



# **NAM (Non Alignment Movement) 1961 To Present Times**

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## Abstract

The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) was formally established in 1961 during the Cold War to provide a platform for countries that did not wish to align with either the United States or the Soviet Union. Over the decades, NAM has evolved to address issues of global peace, development, and cooperation. This paper explores its historical journey and contemporary relevance.

## Keywords

Non-Aligned Movement, Cold War, International Relations, Peace, Development, Global South.

## Introduction

The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) emerged during the Cold War when most newly independent nations sought to preserve their sovereignty and independence by not joining military alliances. Leaders such as Jawaharlal Nehru, Josip Broz Tito, Gamal Abdel Nasser, Kwame Nkrumah, and Sukarno were instrumental in its foundation. The movement aimed to create an alternative global order promoting peace, development, and self-determination.

## Literature Review

Scholars have debated the effectiveness of NAM in influencing world politics. While some argue it provided a strong collective voice for developing nations, others criticize it for lacking binding commitments and practical outcomes. Studies highlight NAM's role in decolonization, disarmament, and South-South cooperation. Contemporary literature also examines its declining influence in the post-Cold War unipolar world.

## Methodology

The paper adopts a qualitative approach, using historical analysis, secondary data from academic journals, UN records, and speeches of NAM leaders. Comparative perspectives are used to examine NAM's role during the Cold War and its relevance in the 21st century.

## Results / Findings

The study finds that NAM was highly relevant during the Cold War as it allowed newly independent states to maintain autonomy. In the post-Cold War era, NAM continues to exist, but its influence has weakened due to globalization, regional organizations, and shifting power dynamics. However, it still serves as a diplomatic forum for cooperation among developing nations.

## Discussion

The discussion highlights the transformation of NAM from a Cold War necessity to a symbolic institution in contemporary times. While it faces criticism for being less effective today, NAM continues to emphasize issues such as global inequality, sustainable development, and multilateralism. Its ability to remain relevant

depends on adapting to new global challenges such as climate change, digital divide, and global health crises.

### Conclusion

NAM has played a historic role in promoting peace, independence, and solidarity among developing nations. Although its political power has reduced, it still has symbolic importance as a collective voice for the Global South. To regain relevance, NAM must redefine its objectives in the context of emerging global issues.

### References

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