

RESTRICTED

ABSTRACT

Foreign policy of a country delineated an extension of particular government's domestic political policy in order to achieve national objectives. Further, it encompasses diplomacy, relations with other states/non-state actors. Thus a formidable foreign policy is requires in order to achieve national objectives unhinderedly from external interferences while promoting national pride and sovereignty in world affairs. The term non-alignment is obsolete though it could be used to reflect the neutral stance of a government in international relations. This study encompasses mainly foreign policy implications of Sri Lanka between 2005-19 and policy recommendations to overcome threats/challenges in foreign policy formulation in order to have a robust and dynamic foreign policy. It is observed that a gap has been created between the foreign policy aspirations of the respective governments and its orientation in pragmatic context. This was more notable during 2005-2019 period. Peculiar allegations were posed due to gravitation of foreign policy towards China during 2010-15 period while tilted towards West during 2015-19. This becomes more detrimental to the national security. Thus if it is not carefully managed in the strategical context predicaments would be greater in the long term. Hence, it has become imperative to fill the gap between the foreign policy and it's orientation in order to overcome these issues. Therefore, this study scientifically provides basis to overcome foreign policy threats/challenges through policy recommendations to be considered by the bureaucracy. The researcher has derived a theoretical framework through the literature review then developed the conceptual framework and operationalization. The qualitative study encompasses with inductive approach and accustomed with interpretivism research philosophy. Subsequently gathered data through the semi structured interviews were descriptively analysed using the thematic analysis tool and same were discussed with secondary data. Eventually the researcher has presented policy options based on the data analysis.

Key Words: Foreign Policy, National Security, Non-alignment, Bureaucracy