International Relations · GS - II

Examine the challenges involved in achieving a durable peace settlement in the Russia–Ukraine conflict.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 26/10/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Territorial integrity, security guarantees, NATO, ceasefire monitoring, sanctions, international mediation, humanitarian concerns.

Model Answer

Introduction:

The Russia–Ukraine conflict has become a major challenge to European security and the international rules-based order. Trilateral negotiations offer a diplomatic opportunity, but a lasting settlement remains uncertain.

Major Challenges

1. Territorial Disputes: Russia and Ukraine have conflicting positions on occupied territories and sovereignty.
2. Security Guarantees: Ukraine seeks credible protection against future aggression, while Russia raises broader security concerns.
3. NATO Question: Ukraine's future relationship with NATO remains contentious.
4. Trust Deficit: Continued military operations complicate ceasefire implementation and verification.
5. External Interests: The strategic priorities of the US, European countries and Russia may differ.

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Way Forward

1. Establish a verifiable ceasefire with independent monitoring.
2. Address humanitarian concerns, including prisoner exchanges and civilian protection.
3. Develop credible security arrangements consistent with international law.
4. Encourage sustained diplomatic engagement.

Conclusion:

A durable settlement requires more than a temporary cessation of hostilities. It must address security concerns while respecting sovereignty, territorial integrity and mechanisms to prevent renewed conflict.

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