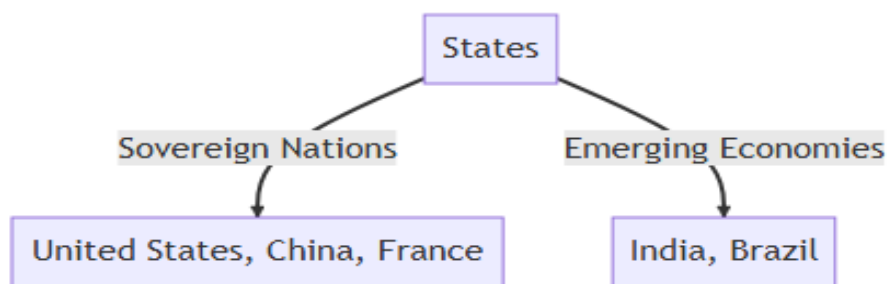


States and non-state actors

Introduction

In the realm of international relations, the term “actors” refers to those entities that play a role in shaping global politics and policies. Traditionally, states have been the primary actors. However, in the modern world, non-state actors like multinational corporations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and even terrorist groups have gained significant influence. This lesson aims to provide an in-depth understanding of states and non-state actors, their roles, and their impact on international relations.

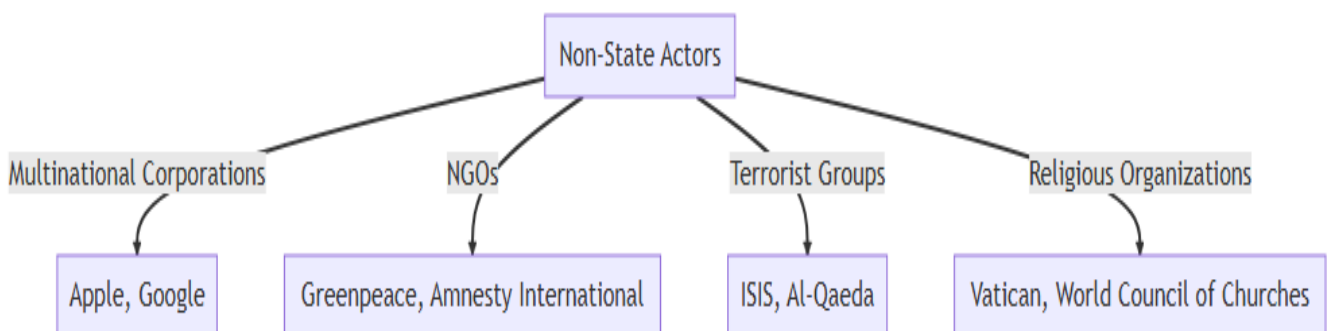
Diagram: States and Non-State Actors



Explanation of the Diagram

The diagram categorizes actors in international relations into two main types: States and Non-State Actors.

- **States:** These are sovereign nations and emerging economies. Examples include the United States, China, France, India, and Brazil.



- **Non-State Actors:** These include:
 - **Multinational Corporations:** Such as Apple and Google.

- **NGOs:** Like Greenpeace and Amnesty International.
- **Terrorist Groups:** Such as ISIS and Al-Qaeda.
- **Religious Organizations:** Like the Vatican and the World Council of Churches.

Case Studies

1. **United States (State Actor):** As a superpower, the U.S. plays a significant role in shaping international policies, from security to trade.
2. **Greenpeace (Non-State Actor):** An NGO that has been influential in shaping environmental policies globally.
3. **Apple Inc. (Non-State Actor):** A multinational corporation that has a say in trade policies due to its global reach.
4. **ISIS (Non-State Actor):** A terrorist organization that has had a global impact, affecting policies on security and immigration.

Practical Exercise

1. **Identify Actors:** List down five state and five non-state actors that you think are influential in today's world.
2. **Role Analysis:** Write a brief note on the role of each in shaping international policies.

Self-Assessment

1. Are NGOs considered state actors? (True/False)
2. Can a multinational corporation influence trade policies? (True/False)
3. Do religious organizations have no role in international relations? (True/False)

Summary

Understanding the roles of different actors in international relations is crucial for grasping the complexities of global politics. While states continue to be significant players, the influence of non-state actors cannot be ignored.