**Foreign policy : A Theoritical frame work**

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**Introduction :**

Each nation has the right and power to secure the goals of her national interest in international relations. It is her supreme duty to satisfy the needs of her people . Each nation wants to be self-reliant in all areas of activity. However, in reality no nation can achieve cent per cent self-reliance and self-sufficiency. These are ideals towards which a nation can try to move. The foreign Policy of a nation is always made and implemented with an eye on the situation in various regions of the world.

**Foreign policy :**

Foreign policy is simply the foreign of a state or what Holstii called the conscious behaviour of a nation-state towards her external environment .In a similar way, Philips observes that foreign policy is a product of environmental factors-both internal and external to it .

Foreign Policy is the use of political influence in order to induce other states to exercise their law-making power in a manner desired by the states concerned: it is an interaction between forces originating outside the country’’s borders .

Foreign policy of a state is concerned with the behaviour of a state towards other states. It refers to the ways in which the central governments of sovereign states relate to each other and to the global system in order to achieve various goals or objectives.

**The foreign policy of Each Nation Contains :**

1. A set of principles, policies and decisions adopted and followed by the nation in international relations.
2. Objectives, goals or aims of national interest which are to be secured.
3. Means to be used for achieving the goals of national interest .
4. Broad policy principles and decisions for conducting international relations.
5. Assessment of the gains and failures of the nation in respect of its goals of national interest .
6. Policies, decisions and action-programs for maintaining continuity or change or both in international relations. In simple words, it can be observed that Foreign Policy is a set of principles and decisions, a plan of actions and a thought out course of actions adopted and used by a nation for conducting relations with other nations and all international actors with a view to secure the preferred and defined goals of her national interest.

**Foreign Policy Objectives :**

In analyzing the term foreign policy objectives it could be understood from the concept of national interest . National interest is the key concept in foreign policy formulation . It is the foundation of any state foreign policy. National interest is the main reason or justification for foreign policy. The concept of national interest is very difficult to define. To Paul Seabury ( quoted in Holsti, 1977 : 139), the idea of national interests may refer to some set of purposes which a nation should seek to realize in the conduct of its foreign relation. It may be regarded as those purposes which a nation , through its leadership seeking to achieve national interest . Foreign policy objectives therefore refer to all the goals a state intends to achieve and pursue whether aspirational or operational. Aspirational goals are mere desires, visions, plans, and dreams of a state while operational goals are those which could be achieved using the state’’s capabilities.

**Foreign Policy Orientation:**

Foreign policy orientation refers to the levels of commitment in which nation-state their interests. A state’’s foreign policy orientation, therefore, is an expression of its levels of commitment on international issues. Toward the external environment, its fundamental strategy for accomplishing its domestic and external objectives and aspirations and for coping with persisting threats. There are three fundamental levels of foreign policy orientation:

1. Isolation- what is referred to as a strategy or orientation of political and military isolation is normally indicated by a low level of involvement in most issues of the international system, a low number of diplomatic or commercial transactions with other political units and societies, and attempt to seal off the country against various forms of external penetration Holsti (1977:110) Isolationist orientation are often based on the assumption that the state can best gain security and independence by reducing the transactions with other units in the system, or by maintaining diplomatic and commercial contacts abroad while handling all perceived or potential threats by building administrative walls around the home base Holsti (1977:110). Examples of countries that adopted this type of orientation include the United States of America before and after the first world war, and china under the chou Dynasty; Nepal; and Japan.
2. Nonalignment- the unwillingness of a state to commit its military capabilities for the sake of another is the hallmark of nonalignment as a foreign policy strategy. Nonalignment appeared more as an orientation towards East/West bloc conflicts than a true strategy toward all issues in the international system .

Nonalignment strategies were mostly confined to military matters . Examples of nonaligned states of Europe-Ireland , Sweden and Finland were usually sympathetic to western diplomatic or economic projects, but did not formally align themselves.

Diplomatic coalitions and military alliances- governments that seek to construct permanent diplomatic coalitions or military alliances assume that they cannot achieve their objectives, defend their interests, or deter perceived threats by mobilizing their own capabilities. They thus rely upon, and make commitments to other states that share similar objectives. Examples includes NATO and the defund is deemed to include an attack on the territory of any of the parties . Alliance strategies are closely linked to domestic needs. States that share common economic problems are likely to form trading groups or diplomatic coalitions that maintain solidarity in trade issues . The most effective economic coalition has been the organization of petroleum exporting countries.