

## Quadrant II - Notes

**Paper Code: POD 101**

**Module Name: Meaning and nature of International Relations**

**Module No: 01**

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### **Meaning and Definition of International Relations**

- International relations refers to a wider form of relationship between states, groups, institutions and individuals across the respective national boundaries.
- It refers to cooperative relations among people and nations.

### **Nature of International Relations**

1. Traditional view-International Politics
2. Current view-International Relations

### **Traditional View - International Politics**

- Lays emphasis on the study of politics and relations among the nation states.
- Considers nation- states as chief actors of International Politics.
- Focuses on Political and official relations.
- **Definition of International Politics**
- According to Quincy Wright "International Politics is the art of influencing, manipulating or controlling major groups, so as to advance the purposes of some against the opposition of others."

### **Current View- International Relations**

- It encompasses all the relevant actors, contents and relationships.
- It covers larger areas of relationships-conflictual, cooperative, friendly, unfriendly, power relationship, peace relationship, governmental and people to people relationships.

## **Definition of International Relations**

According to Palmer and Perkins

- “It encompasses much more than the relations among nation states and international organizations and groups. It includes great variety transitional relationships, at various levels, above and below the level of the nation state, still the main actor in the international community”.

## **Distinction between International Relations and International Politics**

1. International Relations-Broad concept

International Politics-Narrow concept

2. International Relations- emphasizes Non-official relations whereas International Politics emphasizes on Official relations between states

3. International relations-approach versatile and scientific International politics-historical, descriptive, analytical.

4. According to Adi H. Doctor-Those interested in oppositional relations label their study ‘International Politics’: Those who also include cooperative relations name their study as ‘International Relations’.

## **Conclusion**

Thus the current nomenclature – International relations covers a wider form of relationship between states, groups, institutions and individuals across the respective national boundaries. Yet it has to be admitted that political relations still over-ride in this field of study.