

**GS SCORE**

An Institute for Civil Services

**IAS  
2023**

# POLITICAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION 2023

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BATCH  
STARTS

**03**  
NOVEMBER  
2022



Visit:  [www.iasscore.in](http://www.iasscore.in)





## Programme **HIGHLIGHTS**



4.5 Months  
Comprehensive  
Classes to Cover  
Complete UPSC  
Syllabus of PSIR



Coverage of New  
Theories and  
Commentaries  
“Special in Paper-1  
Section-A, Paper-2  
Section-A”



Discussion of Previous  
Year UPSC Question  
Papers & Most  
Important Areas for  
Mains



Innovative  
methodology of  
teaching, Application  
of different approaches  
mentioned in syllabus



Explanation of the  
interlinks between  
PSIR and GS Papers



Test Series including  
12 Tests (8 Sectional  
& 4 Mock)



Special Lecture  
Series on Answer  
Writing Practice



Extended Topics of  
PSIR Optional to be  
Covered in Political  
Science Advance  
Classes



Crisp and Relevant  
Material with focus  
on Current Trend



Personalised  
attention for Doubt  
Clearing



## ABOUT THE COURSE

This course has been specially designed for those who are:

-  Interested in opting Political Science as optional without Academic Background of the subjects.
-  Having difficulties with the Historiography and its applicability in understanding the subject
-  Even for those who have studied the subject but can not apply their information as per the requirements of the UPSC.
-  Studied the subject by their own and facing problem in writing standard answer.

## Why GS SCORE

The selection of the right coaching institute plays a vital role in **IAS exams** journey. The institute helps in developing the necessary skills required to qualify one of the most prestigious Civil service Examination. When it comes to finding **Best Political Science and International Relations Coaching in Delhi** students tend to get confused.

To make your journey of UPSC exam outstanding, we at GS SCORE provide excellent guidance to aspirants for **Political Science and International science Optional Classes for UPSC Mains**.

For the students who are unable to attend **classroom program in Delhi** we have launched dedicated **PSIR Optional Online Classes** which is one of the **best Pol Science Coaching in Delhi**.

Our programme includes identification of the core strength and weakness of the aspirants and to bank upon their strength and to minimize the weakness. It also involves several psychometric tools for evaluation and constant motivation as well as monitoring of the aspirants.

GS SCORE holds a tremendous **record of successful candidates** from **Political Science and International Relations Coaching** in the past many years continuously. Many students from our **PSIR Coaching for UPSC Mains** were able to achieve **300 Plus in PSIR Optional**. To give you a real hand experience you can download the answer script of the **Political Science and International Relations optional topper** from our website **Toppers Test Copy Section**.

## PSIR as Optional



The issue of selecting optional subjects for Civil services examination is a delicate issue for many aspirants. The foremost criteria to choose an optional subject is based on interest of subject for aspirant and the optional having maximum convergence with GS syllabus so that optional preparation should rather help in GS preparation instead of reducing time for the latter. **Political Science and International relations (PSIR) as optional subject in UPSC Mains** has emerged to be the most reliable subject to qualify the UPSC with high rank.

**Political Science and International Relations or PSIR** contains static portions such as Political thought and theories of IR along with very dynamic portions like Indian Government and Politics and International Relations. The International Relations section is playing a very instrumental role in qualifying the exam as aspirants are scoring more than 170 marks in the paper.

**PSIR as optional subject in UPSC mains** covers the entire syllabus of General Studies Paper 2. Also in General studies Paper 1, it covers crucial topics like Post-Independence Consolidation, Ideologies and social issues. Moreover, topics like internal security and environmental issues in IR from General Studies Paper-3 are already part of PSIR syllabus. Lastly, PSIR is helpful in General Studies Paper-4 since major philosophical thinkers/leaders ranging from Plato, Aristotle, Kautilya, Gandhi and Ambedkar are already covered in PSIR paper-1.

Every year essay topics are directly related to Political Science .

At the interview stage, PSIR is one of the most helpful subjects since it enables candidates to easily answer deep understanding based questions from Polity and International Relations in a short span of time.



## COURSE DELIVERY STRUCTURE

Course is designed to make you learn, retain, recollect and effectively write the exam in a comprehensive way. Course will be delivered in the following format:

### Lecture

Class Lectures will include diagrams, flowcharts & Class notes. In depth understanding of the topics.

### Test

- ▶ For every section of the syllabus there will be two tests. First test will be conducted after completion of 50% of the syllabus of a section.
- ▶ Detailed discussion will be provided after every Test.
- ▶ Tests will remain available in the student's account till the mains examination of that enrolled year.

### Learning through Discussion

- ▶ Range of new topics that are not directly mentioned in the syllabus but are highly important, will be covered extensively in Lectures and more emphasis will be given to them.
- ▶ Less relevant topics of the syllabus will be covered through discussions supplemented by study material.



## **Doubt Clearing Sessions**

Doubt clearing sessions will be provided after completion of a topic and as per requirement.

## **Self-Assessment & Regular Answer Writing**

- ▶ Self-Assessment Exercise will be provided to help students practice answers and evaluate it by themselves.
- ▶ In this exercise, Questions will be provided and answers will be evaluated by the candidate himself/herself

## **Study Material**

Reference Booklets will be provided for the static part of Syllabus. Class notes and PDFs will be provided for applied parts of the syllabus.



# PSIR SYLLABUS

## PART- 1

### POLITICAL THEORY & INDIAN POLICIES

- ▶ Political Theory meaning and ap-proaches
- ▶ **Theories of the State:** Liberal, Neoliberal, Marxist, Pluralist, Post-colonial and feminist.
- ▶ **Justice:** Conceptions of justice with special reference to Rawl's theory of justice and its communitarian critiques.
- ▶ **Equality:** Social, political and economic; relationship between equality and freedom; Affirmative action.
- ▶ **Rights:** Meaning and theories; different kinds of rights; concept of Human Rights.
- ▶ **Democracy:** Classical and contemporary theories; different models of democracy “ representative, participatory and deliberative.
- ▶ Concept of power, hegemony, ideology and legitimacy.
- ▶ **Political Ideologies:** Liberalism, Socialism, Marxism, Fascism, Gandhism and Feminism.
- ▶ **Indian Political Thought:** Dharamshastra, Arthashastra and Buddhist traditions; Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Sri Aurobindo, M.K. Gandhi, B.R. Ambedkar, M.N. Roy .
- ▶ **Western Political Thought:** Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, John, S. Mill, Marx, Gramsci, Hannah Arendt.



## INDIAN GOVERNMENT POLICIES

- ▶ **Indian Nationalism:** Political Strategies of India's Freedom struggle: constitutionalism to mass Satyagraha, Non-cooperation, Civil Disobedience; militant and revolutionary movements, Peasant and workers' movements.
- ▶ Perspectives on Indian National Movement: Liberal, Socialist and Marxist; Radical humanist and Dalit.
- ▶ **Making of the Indian Constitution:** Legacies of the British rule; different social and political perspectives.
- ▶ **Salient Features of the Indian Constitution:** The Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Duties, Directive Principles; Parliamentary System and Amendment Procedures; Judicial Review and Basic Structure doctrine.
- ▶ **Principal Organs of the Union Government:** Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and Supreme Court.
- ▶ Principal Organs of the State Government: Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and High Courts.
- ▶ **Grassroots Democracy:** Panchayati Raj and Municipal Government; significance of 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Amendments; Grassroot movements.
- ▶ **Statutory Institutions/Commissions:** Election Commission, Comptroller and Auditor General, Finance Commission, Union Public Service Commission, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for scheduled Tribes, National Commission for Women; National Human Rights Commission, National Commission for Minorities, National Backward Classes Commission.
- ▶ **Federalism:** Constitutional provisions; changing nature of centre-state relations; integrationist tendencies and regional aspirations; inter-state disputes.
- ▶ **Planning and Economic Development:** Nehruvian and Gandhian perspectives; role of planning and public sector; Green Revolution, land reforms and agrarian relations; liberalization and economic reforms.
- ▶ Caste, Religion and Ethnicity in Indian Politics.
- ▶ **Party System:** National and regional political parties, ideological and social bases of parties; patterns of coalition politics; Pressure groups, trends in electoral behaviour; changing socio-economic profile of Legislators.
- ▶ **Social Movements:** Civil liberties and human rights movements; women's movements; environmentalist movements

## PART- 2

# COMPARATIVE POLITICAL ANALYSIS & INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

- ▶ **Comparative Politics:** Nature and major approaches; political economy and political sociology perspectives; limitations of the comparative method.
- ▶ **State in comparative perspective:** Characteristics and changing nature of the State in capitalist and socialist economies, and, advanced industrial and developing societies.
- ▶ **Politics of Representation and Participation:** Political parties, pressure groups and social movements in advanced industrial and developing societies.
- ▶ **Globalisation:** Responses from developed and developing societies.
- ▶ **Approaches to the Study of International Relations:** Idealist, Realist, Marxist, Functionalist and Systems theory.
- ▶ **Key concepts in International Relations:** National interest, Security and power; Balance of power and deterrence; Transnational actors and collective security; World capitalist economy and globalisation.
- ▶ **Changing International Political Order:** Rise of super powers; strategic and ideological Bipolarity, arms race and Cold War; nuclear threat; Non-aligned movement: Aims and achievements; Collapse of the Soviet Union; Unipolarity and American hegemony; relevance of non-alignment in the contemporary world.
- ▶ **Evolution of the International Economic System:** From Brettonwoods to WTO; Socialist economies and the CMEA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance); Third World demand for new international economic order; Globalisation of the world economy.
- ▶ **United Nations:** Envisaged role and actual record; specialized UN agencies- aims and functioning; need for UN reforms.
- ▶ **Regionalisation of World Politics:** EU, ASEAN, APEC, SAARC, NAFTA.

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- ▶ **Contemporary Global Concerns:** Democracy, human rights, environment, gender justice, terrorism, nuclear proliferation.

## COMPARATIVE POLITICS & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- ▶ **Indian Foreign Policy:** Determinants of foreign policy; institutions of policy-making; continuity and change.
- ▶ **India's Contribution to the Non-Alignment Movement:** Different phases; current role
- ▶ **India and South Asia:**
  - a) Regional Co-operation: SAARC past performance and future prospects.
  - b) South Asia as a Free Trade Area.
  - c) India's "Look East" policy.
  - d) Impediments to regional co-operation: river water disputes; illegal cross-border migration; ethnic conflicts and insurgencies; border disputes.
- ▶ **India and the Global South:** Relations with Africa and Latin America; leadership role in the demand for NIEO and WTO negotiations.
- ▶ **India and the Global Centres of Power:** USA, EU, Japan, China and Russia.

- ▶ **India and the UN System:** Role in UN Peace-keeping; demand for Permanent Seat in the Security Council.
- ▶ **India and the Nuclear Question:** Changing perceptions and policy.
- ▶ **Recent developments in Indian Foreign policy:** India's position on the recent crisis in Afghanistan, Iraq and West Asia, growing relations with US and Israel; vision of a new world order.



Extended

## TOPICS COVERED

### POLITICAL THEORY & THOUGHT

- Post-colonial and feminist state
- Marxist, 'Neo Marxist State' and 'Post Marxist and Social Pluralism'
- Authority and legitimacy dynamics, Joseph Raz on Political authority
- Contemporary theories of legitimacy with special reference to 'Habermass legitimation crisis' and David Beetham's views on Political legitimacy
- Concepts of Communitarianism, 'Conception of self; Encumbered Vs Unencumbered', 'Universalism Vs Particularism', 'Priority of Right over the Good' Vs 'Priority of Good over the Right', 'State Neutrality Vs Non-Neutrality of State'
- Rawls theory of justice, Justice as entitlement –Robert Nozick, Communi-tarian perspective on Justice- Michael Walzer, Susan moller Okin conception of justice
- Idea of Global Justice with special reference to Thomas Pogge
- Debates on equality with special reference to contemporary thinks (Scheffler, Derek parfit and others), Debates on liberty with special reference to Quentin skinner
- Contemporary theories of rights with special reference to Dworkin, Robert Nozik and HLA hart
- Multiculturalism and Cultural rights with special reference to will Kymlicka and Robert E Goodin, Group rights and Joseph Raz and critical evaluation of Amy Gutmann
- Impact of Globalization on Democracies and Democratic theories, Cosmopolitan Democratic Governance

### IGP

- **Approaches to study Indian Government and Politics.**
- **Social and New Social Movements:** Meaning, Scope and Application



## IR Theories

- The four great debates in International relations
- The Globalization of Human Rights, “Globalization, Human rights and State”, “Globalization, transnational Corporations and Human Rights”
- Realist, Subaltern realism and Peripheral realism, Functionalist and Systems theory.
- Feminism in International relations, Feminist criticism of rationality, feminist understanding of ‘Power and State’
- Social Constructivism
- Marxism and post-positivism; Critical theories
- Security and Economic Regimes in International Relations
- Third World Security studies
- Evolution of Indian Foreign Policy
- Discussion on few themes:
  - ▶ Water disputes at regional level
  - ▶ Illegal cross border immigration regional and global level
  - ▶ Terrorism at regional and global level
  - ▶ Ethnic conflicts and insurgencies
- Bilateral Relations with South Asian and West Asian Countries
- Comparative Study of co-operation and conflict of India China on different regional such as: Africa, Central Asia, Indian Ocean





## Procedure for **ONLINE CLASSES**

### ONLINE CLASSES

- To enroll student has to register on the website using Registration Form or Google Login or Facebook Login.
- If already registered login with your username and password which you have used for registration.
- Account for Online Classes will be activated within one working day of Enrollment or before batch Starts.
- Classes will be conducted online as per the class schedule.
- Weekly Class Schedule will be uploaded into students account with session plan and doubt clearing sessions schedule.
- Study Material is into two formats i.e. printed and pdf.
- Printed Study Material, if any will be dispatched by courier within a week of enrollment.
- Soft Copy notes will be uploaded in PDF format into your account.

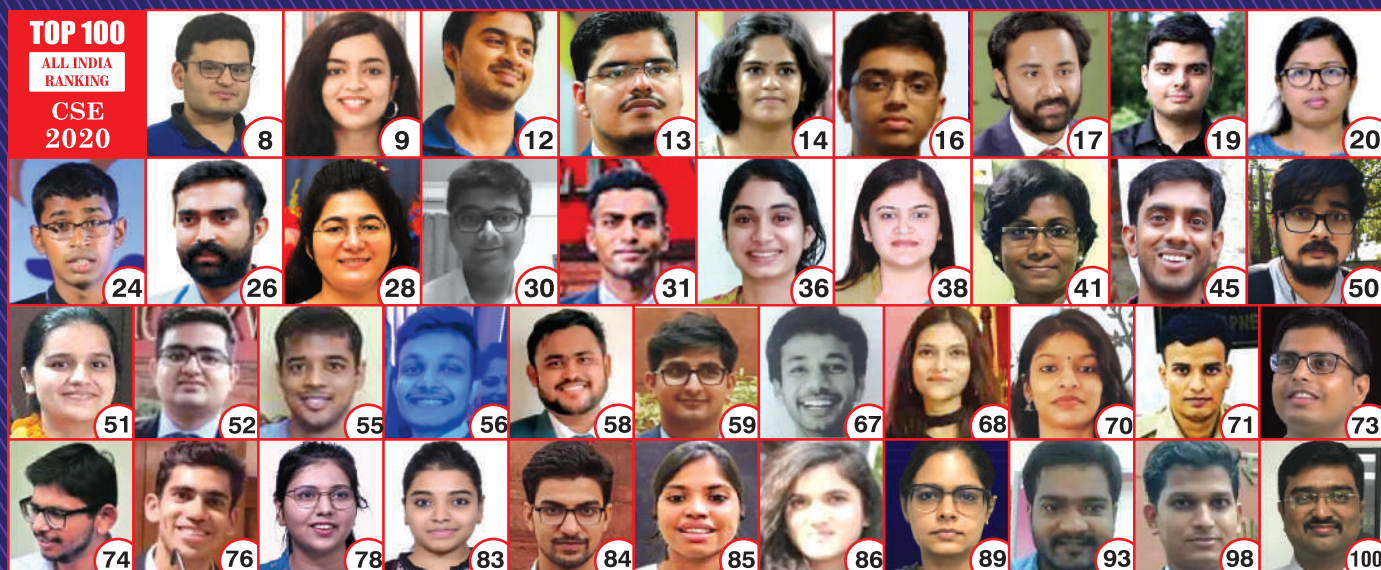
### DOUBT CLEARING

- One on one doubt clearing session will be conducted with concern faculties on Google Meet as per schedule.
- Students can put their doubts in chat box given into their account with each session.
- Students can also interact with faculty through phone or WhatsApp for doubt clearing.
- After evaluation of mains test copy, one on one discussion with respective faculty will be done on phone.

### POL SC. TEST SERIES

- Tests will be uploaded in PDF format in your account.
- To write the test students have to download the PDF of test paper booklet or write the test in A4 sheet with proper spacing as per UPSC pattern. After writing the test send us back scanned copy in pdf format for evaluation.
- Further evaluated test copy will be sent back to the students within 15 days after receiving the answer sheet.
- Test discussion video will be uploaded into your account on the scheduled test date.
- Once student will receive evaluated copy, one to one discussion with concerned faculty/experts will be arranged via phone call or live interaction.





**SUCCESS IS A PRACTICE WE DO!**

