

# FIVE EYES





#### Why in the news?

Since Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau alleged in his country's Parliament on September 19 that the Indian government may have "potential links" to the killing of separatist leader Harmeet Singh Nijjar in Canada, the ties between the two countries are under strain.

#### What is the Five Eyes Intelligence Alliance?

The Five Eyes is the world's most comprehensive intelligence alliance, bringing together the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

### **History behind Five Eyes**

Its origins may be traced back to the Second World War and the need for crucial information to be sent, especially between the United Kingdom and the United States, in order for both countries to strengthen their war efforts.

The Five Eyes was formally founded after World War II, on 5 March 1946, by the UKUSA pact, a multilateral pact for cooperation in signals intelligence (SIGINT).

Initially comprising only, the United Kingdom and the United States, it was expanded to include Canada in 1948 and Australia and New Zealand in 1956.

All three English-speaking countries being members of the Commonwealth of Nations and having political systems similar to the United Kingdom.

# And how might the Five Eyes play a role in the present India-Canada conflict?

- \* Countries like as the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia are considered particularly close to India.
- Furthermore, they have witnessed some pro-Khalistan activity in recent years.
- However, given the state of ties, these countries, particularly the United States, could play a mediating role in the issue once they have clear intelligence and information on the matter.
- Canada could also approach the US and other partners to share additional information on the investigation, given their wider networks and capabilities.











CANADA

U.S.A

U.K AUS

AUSTRALIA N. ZEALAND

#### Its current function includes:

- <sup>™</sup> Monitoring shipping traffic passing through key maritime zones



## How does it work?

- ☑ Its operation is still unknown.
- <sup>™</sup> The full language of the UKUSA Agreement was first revealed and legally recognized by the British and American governments in June 2010.
- ☑ Each alliance member is known to be in charge of gathering and analyzing information in specific sections of the world.
- The United Kingdom keeps a close eye on Europe, Western Russia, the Middle East, and Hong Kong.