

US-China Tensions Peak over Taiwan

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Russia and China are the two countries in this part of the world that **bother** پریشان کرتے ہیں the US. Even their peaceful economic growth and issues in their neighbourhood become the **priority** ترجیحی agenda for the US and their **allies** اتحادیوں, living miles away and having no threats of any sort. After successfully engaging Russia in a war with Ukraine, now they're all against China and **fueling** ہوا دینا China's **ageing** پرانے conflict with Taiwan.

After US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said that she might visit Taiwan this week, Beijing has warned of a 'military' response if US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi visits Taiwan. She is **leading** قیادت کرنا a Congressional **delegation** وفد to the Indo-Pacific region, including visits to Singapore, Malaysia, South Korea and Japan. Her office press statement did not mention her visit to Taiwan, though she has said in a separate statement that "she might visit Taiwan."

Taiwan, at present, is a self-ruled island claimed by China. The island of 23 million people 80 miles off the **coast** ساحل of China, has long been a point of tension between Washington and Beijing. Now those tensions are at a new high as Ms Pelosi is expected to be there this week. She would be the highest-level American official to go to the island since 1997 when Newt Gingrich made a visit.

China claims Taiwan as its **territory** علاقہ and has **vowed** عزم کیا ہے to take it back. BBC reported that historical sources suggest that the island first came under full Chinese control in the 17th

Century when the Qing **dynasty** خاندان began administering it. Then, in 1895, they gave up the island to Japan after losing the first Sino-Japanese war. China took the **island again** in 1945 after Japan lost World War II. But after a **civil war** خانہ جنگی between **Nationalists** and **Communist** Party. The communists won in 1949 and took control of Beijing. The nationalist party leaders **fled** فرار ہوئے to Taiwan, where they ruled for the next several decades.

Now, Taiwan is a US trade partner and a producer of high-quality **semiconductors**. It is strategically placed in the Indo-Pacific region that could help the US to **contain** روکنا، گھیرنا China. So, US President Joe Biden is interested in **cultivating** فروغ دینے a new strategic partnership with Taiwan in the **backdrop** پس منظر of the emerging **geopolitical** situation.

Different geopolitical experts have **hinted** اشارہ دیا that Ms Pelosi's "might be" visit to Taiwan is "surely expected". It is an **envisaged** سمجھا، سوچا and planned strategy to support Taiwan as an **independent** state and to **strengthen** کرنا مضبوط trade and geopolitical ties. The 19th **IISS Shangri-La Dialogue**, organized on 10-12 June this year in Singapore, has been very meaningful for the US agenda. Though the strategic **outcome** نتیجہ of the recent SLD was not made public for **secretive** خفیہ actions approved for the Indo-Pacific region.

Strange was the presence of the Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky. He was the special guest of the US at the Shangri-La Dialogue and toed the US mood at the Singapore forum. Zelensky drew a parallel between the Russia-Ukraine **confrontation** تصادم and the **potential** ممکنہ **conflict** تنازعہ between Beijing and Taipei. In particular, the Ukrainian

president said "there was an urgent need for international support for Taiwan before China attacks it".

An opinion has been **apparent** ظاہر یا واضح ہوگئی that the White House, to **provoke** اکسانا، بھڑکانا، a new round of tensions around the Taiwan issue, is ready to sacrifice Ukrainian-Chinese relations, which are already in a **critical** تشویشناک state after the scandal around the **Zaporozhye Motor-Sich plant**. It is known that the Chinese paid money for joint stock control of the plant, but at the **behest** پہ کہنے کے of the US, the Kiev authorities **torpedoed** دیا ڈبو the deal. The current situation is a continuation of Washington's **unscrupulous** بے اصول، بے ایمان political course, which is increasingly using Kyiv and the Ukrainian crisis to **pursue** جاری رکھنا its own **imperial** سامراجی ambitions.

The timing of when Mr Xi might try to absorb Taiwan remains a question of huge debate among military and civilian experts on China, but it is not expected to be **imminent** آنے والا .

The geopolitical expert William H. Overholt, a senior research fellow at Harvard's Kennedy School, believes that China does want Taiwan back badly, but that does not mean it wants an early bloody war that would destroy China's economic **miracle** معجزہ."

In a **fiery** پرجوش speech at the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China last year, Mr Xi Jinping **stressed** زور دیا the need for the mainland's unification with Taiwan, which he called "a historic mission and an **unshakable** ثابت قدم غیر متزلزل، commitment of the Communist Party of China."

China does want Taiwan back but through smooth strategic and economic **interventions** مداخلت. The US is deeply interested to engage China and Taiwan in the same bloody war the Communist Party of China and the Nationalist Party had been fighting for years to take control of Beijing. Both belong to the same land historically. They need to have peace talks for the reunion of Taiwan with China to complete the historic picture. A reunion would pay back the Taiwanese the ultimate economic growth and strategic strength than **toeing** قدم **جمانا** **the external lines** against China and other like-minds.

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Geographical pre-eminence and regionalism

M Aqib Khan |

Pakistan holds an important geo-strategic location and shares its borders with four countries i.e., India, China, Afghanistan, and Iran. Its geographical location serves as a natural **conduit** **راستہ** پائپ ، for the energy corridor between the south and central Asian countries. Pakistan's short distance from the Persian Gulf where almost half of the world's oil business takes place **compelled** **مجبور کیا** China to connect with Pakistan through the Gwadar port under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). This geostrategic and geoeconomic **pre-eminence** **فوقیت** has allowed Pakistan to gain memberships of the Shanghai cooperation organisation (SCO), South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), and D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8), and Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO).

Regionalism is **crucial** **اہم** for development as it focuses on economic exchange between countries of the same region or economic zone. In 2001, the SCO was founded by Russia, China, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan. It was later expanded to include Pakistan and India as well. SCO's immediate function was to fight religious **extremism** **انتہا پسندی**, international terrorism, and **ethnic** **نسلی** **separatism** **علیحدگی**. However, its long-term objective is to promote economic development and regional **stability** **استحکام** among the member states.

Currently, Pakistan is suffering from an **acute** شدید energy crisis, and it is estimated that the energy requirement will reach 5,000 megawatts by 2030. Given central Asian countries' **abundance** کثرت of natural resources, Pakistan can utilise its membership to fulfil its energy requirements. The Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India pipeline will also provide 13.8 billion cubic metres of gas to Pakistan. Unfortunately, after the regime change in Afghanistan, the work on this pipeline was **halted** روک دیا گیا . However, the Taliban government has assured Turkmenistan of **resuming** بحال کرنا the work on the pipeline soon.

Another important organisation is D-8, which includes Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Egypt, Iran, Malaysia, and Turkey. Recently, Bangladesh's Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen who is also chairman of the D-8 ministerial said that, in the last 25 years, trade between the member countries increased from \$40 billion to \$139 billion. He also expressed plans for increasing trade volume in the coming years. Pakistan must use this as an opportunity to expand its export base.

Pakistan along with Turkey and Iran founded ECO, which now has 10 member countries including 6 Central Asian countries that are rich in energy resources. ECO mainly focuses on intra-regional trade. Considering that 7 member countries are **landlocked**, Pakistan is the only member country that provides a natural sea **route** راستہ to 6 of the countries. Therefore, Pakistan must take advantage of its geostrategic location to secure its interests.

In 1985, SAARC was created to promote economic, cultural, and scientific cooperation among the member states. However, the **tense** کشیدہ relationship, **bilateral** دوطرفہ disputes,

and political problems between India and Pakistan **paralysed** any progress. مفلوج کر دیا

Pakistan's failure to benefit from the **aforementioned** مذکورہ بالا organisations stems from internal political **instability** عدم استحکام, a weak trade structure, and poor bilateral relations with neighbouring countries. Regional organisations help promote peace, progress, and **prosperity** خوشحالی among member states, which **paves the way** راہ ہموار کرتی ہے for socio-economic development. Therefore, Pakistan must **delve** غور کرنا into reforming trade policies and work with regional organisations to achieve economic progress. The country must set aside differences with neighbours, particularly India to **boost** کرنا اضافہ regional economic activity. Given our geographical pre-eminence, we must utilise regionalism efficiently to improve our economic conditions.

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nationalist

noun

a person who strongly identifies with their own nation and vigorously supports its interests, especially to the exclusion or detriment of the interests of other nations.

a person who advocates or supports the political independence of a particular nation or people

communism, political and economic doctrine that aims to replace private property and a profit-based economy with public ownership and communal control of at least the major means of production (e.g., mines, mills, and factories) and the natural resources of a society. Communism is thus a form of socialism—a higher and more advanced form, according to its advocates. Exactly how communism differs from socialism has long been a matter of debate, but the distinction rests largely on the communists' adherence to the revolutionary socialism of Karl Marx.

semiconductor

noun

a solid substance that has a conductivity between that of an insulator and that of most metals, either due to the addition of an impurity or because of temperature effects. Devices made of semiconductors, notably silicon, are essential components of most electronic circuits

geopolitical

adjective

relating to politics, especially international relations, as influenced by geographical factors

The **IISS** Asia Security Summit: The **Shangri-La Dialogue (SLD)** is a "Track One" inter-governmental security conference held annually in Singapore by an independent think tank, the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS). The dialogue is commonly attended by defence ministers, permanent heads of ministries and military chiefs of mostly Asia-Pacific states. The forum's name is derived from the Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore, where it has been held since 2002

The **Motor Sich Joint Stock Company** in Zaporizhzhia is one of the largest engine manufacturers for airplanes and helicopters worldwide. It manufactures engines for airplanes and helicopters, and also industrial marine gas turbines and installations.

Founded: 1907

Headquarters: Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine

"Toe the line" is an idiomatic expression meaning either to conform to a rule or standard, or to stand poised at the starting line in a footrace. Other phrases which were once used in the early 1800s and have the same meaning were "toe the mark" and "toe the plank"

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (**SCO**) is a Eurasian political, economic and security organization.[3] In

terms of geographic scope and population, it is the world's largest regional organization, covering approximately 60% of the area of Eurasia, 40% of the world population, and more than 30% of global GDP

Founded June 15, 2001, headquarter is in China

The **South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation** is the regional intergovernmental organization and geopolitical union of states in South Asia. Its member states are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Founded: December 8, 1985, Dhaka, Bangladesh

The **D-8** Organization for Economic Cooperation, also known as Developing-8, is an organisation for development co-operation among the following countries: Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Turkey.

Founded: June 15, 1997, İstanbul, Turkey

Headquarters: İstanbul, Turkey

Founder: Necmettin Erbakan

The Economic Cooperation Organization or **ECO** is an Asian political and economic intergovernmental organization which was founded in 1985 in Tehran by the leaders of Iran, Pakistan, and Turkey. It provides a platform to discuss ways to improve development and promote trade and investment opportunities.

Founded: 1985

Headquarters location: Tehran, Iran

Regionalism is a political ideology that seeks to increase the political power, influence, and/or self-determination of the people of one or more subnational regions. It focuses on the "development of a political or social system based on one or more" regions and/or the national, normative or economic interests of a specific region, group of regions or another subnational entity, gaining strength from or aiming to strengthen the "consciousness of and loyalty to a distinct region with a homogeneous population", similarly to nationalism. More specifically, "regionalism refers to three distinct elements: movements demanding territorial autonomy within unitary states; the organization of the central state on a regional basis for the delivery of its policies including regional development policies; political decentralization and regional autonomy.

landlocked

adjective

(of a country or region) almost or entirely surrounded by land.
(of a lake or harbour) enclosed by land and having no navigable route to the sea