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Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

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Q1(b)

What are the difficulties faced by a political theorist in comparing the States?

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2023 · PSIR GS 2 · 10 marks · Comparative Politics

Comparative Politics: Nature and major approaches; political economy and political sociology perspectives; limitations of the comparative method.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/psir-gs-2/2023/what-are-the-difficulties-faced-by-a-political-theorist-in-comparing-the-states/>

Conceptual stretching

Sartori's term for using one concept on cases so unlike that the word loses meaning.

Galton's problem

Cases are not independent when they borrow institutions or policies from one another.

Small-N / large-N

Few cases allow depth but weak control; many cases allow control but often weak validity of indicators.

Selection bias

Studying only wars, only democracies, or only successes distorts inferred causes.

Complex interdependence

Keohane and Nye's account that States are linked by multiple channels, not only by military rank.

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