

**Title of Article:** Introduction to International Relations

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**Abstract:** International Relations (IR) as a course of study reflects the dynamics of the International System.

The System is a complex web with multiple but mutually functioning components and is characterized by interfacing changes and continuities, which are instrumental in the dynamic nature of the discipline. IR is a broad discipline that encapsulates the multivariate aspects of man in the global contexts. It is what can be described as 'a fusion of social science disciplines', as it deals with the basic elements of the social man; the only difference is that it looks at such essentials in relational contexts beyond national borders. What makes IR all the more distinct is its broad scope. Men have been living in social clusters: family units, hamlets, clans, villages, towns, cities, communities, and nations. There has always been a basis for social interactions as well as need to go beyond borders. This reinforces the thesis of the inevitability of mutuality or interdependence of men. This chapter is thus an introductory attempt for the understanding of the rudiments of IR. It deals essentially with the basic concepts and elements of International Politics (IP), which is pertinent for beginners (undergraduates) in the International Relations discipline.