International Relations · GS - II

“Economic sanctions against energy-exporting countries have implications beyond bilateral relations, affecting global energy security and the economic interests of third countries.” Discuss with reference to the Russia–Ukraine conflict.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 17/10/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Economic sanctions, Russia–Ukraine conflict, energy security, global oil and gas prices, supply-chain disruptions, energy diversification, strategic autonomy, India's crude oil imports, inflationary pressures, diplomatic engagement, international cooperation.

Model Answer

Introduction

Economic sanctions are instruments of foreign policy used to exert pressure on states without direct military intervention. Sanctions imposed on Russia following its invasion of Ukraine have demonstrated how restrictions on a major energy exporter can influence global markets and international relations.

Main Body

Implications for global energy security

1. Price volatility: Restrictions on Russian energy supplies can increase uncertainty in global oil and gas markets.
2. Trade diversion: Energy exports may shift towards alternative buyers, changing established trade patterns.
3. Economic impact: Higher energy prices can increase inflation, transportation costs and import bills in energy-dependent economies.
4. Strategic responses: Countries may diversify suppliers, invest in renewable energy and strengthen domestic energy capacity.

Implications for India

India must balance affordable energy imports, domestic inflation management, strategic autonomy and its international obligations. Diversifying energy sources and maintaining diplomatic engagement can help manage external risks.

Conclusion

Energy-related sanctions have global consequences and require careful coordination. A balanced approach combining diplomatic engagement, diversified supplies and long-term investment in clean energy can strengthen energy security while reducing economic vulnerabilities.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP