

Study Unit 2: The Development of International Relations

Unit Objectives

1. To explain the development of International relations.
2. To identify the different perspective as regards to the development of International relations.

IR theory is distinguished by a concern with institutions and norms and by an emphasis on history philosophy and law rather than the formal methods of the social sciences in both respects. [he origins of ER are traced. International relations were established at aberystwyth in 1919 by Philanthropist. It was after the first world war and IR has much and longer history than these dates would suggest it.

Pre state relations: convention identities territorial states as major actors of international politics. And as well the nature of states as involved through the ages, so has the nature of IR. Where states or nations do not exist it is hard to identi1 macro-political affairs that deserve to be denoted as IRs. Before the age of modern states, it's difficult to find much evidence of IRs, micro-political order was imposed by other social formations such as cities, empires. In Europe, Asia and the north coast of Africa. order and unity where long imposed by the roman empire. However, as the roman empire began to divide in parts during the fourth century it's possible to distinguish the first fore shadowing of IRs in macro-political affairs.

Decline of the Rome.

During the 4th century the politics of roman was disintegrated in corruption and increasing disorders. Process of political deliberation were increasingly overridden by brute forces. The empire divided, the army gained influence, the generals fought each other sometimes recruiting per barbarians to light for them. The empire was weakened within and faced a sudden wave of migrations. The eastern half of the empire survived, the western industries, commerce decayed and the empire sunk back into economic poverty, political fragmentation and social disorder. The eastern half of roman empire retained its basic institution of Rome. The eastern roman empire managed to maintain its political unity of the orthodox. Byzanis secured the survival of the eastern empire by repealing the barbarians by armed forces and deflected if by diplomacy.

The western half of the Roman empire under the impact of great migrants, communications, halted production and trade choked. Two centuries afterwards Europe had no coherent existence. The area had unraveled into a great gamble of tribes, military riders and if these fragmented areas retained any social unity of all during the dark ages this was due to the remembrances of common imperial past which glazed the territory with the corrective memory of Roman law. Kingdoms rose under strong rulers but fell apart again under weak ones yet it was here in this unpromising and chaotic congeries of the Christian civilization of the far west. The most significant institution of IR emerged but slowly.

Role of the Church

Some institutions emerged during the fifth and sixth century to provide some measures of unity and order in the fragmented west the first of these institutions was the Christian church it maintained against all odds, the rudiments of the common identity through the dark ages. It kept the Christian church alive. It conserved the remnants of the Roman civilization. It preserved the light of religion, learning and literacy indeed. It spread the light to the north western peripheries.

The second force for the unity was the German and Frankish kingdoms, they rose and fell during the middle ages and over time they united the central and western regions. One of these was built by a German king Clovis (466-511). He conquered most of the western Europe and imposed upon it a political unity. Another great kingdom was built by Frankish king Charlemagne (768-814). This kingdom also unraveled soon after the death of its king when it was weakened by migrants.

The rise of monarchs and nobles.

From the point of view of economic history, feudalism has often been Portuguese as a distinct mode of production from the point of view of IRs, it makes good sense also to feudalism as a mode of protection, as a way in which new powerful rulers tried to impose order and stability by granting knights. Land grants thus creating a supreme class of warriors.

Legally the members of this class were liegemen of the kings and lords but in practice they were given privileges. Part of Europe fell under the influence of knights who assumed the authority to govern all those who lived on their land. They administered agricultural produce and in the process they evolved from a military elite to a social elite, they called themselves the nobles in the Roman fashion.

Age of territory states.

The modern state refers to an internationally recognized entity controlled by a government that controls over its people that live on it. A state possesses four key characteristics;

- People that live on it
- Political institutions that maintain order
- A territory
- Recognized by other states

This formal recognition of each state by all the others is a western practice with particular implications. These implications conferred upon the states. There also indicated properties that mark a system of interacting states.

The Modern States

As a feudal order was undermined by the advent of trade and the urban centers, the diverse plurality of social formations evolved. In a long run no social formation could compete with these monarchies' there emerged as a dominant macro-political actors of the western world and there soon carried their dominance far beyond the west. They were stimulated by the new economic dynamics, new ways of trade and finance.

It is much of a known fact that when the territorial states emerged along the north Atlantic rim they did not appear after the other. These states all had roots far back in western history but their consolidation was marked by the Italian wars. These wars in which the royal houses fought for the dominance over Italy. It involved the final destruction to the city states systems and the emergence of Spain and France as territorial states. The most significant of these were associated with the inventions like the compass, gun powder and printing press. The compass made it possible to navigate across the world oceans, the gun powder also made it possible to conquer new settlements.

Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) study unit 2

Describe the development of international relations up to today.

Study review question two-study unit 2

- a) State and explain the origins and development of international relations.
- b) State the role of the church in the development of international relations.

Study review answer-question two-study unit 2

- a)
 - Pre-state relations
 - The decline and fall of Rome
 - The advent of states
 - The role of the church
 - The rise of monarchs and nobles
- b) Age of territorial state
 - Through colonialism
 - Spread of religion
 - Trading companies
 - Education
 - Roman civilization