International Relations · GS - II

“Russia–Ukraine peace negotiations demonstrate that military conflicts cannot be resolved without addressing competing security perceptions and geopolitical interests.” Examine the challenges to achieving a durable peace in Ukraine.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
Daily Practice 11/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Discuss territorial disputes, NATO expansion, security guarantees, ceasefire sequencing, sovereignty, European participation, great-power rivalry, humanitarian concerns, international law and India's diplomatic position. Emphasise inclusive negotiations and durable peace.

Model Answer

The Russia–Ukraine conflict illustrates how competing security perceptions, territorial ambitions and geopolitical rivalries complicate conflict resolution. Abu Dhabi negotiations involving Russia, Ukraine and the United States highlight persistent diplomatic challenges.

First, territorial disagreements remain fundamental. Russia seeks Ukrainian concessions in occupied regions, while Kyiv rejects surrendering sovereign territory. Second, NATO membership constitutes a major security dispute. Moscow opposes Ukraine's Western alignment, whereas Kyiv demands credible guarantees against future aggression.

Third, ceasefire sequencing remains contentious. Ukraine advocates an immediate ceasefire, while Russia prefers a comprehensive settlement addressing broader security concerns. Fourth, European participation and strategic interests complicate negotiations, as European states fear exclusion from decisions affecting their security.

International law emphasises sovereignty, territorial integrity and peaceful settlement of disputes. However, enforcement mechanisms remain constrained by geopolitical realities.

India supports dialogue, diplomacy and peaceful resolution while maintaining engagement with both parties. A durable settlement requires inclusive negotiations, credible security arrangements, humanitarian protection and respect for international law.

Ultimately, sustainable peace must reconcile legitimate security concerns without legitimising territorial aggression or undermining sovereignty.

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