

Post behaviouralism

System Theory

The system theory approach of international relations is engaged in developing theories of the international system. It was introduced in the late 1950s with the basic assumptions

that international relations follow an order or a system. The most prominent of the

system theory approach are scholars such as Karl W. Deutsch and Raymond Aron.

The system is a set of interacting variables or a collection of functionally interdependent parts. In other words, a system is 'a set of variables in interaction

which makes a unified whole affecting each other's actions'. Generally speaking, a

system may be either natural, such as the solar system; or mechanical, such as a

clock, computer or a car; or social in nature, such as a family.

The system theory approach conceives nations to be in contact in a complicated

framework of relationships that result from the process of interaction. They emphasize the significance of the interaction of behaviour of states. Each nation is involved to

some degree in participation in the international environment. Therefore, it is possible

to find out that there are certain regular modes of behaviour which could be generalized within the structure of the political organization.