International Relations · GS - II

The present structure of the United Nations Security Council reflects the geopolitical realities of 1945 rather than those of the contemporary world. Critically examine the need for UNSC reforms and India's claim to permanent membership.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 23/10/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Global Governance, UN Charter, P5 Countries, Veto Power, Global South, Democratic Representation, Multilateralism, India's Diplomatic Role, International Peace and Security, Institutional Reform.

Model Answer

Introduction:

Established in 1945, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is the principal international body responsible for maintaining international peace and security. However, its structure has not adequately evolved with changing global power relations.

Need for Reform

- Representation deficit: Africa, Latin America and much of the developing world lack permanent representation.
- Effectiveness concerns: Veto-based deadlocks among permanent members can delay collective action during major conflicts.

- Changing global order: Emerging economies and developing countries have a greater role in global affairs than the existing structure reflects.
- Legitimacy: Broader representation can strengthen the Council's credibility and acceptance.
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India's Claim to Permanent Membership

- India is the world's most populous country and a major developing economy.
- It has contributed significantly to UN peacekeeping operations.
- Its diplomatic role and advocacy for the Global South strengthen its case for greater representation.

Challenges: Reform requires agreement among UN members and ratification under the UN Charter. Differences persist over the number of new permanent seats, veto rights and regional representation.

Conclusion:

Comprehensive UNSC reform should make the Council more representative, transparent and effective. India's inclusion, alongside wider regional representation, could help align global governance with contemporary realities.

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