



Consortium of Indo-Pacific  
Researchers

## **Indo-Pacific Weekly Mail Oct 30 - Nov 5, 2023**

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Greetings Colleagues,

The Consortium is pleased to share its latest newsletter for the Indo-Pacific. Press reply button for your feedback and comments.

### **U.S. Secretary on Economic Approach Toward the Indo-Pacific**



Figure 1: X (formerly twitter) IMAGES

U.S. Treasury Secretary Jenet Yellen delivered a major speech on U.S. economic strategy towards the Indo-Pacific. She said, “Indo-Pacific region is at the center of the 21st-century global economy.” In her remarks, she highlighted three priorities of the Biden administration’s Indo-Pacific economic approach: increasing trade and investment, bolstering economic resilience, and cooperating on global challenges. Her speech is essential at the time ahead of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in California in late November. She also said that Washington does not intend to decouple from China, the region’s largest economy and the world’s second-largest next to the United States but seeks to diversify by investing domestically and strengthening ties with trusted partners in the region. “We’ve put forward a vision of the world grounded in values we share with these allies and partners and in which there is also a healthy and stable economic relationship between the United States and China,” she said.

The Secretary made it clear that countries in the Indo-Pacific are not forced to take sides, as it would have significant negative global repercussions, and the United States has no interest in such a divided world and its disastrous effects. It is worth mentioning that during [her visit to China](#) in July 2023, she referred to it as a 'step forward' in U.S.-China relations. She also emphasized the increasing trade and technology partnership with India, the largest democracy in the world, where she traveled four times this year. She stated that U.S.-India bilateral trade exceeded \$190 billion in 2022, and goods exports grew by almost 20 percent between 2021 and 2022; and services exports by 40 percent."

U. S. is also strengthening its relationships with allies and partners like Vietnam, South Korea, Japan, Singapore, and India in light of increasing global competition with China. Secretary stated, “The United States has long been a Pacific nation, and it is abundantly clear we remain one today.” She further states, "Claims that America is turning away from the Indo-Pacific are wholly unfounded. We are deepening our economic ties across the region, with tremendous potential benefits for the U.S. economy and for the Indo-Pacific.” [Read More](#)

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## **Kishida’s Visit to Philippines and Malaysia**

Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida [visited](#) Manila and Malaysia on Nov. (3-5). He first reached Philippines and met President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. amid rising tension in the South China Sea. Kishida seeks to bolster military ties and security cooperation with Manila. He addressed to the joint session of Congress, and said, [multilayered cooperation among allies and like-minded countries is "crucial" as the international community is now at a "historic turning point" and the international order that is based on the rule of law "under serious threat."](#) [Read More](#)

In his speech in Kuala Lumpur Japanese P.M said that Japan wants to further cooperate with Malaysia in maintaining and enhancing maritime connectivity and stability in the region. He further sated that “Japan also strongly supports mainstreaming the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP), which shares fundamental principles with FOIP. While promoting such efforts, Japan will further cooperate with

Malaysia, which is located at an important sea lane connecting the Indian and the Pacific Oceans.” [Read More](#)

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## **Bhutan King's official visit to India**

The King of Bhutan, Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, has arrived in India for his official week-long visit. The visit will be significant in India-Bhutan relations as India seeks to enhance its relations with neighboring countries with the Neighborhood First policy. It is worth mentioning that Bhutan is very crucial in the Sino-India conflict due to the [Doklam dispute](#) and Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh), the flashpoints of India and China rivalry. Recently, China and Bhutan conducted their 25th round of boundary talks in Beijing and signed a cooperation agreement regarding the Bhutan-China boundary. [Read More](#)

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## **Indo-Pacific Quiz**

Which South Asian country was recently hit with an earthquake?

- a. Nepal
- b. Bhutan
- c. Sri Lanka
- d. India

Which countries were involved in the Doklam Standoff?

- a. China-India
- b. Pakistan-India
- c. China-Taiwan
- d. China-Bhutan

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## Consortium Highlights

Consortium International Conference, Nov 1-4'  
2023



**Consortium of Indo-Pacific Researchers**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference 2023 (Virtual)**

**Alliances and Partnerships in the Indo-Pacific: Elevating Strategies and Interests**

**November 1<sup>st</sup> -4<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Plenary Session: The Emerging World Order and Ukraine War**

**Panel: U.S. and IOR Region with Reflections on Quad: Strategic Priorities and Partnerships**

**Panel: U.S.-ASEAN Partnership, Free and Open Indo-Pacific**

**Panel: The AUKUS: Strengthening Security and Alliances**

**Panel: U.S.-Japan-Korea: Trilateral Security Alliance and regional challenges**

**Panel: U.S. and Taiwan Partnership Amidst Geopolitical Competition**

**Panel: Pacific Islands: A Growing strategic Importance**

**Panel: Historical Lessons from the Pacific Alliances**

**Panel: India-Israel-U.S.-U.A.E. (I2U2): Expanding Partnership**

**Panel: Bay of Bengal Partnership in the Indo-Pacific**

**Panel: Students /Interns Panel**

**Knowledge Partners:**

**WVM** Wisconsin Veterans Museum USA

**AMITY UNIVERSITY** AIIS, Amity University, India

**American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB)**

Please visit the website for more

details: <https://indopacificresearchers.org/international-conference-2023/>

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