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Working Paper

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Suggested Citation: Mishra, Mukesh Kumar (2023) : International Relations: India, Russia, and the US Swing forward the Future of Geopolitics “Modi's US Visit: What New Delhi Wants from Washington”., ZBW – Leibniz Information Centre for Economics, Kiel, Hamburg

This Version is available at:

<https://hdl.handle.net/10419/272933>

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International Relations: India, Russia, and the US Swing forward the Future of Geopolitics

“Modi's US Visit: What New Delhi Wants from Washington”.

Dr. Mukesh Kumar Mishra

India's engagement with the United States is driven by a combination of strategic, economic, and shared values considerations. New Delhi would seek to leverage and balance its relationship with Washington also to advance its national interests, enhance its security, and promote its economic growth and development.

India, Russia, and the United States—indeed play significant roles in shaping the future of geopolitics. Each of these nations has its unique geopolitical interests, challenges, and strategies. India is a rising power and has been increasingly influential in global affairs. It possesses the world's second-largest population, a growing economy, and a strategic location in South Asia. India's geopolitical significance stems from several factors like Economics Growth, Regional Power, Indo-Pacific Engagement. It collaborates with countries like the United States, Japan, and Australia to promote maritime security, freedom of navigation, and counterbalance China's growing influence. Russia, as a major power, plays a crucial role in shaping global geopolitics. While its influence has evolved since the end of the Cold War, Russia remains a significant player in several areas. It pursues strategic partnerships and conducts assertive foreign policies, particularly in its near abroad and the Middle East, and The United States has long been a dominant global power, shaping geopolitics in various ways. Despite undergoing shifts in its geopolitical priorities, it remains a key player. The U.S. faces geopolitical challenges, including competition from rising powers like China and regional instability in the Middle East. It seeks to balance its global responsibilities while navigating complex geopolitical dynamics to protect its interests and maintain influence. The interplay between these three countries significantly impacts the future of geopolitics. The evolving relationships, strategic alignments, and regional dynamics among India, Russia, and the United States will continue to shape global affairs, potentially leading to shifts in alliances, economic partnerships, and geopolitical strategies.

By focusing on middle powers of the Global South, India and the United States can build strong and mutually beneficial partnerships, promote regional stability, and collectively address global challenges. These partnerships can help shape a more balanced and inclusive global order that reflects the interests and aspirations of a diverse range of countries.

There is a growing convergence of interests between India and the United States on various global issues. Both countries share concerns about China's assertiveness in the Indo-Pacific region, and they see each other as important partners in balancing China's influence.

The world has witnessed significant shifts in global dynamics over the past two decades, leading to a process of deglobalization in certain aspects.

The international relations between India, Russia, and the United States have a significant impact on the future of geopolitics. Each country plays a crucial role in shaping global affairs, and their interactions and partnerships have the potential to shape the course of international relations in the coming years. In geopolitics, swing states have agency to chart their own course on an issue-by-issue basis, and they may decide the future of the international balance of power. India has the capacity for multi-alignment not only because of its own actions, but also because of the broader geopolitical environment. While New Delhi is moving closer to the West with balance relations through partnerships like the Quad and new technology and defense agreements with the United States.

It indicates a strong diplomatic relationship between the two countries and highlights the significance of the visit in terms of bilateral cooperation, trade, cultural exchange, or other important issues of mutual interest.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the United States carries significant importance against the backdrop of global economic and geopolitical challenges. The economic aspect of the visit holds importance as both India and the US are major players in the global economy. Enhanced economic collaboration between the two nations can foster trade, investment, and technological partnerships, benefiting both countries. Geopolitically, the visit allows for discussions on key regional and global issues. India and the US often share common concerns regarding security, counterterrorism efforts, regional stability, and other global challenges.

Two significant interests in the context of India's role as a vibrant, liberal democracy and its growing power in relation to the United States.

The United States has historically shown an interest in strengthening ties with India due to its democratic values, economic potential, and strategic location. The deepening partnership between the two countries aligns with the United States' broader goal of maintaining a stable and prosperous global order based on democratic principles, rule of law, and shared values. It is important to note that the pursuit of these interests is subject to various factors, including evolving geopolitical dynamics, domestic policies of both countries, and changing global

priorities. The nature and depth of the bilateral partnership between the United States and India will be shaped by on-going diplomatic efforts, strategic dialogues, and shared objectives in the years to come.

The United States and India share a common objective of ensuring that the Asia-Pacific or Indo-Pacific region does not become dominated by China.

Over the past decade, there has been a significant improvement in the bilateral ties between India and the United States, with a focus on strategic cooperation and shared interests.

India and China have a complex relationship characterized by both cooperation and competition. They share a long border and have historical and territorial disputes. In recent years, there have been several border standoffs and tensions between the two countries, such as the Doklam standoff in 2017 and the border clash in the Galwan Valley in 2020.

Against this backdrop, India has sought to strengthen its ties with the United States, particularly in the realm of security and defense cooperation. The Indian government perceives the U.S. as a counterbalance to China's growing influence and assertiveness in the region. The U.S. is seen as a valuable partner in terms of enhancing India's defense capabilities and supporting its efforts to maintain a favourable balance of power.

It is important to note that India's relationship with the United States is multifaceted and not solely focused on China. India and the U.S. cooperate in various areas, including trade, technology, counterterrorism, and people-to-people exchanges. However, China's rise as a global power and its assertive behaviour in the region have certainly played a significant role in shaping India's perspective on the U.S. relationship.

The United States has been a dominant power in the Asia-Pacific region for decades and has had a significant military presence there.

However, China's rapid economic growth and increasing military capabilities have raised concerns in Washington about its intentions and the potential impact on regional stability. The U.S. sees China's rise as a strategic challenge and seeks to maintain its influence and partnerships in the region to counterbalance China's growing power.

India, on the other hand, shares a disputed border with China and has had historical tensions and conflicts with its neighbor. India is wary of China's assertiveness in the region and its expanding influence, particularly in areas such as the South China Sea, where India has interests as well. India aims to safeguard its own security and economic interests and seeks to play a greater role in shaping the strategic balance in the Indo-Pacific.

To pursue their shared objective, the United States and India have been strengthening their strategic partnership. They engage in regular dialogues, military exercises, and defense cooperation. They also support a free and open Indo-Pacific, emphasizing principles such as the rule of law, freedom of navigation, and respect for sovereignty. Both countries have expressed their commitment to working with other like-minded nations in the region to maintain a rules-based order and balance against any potential dominance by China.

Both India and the United States are large and diverse countries facing various challenges and opportunities. While there are many areas where they can collaborate and work together, some key aspects that both countries can focus on to advance transparency, promote market access, strengthen their democracies, and unleash the full potential of their people include

Transparency: Enhancing transparency in governance and administration is crucial for both countries. This involves promoting open and accountable governance, ensuring transparency in public procurement, combating corruption, and encouraging the free flow of information. Strengthening transparency mechanisms can improve public trust and contribute to better decision-making processes.

Market Access: Facilitating trade and investment between India and the United States can foster economic growth and prosperity. Addressing trade barriers, reducing tariffs, streamlining regulations, and promoting fair competition can enhance market access for businesses in both countries. This can lead to increased opportunities for entrepreneurs, job creation, and overall economic development.

Strengthening Democracies: As vibrant democracies, India and the United States can collaborate to strengthen democratic institutions and practices. This includes protecting the rule of law, promoting freedom of expression, safeguarding human rights, and ensuring equal opportunities for all citizens. Sharing best practices and engaging in dialogue on democratic principles can reinforce democratic values and institutions.

Unleashing Potential: Both countries have a wealth of human capital and innovation that can drive progress and development. Investing in education, skills development, and entrepreneurship can empower individuals and unleash their full potential. Collaboration in research and development, technology transfer, and innovation can fuel economic growth, create employment opportunities, and address common challenges such as climate change and healthcare.

It is worth noting that advancing transparency, promoting market access, strengthening democracies, and unleashing potential require long-term commitment and cooperation between India and the United States. Regular dialogues, bilateral agreements, and people-to-people exchanges can help build trust and foster collaboration to achieve these shared objectives.

India has made significant strides in various areas, including healthcare, digitalization, and multilateral engagements.

India has made significant strides in various areas, including healthcare, digitalization, and multilateral engagements. The country can indeed offer its experiences and expertise to collaborate with the United States in these domains.

Healthcare: India has a diverse healthcare system and has been successful in implementing various healthcare initiatives. India's experience in providing affordable and accessible healthcare services, managing large-scale immunization programs, and addressing public health challenges could be valuable to the United States. Collaborative efforts in research and development, sharing best practices, and capacity building can greatly benefit both countries.

Digitalization: India has emerged as a global leader in digitalization, particularly in the field of information technology and software development. The country's experience in building digital infrastructure, promoting digital literacy, and implementing e-governance initiatives can provide insights to the United States. Collaboration in areas such as digital innovation, cyber security, and leveraging technology for efficient service delivery can be mutually beneficial.

Multilateral engagements: India has actively participated in various multilateral forums, including the United Nations, World Trade Organization, and G20. India's experience in engaging with diverse countries and advocating for the interests of the Global South can contribute to strengthening the U.S. engagement with these regions. Collaborative efforts between India and the U.S. in multilateral fora can enhance their collective influence and promote shared objectives.

Collaborations with the Global South: India has a long-standing tradition of collaborating with countries in the Global South, particularly in Africa and Southeast Asia. India's experience in development partnerships, capacity building programs, and sharing technical expertise can complement U.S. efforts in these regions. Joint initiatives in areas such as infrastructure development, agriculture, education, and technology transfer can foster inclusive growth and cooperation.

By leveraging India's experiences in healthcare, digitalization, multilateral engagements, and collaborations with the Global South, the United States can benefit from the diverse perspectives and expertise, leading to mutually beneficial outcomes and shared progress.

The Changing Character of Power: Prime Minister Narendra Modi met President Joe Biden at the White House

The meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Joe Biden at the White House on 22 June 2023 signifies the commitment to strengthening the strategic relationship between India and the United States. During their discussions, they focused on various areas of mutual and global interests, with the aim of enhancing collaboration and cooperation. The major areas include space, education, defence, technology, climate change and health.

Defence: India and the United States have been steadily expanding their defense cooperation in recent years. Both countries share common interests in maintaining regional stability and combating terrorism. The leaders might have discussed opportunities for deepening defense ties, including defense technology sharing, joint military exercises, and defense trade.

Space: India's space program has achieved significant milestones, including successful satellite launches and lunar missions. Collaboration between India's Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and NASA has also been growing. In the meeting, discussions on space cooperation, such as satellite technology, Earth observation, and potential joint missions, could have taken place.

Clean Energy: Both India and the United States recognize the importance of clean energy in combating climate change. The leaders might have discussed avenues for collaboration in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and the development of clean technologies. Sharing best practices and technological expertise could facilitate the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Critical Technologies: With rapid technological advancements, discussions on critical and emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and 5G, are crucial. Collaborative efforts in research and development, sharing expertise, and ensuring the responsible use of these technologies may have been on the agenda.

The meeting between Prime Minister Modi and President Biden aimed to further strengthen the Indo-US strategic relations and explore new avenues for cooperation. By focusing on defense, space, clean energy, and critical technologies, the leaders aimed to deepen collaboration and address global challenges together.

According to the White House, the two leaders will discuss ways to further expand educational exchanges and people-to-people ties, as well as work together to confront common challenges from climate change to workforce development and health security. Here's a breakdown of the areas mentioned:

Educational Exchanges: The leaders aim to explore ways to expand educational exchanges. This could involve programs that promote student and faculty exchanges between the two countries, fostering cultural understanding and academic collaboration.

People-to-People Ties: The focus on people-to-people ties suggests an intention to strengthen connections and relationships between individuals from both countries. This could involve initiatives such as cultural exchanges, sports diplomacy, and other activities that promote mutual understanding and collaboration.

Climate Change: Addressing climate change is a global priority. By mentioning it, the leaders indicate their commitment to working together to confront this challenge. This could involve discussing strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting renewable energy, and collaborating on climate initiatives at an international level.

Workforce Development: Workforce development is crucial for economic growth and prosperity. The leaders may discuss initiatives to enhance skills training, job creation, and opportunities for workers in both countries. This could include sharing best practices, promoting entrepreneurship, and addressing the evolving demands of the job market.

Health Security: The mention of health security suggests a focus on collaborative efforts to address global health challenges. This could involve discussions on pandemic preparedness, vaccine distribution, strengthening healthcare systems, and sharing knowledge and resources to combat infectious diseases.

Overall, these topics reflect a broad range of issues that are important for bilateral cooperation and addressing global challenges. The leaders' discussions aim to foster cooperation and find common ground to tackle these pressing issues.

PM Modi and US President Joe Biden on Friday met top US and Indian business leaders in Washington at the White House.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden met top US and Indian business leaders in Washington at the White House on June 23, 2023 as his official state visit to the US marked its last day. Top businessmen including Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella, Google CEO Sundar Pichai, NASA Astronaut Sunita Williams, Mahindra Group Chairman Anand Mahindra, Reliance Industries Chairman and MD Mukesh Ambani, Zerodha and True Beacon Co-Founder Nikhil Kamath attended the event. Addressing the Hi-Tech Handshake event, PM Modi said that "combination of talent and technology guarantees a better future". Noting that the meeting included a range of technology companies from startups to well-established firms, he added, "Both are working together to create a new world." General Electric (GE) is a leading multinational conglomerate that operates in a variety of industries, including aerospace and renewable energy. As India focuses on expanding its aerospace industry and transitioning to renewable energy sources, it is likely that Prime Minister Modi will invite GE or any other company with relevant expertise to participate in these sectors. Prime Minister Narendra Modi met CEO of General Electric (GE) H Lawrence Culp Junior on the second day of his State Visit to the US. During their discussions, the PM invited Culp Jr. to play a bigger role in India's aviation and renewable energy sector. At the meeting, which was held before bilateral with US President Joe Biden, PM Modi appreciated GE for its long-term commitment of manufacturing in India.

The broader geopolitical dynamics in the region, where the United States has been increasingly looking to bolster its relationship with India as a means to balance China's growing influence. The U.S. sees India, with its large population and growing economy, as a significant player on the world stage. Defense cooperation has been an important aspect of the U.S.-India relationship in recent years. Both countries have engaged in joint military exercises, defense trade, and technology sharing. Strengthening defense ties can involve areas such as defense technology transfers, intelligence sharing, joint military exercises, and collaborative defense research and development.

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Mukesh Kumar Mishra is Secretary General of The Krityanand UNESCO Club, Jamshedpur, (NGO having Consultative Status with the United Nations ECOSOC). He is interested in theories of International Relations, and Economic and Political Development. His primary research area is at the intersection between Policy and Development Economics and covers globalization, economic growth and development, and political economy.
