International Relations · GS - II

The emergence of informal great-power groupings and exclusive diplomatic summits raises questions about the representativeness of global governance institutions. Examine the implications of such arrangements for India's strategic interests and its demand for United Nations Security Council reforms.

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MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Great-power diplomacy, US-China-Russia relations, multipolarity, UNSC reform, Global South, strategic autonomy, nuclear risk reduction, UN Charter, India's permanent membership claim.

Model Answer

Introduction

Recent high-level engagements among the United States, China and Russia highlight the continuing influence of major powers in shaping international security and global governance. Such exclusive diplomatic arrangements raise questions about the representation of emerging powers like India.

Implications for India

1. **Limited representation:** Decisions on nuclear security, international conflicts and global institutions may be shaped without adequate participation of developing countries.
2. **Strategic marginalisation:** India's exclusion from major diplomatic platforms can limit its influence over issues affecting its security interests.

3. **Multipolarity:** Concentration of decision-making among a few powerful states contradicts the growing economic and political influence of emerging economies.
4. **Nuclear security:** Agreements on arms control and strategic stability can directly affect India's regional and global security environment.
5. **Global South representation:** Exclusive arrangements reinforce India's demand for more inclusive international institutions.

Need for UNSC Reforms

- Expand permanent and non-permanent membership to reflect contemporary geopolitical realities.
- Improve representation of Africa, Asia and Latin America.
- Reform the veto mechanism to make decision-making more accountable.
- Strengthen multilateral diplomacy and transparency.
- Build consensus through the G4 and wider Global South engagement.

India's Strategic Approach

India should maintain strategic autonomy, deepen partnerships across competing power centres and continue advocating rules-based multilateralism.

Conclusion

Informal great-power diplomacy may facilitate negotiations, but it cannot replace representative multilateral institutions. Meaningful UNSC reform is essential for ensuring legitimacy, inclusiveness and equitable global governance.