International Relations · GS - II

Distinguish between traditional diplomacy, public diplomacy and lobbying in international relations. Examine the importance of transparency and accountability in a country's external communication.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 07/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Traditional diplomacy, public diplomacy, foreign policy communication, lobbying, strategic communication, diplomatic credibility, transparency, accountability, foreign influence, national interest.

Model Answer

Introduction

Diplomacy has expanded beyond formal government-to-government negotiations to include engagement with foreign publics, institutions, businesses and policymakers.

Distinguishing the Concepts

- **Traditional diplomacy:** Conducted through official representatives and diplomatic channels to negotiate and manage bilateral or multilateral relations.
- **Public diplomacy:** Communicates a country's policies, culture and perspectives directly to foreign audiences.

- **Lobbying:** Involves organised efforts to influence policy decisions of governments or legislators, often through professional representatives.

Importance of Transparency

1. **Credibility:** Open communication strengthens trust among international partners.
2. **Accountability:** Disclosure of relevant engagements and contractual arrangements enables public scrutiny.
3. **National interest:** Clear objectives help ensure external advocacy aligns with foreign policy priorities.
4. **Countering misinformation:** Timely official clarification reduces confusion and misleading narratives.

Conclusion

Traditional diplomacy, public diplomacy and lobbying can serve different purposes in international engagement. Transparency, legal compliance and institutional accountability are essential to maintaining diplomatic credibility and protecting national interests.

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