

Lecture 3 | Part 2

Subject: Means and Objectives of Diplomacy

KEYWORDS:

Diplomatic Functions | Coercions | Persuasion | Adjustment | Compromise | Agreement | Political & Non-Political Objectives | Threats | Device & Means, Tools | Foreign Policy |

Questions to be addressed:

- What are the role and functions of the Head of Missions?
 - What are the Functions of Diplomatic Missions?
 - What are the main Means / Devices of diplomacy?
 - What are the Objectives of Diplomacy?
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Means of Diplomacy

- What are the main tools/devices of Diplomacy?

For securing its objectives, Diplomacy depends upon four major means: Coercion, persuasion, compromise and Agreement. Diplomacy has to depend upon several tactics or techniques. The chances of the success of diplomacy are directly related to the ability of using appropriate means through appropriate tactics. A selection of a method or means is done on the basis of the time and circumstances of the situation. Any wrong decision in this respect can lead to a failure.

1. Coercion (Use of force or Pressure).

Diplomacy in order to create influence or pressure over such party (state) it can use the following methods:

- 1) Breaking off diplomatic Relations or by threatening to breakdown the relation.
- 2) Attempts to deprive or expel or expel a state practically in an international organization. An sometimes, by excluding its participation in the international conferences. For instance, the reaction of Arab countries against Egypt when signed Camp David Accords with Israel in 1978.
- 3) Cut or threatening to cut Economic and Military aid.
- 4) Sending final warning to reach an agreement during the final stage of negotiations process. In contrary, if they parties did not reach an agreement it will lead to the end of the negotiations.
- 5) Registering formal or non-formal protest or submitting complaint.
- 6) Psychological Pressure as part of Psychological war or as known Cold war.
- 7) Ruining act considers one of the newest methods that is targeting a specific group inside a state with an aim to ruin or leading the state to the edge of collapse and failure. By adopting different means such as Propaganda, spying, supporting Rebellious groups or the opposition. To have these methods to be effective and impactful it has to be done in secret.

2. Persuasion.

Considers one of the most common devices in diplomacy. Through logical reasoning, Diplomacy seeks to convince others of the justification of the goals which it is trying to uphold or promote. It has fruitful and sustainable results and it is a powerful pillar of international peace and stability. Sometimes, persuasion regarded as a way of using force or imposing pressure. For example, mentioning indirectly cut off economic aids or supporting and allying with the enemy far and aside from the practical negotiations However, there is a crucial difference between Coercion and Persuasion as the majority of the diplomatic initiatives start with persuasion at the beginning, then during different stages of the negotiations, it will grow towards coercion. To persuade a party or a state to reach an agreement on a specific matter or negotiation Diplomacy can offer rewards for securing acceptance of desired view of a particular international dispute or issue or problem. Also, it can even impose punishment to withdraw the rewards y depriving a promised reward or concession, Diplomacy can infliction-violent punishment on other nations.

3. Adjustment (Compromise)

Means initiating support to parties (two or more than two states or a state with an International organization) to minimize the level of tension and escalation between both sides regarding challenging issue with the purpose

and aim to reach a solution with the consent of all parties that will gradually lead to the promotion of constant and stable relation between or among them. The essence of compromise or adjustment is flexibility and neutrality and avoid having a strong behavior or stance.

4. Agreement

Diplomacy is an approach to reach agreement between or among states. Historically, diplomacy defined as art of negotiation of written agreement. One can notice that also agreement may include either elements of persuasion or coercion even it is possible to adopt compromise by taking into consideration circumstance of the states and their powerful position. In all the mentioned situations if the agreement is lack of mechanism and procedures related to the implementation it will not have such value.

Objectives of Diplomacy

Broadly speaking, Diplomacy seeks to secure two types of primary objectives for the nation it represents. These are:

First: Political Objectives:

Diplomacy always works to secure the goals of national interest as defined by the foreign policy. It always works for increasing the influence of the state over other states. It uses persuasion, promises of reward and other such means for this purpose. Through rational negotiations, it seeks to justify the objectives of the foreign policy of the nation. It seeks to promote friendship and cooperation with other nations.

Second: Non-political Objectives:

The interdependence among nations is the most important and valuable fact of international living. Each nation depends upon others for economic and industrial links and trade. Diplomacy always seeks to promote the economic, commercial and cultural links of the nation with other nations. Diplomacy depends upon peaceful means, persuasive methods for promoting the interests of the nation and this is indeed an important non-political objective of Diplomacy.