Slovakian capital Bratislava” when asked “why he thinks anyone will help New Delhi in case of a problem with China after it did not help others for Ukraine”.³³ He said, “Somewhere Europe has to grow out of the mindset that Europe’s problems are the world’s problems, but the world’s problems are not Europe’s problems. That if it is you, it’s yours; if it is me, it is ours. I see reflections of that,”³⁴

This statement by EAM showed the mirror to Western countries and how world politics can be made out of a crisis like the Russia-Ukraine war, when many soldiers were losing their lives. According to me, diplomatic relations are a matter of surrendering independent action to

²⁹ “Vijay Joshi and others, 'Repercussions of Russia-Ukraine Conflict: Indian Response to Attain Trade and Industrial Sustainability' (2023) 23 (12) 17, DOI: 10.9734/AJEBA/2023/v23i129831”.

³⁰ “Dharmendra Kumar, 'Russia-Ukraine Crisis and Economic Sanction: Power Politics Through Geoeconomic Means' (2022) 1 *Shanti Journal* 167”.

³¹ “Jacek Pera, 'The War in Ukraine and the Risk of Low Impact of Western Sanctions Imposed on Russia' (2023) 44(3) *Central European Review of Economics & Finance* 99 <https://doi.org/10.24136/ceref.2023.016> accessed 18 May 2025”.

³² “Steven Rosefelde, 'Impairing Globalization: The Russo-Ukrainian War, Western Economic Sanctions and Asset Seizures' (2024) 17 *Journal of Risk and Financial Management* 402 <https://doi.org/10.3390/jrfm17090402> accessed 18 May 2025”.

³³ ‘Europe Has to Grow Out of Mindset That Its Problems Are World’s Problems’: Jaishankar (*The Wire*, 3 June 2022) <https://thewire.in/government/europe-has-to-grow-out-of-mindset-that-its-problems-are-worlds-problems-jaishankar> accessed 18 May 2025.

³⁴ *ibid*

another country. Hence, it can be concluded from the previous part that “the Russia-Ukraine war” has caused diplomatic relations of India with Western countries; in addition, it also showed how Western countries still try to dominate third-world countries and global governance.

8. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

India's foreign policy to maintain neutrality in the international armed conflict has indeed helped India to have an independent and self-reliant position on the global stage. This notion of neutrality seems to me to have both advantages, like in the sectors mentioned in part 5, but also can cost India in maintaining a neutral diplomacy. However, the third world countries are the one that suffers the most. This is due to the reasons that the western countries strive 1] to have global dominance, 2] to suppress other country's narrative, 3] to have a stable economy as compared to other countries, 4] to see that other countries obey its decisions, 5] to dominate the decision-making process in the UN and International forum, 6] to draw other country into the conflict without being harmed to its state and citizens, etc.

Due to these reasons, India needs to have a more balanced approach in diplomacy as global politics swings according to the dominance one has in the international arena. Apart from the diplomacy, India must start empowering its local manufacturing mechanism and reduce significant reliance on foreign defence machinery. Through this, India can have a more successful narrative at the international level rather than being in ambiguity while taking sides. As far as the Russia-Ukraine crisis is concerned, the nations must grow out of their boundary of dominance and must also see the sufferings of other nations. The sanctions are the one evil that significantly affects developing and underdeveloped nations. The nation's dominance in precautionary measures taken to protect other nations' economy or interest must decide that nation's dominance or power, and not its influential or coercive power it has to coerce other nations. As the latter will only lead to multiple wars and disengagement, eventually leading to World War III.

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