



## EDITORIAL: **THE HINDU**

**GENERAL STUDIES 2: INTERNATIONAL RELATION**

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**TOPIC: VARIOUS APPROACH WITH NATIONS**

**Jaishankar says India is looking for partners, not preachers; highlights New Delhi's 'Russia realism'**

### **1. India's Call for Equal Partnerships, Not Moral Lectures**

- Jaishankar made a strong remark that **India is looking for “partners, not preachers”**, indirectly referring to certain European countries.
- He criticized the tendency of some Western nations to **lecture developing countries** while failing to uphold those standards domestically.
- He stressed that **mutual respect, shared interests, and sensitivity** must form the basis of any meaningful international partnership with India.

### **2. Criticism of Europe's Approach**

- Europe, according to Jaishankar, has now entered a **“zone of reality check”** in global geopolitics, especially after the Ukraine crisis.
- He urged Europe to **move beyond its traditional superiority complex** and align itself with **ground realities** in building equitable partnerships.
- He remarked that while **some European nations have evolved**, others are still grappling with old frameworks of international relations.

### **3. India's “Russia Realism” Approach**

- India maintains a **realist and strategic relationship with Russia**, viewing it as an **important fit** in the global order.
- He noted that India sees **complementarity with Russia**, especially in the context of **Russia as a resource provider** and **India as a resource consumer**.
- Despite global pressures, **India increased its crude oil imports** from Russia during the war, putting **national interest above ideological pressure**.

### **4. Neutrality in the Russia-Ukraine Conflict**

- India has **consistently refrained from taking sides** or **prescribing solutions** in the Russia-Ukraine war.



- Jaishankar emphasized that **India has never told any party what to do**, respecting their sovereignty and the complexity of the conflict.
- He called out the **West's flawed assumption** that a peace solution could be achieved **without involving Russia**, which he said, "challenged the basics of realism."

## 5. Broader Critique of the Western Approach

- The EAM criticized past attempts by the West to solve global conflicts based on **ideology rather than strategic engagement**.
- He emphasized that such one-sided efforts often fail because they **ignore geopolitical complexity and stakeholder interests**.
- Jaishankar's statement reflects India's **assertive foreign policy stance**, advocating realism and sovereignty in international affairs.

## 6. India's Stand on Engaging Both Russia and the U.S.

- Jaishankar said he is a believer in **both Russia realism and America realism**.
- He stressed that **India's engagement with the U.S.** should also be grounded in **mutual interests**, not dictated by ideological alignment or values-first diplomacy.
- This reflects India's balancing act between **major global powers**, using **strategic autonomy** as its core principle.

## 7. Developments in the Arctic and Changing World Order

- The discussion was part of the **Arctic Circle India Forum**, where Jaishankar linked **geopolitical shifts to developments in the Arctic region**.
- He suggested that **emerging changes in power dynamics**, climate implications, and trade routes in the Arctic require **global attention and realistic strategies**.
- India's interest in Arctic affairs reflects its **evolving global posture**, emphasizing **inclusivity, sovereignty, and long-term strategic vision**.

## 8. Underlining National Interest as Foreign Policy Principle

- Throughout his statements, Jaishankar reiterated that **India's foreign policy is interest-driven**, not driven by alliances or blocs.
- Be it **oil from Russia, neutrality in global conflicts**, or engagement with Europe and the U.S., India's decisions are rooted in **realism, autonomy, and practical benefits**.

## Conclusion

- Jaishankar's remarks reflect a **confident and assertive India** in global diplomacy.



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- India seeks **equal-footed global partnerships**, respects **strategic realism**, and resists **ideological pressures** in shaping its international relationships.
- These statements reinforce India's role as a **responsible and independent actor** in a multipolar world.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/jaishankar-says-india-is-looking-for-partners-not-preachers-highlights-new-delhis-russia-realism/article69537934.ece>

