

Q1. Compare and contrast the structure, vision, and global impact of G7 and G20. How relevant are these groupings in the present multipolar world?

Introduction:

The G7 and G20 are influential international groupings that play a critical role in shaping global economic and political agendas. While the G7 is a coalition of developed economies, the G20 includes both developed and developing countries, reflecting a broader economic landscape.

Structural Differences:

- **G7:** Formed in 1975 as an informal bloc of the world's richest industrialized nations — US, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Canada, and Japan. It has no permanent secretariat and focuses largely on economic and geopolitical issues.
- **G20:** Formed in 1999 (finance ministers), elevated to leaders' level in 2008 during the global financial crisis. It includes 19 countries + EU, representing 85% of global GDP and two-thirds of the world population.

Vision and Goals:

- **G7:** Focuses on maintaining liberal international order, supporting democracy, climate commitments, rule of law, and global security.
- **G20:** Emphasizes global economic stability, inclusive growth, financial market regulation, development goals, and bridging the gap between developed and developing nations.

Global Impact:

- **G7:** Historically influential in shaping IMF, World Bank policies, post-WWII financial order, Paris climate deal, and pandemic pledges.
- **G20:** Greater legitimacy due to diverse representation. Played a crucial role in mitigating the 2008 financial crisis and pandemic response coordination. India's G20 presidency (2023) highlighted digital public infrastructure, climate finance, and Global South priorities.

Relevance in a Multipolar World:

- **G7** is increasingly seen as outdated due to its limited representation.
- **G20** better reflects today's multipolarity, where emerging powers like India, Brazil, and China play crucial roles.

Conclusion:

While G7 retains importance in tech, finance, and diplomacy, the G20 is more inclusive and necessary for a balanced global order. In the emerging multipolar world, **G20's collaborative framework** will be more crucial in addressing transnational challenges.

Q2. Evaluate the role of BRICS in creating an alternative global governance framework. Has it succeeded in challenging Western-led institutions?

Introduction:

BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) represents over 40% of the world population and about a quarter of global GDP. Formed in the 2000s, it emerged as a response to the **inequities in global governance** dominated by Western powers.

Objectives and Initiatives:

- Reforming international financial institutions (IMF, World Bank).
- Creating development alternatives like the **New Development Bank (NDB)** and **Contingency Reserve Arrangement (CRA)**.
- Enhancing South–South cooperation in trade, education, and infrastructure.
- Addressing global issues with a multipolar lens.

Achievements:

- **NDB** has financed over \$30 billion in green energy, urban transport, and health infrastructure.
- Promoted local currency trade to reduce dollar dependence.
- Annual summits have created a forum to voice developing country concerns.

Challenges:

- Internal friction (India-China tensions, Russia's global isolation).
- Diverse political systems and economic goals.
- Limited coordination on global crises (e.g., COVID-19, Ukraine war).

Conclusion:

While BRICS has not yet structurally challenged Western-led institutions, it has **created pressure for reform** and **provided viable alternatives** for development finance. Its long-

term success will depend on internal cohesion and alignment on global goals.

Q3. “BRICS and G20 together represent a rebalancing of global political and economic power.” Discuss with suitable examples.

Introduction:

The global order has shifted from unipolarity to multipolarity. The rise of BRICS and G20 illustrates this shift, where emerging economies now demand a **greater voice** in global governance.

Role in Economic Rebalancing:

- **BRICS:** Offers new financial tools like NDB, promotes currency alternatives, and supports inclusive trade.
- **G20:** 85% of global GDP, inclusive of both developed and emerging economies like India, Brazil, Indonesia.

Political Rebalancing:

- **G7 vs. BRICS:** A visible East-West divide. BRICS offers a platform for alternative geopolitical narratives.
- **G20:** Brings together rivals (e.g., US, China, Russia, India), allowing balanced dialogues on crises like food security, climate, and debt relief.

Examples:

- **India’s G20 Presidency (2023):** Championing Global South through the “Voice of Global South” summit.
- **BRICS Expansion Talks (2024):** Aimed at including other developing nations to expand influence.

Conclusion:

Together, BRICS and G20 reflect a **new global dynamic**—one where Western dominance is no longer absolute, and power is more widely distributed across emerging nations.

Q4. How does India benefit strategically and economically from its participation in G7 outreach, G20, and BRICS platforms?

Introduction:

India is uniquely positioned as a member of **G20 and BRICS**, and a frequent **invitee to G7 summits**. This multi-alignment strengthens India's voice in global affairs.

Economic Benefits:

- **G20:** Access to global financial and infrastructure dialogues; showcases India's digital model (e.g., UPI, CoWIN).
- **BRICS:** Development funding through NDB; support for infrastructure, urban development, clean energy.
- **G7 Outreach:** Partnership opportunities in clean tech, digital economy, and sustainable development.

Strategic Benefits:

- Enhances India's role as a **bridge between Global North and South**.
- Platform to counterbalance Chinese influence diplomatically (especially in BRICS).
- Greater visibility in international institutions like IMF, World Bank, WTO.

Diplomacy and Soft Power:

- India's leadership during G20 was praised for **inclusive and neutral diplomacy**.
- Projects like "One Earth, One Family, One Future" aligned with SDGs and cultural diplomacy.

Conclusion:

Participation in these forums boosts India's **strategic autonomy**, economic growth, and international credibility. It amplifies India's ambition to be a **global rule-maker** rather than just a rule-taker.

Q5. Discuss how G20 and BRICS can contribute toward global issues like climate change, digital divide, and inclusive infrastructure development.

Introduction:

Global issues such as **climate change**, **digital inequity**, and **infrastructure gaps** need cooperative solutions. G20 and BRICS, with diverse members and inclusive goals, are uniquely positioned to lead these efforts.

Climate Change:

- **G20** countries are responsible for 80% of emissions — crucial for mitigation efforts.

- India's G20 presidency emphasized **Green Development Pact** and **Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE)**.
- **BRICS NDB** has invested in **solar, wind, and clean water projects** across Africa and Asia.

Bridging the Digital Divide:

- India's promotion of **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)** under G20 shows a scalable model for digital inclusion.
- **BRICS countries** like China and Brazil have strong domestic tech sectors and can share best practices.

Infrastructure Development:

- **G20's Global Infrastructure Facility** and **BRICS NDB** are providing funding for transportation, renewable energy, and water systems in low-income nations.
- Focus on **sustainable and climate-resilient infrastructure**.

Inclusive Development:

- Emphasis on **South–South cooperation**, reducing global financial asymmetries.
- Potential for BRICS to lead **debt restructuring conversations** in the post-COVID recovery phase.

Conclusion:

While G20 ensures **broad coordination**, BRICS offers a **non-Western, partnership-based development model**. Together, they are vital for solving 21st-century global challenges inclusively and sustainably.