India: between Indo-Pacific & "New Silk Roads"

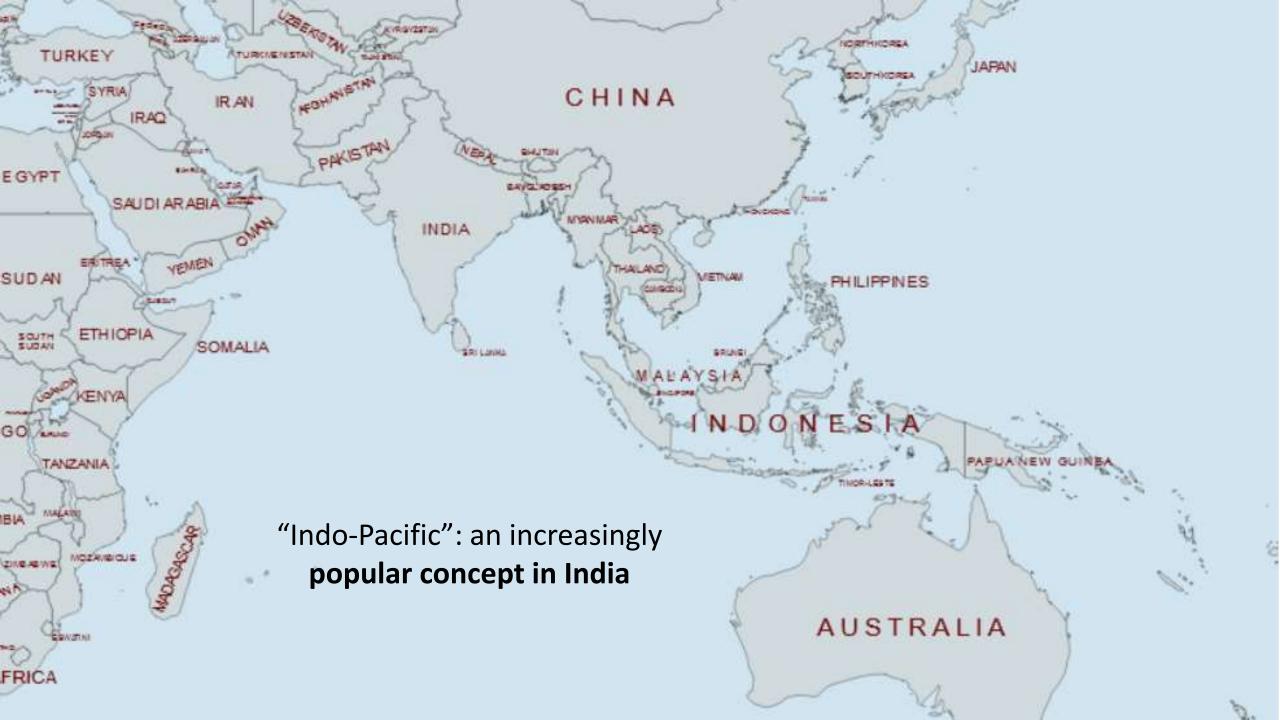
What does India want and need?











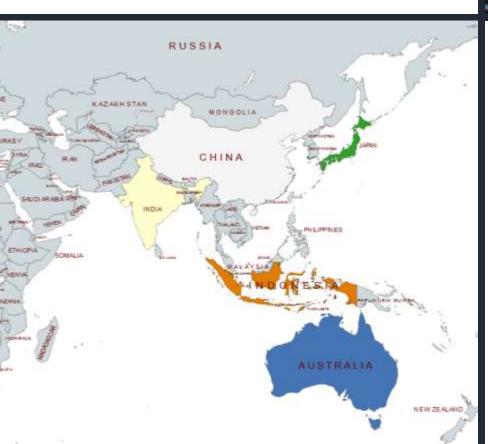






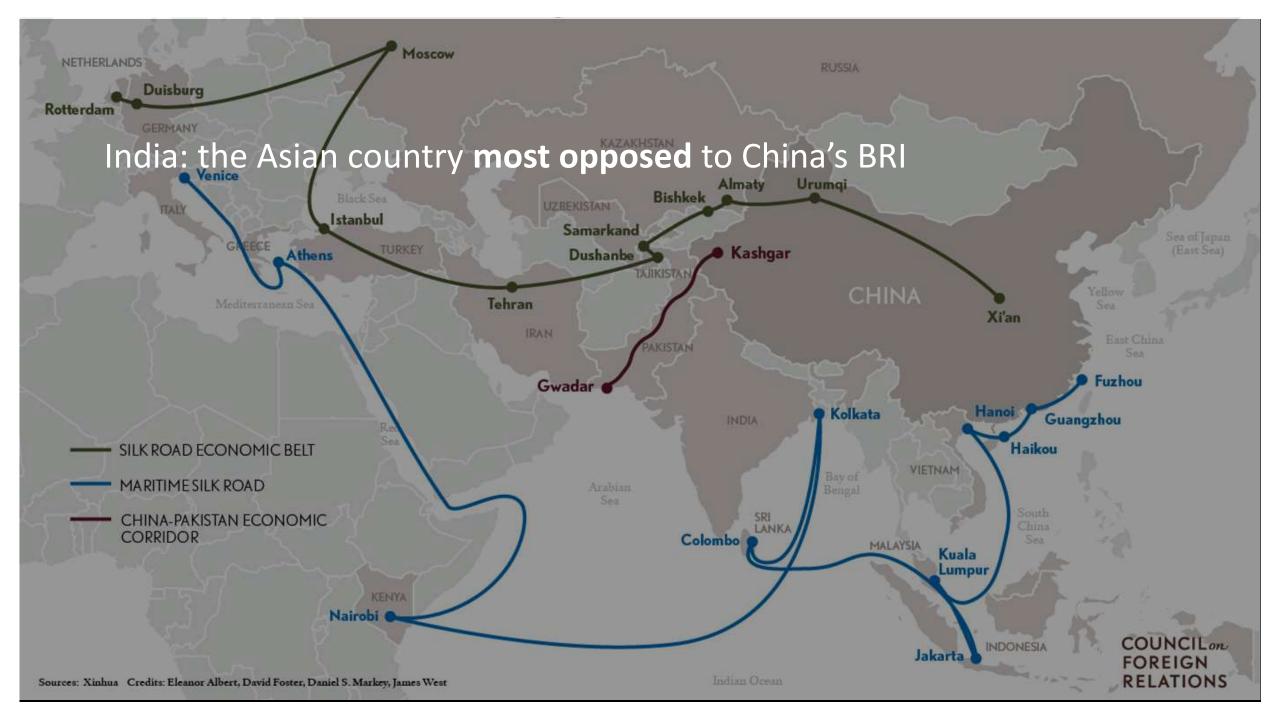


2017: Joint Statement with Australia





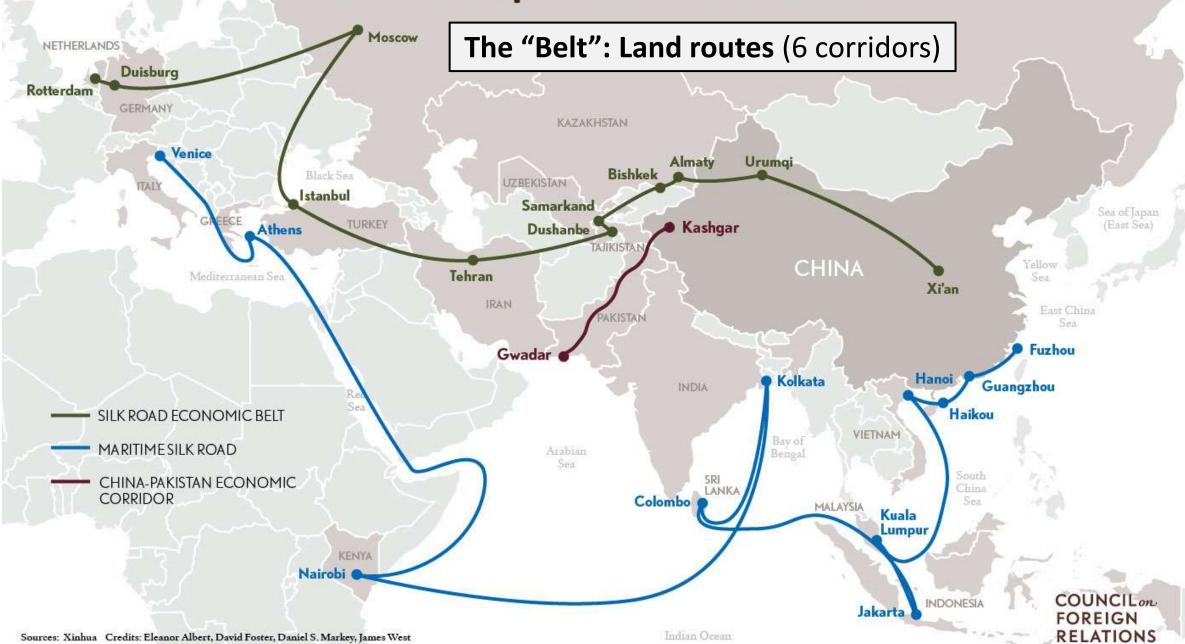
India and Australia as "partners in the Indo-Pacific"

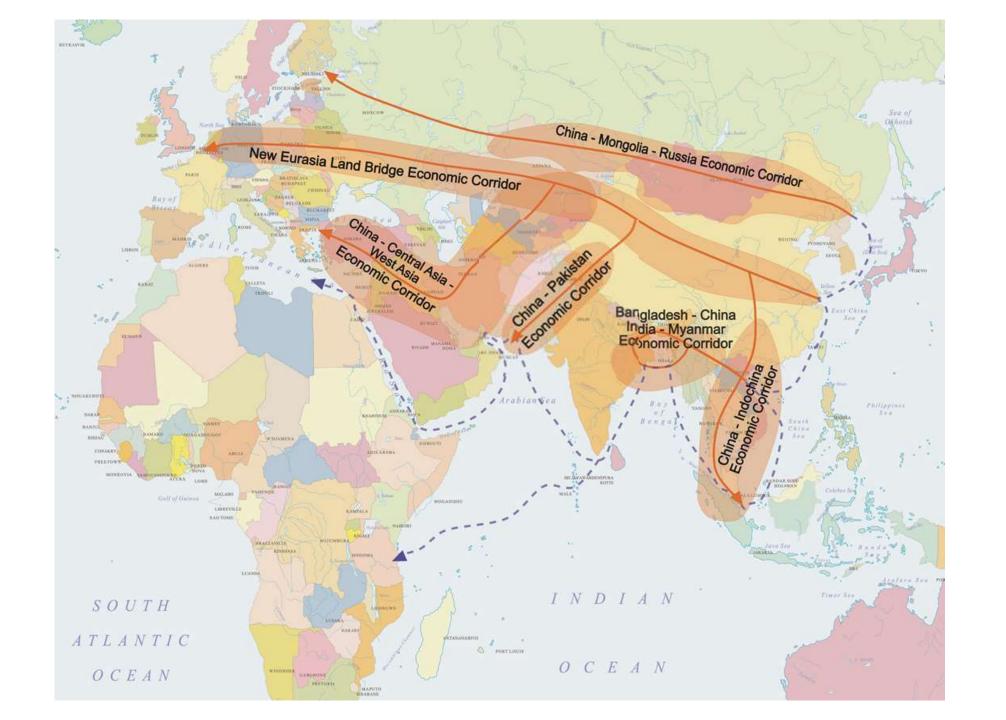






China's Proposed New Silk Roads

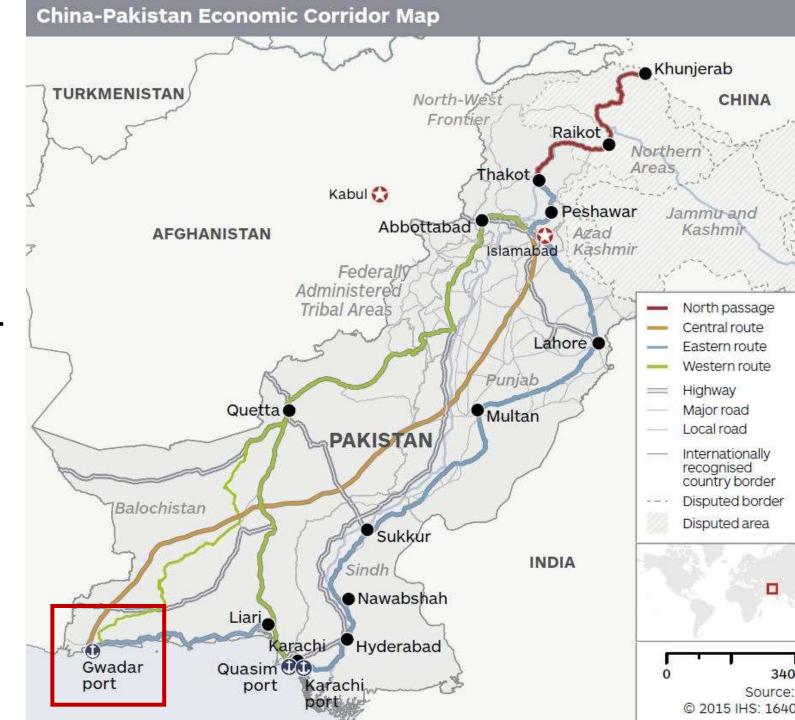




A perceived **threat** to India's sovereignty & territorial integrity

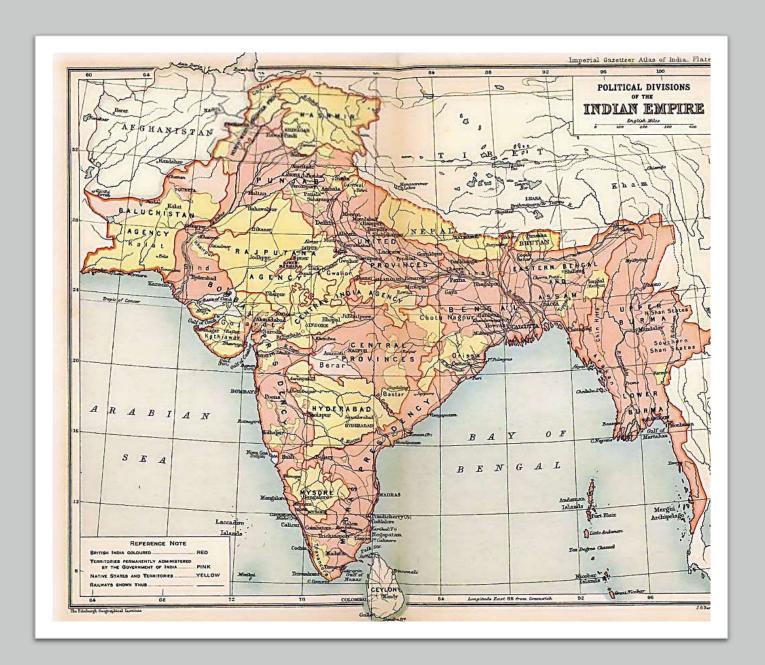
China: financing the port of **Gwadar** (proximity to the **Persian Gulf**)

India's **concern**: could Gwadar become a **military base**?



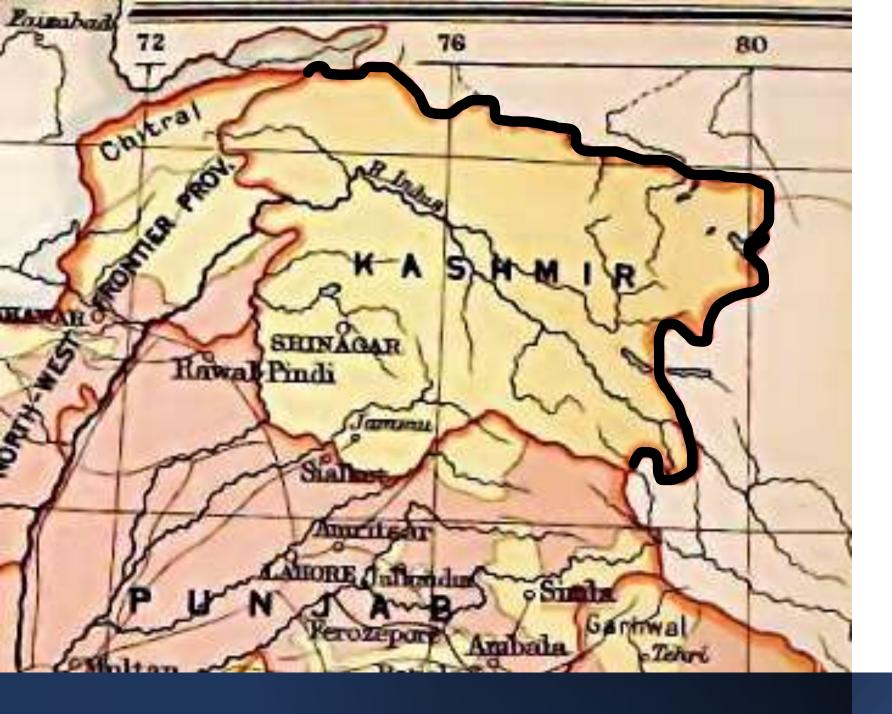






British India

What borders for Kashmir?

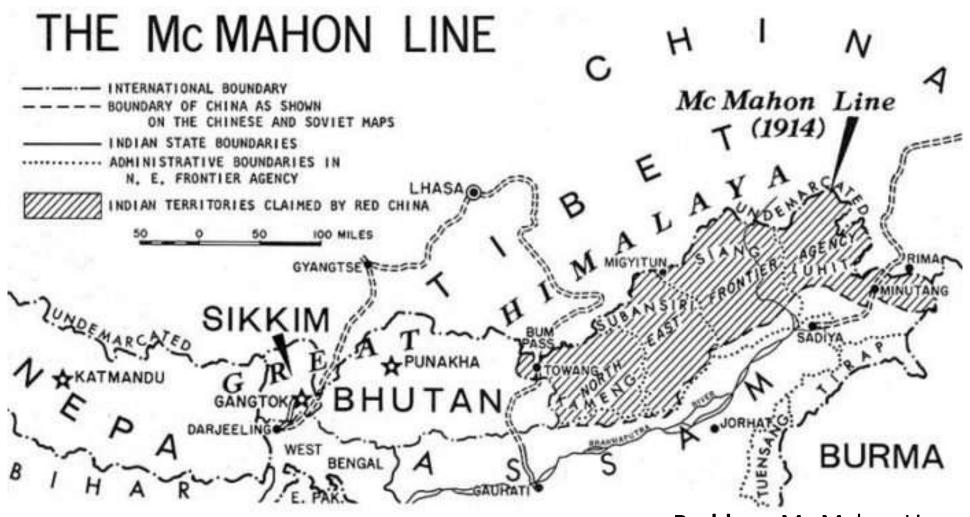


1865: the Ardagh-Johnson Line

No reaction from the Empire of China







Sources: Atlas of the Northern Frontier of India, New Delhi: External Affairs Ministry, 1960.
Atlas of Chinese People's Republic, Peking, 1953.
Atlas of Mira, Moscow, 1954.
Political Map of India, Survey of India, Dehra Dun, 1956.

Problem: Mc Mahon Line **not acknowledged** by the new Republic of
China



First Indo-Pakistani War over Kashmir (1947-1948)

Each side controlled a part of Kashmir while claiming the whole of Kashmir







1 October 1949: the triumph of the Communists

The birth of the **People's Republic of China**





Sources: Atlas of the Northern Frontier of India, New Delhi: External Affairs Ministry, 1960. Atlas of Chinese People's Republic, Peking, 1953. Atlas of Mira, Moscow, 1954.

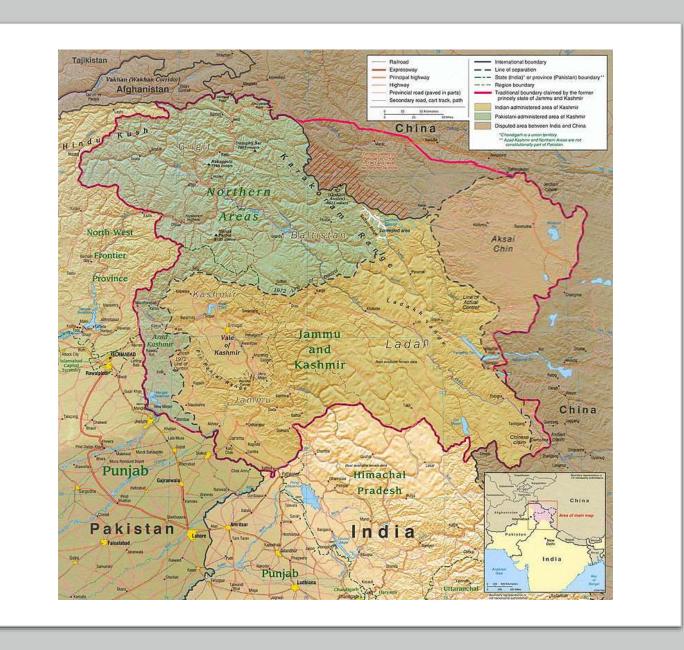
Political Map of India, Survey of India, Dehra Dun, 1956.

1951: Chinese control over Arunachal Pradesh ("South Tibet")

Chinese claim over Aksai Chin (also claimed by India)

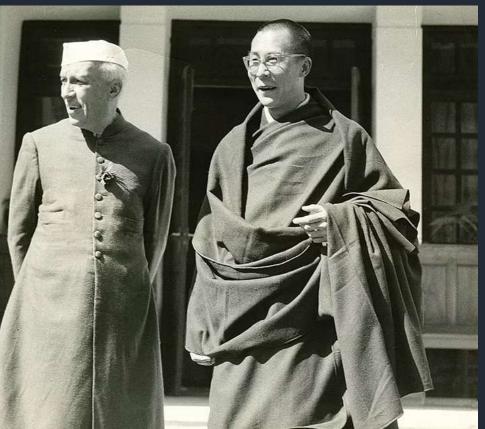
Territorial disputes between India and China

1959 compromise (South Tibet to India – Aksai Chin to China) rejected by India



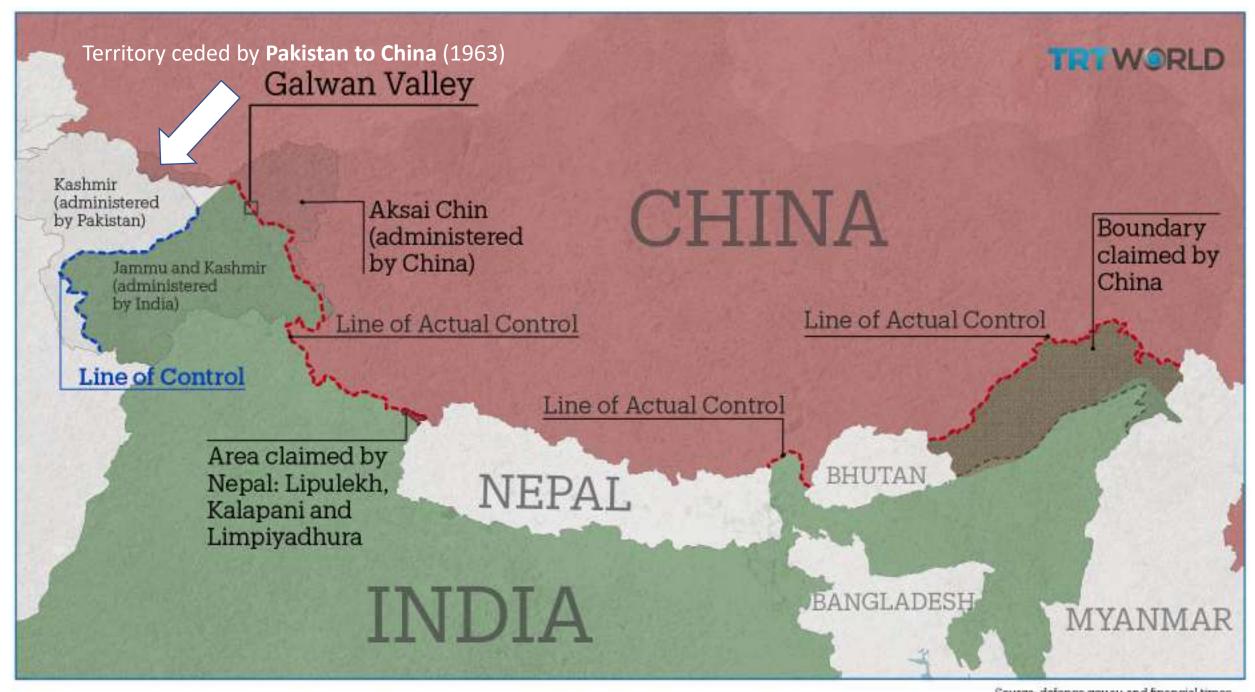
1959: Dalai Lama's escape from Tibet





The independent Tibetan government in exile established in north India







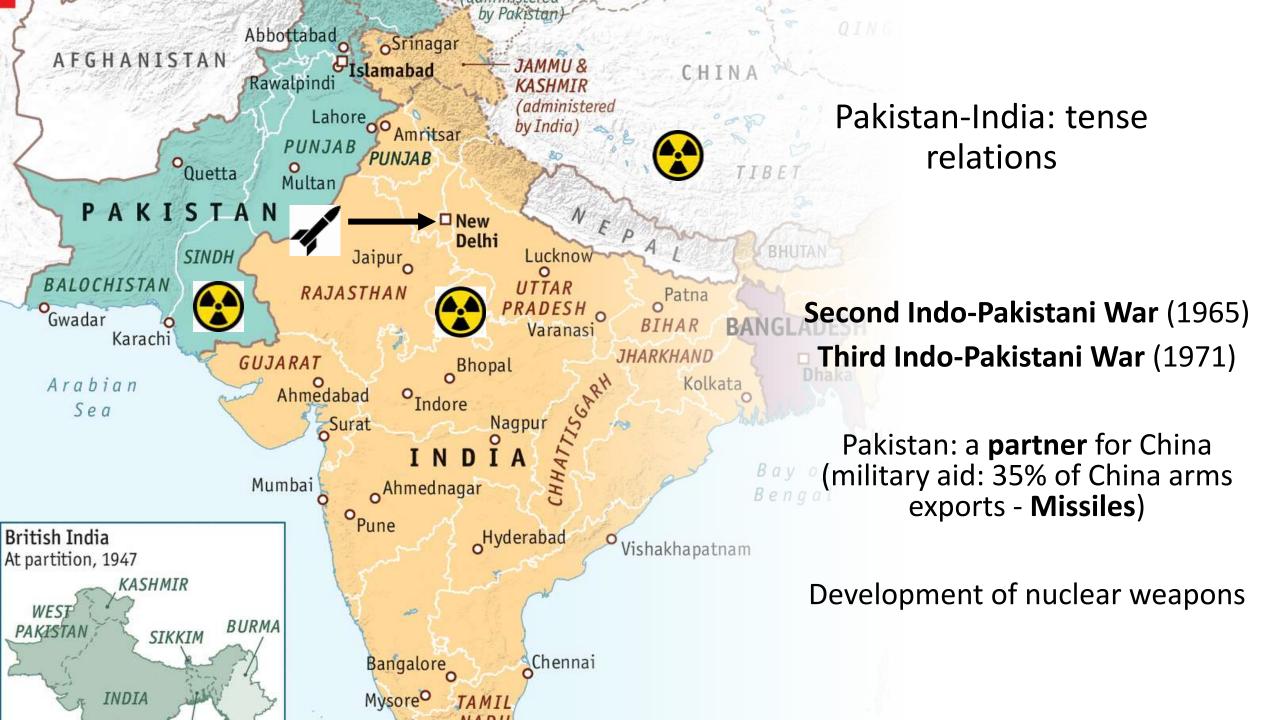
China's control over Tibetan water sources

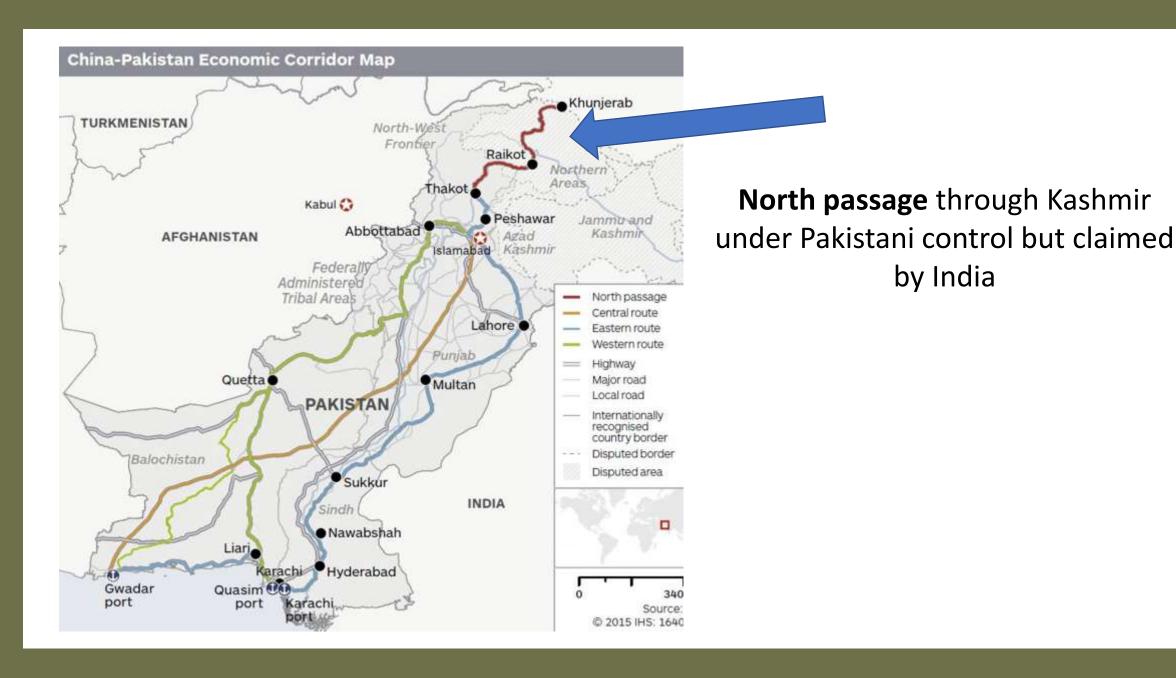
China-India clash over Chinese claims to Tibetan water

Construction of dams in Tibet impacting agriculture in India and Bangladesh

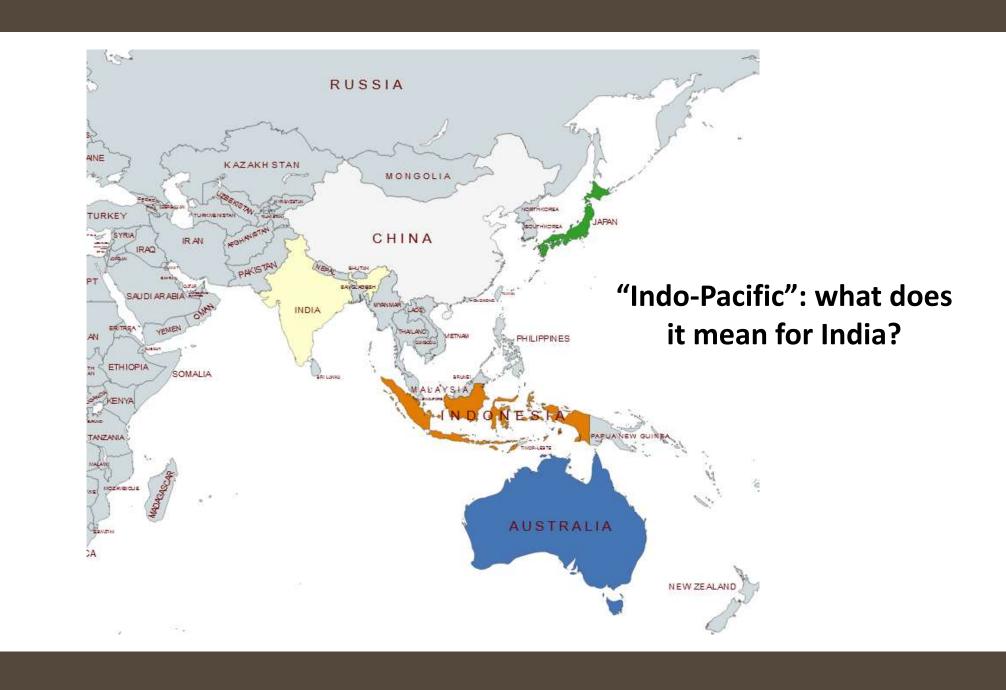
Tensions





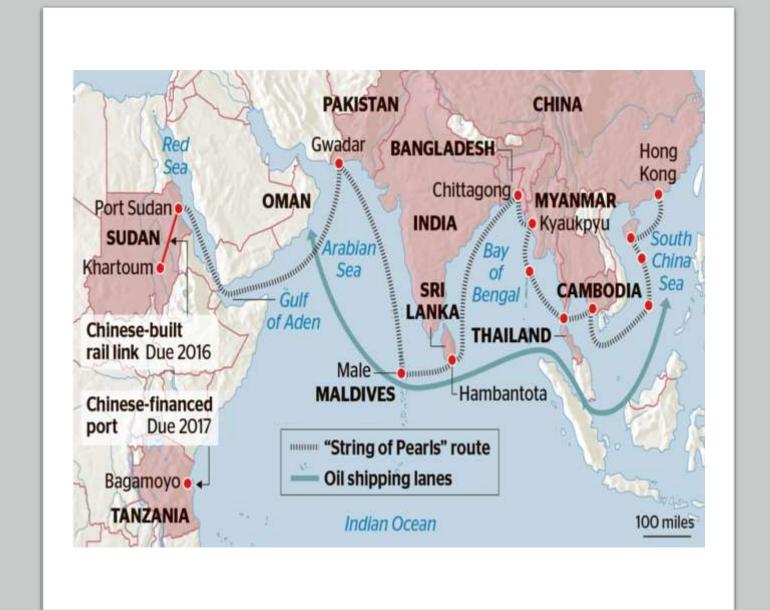






Sino-Indian growing rivalry in the Indian Ocean: a determining factor in Sino-Indian relationship

Indian Ocean: a strategic priority for China







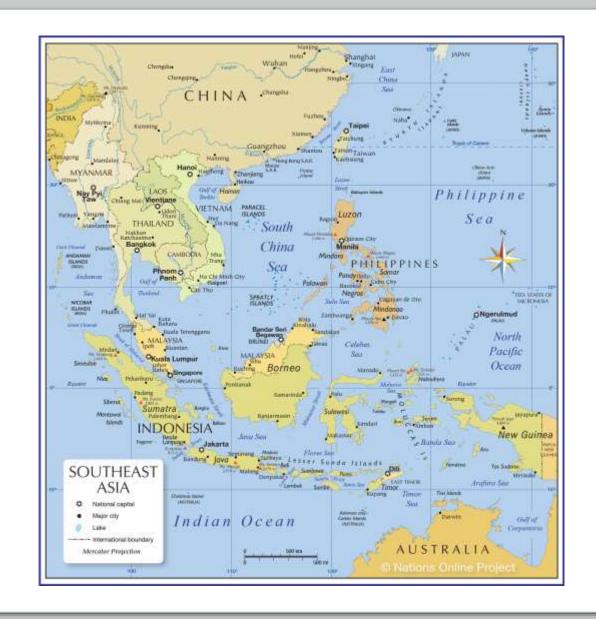
India is advancing a comprehensive agenda of regional co-operation... to ensure that the global transit routes remain peaceful and free for all"



China's pressure in the **South China Sea**

Southeast Asia: China's traditional zone of influence

Intensified pressure in contested waters and against U.S. forces and other countries passing through international waters in the South China Sea





The use of the word

"inclusive" 4 times in
reference to India's
policy in the IndoPacific Region

"We promote collective security"



Absence of open criticism towards
China

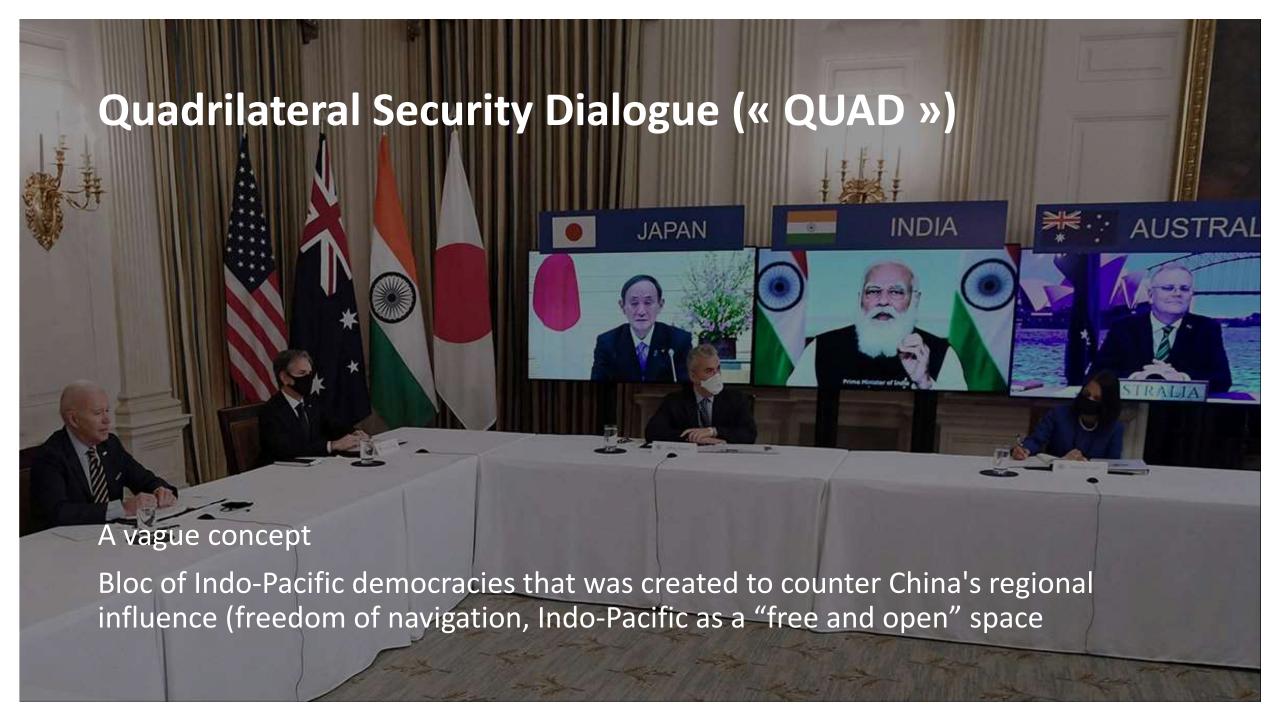
"India does not see the Indo-Pacific Region as a strategy or as a club of limited members. Nor as a grouping that seeks to dominate"

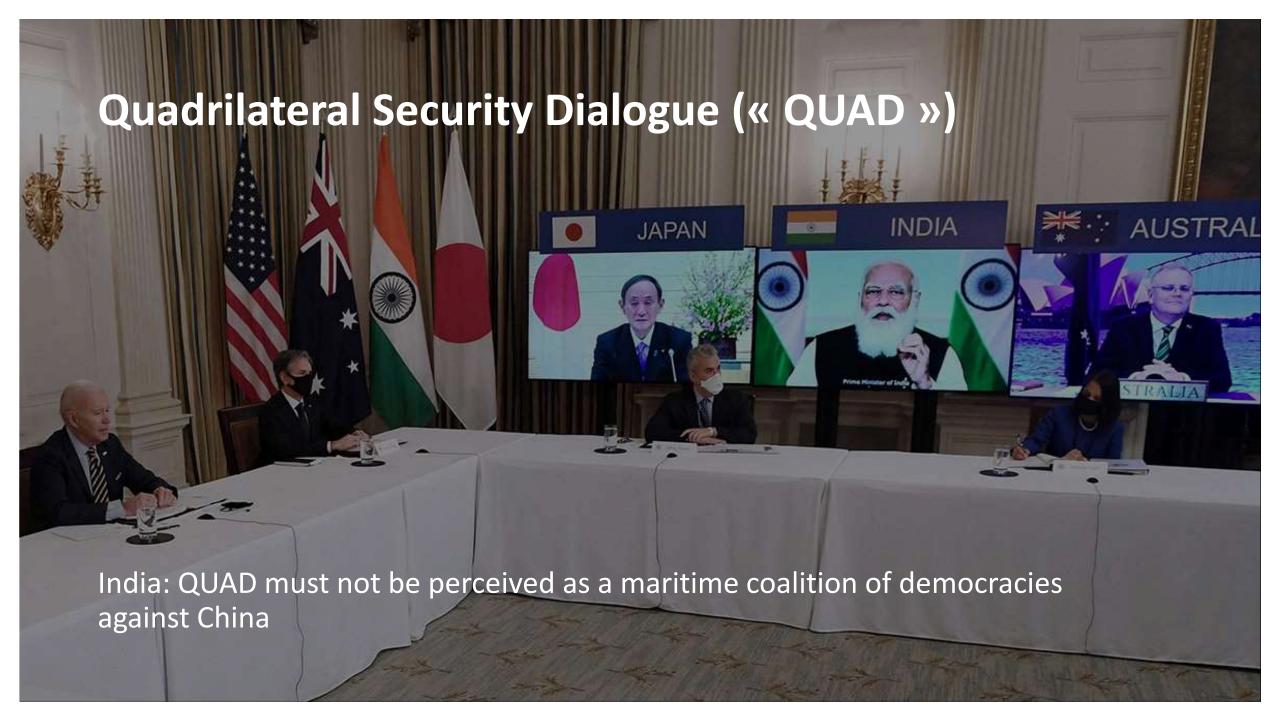












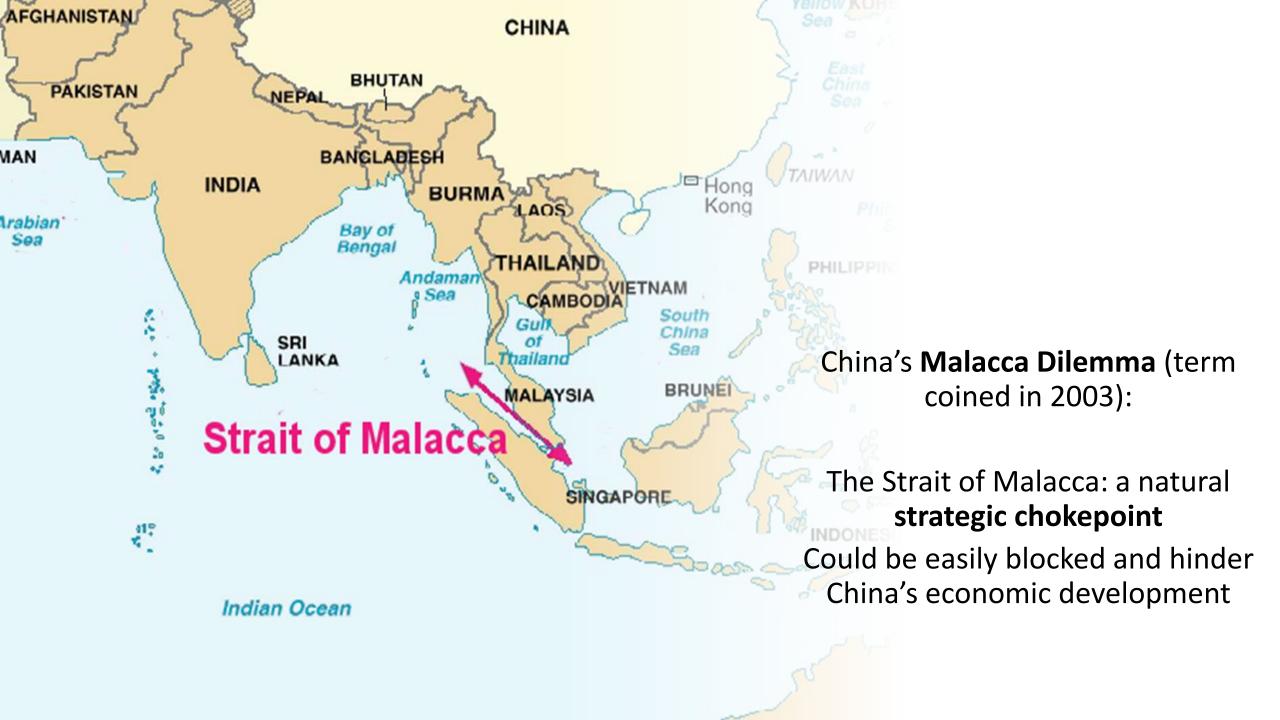






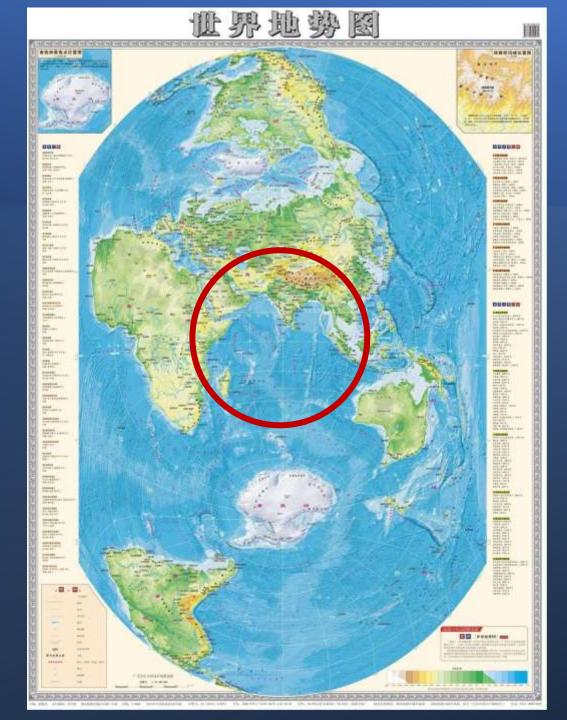






Chinese cartographer **Hao Xiaoguang**

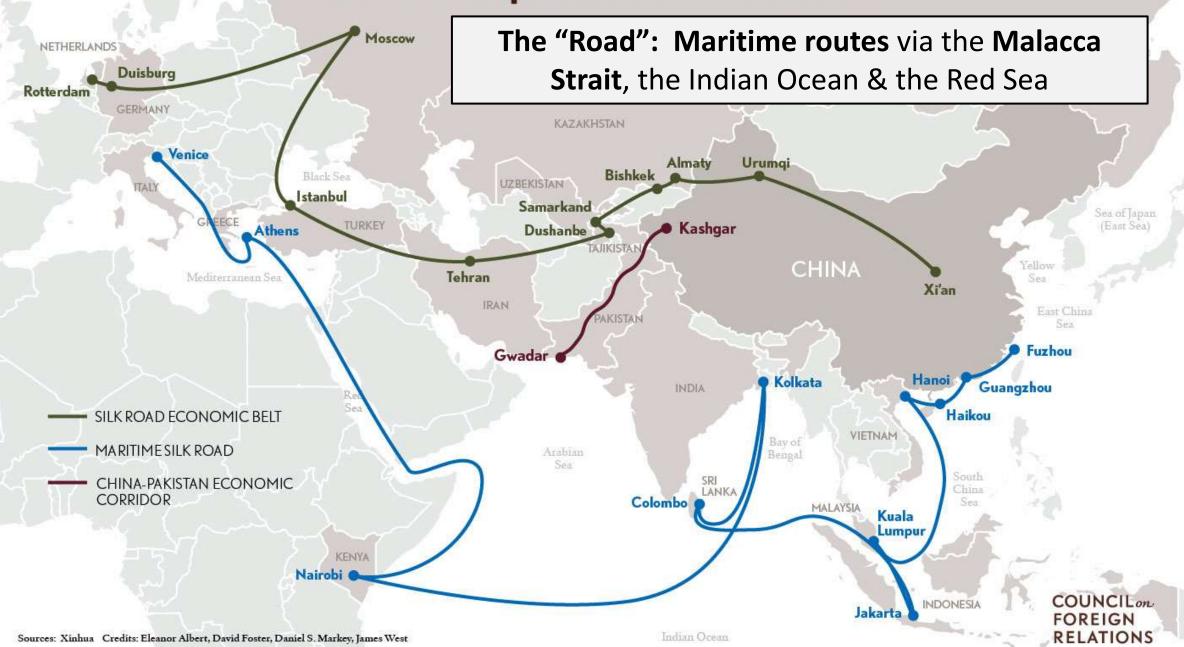
Asia-focused world map authorized by the Chinese government (2013)



How China sees the world

A map centered on the Indian
Ocean

China's Proposed New Silk Roads





Accelerated modernization of China's navy

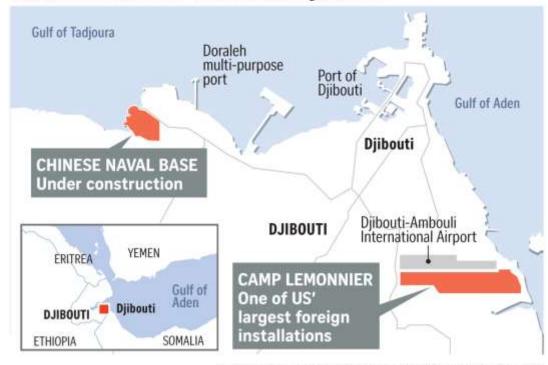
To safeguard China's broader interests (economic development): securing sea lanes

Power balance in the Indian Ocean





Chinese and US bases in Djibouti



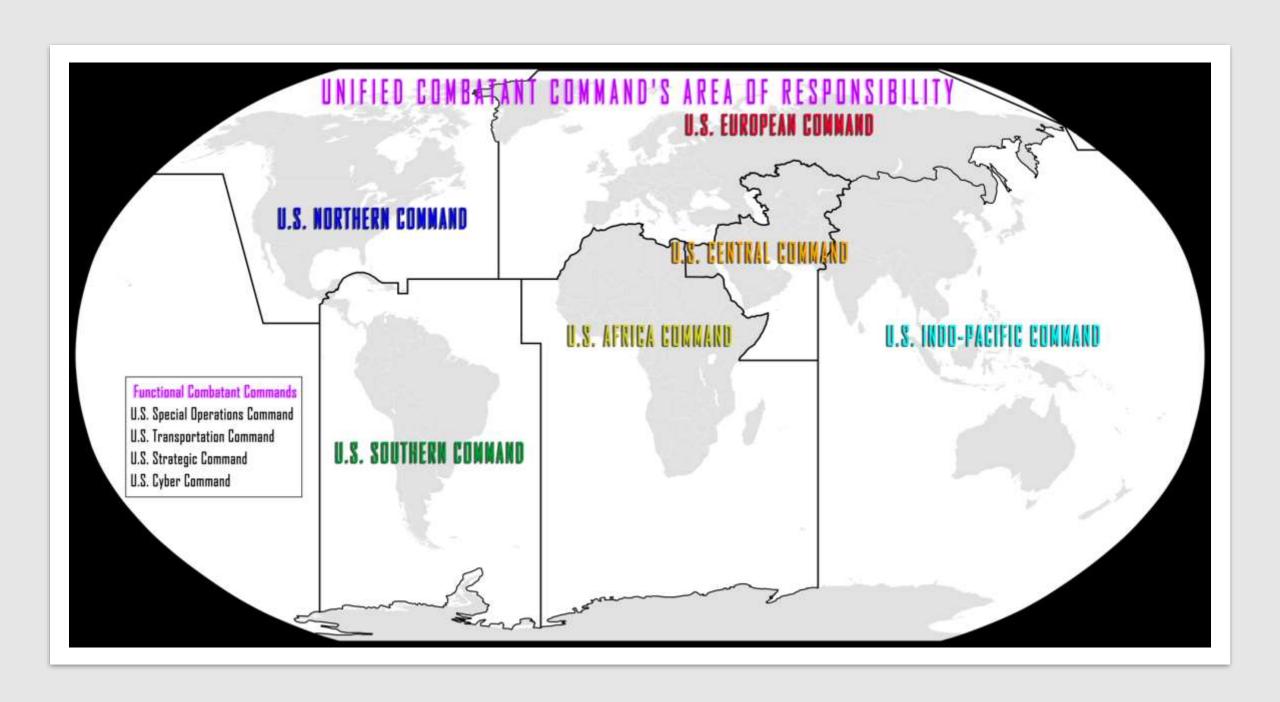
Source: THE NEW YORK TIMES STRAITS TIMES GRAPHICS



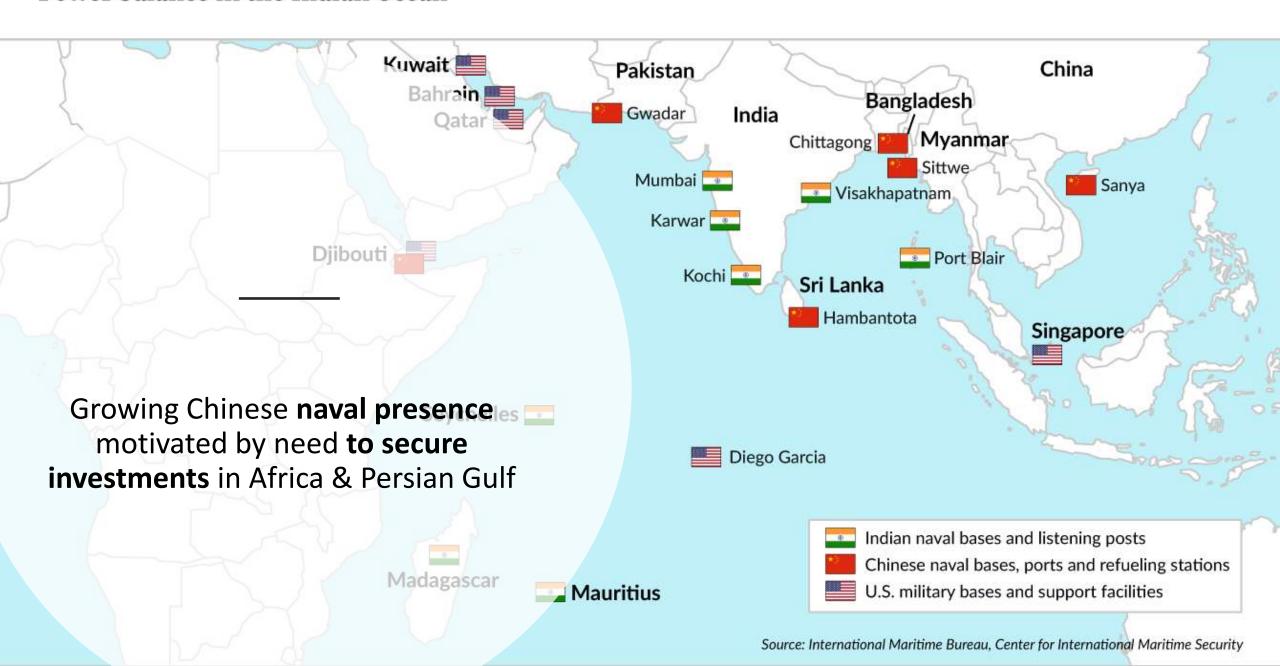
Power balance in the Indian Ocean





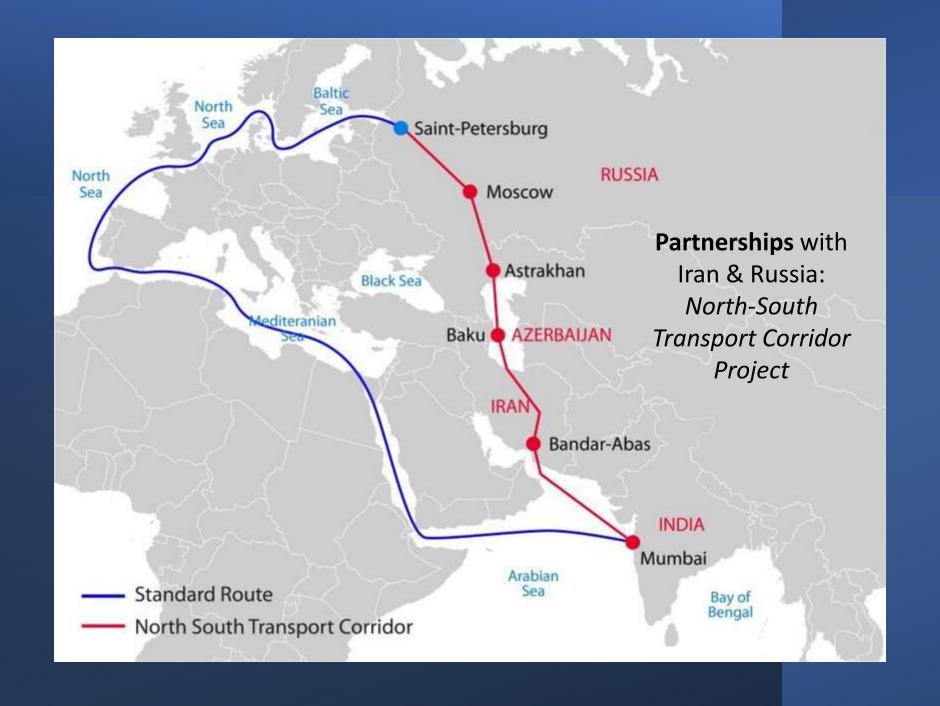


Power balance in the Indian Ocean



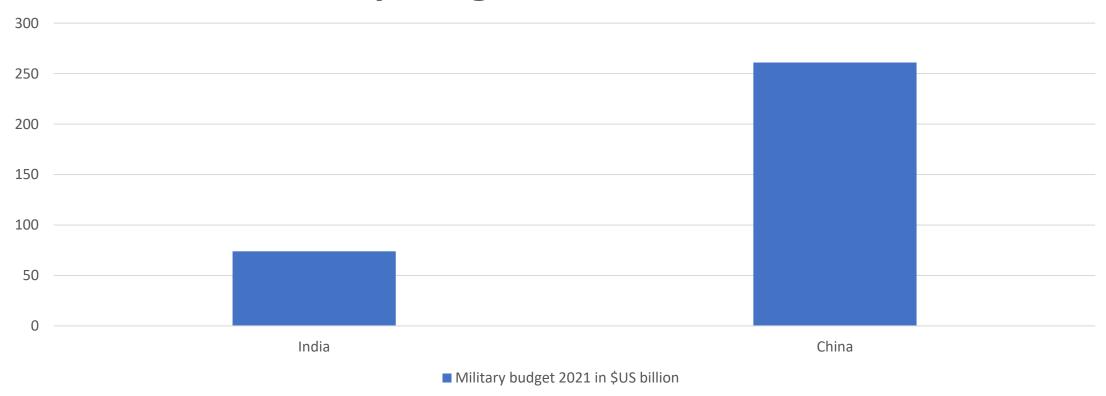




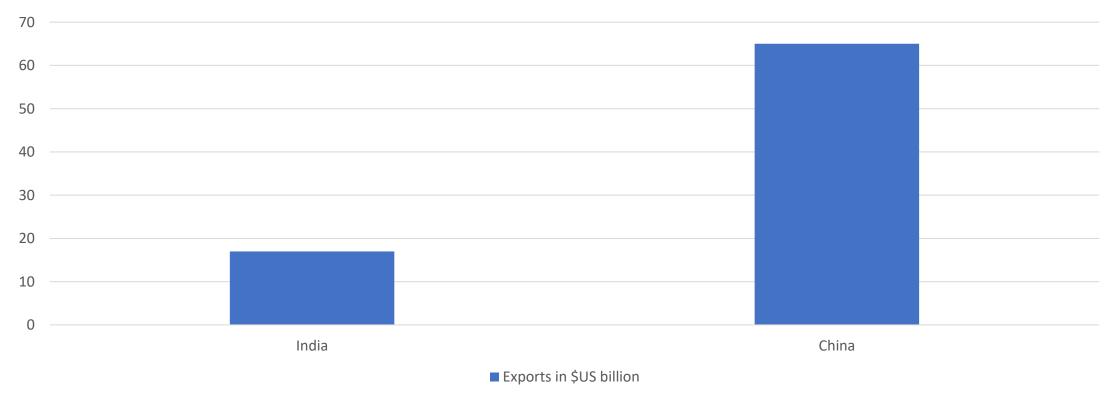




Military budget 2021 in \$US billion



Exports in \$US billion









Takeaways

India: a key player in the Indo-Pacific much solicited by its American & Japanese partners

No to restrictive alliances

No to China's BRI but efforts to stabilize its bilateral relations with China

Possible future cooperation but ongoing tensions