

Source: Spectrum Revised edition 2019 chapter- 12 Era of militant nationalism page- 276 to 279

Q.21) With reference to Switzerland's Policy of Neutrality, consider the following statements:

1. It is a foreign policy position wherein a state intends to remain neutral in future wars.
2. Under this policy, the country does not maintain any military or army.
3. The United Nation recognizes the role of this policy in promotion of international peace.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. The Policy of Neutrality is a foreign policy position wherein a state intends to remain neutral in future wars. This foreign policy was born out of a necessity to stay away from the wars being fought in Europe from the 19th century till the middle of the 20th century.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Switzerland is renowned for its neutrality, but this should not be confused with pacifism. The country maintains an army, including obligatory conscription for men, and did so throughout both World Wars.

Statement 3 is correct. Neutrality is critically important for the United Nations to gain and maintain the confidence and cooperation of all in order to operate independently and effectively. Article 2 of the UN Charter obligates member states to settle their international disputes by peaceful means. The General Assembly reaffirmed those obligations in its resolution 71/275.

The resolution also underlined that some states' national policies of neutrality can contribute to the strengthening of international peace and security and play an important role in developing mutually beneficial relations among countries of the world.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/swiss-neutrality-in-world-affairs-again-attractive-envoy/article33955471.ece>

<https://theculturetrip.com/europe/switzerland/articles/why-was-switzerland-neutral-during-the-world-wars/>