International Relations · GS - II

Examine how unilateral economic sanctions influence international connectivity, civilian aviation and sporting exchanges. Discuss the challenges they create for countries seeking to maintain diplomatic and economic relations with sanctioned states.

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

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Unilateral sanctions, secondary sanctions, extraterritorial jurisdiction, financial restrictions, aviation connectivity, international sporting exchanges, sovereignty, diplomatic relations, humanitarian implications, multilateralism.

Model Answer

Introduction

Economic sanctions are instruments of foreign policy used to influence the behaviour of states and non-state actors. However, their effects can extend beyond targeted entities and disrupt international civilian activities.

Impact on International Connectivity

- **Civil aviation:** Restrictions on aircraft leasing, insurance, maintenance and financial transactions can disrupt airline operations and international travel.
- **Trade and finance:** Banks and businesses may avoid transactions due to compliance risks, affecting cross-border economic activity.
- **Sporting exchanges:** Travel restrictions and aviation disruptions can affect international tournaments and cultural exchanges.

- **Third-country effects:** Secondary sanctions may place countries and private entities in difficult diplomatic and commercial positions.

Challenges and Way Forward

Countries must balance their foreign policy autonomy, international obligations and economic interests. Clearer multilateral frameworks, diplomatic consultations and humanitarian exemptions can reduce unintended consequences. International institutions should facilitate dialogue and protect legitimate civilian exchanges within applicable legal frameworks.

Conclusion

Sanctions may serve foreign policy objectives, but their wider effects highlight the importance of proportionality, legal clarity and multilateral cooperation in an interconnected world.

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