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Components of the political community

Among the most important components of the political society, and the most interactive in our political society, are:

A - Political Parties: These are organized groups of individuals whose goal is to express their interests and work to influence the authority to achieve them or to access power directly. This is their main goal, which is manifested in exercising power.

B - Pressure Groups: These are any groups that exert pressure on the authority to influence its decisions in order to achieve their interests. These groups vary in their activities (professional, cultural, economic, sectarian, sports, etc.). Their goal is not to access power but to influence it. Their methods are not declared; they operate discreetly and use various means of pressure such as persuasion, influence, media propaganda, financial means, etc. They may support political parties and back officials and representatives in state institutions.

C - Public Opinion: It is the collection of individual opinions on a topic related to the public interest in society, as it directly or indirectly affects private life. It initially consists of multiple opinions, and the opinion that dominates the others becomes public, meaning prevailing, although it is not the only one. It is influenced by several factors (propaganda, rumors, media, etc.). It is particularly influential in democratic systems that encourage citizen participation.

D - International Relations: These are the relationships between the governments of states (official relations), which aim to regulate the relations between individuals of those states. However, these relationships must be between governments, not individuals. There have been different opinions regarding considering the essence of international relations as purely political

or whether other relationships (cultural, economic, sports, etc.) are included. Anything that affects the political aspects of these relationships is considered part of them.

Some consider it a separate science, while others consider it a part of political science. This was affirmed by UNESCO experts in their meeting in 1952 in Cambridge, UK, as they study power, community, state, which are the focus of international relations. Their research tools are the same.

International relations are further divided into the following branches:

A - International Politics: It includes the foreign policies of states, connecting them with each other. The foreign policy of any state organizes its various activities connecting it with other countries. The foreign policies of states can be compatible or conflicting (based on the proximity or distance of interests). Based on this, alliances are established between states politically, militarily, regionally (these alliances determine international politics and shape the foreign policy of these states). Foreign policy is implemented through several tools such as diplomacy, military power, propaganda, economic aid, etc.

B - International Organizations: These are organizations that include a group of states under a treaty, supervising joint activities and peacefully resolving problems between these states, and helping develop relations between them. Over time, these organizations have evolved into international organizations aiming to achieve peace and cooperation between states, especially after the two world wars, leading to the establishment of the League of Nations and later the United Nations (along with regional organizations).

C - International Law: It is the law that regulates affairs between states and is divided into two sections:

- **General International Law:** It constitutes the legal rules specified for the rights and duties of states and their relations during war, peace, or neutrality. It includes relations between states and international organizations, states, and non-state groups (entities).
- **Private International Law:** It includes legal rules organized for private relations of an international nature (contracts, agreements between individuals of different nationalities, etc.)."

The past continuous tense

The past continuous tense is employed in a sentence to represent an action or event that was going on in the past. In other words, it shows the progress of an action or event at a specific time in the past.

Past continuous tense formula

The past continuous tense formula involves the past tense of to be (was or were) and the present participle of the verb, the –ing form.

[subject] + [was/were] + [present participle (verb + ing)]

Examples:

While I was studying, my friends were playing.

She was working on an email when the fire alarm rang.

The team was playing well until the second half.

You were becoming a great novelist before switching to screenplays.

The days were getting shorter as winter approached.

Verbs you cannot use in the past continuous tense:

There is a certain type of verb that cannot be used in any continuous tense, including the past continuous tense. These are called stative verbs, also known as state-of-being verbs or, fittingly, non-continuous verbs.

Stative verbs are less like actions and more like states or feelings. They describe continual states of mind, such as opinions, needs, or awareness. Some of the most common examples of stative verbs include:

Believe, dislike, hate, involve, know, like, love, need, prefer, realize, seem, understand, want.