

**A PROBLEM-BASED UNIVERSAL APPROACH GROUNDED IN  
NATIONAL INTERESTS**

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**Abstract.** *This article explores how national interests can form a strategic foundation for addressing universal human challenges through a problem-based methodology. In an era of global interconnectedness, issues such as sustainable development, climate change, digital transformation, and education quality demand solutions that balance global standards with national priorities. A problem-based approach allows policymakers and researchers to identify core societal problems, analyze their root causes, and design solutions tailored to local contexts. When aligned with national interests—such as cultural identity, economic stability, security, and social welfare—this framework becomes more sustainable, socially accepted, and effective. The study argues that integrating national priorities with universal values promotes international cooperation, strengthens sovereignty, and supports long-term development. This combined model is essential for achieving inclusive, balanced, and future-oriented progress in a rapidly changing world.*

**Keywords:** *National interests; problem-based approach; global challenges; sustainable development; policy integration; cultural identity; universal values; socio-economic development.*

**Introduction**

In an increasingly interconnected world, nations confront complex global issues that demand both international cooperation and context-sensitive solutions. While global problems such as environmental degradation, technological inequality, and educational reform require unified responses, each country's historical, cultural, economic, and political characteristics shape the way these issues are perceived and addressed. For this reason, developing a framework that harmonizes national interests with universal human values has become essential.

A problem-based approach (PBA) offers a systematic method for examining real-world challenges, diagnosing root causes, and generating practical, innovative solutions. When grounded in national priorities, this method becomes more impactful, sustainable, and aligned with local needs. The purpose of this article is to analyze how a PBA can effectively integrate national interests while addressing universal issues in a balanced and responsible manner.



## Main Body

### 1. National Interests as a Foundation for Development

National interests encompass a nation's political stability, economic development, cultural identity, security, and social well-being. These factors guide state policies and determine how global challenges are incorporated into national agendas. Ensuring harmony between national interests and global responsibilities leads to stronger and more stable development strategies.

### 2. Problem-Based Approach as an Analytical Tool

The problem-based approach represents a framework that encourages:

- identifying core societal challenges,
- analyzing underlying factors,
- generating solution options,
- implementing context-based strategies,
- and continuously evaluating outcomes.

This approach fosters innovation, interdisciplinary cooperation, and critical thinking, enabling more accurate and realistic responses to modern challenges.

### 3. Linking Universal Problems With National Priorities

Global problems manifest differently across countries. For example:

- Environmental challenges may be influenced by industrialization levels or agricultural practices.
- Digital inequality depends on national investment in technology and infrastructure.
- Educational reforms relate to cultural norms and economic capacity.

By aligning global goals with national programs, countries create solutions that are locally relevant yet globally responsible.

### 4. Advantages of a Harmonized Approach

A harmonized approach strengthens sovereignty, promotes long-term sustainability, enhances international cooperation, and ensures that development strategies remain culturally and socially appropriate.

Protection of cultural identity and sovereignty,

Stronger engagement in global cooperation,

Improved long-term sustainability,

Enhanced analytical skills among educators, policymakers, and youth.

This synergy enables both national progress and global stability.

## Conclusion

The integration of national interests with a universal, problem-based approach provides a balanced and comprehensive framework for addressing modern global challenges. Such harmonization ensures that countries maintain their cultural identity, protect their sovereignty, and fulfill their development goals while contributing to global well-being. As global challenges grow more interconnected, the need for a



combined, context-sensitive problem-solving model becomes increasingly essential. This approach is crucial for achieving sustainable, inclusive, and long-term societal progress.

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