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Q1(e)**What role does identity and technology play in the conceptualisation of Defensive realism?**

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2026 · PSIR GS 2 · 10 marks · Comparative Politics

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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.

Jervis's Offense-Defense Theory

Robert Jervis established that the severity of the security dilemma depends on whether defensive measures look indistinguishable from offensive ones.

Glaser's Rational Theory of International Politics

Charles Glaser demonstrates that under conditions of technological defense dominance, security-seeking states can safely cooperate and adopt non-provocative postures.

Van Evera's Causes of War

Stephen Van Evera highlights how false perceptions of offensive technological advantages frequently drive unnecessary security competition and conflict.

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