International Relations · GS - II

Discuss the implications of ending a United Nations political mission for national sovereignty, peacebuilding and security in a conflict-affected country like Somalia.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 01/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

National sovereignty; UN peacebuilding; institutional capacity; security transition; Al-Shabaab threat; humanitarian assistance

Model Answer

Introduction

United Nations political missions support conflict-affected countries through political dialogue, governance assistance and peacebuilding. Their withdrawal can mark a transition towards greater national ownership, but it also creates new responsibilities for domestic institutions.

Implications of Mission Closure

1. Greater National Ownership

Ending an externally supported political mission can strengthen the role of national authorities in managing political affairs and setting development priorities.

2. Institutional and Security Challenges

Somalia continues to face threats from Al-Shabaab. Domestic institutions must therefore demonstrate adequate capacity to maintain security, strengthen governance and sustain political reconciliation.

3. International Cooperation

Mission closure does not necessarily mean the end of international engagement. Humanitarian assistance and cooperation through other UN agencies and international partners can continue.

4. Risks of Transition

If institutional capacity remains weak, the withdrawal of political support may create coordination gaps, weaken peacebuilding efforts or reduce international monitoring.

Way Forward

A gradual transition, stronger domestic institutions, continued humanitarian assistance and targeted international cooperation can help prevent governance and security setbacks.

Conclusion

National sovereignty and international assistance are complementary when appropriately balanced. A successful transition requires effective domestic leadership alongside sustained international cooperation.

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