# International Relations · GS - II

**Porous international borders and the activities of non-state armed groups pose complex challenges to internal security and regional stability. Examine the importance of bilateral cooperation in addressing transnational security threats, with reference to the Colombia–Venezuela border.**

| EXAM YEAR | PAPER | SUBJECT |
|---|---|---|
| DAILY PRACTICE 13/11/2026 | GS - II | International Relations |

| MARKS | WORD LIMIT |
|---|---|
| 10 | ~150 words |

## Answer Hint

**Transnational organised crime, non-state armed groups, porous borders, intelligence sharing, joint investigations, extradition, mutual legal assistance, sovereignty, border governance, regional stability.**

## Model Answer

### Introduction

Transnational security threats increasingly operate across national boundaries. The Colombia–Venezuela border illustrates how armed groups and criminal networks can exploit geographical and governance vulnerabilities.

### Major Security Challenges

- **Armed groups:** Organisations such as the ELN have operated across border regions, complicating law-enforcement efforts.
- **Kidnapping and trafficking:** Criminal networks exploit difficult terrain and informal crossings.
- **Governance deficits:** Limited state presence and inadequate infrastructure create security vacuums.

- **Jurisdictional constraints:** Investigations become difficult when victims, suspects and evidence are located in different countries.

**Importance of Bilateral Cooperation**

Cooperation enables intelligence sharing, coordinated border patrols, joint investigations and victim recovery. Extradition arrangements and mutual legal assistance can strengthen prosecution. Regular diplomatic engagement also helps prevent security incidents from escalating into bilateral disputes.

**Way Forward**

Countries should establish institutionalised communication channels, strengthen border infrastructure, improve local policing and address socio-economic vulnerabilities in border communities. Cooperation must respect sovereignty, human rights and due process.

**Conclusion**

Effective border security requires coordinated governance rather than isolated enforcement. Sustained bilateral cooperation can weaken transnational criminal networks while promoting regional stability.

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