

**Faculty of International Relations
University of Economics in Bratislava**

**State Exams Questions
Master's Degree
Economic Diplomacy
2023/2024**

- 1. Economic and political position of the US in the period until the end of the Cold War:**
 - fundamental values of Euro-American civilization,
 - economic and political development of the US in the interwar period,
 - the consequences of the Second World War and the relations between the US and the USSR during the Cold War,
 - economic and political development of the US during the Cold War,
 - position of the US in international organizations after the Second World War.

- 2. Economic and political position of the US in the period after the end of the Cold War:**
 - development of the US foreign policy from the 1990s until J. Biden came into office,
 - economic integration groupings in the territory of North America – their importance,
 - position of the US in international economic organizations after the end of the Cold War,
 - the problem of the federal government's budget deficits in the US,
 - foreign trade of the US – its structure and developments over time,
 - the current issues of US economic and foreign policies.

- 3. Latin America in the world economy and politics until the end of the Cold War:**
 - definition of Latin America,
 - the creation of independent states in the territory of Latin America,
 - reasons of economic and political problems in Latin American region after the collapse of the colonial system,
 - examples of successful economic development in Latin America at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries,
 - Latin America and the Caribbean during the Cold War (examples of Chile, Cuba and Argentina; military junta rule).

- 4. Economic and political development of Latin America after the end of the Cold War:**
 - the wave of democratization in Latin America and its consequences,
 - regional integration groupings (MERCOSUR, the Andean Community, OAS, UNASUR, Prosur),
 - the current economic and political issues of selected Latin American countries and their causes (Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Mexico).

- 5. Economic and political development of Africa:**
 - ethnic, religious and linguistic structure of Africa,
 - the colonization of Africa, the collapse of colonial system and its consequences for economic and political development of Africa,

- conflicts in the territory of Africa after the collapse of the colonial system (Sudan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Angola, Rwanda, Nigeria),
- the Law of Armed Conflict and international criminal justice in the context of African conflicts.

6. Africa in international economic and political relations:

- the role of Africa in the world economy,
- Africa's relations with the centres of economic and political power (state and non-state actors),
- characteristics of China's policy towards Africa,
- regional integration groupings in Africa,
- African Union – its importance, history of the African Union,
- the role of the African Development Bank and other regional banks in development of Africa,
- position of selected African states in international economic organizations.

7. The international situation at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries:

- emergence of the crisis situation of international relations in Europe,
- solutions aimed at the balance of power in the Far East,
- the block system in Europe at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries,
- the causes of the escalation of tension in international relations and the path to the First World War,
- discourse on the use of force in international relations from the point of view of international law.

8. Europe in the 20th century:

- the consequences of the Second World War on economic and political development in Europe (creation of new states, peace treaties and arrangement of international relations after the First World War),
- the Great Depression and its effects on economic and political development in Europe,
- effects of the Second World War on economic and political development in Europe,
- division of the spheres of influence in Europe,
- the end of the Cold War in Europe, economic and political transformation of post-communist countries,

9. Economic development of the founding members of the European Communities:

- economic situation in Europe after the end of the Second World War,
- development of European integration after the Second World War,
- common features and differences in economic development of the founding members of the European Communities,
- consequences of oil shocks,
- economic and debt crisis in the eurozone,
- the current challenges for individual economies.

10. Economic development of the Member States that have joined the European Union since 1973:

- the first enlargement in 1973 and subsequent enlargements until 2004,
- specifics of economic development in the Southern EU Member States,
- different approach to integration in the Scandinavian countries,
- enlargements of the European Union after 2004,

- economic and debt crisis and the current challenges of the EU.

11. The world political and world economic system after the end of the Cold War:

- discussion on the division of spheres of influence in the world after the end of the Second World War,
- the establishment and the role of the UN from the point of view of world economy and world politics,
- the role of the UN Security Council and the UN peacekeeping operations,
- defence and economic organizations during the Cold War (COMECON, NATO, The Warsaw Pact),
- the place and role of the Non-Aligned Movement during the Cold War.

12. Common policies of the European Union:

- moving towards the CFSP; Western European Union, European Political Cooperation,
- CFSP after the Lisbon Treaty; institutional anchoring; actors in the field of the CFSP,
- objectives and instruments of the CFSP,
- common agricultural policy of the EU,
- energy policy of the EU.

13. The Middle East in international economic and political relations:

- definition of the Middle East,
- geopolitical and geostrategic importance of the Middle East for world economy and politics,
- evolution of Arab-Israeli relations,
- oil shocks and their effects on the world economy,
- the Persian Gulf wars,
- recent developments in the Middle East and their consequences on the world economy and world politics (the Arab Spring, Syria, Iraq, Libya),
- Islamic finance and banking and their development.

14. Historical development of China's position in the world economy and politics:

- definition of Confucianism, its links to the development of Chinese society and culture,
- the establishment of the PRC and development in the PRC until the end of the Cold War and its international political context,
- the reasons and realization of trade and investment liberalization within Deng Xiaoping's reforms,
- the development of FDI and foreign trade in China,
- China's accession to the WTO and its consequences,
- characteristics of the current structure of the Chinese economy and its sectors,
- the PRC in the world economy, politics and trade under the government of Xi Jinping,
- the PRC in international economic organizations,
- the internationalization of the renminbi and its position in current international economic relations.

15. Japan in international economic and political relations:

- the Meiji Reforms,
- changes in geopolitical position of Japan in the first half of the 20th century,
- the consequences of the Second World War on the Japanese political system,
- Japan's economic and political system since the end of the Second World War,
- economic and social challenges of contemporary Japan,

- perspectives of Japan's economic development.

16. Newly industrialized countries (NICs) in the Southeast Asian Region:

- specifics of development in Southeast Asia, regional integration groupings (e.g., ASEAN) and their importance,
- two phases (waves) of industrialization, their contents and regional characteristics,
- changes in the comparative advantages of the region's countries,
- external economic relations of the region's countries and their impact on economic development,
- perspectives of further economic development of Southeast Asian countries.

17. Russia in international economic and political relations:

- the First World War and its implications for Russia's future,
- the establishment of the USSR and its position in international economic and political relations in the interwar period,
- the geopolitical position of the USSR during the Cold War,
- M. Gorbachev's reforms and the dissolution of the USSR,
- reforms in Russia after the dissolution of the USSR,
- Russia's development in the 21st century.

18. The Western Balkans in international relations:

- development of the Western Balkan region,
- the establishment and disintegration of Yugoslavia,
- the Law of Armed Conflict and international criminal justice in the context of conflicts in the territory of the former Yugoslavia,
- the specificity of development in the countries of the former Yugoslavia since the mid-1990s, integration ambitions and foreign policy priorities.

19. Multilateral trading system, history of establishment and basic legal framework:

- multilateral trading system, history of establishment and basic legal framework,
- the Havana Charter and the GATT 1947 agreement – the historical context of the creation of the GATT 1947, the bodies of the GATT 1947, the resolution of trade disputes in the GATT era,
- the WTO's creation – the Agreement establishing the WTO and its annexes (specifics and structure of the WTO treaty system),
- WTO and the SR/EU – formation of membership, historical and current development of relations,
- main principles and rules of the multilateral trading system, main exceptions to the rules,
- WTO rules governing the fair competition (dumping, subsidies),
- settlement of trade disputes in the WTO (main bodies, procedures, current challenges of the dispute settlement system in the WTO),
- the role of regional development banks in the development of particular regions and world trade.

20. International legal protection of international investments:

- economic and legal dimension of international investments; the terms investor and host country,
- sources of international investment law,
- legal regime for the protection of international investments – multilateral, plurilateral and bilateral investment agreements,

- basic international legal standards for dealing with international investments,
- solving international investment disputes; diplomatic protection; proceedings in national courts,
- international arbitration and conciliation procedures ICSID, additional ICSID dispute resolution rules (ICSID Additional Facility), ad hoc arbitration proceedings,
- current challenges of the international investment protection system, specifics of the European Union's position.

21. Economic and demographic issues of developing countries:

- The Green Revolution,
- the food problem and food security – effects, causes and impacts,
- allocation of natural resources in developing countries and the curse of natural resources,
- environmental problems in developing countries,
- demographic characteristics of developing countries – demographic transition, policies and problems,
- relationship between demographic and economic development.

22. Social issues of developing countries:

- inequality and its measurement, development gap, Kuznets curve, Lorenz curve and Gini coefficient,
- poverty – characteristics, measurement, alternative methods of measuring the standards of living, minimum standard of living and criticism of this concept,
- policies to address poverty and inequality,
- education – characteristic features and problems in developing countries, functions and tasks of education from a macroeconomic and microeconomic point of view,
- health – relationship between health and economic development at the micro and macro level, epidemiological transition in developing countries and its comparison with developed countries, characteristics of child and infant mortality.

23. International financial system:

- international monetary relations, past and current monetary systems, the emergence and demise of the Bretton Woods system, gold and its role in international monetary relations,
- mission, structure and decision-making mechanisms of the IMF,
- exchange rate systems,
- international financial and foreign exchange markets,
- financing of international trade,
- current issues of the international financial system.

24. Financial crises in international economic relations:

- The Great Depression and its impact on economic and political development in the world in the interwar period,
- crises in Latin America and Southeast Asia, causes, consequences and solutions,
- the 2008 Global Financial Crisis, causes, consequences and solutions,
- crisis in the eurozone, causes, consequences and solutions,
- COVID-19 and its impact on economic development, causes, consequences and solutions,
- the current development and effects of inflation on the economy, anti-inflation measures.

25. Theories of international relations:

- emergence of the theory of international relations and the impetus for its development,
- main development stages of the theory of international relations,
- The Great Debates in the evolution of the theory of international relations,
- basic groups of the theories of international relations.