

International Relations Vocabulary for GSIS Interviews

1. Core International Relations Terms

Geopolitics

Meaning: The influence of geography on politics and international relations.

Example: Geopolitics is becoming increasingly important in East Asia.

Diplomacy

Meaning: The management of international relations between countries.

Example: Diplomacy is essential for reducing regional tensions.

Sovereignty 主權 **So -ver-eignty** ㄙ ㄩˊ **ven-eignty**

Meaning: The authority of a state to govern itself independently.

Example: Many countries emphasize sovereignty in foreign policy.

Alliance

Meaning: A formal partnership between countries.

Example: South Korea maintains a strong alliance with the United States.

Deterrence 威懾

Meaning: The strategy of preventing attacks through threats or military power.

Example: Nuclear deterrence remains a major issue in the Korean Peninsula.

Multilateralism

Meaning: Cooperation among multiple countries.

Example: Climate change requires multilateralism and international cooperation.

Bilateral relations

Meaning: Relations between two countries.

Example: Taiwan and Japan maintain close bilateral relations.

2. Security & Conflict

National security

Meaning: The protection of a country's safety and interests.

Example: AI is increasingly linked to national security.

Military escalation

Meaning: An increase in military tension or conflict.

Example: Diplomatic failure may lead to military escalation.

Cybersecurity

Meaning: Protection against digital attacks and cyber threats.

Example: Cybersecurity has become a major concern for governments.

Sanctions 制裁

Meaning: Economic or political penalties imposed on another country.

Example: The UN imposed sanctions on North Korea.

Ceasefire

Meaning: An agreement to stop fighting temporarily.

Example: Both sides agreed to a ceasefire after negotiations.

Arms race

Meaning: Competition between countries to build military power.

Example: AI could trigger a new technological arms race.

3. U.S.-China & East Asia

Strategic competition

Meaning: Long-term rivalry between major powers.

Example: The U.S. and China are engaged in strategic competition.

Supply chain

Meaning: The global network involved in producing goods.

Example: Semiconductor supply chains are politically sensitive.

Economic security

Meaning: Protecting national economic interests.

Example: Governments now prioritize economic security.

Middle power

Meaning: A country that is influential but not a superpower.

Example: South Korea is often described as a middle power.

Strategic ambiguity

Meaning: A policy of avoiding a completely clear position.

Example: Some countries use strategic ambiguity in foreign policy.

Hedging strategy

Meaning: Balancing relationships with competing powers.

Example: South Korea often uses a hedging strategy between the U.S. and China.

4. Technology & Globalization

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Meaning: Technology that simulates human intelligence.

Example: AI is transforming global politics and economics.

Technological dominance 技術優勢

Meaning: Leadership in advanced technology sectors.

Example: Countries compete for technological dominance.

Semiconductor

Meaning: A material or chip used in electronics.

Example: Semiconductors are essential for AI development.

Decoupling

Meaning: Reducing economic dependence between countries.

Example: Some experts argue that U.S.-China decoupling is accelerating.

Friend-shoring 友岸合作

Meaning: Trading mainly with allied countries.

Example: Friend-shoring is reshaping global supply chains.

Global governance

Meaning: International systems for managing global issues.

Example: AI regulation requires stronger global governance.

5. Useful Interview Expressions

From my perspective

Meaning: A polite way to express your opinion.

Example: From my perspective, economic security will become more important.

I would argue that...

Meaning: A formal expression used in discussions.

Example: I would argue that globalization is evolving rather than disappearing.

One important factor is...

Meaning: Used to organize ideas logically.

Example: One important factor is the role of technology.

In the long term

Meaning: Refers to future impact over time.

Example: In the long term, AI may reshape diplomacy.

This issue is interconnected with...這個問題與以下因素相關...

Meaning: Shows analytical thinking.

Example: This issue is interconnected with national security.

A balanced approach

Meaning: A moderate and strategic position.

Example: Countries often seek a balanced approach in foreign policy.