

## ABSTRACT

The strategic justification behind BRIC's invitation to South Africa, which resulted in the formation of BRICS, is investigated using the frameworks of Neoliberal International Relations and Functionalism of International Regimes. The study identifies strategic partnership expansion as a key motivation, emphasizing how South Africa's inclusion increased BRIC's economic leverage by aligning with the group's overarching goals of diversifying influence and strengthening collective global economy. According to Neoliberal International Relations concepts, South Africa's participation promotes economic interdependence and cooperative global governance, enabling reciprocal benefits and lowering conflict potential. Functionalism emphasizes practical cooperation on similar interests lead to integrated international cooperation, as demonstrated by South Africa's distinctive contributions to BRICS, facilitating more organized and effective collaboration among member nations. This thesis emphasizes the significance of strategic partnership expansions in multinational coalitions, namely how they adapt to dynamic global economic, increasing their efficacy, and reach in solving global concerns.

Keywords: BRIC, BRICS, South Africa, Global Economy, Strategic Partnership Expansion