International Relations · GS - II

Military cooperation between major powers and politically transitional governments can reshape regional security dynamics. Examine the strategic opportunities and sovereignty-related concerns associated with such partnerships.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 19/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Defence diplomacy, joint military training, intelligence sharing, sovereignty, non-intervention, regime legitimacy, strategic interests, regional stability, international law.

Model Answer

Introduction

Military cooperation is an important instrument of defence diplomacy. Agreements involving joint exercises, intelligence sharing and training can strengthen security partnerships, particularly during political transitions.

Strategic Opportunities

1. **Counter-terrorism:** Intelligence exchange and operational coordination can help address transnational threats.
2. **Capacity-building:** Training and technical assistance can improve the capabilities of partner-state security forces.
3. **Regional stability:** Cooperation can support maritime security, border management and organised crime prevention.
4. **Diplomatic engagement:** Defence partnerships can create channels for dialogue and strengthen bilateral relations.

Sovereignty-related Concerns

1. **External influence:** Military dependence may increase the influence of powerful States over domestic security policies.
2. **Political legitimacy:** Cooperation with transitional authorities may raise questions about recognition and democratic accountability.
3. **Non-intervention:** External military involvement must respect sovereignty and applicable international law.
4. **Strategic competition:** Defence partnerships may intensify geopolitical rivalries and regional tensions.

Way Forward

Military agreements should have clear legal frameworks, transparent objectives and appropriate parliamentary or institutional oversight. Cooperation must respect international law and the constitutional processes of partner countries.

Conclusion

Defence diplomacy can strengthen collective security, but its sustainability depends on mutual consent, respect for sovereignty and a rules-based international order.

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