



# The Foreign Policy of the Modi Government and Its Impact on Indian Politics

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## Abstract:

This research paper delves into the foreign policy initiatives undertaken by the Modi government and their far-reaching implications on Indian politics. Over the course of this study, we explore the historical context of Indian foreign policy, examining its evolution through various administrations. We place particular focus on the Modi government's foreign policy principles, strategies, and priorities. Through extensive research, including case studies and data analysis, we assess the tangible impacts of these foreign policy decisions on the domestic political landscape of India.

The paper analyzes how Modi's foreign policy has influenced political discourse, contributed to the rise of nationalism, shaped the response of political opposition, and impacted public perception and support. We scrutinize the interplay between foreign policy considerations and electoral politics, as well as their influence on the governance and decision-making processes within India.

Drawing upon case studies that highlight critical moments in India's foreign relations, such as its interactions with Pakistan and China, as well as its engagement with major global powers like the United States, we uncover the intricate connections between foreign policy and domestic politics. Furthermore, we explore how foreign policy initiatives have resonated within the Indian diaspora, both strengthening and challenging the government's standing. In addressing challenges and controversies associated with Modi's foreign policy, this paper examines the government's response to international crises, its efforts to balance relations with major powers, and its handling of human rights issues under international scrutiny. We consider criticisms and debates regarding strategic clarity and analyze the diplomatic complexities faced within India's immediate neighborhood.

Looking ahead, we offer insights into the future prospects of Modi's foreign policy initiatives, evaluating ongoing strategies and potential shifts in priorities. We discuss the implications of these strategies for Indian politics and society, providing recommendations and policy implications for India's foreign policy trajectory.

This research paper provides a comprehensive examination of the foreign policy decisions of the Modi government and their profound impact on Indian politics. It not only contributes to the understanding of India's contemporary foreign policy but also sheds light on the intricate dynamics between foreign and domestic realms in a rapidly changing global landscape.

## 1. Introduction

**Context of the Modi Government's Tenure:** The tenure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been marked by significant changes in India's foreign policy landscape. Since assuming office in 2014, Modi has pursued an assertive and proactive foreign policy agenda, which has garnered both domestic and international attention. His approach to foreign affairs has been characterized by a departure from traditional Indian foreign policy norms, emphasizing bilateral relations, economic diplomacy, and a heightened global profile for India.

**Significance of Studying Foreign Policy's Impact on Indian Politics:** Understanding the impact of foreign policy on Indian politics is of paramount importance due to its far-reaching implications. Foreign policy decisions can shape the domestic political discourse, influence public opinion, and affect governance priorities. Moreover, in an increasingly interconnected world, foreign policy is inextricably linked to national security, economic growth, and social development. Therefore, a comprehensive analysis of how foreign policy decisions influence Indian politics is crucial for both scholars and policymakers.

**Research Objectives and Questions:** The primary objectives of this research paper are as follows:

- To examine the foreign policy initiatives and priorities of the Modi government.
- To assess the impact of these foreign policy decisions on Indian politics and society.
- To analyze the evolving relationship between foreign policy and domestic politics under the Modi government.

To achieve these objectives, we will explore the following key research questions:

1. What are the core principles and guiding philosophy of the Modi government's foreign policy?
2. How has foreign policy influenced the political discourse and rhetoric in India?
3. What role does nationalism play in shaping foreign policy decisions and their domestic impact?
4. How has the political opposition responded to the foreign policy initiatives of the Modi government?
5. To what extent do foreign policy considerations impact public perception and support for the government?
6. What is the influence of foreign policy on electoral politics in India?
7. How have foreign policy decisions affected governance and decision-making processes within India?

## 2. Literature Review

**Historical Context of Indian Foreign Policy:** Indian foreign policy has evolved significantly since gaining independence in 1947. Initially, India followed a policy of non-alignment, seeking to maintain equidistance from the two Cold War superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union. This policy was characterized by principles of sovereignty, non-interference, and cooperation with developing countries. Over time, India adapted its foreign policy to reflect changing global dynamics, economic liberalization, and emerging security challenges.

**Key Foreign Policy Decisions of the Modi Government:** The Modi government has pursued a dynamic and proactive foreign policy agenda, emphasizing several key initiatives:

1. **Neighborhood First Policy:** This approach prioritizes strengthening relations with India's immediate neighbors, such as Bhutan, Nepal, and Bangladesh, and aims to enhance regional stability and cooperation.
2. **Act East Policy:** The Act East Policy seeks to deepen economic and strategic engagement with Southeast Asian nations and Japan, aligning with India's "Look East" policy.
3. **Relations with Major Powers:** Modi has actively engaged with major global powers, such as the United States, Russia, and China, navigating complex geopolitical relationships and seeking strategic partnerships.
4. **Economic Diplomacy:** The government has pursued extensive trade agreements and economic partnerships to boost India's economic growth and global influence.
5. **Soft Power and Cultural Diplomacy:** Cultural and people-to-people exchanges have been leveraged to enhance India's soft power and global image.

**Scholarly Perspectives on Modi's Foreign Policy:** Scholarly analysis of Modi's foreign policy has been varied, reflecting a range of perspectives:

1. **Proponents:** Some scholars view Modi's foreign policy as pragmatic and assertive, arguing that it has elevated India's global standing and bolstered its economic interests.
2. **Critics:** Others criticize the government's foreign policy for lacking strategic clarity, emphasizing populist rhetoric over substantive diplomacy, and facing challenges in handling international crises and balancing relations with major powers.
3. **Contextual Analysis:** Scholars often emphasize the context-specific nature of foreign policy decisions, recognizing that India's foreign policy choices are influenced by regional and global dynamics.

**Theoretical Framework for Analyzing the Impact on Indian Politics:** To analyze the impact of Modi's foreign policy on Indian politics, scholars have employed various theoretical frameworks:

1. **Realism:** Realist scholars focus on power politics, examining how foreign policy decisions reflect India's pursuit of its national interests and security concerns.
2. **Constructivism:** Constructivist perspectives emphasize the role of ideas, norms, and identity in shaping foreign policy. Scholars in this vein analyze how Modi's emphasis on nationalism and cultural diplomacy impacts domestic politics.
3. **Neoclassical Realism:** Neoclassical realists explore how both systemic pressures and individual leadership styles influence foreign policy decisions and their impact on domestic politics.
4. **Institutionalism:** Institutionalists investigate the role of international organizations and treaties in shaping foreign policy choices and their domestic consequences.
5. **Public Opinion and Electoral Politics:** Some scholars analyze the influence of foreign policy on public opinion, political party platforms, and electoral outcomes, linking foreign policy decisions to electoral strategies.

This literature review demonstrates the diverse range of perspectives and theoretical approaches used to understand the foreign policy of the Modi government and its impact on Indian politics. The following sections of the research paper will delve into these aspects in greater detail, drawing on this literature to inform the analysis.

### 3. Modi Government's Foreign Policy Agenda

**Key Principles and Guiding Philosophy:** The foreign policy of the Modi government is underpinned by several key principles and a guiding philosophy:

- **Pragmatism:** Modi's foreign policy emphasizes pragmatic decision-making aimed at advancing India's national interests, both economic and strategic.
- **Global Engagement:** The government seeks to elevate India's global profile, positioning the country as a prominent player in international affairs.
- **Economic Diplomacy:** Economic growth is a central tenet of Modi's foreign policy. The government actively promotes economic diplomacy to attract investment, enhance trade, and foster technological collaboration.
- **Security and Defense:** Ensuring national security remains a priority, with a focus on strengthening India's defense capabilities and fostering strategic partnerships.
- **Cultural Diplomacy:** Soft power and cultural diplomacy are leveraged to enhance India's global influence and promote Indian culture and heritage.

**Neighborhood First Policy:** The Neighborhood First Policy is a cornerstone of Modi's foreign policy, with the aim of cultivating strong and friendly relations with neighboring countries. Key features include:

- **Bilateral Engagement:** India seeks to engage in bilateral dialogues, addressing mutual concerns and promoting regional stability.
- **Connectivity and Development:** The government promotes infrastructure development, connectivity projects, and economic cooperation to boost the region's socio-economic growth.
- **Security Cooperation:** Enhancing regional security and counter-terrorism efforts are integral to this policy.

**Act East Policy:** The Act East Policy is an expansion of the earlier "Look East" policy and focuses on strengthening ties with Southeast Asian nations and Japan. Key components include:

- **Economic Integration:** India aims to integrate its economy with those of Southeast Asian nations through trade agreements and investment.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** Building strategic partnerships in the Indo-Pacific region is a key objective to counterbalance China's influence.
- **Cultural and Educational Exchanges:** The policy emphasizes cultural and educational exchanges to foster people-to-people ties.

**Relations with Major Powers (US, Russia, China):** The Modi government has actively engaged with major global powers, including:

- **United States:** Relations with the U.S. have witnessed significant growth, marked by defense collaborations, economic ties, and efforts to address shared concerns, such as terrorism.
- **Russia:** India maintains traditional close ties with Russia, particularly in defense cooperation, nuclear energy, and strategic partnership.
- **China:** India's relationship with China is complex, marked by areas of cooperation and competition. The Modi government has sought to manage differences while enhancing economic relations.

**Engagement with International Organizations (UN, WTO, etc.):** India actively participates in various international organizations and treaties, including the United Nations and the World Trade Organization. The government's engagement includes efforts to reform these institutions to better align with India's interests and concerns.

**Economic Diplomacy and Trade Agreements:** The Modi government has pursued an ambitious economic diplomacy agenda, signing trade agreements and fostering economic partnerships with multiple countries. Initiatives like "Make in India" and "Digital India" are integral to these efforts.

**Soft Power and Cultural Diplomacy:** Soft power and cultural diplomacy are essential components of Modi's foreign policy. India leverages its rich cultural heritage, yoga, cinema, and educational exchanges to enhance its global image and influence.

This section provides an overview of the key principles and specific policy initiatives that characterize the foreign policy agenda of the Modi government. Subsequent sections of the research paper will delve into the impact of these policies on Indian politics and society.

#### 4. Impact on Indian Politics

##### 4.1. Influence on Political Discourse and Rhetoric:

Modi's foreign policy decisions have played a significant role in shaping the political discourse and rhetoric within India. This impact can be observed through:

- **Media Coverage:** Foreign policy initiatives often dominate headlines, driving public discourse and influencing the national agenda.
- **Political Messaging:** The government strategically highlights foreign policy achievements to project strength and leadership, contributing to its political narrative.
- **Opposition Critique:** Foreign policy decisions are sometimes framed as opportunities for opposition parties to challenge the government's actions and priorities.

##### 4.2. Role of Nationalism in Shaping Foreign Policy:

Nationalism has been a defining feature of the Modi government's foreign policy. Its influence on foreign policy decisions and domestic politics is notable:

- **Nationalist Rhetoric:** Modi's emphasis on "India First" and "Make in India" appeals to nationalist sentiments, resonating with a significant portion of the electorate.
- **Balancing Act:** Nationalism has shaped India's stance in international disputes, particularly in relation to neighboring countries like Pakistan and China.
- **Domestic Impact:** Nationalism can generate public support for the government's foreign policy actions, contributing to a sense of pride and unity.

##### 4.3. Opposition's Response and Critique:

The opposition in India has responded to the Modi government's foreign policy in various ways:

- **Political Posturing:** Opposition parties often use foreign policy issues to score political points and differentiate themselves from the ruling party.
- **Critiques on Diplomacy:** Opposition leaders critique the government's diplomatic strategies, sometimes alleging a lack of transparency or strategic clarity.

- **Issue-based Alliances:** Foreign policy issues can lead to issue-based alliances among opposition parties, altering the political landscape.

#### 4.4. Public Perception and Support for Foreign Policy:

Public perception and support for the government's foreign policy initiatives are influenced by several factors:

- **Media Framing:** Media coverage shapes public perception of foreign policy achievements and challenges.
- **Nationalism and Identity:** The government's nationalist messaging can garner support from sections of the population.
- **Economic Impact:** Economic outcomes of foreign policy, such as trade agreements, can affect public opinion.

#### 4.5. Impact on Electoral Politics:

Foreign policy considerations have started to play a more prominent role in electoral politics:

- **Campaign Themes:** Political parties incorporate foreign policy achievements and challenges into their election campaigns.
- **Voter Sentiment:** Some voters factor in foreign policy successes and failures when deciding how to cast their ballots.
- **International Events:** International developments can influence the timing and themes of elections.

#### 4.6. Impact on Governance and Decision-Making:

Foreign policy decisions have practical implications for governance and decision-making within India:

- **Resource Allocation:** Budgetary allocations and resource distribution can be influenced by foreign policy priorities.
- **Security Implications:** National security decisions are closely tied to foreign policy actions, impacting internal security policies.
- **International Commitments:** International agreements and treaties often require domestic legislative and administrative changes.
- **Bureaucratic Processes:** The bureaucracy plays a crucial role in implementing foreign policy, with consequences for domestic governance.

This section highlights the multifaceted impact of foreign policy decisions of the Modi government on Indian politics, encompassing discourse, nationalism, opposition dynamics, public sentiment, electoral considerations, and governance processes. Subsequent sections of the research paper will delve into case studies and specific examples to illustrate these impacts.

### 5. Case Studies

#### 5.1. India-Pakistan Relations under Modi:

- **Background:** India-Pakistan relations have been historically fraught with tension and conflict. The Modi government's approach to Pakistan has been marked by both engagement and assertiveness.
- **Impact on Indian Politics:**
  - **Political Discourse:** Developments in India-Pakistan relations often dominate political discourse, influencing public perception and media coverage.
  - **Nationalism:** The government's stance on Pakistan has been linked to nationalist sentiments, with events like the 2016 surgical strikes becoming emblematic of a strong India.
  - **Opposition's Response:** The opposition has critiqued the government's handling of Pakistan relations, calling for diplomatic initiatives and dialogue.
  - **Public Opinion:** Public sentiment fluctuates in response to events like the Balakot airstrike, impacting electoral dynamics.
  - **Governance:** Security challenges stemming from the India-Pakistan relationship influence domestic security policies and resource allocation.

## 5.2. India-China Border Tensions and Domestic Repercussions:

- **Background:** Border tensions between India and China escalated in the Galwan Valley in 2020, resulting in a violent clash and strained relations.
- **Impact on Indian Politics:**
  - **Political Discourse:** The border standoff dominated political discourse and media coverage, shaping public opinion.
  - **Nationalism:** Nationalist sentiments surged, influencing the government's response and public support for a tough stance.
  - **Opposition's Response:** The opposition criticized the government's handling of the situation while advocating for diplomatic solutions.
  - **Public Perception:** Public opinion shifted, with a heightened focus on national security issues.
  - **Economic Impact:** Trade and economic ties with China came under scrutiny, impacting economic diplomacy.

## 5.3. Trade and Economic Diplomacy with the United States:

- **Background:** The Modi government has actively pursued economic diplomacy with the United States, emphasizing trade relations and defense collaborations.
- **Impact on Indian Politics:**
  - **Political Discourse:** Trade negotiations and agreements with the U.S. have been a recurring theme in political discourse.
  - **Nationalism:** Economic diplomacy can influence nationalist sentiment, particularly regarding self-reliance and "Make in India."
  - **Opposition's Response:** The opposition has scrutinized trade agreements and raised concerns about their impact on domestic industries.
  - **Public Perception:** Public sentiment is influenced by trade-related developments, impacting support for the government.
  - **Governance:** Economic priorities are influenced by trade agreements, impacting resource allocation and economic policies.

## 5.4. India's Role in International Climate Negotiations:

- **Background:** India plays a crucial role in international climate negotiations due to its size and emissions. The Modi government has emphasized climate diplomacy while addressing environmental challenges domestically.
- **Impact on Indian Politics:**
  - **Political Discourse:** Climate negotiations have become a prominent part of political discourse, with implications for energy policies.
  - **Nationalism:** Climate commitments can be framed in the context of national pride and global leadership.
  - **Opposition's Response:** The opposition scrutinizes the government's climate policies, advocating for stronger environmental measures.
  - **Public Perception:** Public support for climate initiatives influences government action and environmental policies.
  - **Governance:** Climate commitments affect domestic environmental policies, energy transitions, and resource allocation.

## 5.5. Impact of Foreign Policy on the Indian Diaspora:

- **Background:** The Indian diaspora is a significant global community, with the Modi government actively engaging with them.

- **Impact on Indian Politics:**

- **Political Discourse:** The engagement with the Indian diaspora influences political discourse, especially during visits and events abroad.
- **Nationalism:** Engagement with the diaspora can be linked to nationalist narratives and pride in the global Indian community.
- **Opposition's Response:** The opposition may scrutinize the government's diaspora engagement, particularly in the context of political donations and influence.
- **Public Perception:** Public sentiment toward the diaspora engagement influences government policies and actions.
- **Governance:** The diaspora's role in investment, technology transfer, and remittances impacts economic policies and resource allocation.

These case studies illustrate how specific foreign policy decisions and events have shaped Indian politics in various ways, from influencing discourse and nationalism to impacting the opposition's response, public perception, governance priorities, and electoral dynamics. They provide concrete examples of the interplay between foreign policy and domestic politics in India under the Modi government.

## 6. Challenges and Controversies

### 6.1. Challenges Faced by the Modi Government:

The Modi government has encountered several challenges in implementing its foreign policy:

- **Complex Geopolitical Landscape:** The evolving global geopolitical landscape poses challenges in balancing relations with major powers like the U.S., Russia, and China.
- **Neighborhood Dynamics:** Maintaining peaceful and cooperative relations with neighboring countries in South Asia, where historical tensions persist, is a consistent challenge.
- **Economic Pressures:** Balancing economic diplomacy with diverse partners while protecting domestic industries and agricultural interests is a complex task.
- **Diplomatic Crises:** Responding effectively to international crises, such as border disputes with China or tensions with Pakistan, requires careful diplomacy and crisis management.
- **Strategic Clarity:** Critics argue that there has been a lack of strategic clarity in the government's foreign policy, leading to inconsistency in its approach to different issues and regions.

### 6.2. Controversies and Criticisms:

#### Handling International Crises:

- **Border Disputes:** The government has faced criticism for its handling of border disputes, particularly the Galwan Valley clash with China in 2020.
- **Response to Terror Attacks:** India's response to terror attacks, such as the Pulwama attack in 2019, has led to debates over the effectiveness of military strikes as a deterrent.

#### Balancing Relations Between Major Powers:

- **U.S.-India Relations:** Critics argue that while India has strengthened ties with the U.S., it must navigate its relationship with Russia and China more carefully to avoid being drawn into geopolitical conflicts.

#### Human Rights Issues and International Scrutiny:

- **Kashmir:** The government's handling of the situation in Jammu and Kashmir has faced international criticism, with concerns raised about human rights violations and restrictions on autonomy.
- **Citizenship Issues:** Controversies surrounding the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and the National Register of Citizens (NRC) have drawn international scrutiny and concern over minority rights.

#### Lack of Strategic Clarity:

- **Differing Priorities:** Critics argue that the government's foreign policy lacks clear and consistent priorities, leading to perceptions of ad-hoc decision-making.

- **Changing Alliances:** Shifts in alliances, such as participation in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad), have raised questions about India's long-term strategic direction.

### Diplomatic Challenges in India's Immediate Neighborhood:

- **Tensions with Pakistan:** The long-standing tensions with Pakistan over issues like terrorism and Kashmir have hindered regional cooperation and stability.
- **China's Influence:** China's growing influence in South Asia and infrastructure projects, such as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), have posed diplomatic challenges.
- **Nepal and Bhutan:** Border disputes and political dynamics in neighboring countries like Nepal and Bhutan have periodically strained relations.

Addressing these challenges and controversies is crucial for the Modi government's foreign policy agenda. They require diplomatic finesse, strategic clarity, and a proactive approach to ensure that India's interests are advanced on the global stage while mitigating domestic and international criticisms.

## 7. Future Prospects

### 7.1. Analysis of Ongoing Foreign Policy Initiatives:

As the Modi government progresses, several ongoing foreign policy initiatives are poised to shape India's role on the global stage:

- **Neighborhood First and Act East Policies:** These initiatives will continue to emphasize strengthening relations with neighboring and Southeast Asian countries, fostering regional stability and economic growth.
- **Relations with Major Powers:** India's relationships with major powers like the United States, Russia, and China will require adept diplomacy to navigate complex geopolitical dynamics.
- **Economic Diplomacy:** Economic engagement and trade partnerships will remain central to India's foreign policy, contributing to economic growth and global influence.
- **Soft Power and Cultural Diplomacy:** Leveraging India's soft power through cultural exchanges, educational initiatives, and diaspora engagement will enhance the country's global image.

### 7.2. Potential Shifts in Foreign Policy Priorities:

Looking ahead, several potential shifts in foreign policy priorities may occur:

- **Climate Diplomacy:** Climate change and sustainability could become increasingly central to India's foreign policy, aligning with global efforts to combat climate change.
- **Technology and Innovation:** Emphasizing technology partnerships, innovation, and digital diplomacy may be crucial to India's future foreign policy agenda.
- **Security Challenges:** Addressing emerging security challenges, including cyber threats and non-traditional security issues, may reshape India's strategic outlook.
- **Human Rights and Democracy:** Balancing foreign policy interests with international expectations regarding human rights and democratic values may influence policy choices.

### 7.3. Implications for Indian Politics and Society:

The future of India's foreign policy will have profound implications for domestic politics and society:

- **Political Discourse:** Ongoing foreign policy initiatives and challenges will continue to shape political discourse, influencing public perceptions and electoral dynamics.
- **Nationalism and Identity:** The role of nationalism in foreign policy narratives may impact domestic politics and the consolidation of a national identity.
- **Economic Prosperity:** Successful economic diplomacy and trade partnerships can contribute to economic growth and employment opportunities, influencing public support for the government.
- **Security and Defense:** National security concerns and defense priorities will remain relevant, influencing governance and resource allocation.

### 7.4. Recommendations and Policy Implications for the Future:

As India charts its foreign policy course for the future, several recommendations and policy implications emerge:



- **Strategic Clarity:** The government should articulate clear and consistent strategic priorities to address criticisms of ambiguity in foreign policy.
- **Diplomatic Engagement:** Engagement with neighboring countries and major powers should prioritize diplomatic solutions to conflicts and disputes.
- **Multilateral Cooperation:** Active participation in international organizations and alliances can strengthen India's global influence.
- **Human Rights and Democracy:** Balancing foreign policy interests with a commitment to human rights and democratic values can enhance India's global standing.
- **Economic Growth:** Economic diplomacy should focus on diversifying trade partners, promoting innovation, and fostering technology collaborations.
- **Cultural Diplomacy:** Leveraging India's cultural richness and soft power can foster stronger global ties and enhance the country's image.
- **Climate Action:** India should continue to play a proactive role in global climate efforts, addressing sustainability challenges and positioning itself as a responsible global actor.

The future of India's foreign policy holds promise and challenges. Strategic clarity, adept diplomacy, and a proactive approach will be essential in navigating an evolving global landscape and ensuring that India's foreign policy continues to advance its interests while contributing to the well-being of its citizens and society.

## 8. Conclusion

### Key Findings:

This research paper has explored the foreign policy of the Modi government and its profound impact on Indian politics. Key findings from this study include:

- The Modi government's foreign policy is characterized by pragmatism, global engagement, economic diplomacy, and nationalism as central guiding principles.
- Foreign policy decisions have a significant influence on political discourse, nationalist sentiments, the opposition's response, public perception, electoral politics, and governance priorities within India.
- Case studies highlighted the intricate connections between foreign policy and domestic politics, exemplifying the dynamic interplay of nationalism, strategic considerations, and electoral politics.
- Challenges and controversies, such as handling international crises, balancing relations with major powers, human rights issues, and the lack of strategic clarity, have posed significant hurdles for the Modi government's foreign policy agenda.

### Broader Implications:

The study underscores the following broader implications:

- Foreign policy is no longer the exclusive domain of diplomats; it is intricately intertwined with Indian politics, influencing both policy decisions and electoral outcomes.
- Nationalism plays a pivotal role in shaping foreign policy narratives and public perception, reflecting a growing trend of politics being driven by identity and pride.
- Balancing economic diplomacy with strategic interests is a complex task that has far-reaching consequences for India's economic growth and global influence.
- India's role in international affairs has evolved, with the country increasingly asserting itself as a prominent global player while navigating complex international relationships.

### Research Limitations:

It is essential to acknowledge certain limitations of this study:

- The analysis is based on available data and knowledge up to September 2021. Recent developments may have altered the foreign policy landscape and its impact on Indian politics.
- The study provides a broad overview but does not delve deeply into specific events or policy details due to its comprehensive scope.

- Interpretations of foreign policy impacts on domestic politics may vary among different scholars and experts, and this study may not capture all perspectives.

### Areas for Future Research:

Building on this research, several areas warrant further exploration:

- A comprehensive study examining the post-2021 developments in India's foreign policy and their implications for domestic politics.
- In-depth case studies focusing on specific foreign policy decisions and their impact on electoral outcomes and governance priorities.
- A more detailed examination of the role of economic diplomacy in shaping India's trade relationships and economic growth.
- An analysis of the influence of public opinion and social media in shaping foreign policy discourse and decisions.
- Research on the evolving role of soft power, cultural diplomacy, and public diplomacy in India's global engagement.

In conclusion, the foreign policy of the Modi government has left an indelible mark on Indian politics, ushering in a new era where domestic and international realms are inseparable. Understanding this complex relationship is essential not only for comprehending India's evolving role in global affairs but also for grasping the dynamics of contemporary Indian politics. This study serves as a foundation for further research and analysis in this dynamic and critical field of study.

1. **Soft Power and Cultural Diplomacy:** An exploration of the evolving role of soft power, cultural diplomacy, and public diplomacy in India's global engagement.

In conclusion, this study underscores the integral relationship between foreign policy and domestic politics in India. It provides a foundation for further research in this dynamic field, recognizing the ever-evolving nature of Indian politics and its interconnectedness with global affairs. Understanding this complex interplay is essential for comprehending India's role on the global stage and the evolving dynamics of contemporary Indian politics.

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