

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Understanding the Current World Order

In this chapter, GIFT.ed Chairman Chandran Nair highlighted the complex history behind our current Western-led world order and how the rise of emerging non-Western powers is challenging the status quo.

1. The term "World Order" refers to the systems, power structures, and norms that shape global governance and relations among nations. It encompasses the rules and institutions established to maintain stability and address international challenges.
2. The post-World War II era saw the establishment of the "rules-based world order", largely led by Western powers. This order aimed to bring stability and prosperity to the world after the devastation of war.
3. However, this world order also has its roots in European colonialism, which has helped enable the West to continue shaping the global political and economic landscape.
4. As non-Western nations, such as China and India, modernise and increase their economic and geopolitical influence, they are increasingly seeking greater representation and a voice in shaping global rules and institutions.
5. The emergence of non-Western powers – and their demands for a more inclusive, balanced, and equitable international system – signal a transition into a new multipolar era, what some term the "post-Western world."