# International Relations · GS - II

**Examine how domestic political divisions and legislative institutions shape immigration policy in the United States.**

| EXAM YEAR | PAPER | SUBJECT |
|---|---|---|
| DAILY PRACTICE 28/11/2026 | GS - II | International Relations |

| MARKS | WORD LIMIT |
|---|---|
| 15 | ~250 words |

## Answer Hint

**Immigration reform, separation of powers, bicameral legislature, presidential veto, deportation, political consensus**

## Model Answer

Immigration policy in the United States is shaped by constitutional institutions, economic interests, humanitarian considerations and competing political priorities. Proposals to create legal pathways for undocumented immigrants often generate significant legislative debate.

**Institutional factors:**

1. **Bicameral legislature:** Immigration reform legislation generally requires approval by both the House of Representatives and the Senate.
2. **Executive authority:** The President plays an important role in implementing immigration laws and can veto legislation passed by Congress.
3. **Judicial oversight:** Federal courts examine the constitutionality and legality of immigration-related government actions.
4. **Federal structure:** Immigration enforcement involves federal agencies, while State and local authorities may have different approaches to cooperation.

**Political and policy considerations:**

- Humanitarian concerns include family separation, long-term residence and protection from deportation.

- Economic considerations involve labour-market requirements, taxation and public services.
- National security and criminal-background screening influence eligibility for immigration relief.
- Political disagreements can delay comprehensive immigration legislation and create uncertainty for affected communities.

A proposed legal pathway for certain immigrants facing deportation illustrates the challenge of balancing humanitarian objectives with enforcement priorities.

**Conclusion:** Sustainable immigration reform requires institutional coordination, legislative consensus and a framework that reconciles humanitarian protection, economic needs and national security.

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