

Atlantic charter

June 12, 2021

In news- US President **Joe Biden** and British Prime Minister **Boris Johnson** met for the first time and inspected documents of the '**New Atlantic Charter**'.

Key updates-

- It is cited as a **cornerstone of the trans-Atlantic "special relationship."**
- At their meeting, the two leaders signed the new Atlantic Charter, pledging to "defend the principles, values, and institutions of democracy and open societies."
- The **new Charter outlines modern-day threats** including illicit finance, violent conflict and extremism, climate change, and global health crises like the Covid-19 pandemic.

About the Atlantic charter-

- It was a declaration **signed by British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt in August 1941.**
- It set out common goals for the world after the Second World War that included **freer trade, disarmament and the right to self-determination of all people.**
- The Charter **made it clear that the United States supported Britain in the war.**
- A fundamental aim was to focus on the peace that would follow, not specific American involvement and war strategy.
- The charter's adherents signed the **Declaration by the United Nations on 1 January 1942**, which was the basis for the modern United Nations.
- The dismantling of the British Empire, the formation of NATO, and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

(GATT) all were derived from the Atlantic Charter.

The **eight principal clauses** of the charter were-

- No territorial gains were to be sought by the United States or the United Kingdom.
- Territorial adjustments must be in accord with the wishes of the peoples concerned.
- All people had a right to self-determination.
- Trade barriers were to be lowered.
- There was to be global economic co-operation and advancement of social welfare.
- The participants would work for a world free of want and fear.
- The participants would work for freedom of the seas.
- There was to be disarmament of aggressor nations and a common disarmament after the war.