Exercise walk-through

1.2
Legitimacy, interdependence and actors

International Baccalaureate · IB Diploma · Global Politics · HL

Legitimacy

- **Legitimacy** is the belief that a government or an action has the right to exercise power.
- Power without legitimacy must rely on force, which is costly.
- The sociologist Max Weber described three types of **authority** :
- Legitimacy can come from **consent** (people accept the government, for example through elections) and from **performance** (the government delivers security, jobs and services).

Interdependence

- It is **symmetric** when both sides depend on each other equally, and **asymmetric** when one side depends more. The less dependent side then has more power, for example the power to threaten **sanctions** .
- It encourages cooperation, because conflict becomes expensive for everyone.
- It also creates risks: a problem in one place (a blocked canal, a pandemic, a financial crisis) spreads quickly.

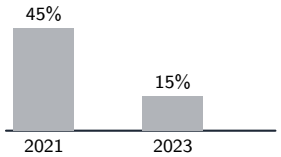
Reading political sources

- For Paper 1, read each source with three questions:
- 1. **Claim** : what does the source say? 2. **Evidence** : what does it use to support this (data, examples, expert views)? 3. **Perspective** : who is speaking, from what position, and what do they want?
- Then connect the source to a concept and to your own example.
- A sample question from the IB: *"Using Source C and one example you have studied, explain the reasons why international cooperation may be problematic for some states."*

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 Distinguish **input legitimacy** from **output legitimacy**. [2]

2.2 Russia's share of EU gas imports was about 45 % in 2021 and about 15 % in 2023 (European Commission). Calculate the change, and explain why the change matters for the EU's power. [3]



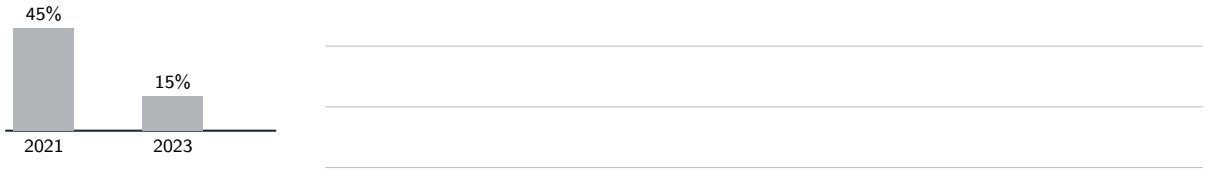
Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 Distinguish **input legitimacy** from **output legitimacy**. [2]

2.1

input legitimacy comes from the process, e.g. free and fair elections and consent; output legitimacy comes from results, e.g. security, jobs and public services

2.2 Russia's share of EU gas imports was about 45 % in 2021 and about 15 % in 2023 (European Commission). Calculate the change, and explain why the change matters for the EU's power. [3]



2.2

$15 - 45 = -\mathbf{30}$ percentage points; asymmetric dependence gave Russia leverage over the EU; lower dependence lets the EU impose sanctions or support Ukraine with less risk to its energy supply

Exercises 2.3·2.4

2.3 Explain **two** of Weber's types of legitimacy, with an example of each. [4]

2.4 Compare the power of an **intergovernmental organization** and a **non-government organization**, with **one** example of each. [6]

Exercises 2.3·2.4

2.3 Explain **two** of Weber's types of legitimacy, with an example of each. [4]

2.3

any two, each explained with an example: traditional: authority from custom and history, e.g. a monarchy such as Saudi Arabia; charismatic: authority from the personal qualities of a leader, e.g. a revolutionary leader; legal-rational: authority from rules and procedures, e.g. an elected government under a constitution

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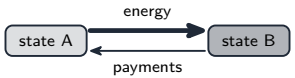
2.4 Compare the power of an **intergovernmental organization** and a **non-government organization**, with **one** example of each. [6]

2.4

IGO: made up of states; power comes from the agreement of members; e.g. the UN Security Council can authorize sanctions or force, but the five permanent members have a veto; NGO: a private, non-profit group; power comes from information, expertise and public support; e.g. Amnesty International reports on human rights abuses and campaigns; comparison: IGOs can make binding decisions but depend on states; NGOs cannot force states but can shape opinion and agendas (the second and third faces of power)

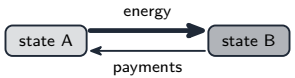
Exercise 3.1

3.1 *(Paper 2 style.)* To what extent does interdependence limit the sovereignty of states? Refer to **two** examples. [15]



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3.1

Mark with the markbands: [13-15] clearly focused on the question, accurate and relevant knowledge and real-world examples used as evidence, concepts applied, well-developed critical analysis, different perspectives evaluated, a reasoned conclusion; [10-12] focused, mostly accurate knowledge, analysis with some evaluation; [7-9] some focus, relevant knowledge, mostly narrative or description with limited analysis; [4-6] little focus, limited knowledge, mostly narrative; [1-3] little understanding of the question. Points that may be included: definitions of interdependence and sovereignty; for: trade and supply chains make states vulnerable to others' decisions, e.g. EU dependence on Russian gas before 2022; dependence on a few suppliers of advanced chips; membership of IGOs pools sovereignty, e.g. EU trade policy, WTO rulings; global problems such as climate change require cooperation; against: states still choose to join and can leave, e.g. the UK left the EU in 2020; interdependence can increase a state's power, if others depend more on it (asymmetry, leverage); states reduced dependence after 2022; powerful states shape the rules of interdependence; conclusion: a clear judgement, e.g. interdependence limits what states can do in practice, but not their legal sovereignty, and it limits weak states more than strong ones