# International Institutions

## 1. Warm-up

- Which international institutions can you name?
- What role do these organizations play in global politics?
- Do you think countries should rely on international institutions? Why or why not?
- Which of these institutions have the biggest influence on your country?

## 2. Reading

International institutions play an essential role in global cooperation, peace, and economic development. The United Nations (UN) was established in 1945 to prevent future wars and to promote international peace and security. It provides a forum for dialogue between almost all countries in the world.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is a military alliance formed in 1949. It focuses on collective defence, meaning that an attack against one member is considered an attack against all. NATO has also been active in peacekeeping and crisis management beyond Europe.

The European Union (EU) is a unique political and economic union of 27 member states. It aims to ensure free movement of people, goods, and services, while also promoting common policies in areas such as environment and security.

The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) support global economic stability. The World Bank provides loans and technical assistance to developing countries for long-term projects such as education and infrastructure. The IMF, on the other hand, focuses on financial stability, helping countries in crisis to balance their economies.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) regulates global trade. It provides rules and disputesettlement mechanisms to make international trade fair and predictable.

Together, these institutions shape the modern international order, influencing peace, security, and development worldwide.

#### 3. True or False?

Read the statements and decide if they are **True or False**:

- 1. The UN was created after the First World War. T / F
- 2. NATO considers an attack on one member as an attack on all. T/F
- 3. The European Union has 50 member states. T/F
- 4. The World Bank mainly supports long-term development projects. T / F
- 5. The IMF regulates international trade. T/F
- 6. The WTO helps settle disputes between countries over trade. T / F

#### 4. Discussion

- Which of these institutions do you think is most powerful today? Why?
- Are international organizations more effective in security or in economic development?
- Can small countries benefit more from these institutions than big powers?
- What are some criticisms of these institutions? Are they fair?

#### 5. Extra Activities

### A. Debate:

- Motion: "The United Nations is outdated and no longer effective."
- Divide into teams: For vs. Against.

## **B. Role Play Simulation:**

- Imagine a global financial crisis affecting developing countries.
- Roles: USA, EU, developing country, NGO, IMF official, World Bank representative.
- Discuss possible solutions in a mock international summit.

# C. Mini-presentations:

- In groups, choose one institution (UN, NATO, EU, World Bank, IMF, WTO).
- Prepare a short 2–3 minute presentation: purpose, achievements, criticisms.

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