



Consortium of Indo-Pacific
Researchers

Indo-Pacific Weekly Mail November 17-23, 2025

Greetings Colleagues,

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

Ramaphosa Hosts G-20 Leaders in South Africa



Figure 1: G-20 Leaders gather in Johannesburg, South Africa /Image/g20.org/

The G-20 Leaders met on November 22-23 in Johannesburg with the theme of Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability. South Africa's G-20 Presidency firmly adheres to the United Nations SDG goals and underscores the cooperation between countries to deal with the shared challenges of the inclusive future.

The group comprises 19 countries (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Türkiye, the United Kingdom, and the United States), the European Union, and, since 2023, the African Union.

The assembled leaders unanimously adopted a joint declaration emphasizing multilateral cooperation. The declaration outlines commitments to climate change mitigation, addressing economic inequality, supporting low- and middle-income countries in managing debt vulnerabilities, facilitating disaster relief, ensuring energy security, and promoting the resolution of disputes through dialogue. In the G-20 joint declaration, Ramaphosa stated that it was a 'victory for multilateralism.' He said, "While our challenges are many, our capacity to confront them is great. As we share this meal, let us remember why the G20 exists – to bring nations together, to bridge divides, and to forge solutions that none of us could achieve alone."

It is important to mention that the United States boycotted the Johannesburg summit because of the claim that South Africa's government has been discriminating against the White-minorities by killing and land grabbing. The US President raised this issue with the South African President at the Oval Office in the summer. The US also opposed the G-20 agenda of

climate, diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), and debt sustainability for developing nations. Consequently, there was no ceremonial handover between the outgoing and incoming G20 chairs.

The next year's G-20 summit is scheduled to take place in the United States.

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US Approves \$93 Million Arms Sale to India

The US State Department has approved two arm sales to India of worth \$92.8m, include Javelin anti-tank missiles and Excalibur Projectiles. The approved defense sale is a step ahead in strategic partnership between two countries despite the trade and tariff frictions. is and related equipment for an estimated cost of \$47.1 million.

The deal consists of Javelin Missile System and related equipment for an estimated cost of \$45.7 million and Excalibur Projectiles for an estimated cost of \$47.1 million. The US-India defense cooperation agreement was signed in October 2025. With this agreement, India's defense trade with the US has grown from almost nothing to \$20bn, making the US its third-largest arms supplier after Russia and France.

As per the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA), "This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to strengthen the U.S.-Indian strategic relationship and to improve the security of a major defense partner which continues to be

an important force for political stability, peace, and economic progress in the Indo-Pacific and South Asia regions.” [Read More](#)

Malabar Military Exercise2025 Wraps up in Hawaii

The United States, alongside Japan, Australia, and India, has successfully concluded the Malabar exercise in Guam. This year marks the 29th iteration of the exercise, which began in 1992 as a bilateral exercise between the United States and India. The exercise has since evolved in scope and complexity and now includes Japan and Australia. This marks the sixth time that all four nations have participated in Malabar to advance the collective planning, integration and employment of advanced warfare tactics across participating nations.

Australian, Indian, Japanese, and U.S. maritime forces routinely operate together across the Indo-Pacific in support of regional security and stability. The Malabar planning and exercise lead rotates each year among participating nations, along with the exercise location to demonstrate the combined ability to exercise across the entire Western Pacific and Indian Oceans.

U.S. 7th Fleet is the U.S. Navy's largest forward-deployed numbered fleet and routinely interacts and operates with allies and partners in preserving a free and open Indo-Pacific region. [Read More](#)

Violent Bangladesh: A Death Sentence to Sheikh Hasina

The Bangladesh International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) has issued a verdict sentencing former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to death in absentia on charges of crimes against humanity, stemming from her violent suppression of the Zen Z protests that occurred last year. In the aftermath of these demonstrations, she sought refuge in India and has been residing there since then.

She led Bangladesh for over fifteen years, during which time the country experienced significant economic growth. At the same time, she maintained robust relations with India and secured economic and security deals. However, her tenure was also marked by allegations of human rights violations and suppression of political opposition. The execution of Hasina would significantly impact the political landscape of South Asia; however, it is yet to be seen what lies ahead in the future of the Bangladesh political moment.

It is worth noting that Parliamentary elections in Bangladesh are scheduled for February 2026 under the leadership of an interim government chaired by Professor Muhammad Yunus. [Read More](#)

Indo-Pacific Quiz

Which country boycotted G-20 South Africa Summit?

- a. Türkiye
- b. USA
- c. China
- d. Mexico

How many provinces does China have?

- a. 21
- c. 22
- b. 23
- d. 24

Consortium Highlights

- ❖ View: Examining US Grand Strategy and Euro-Atlantic Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific. [Read Here](#)
- ❖ Upcoming Book-Talk: Is Taiwan a Dangerous Flashpoint? December 2, 2025, 8:00 AM EST.

Indo-Pacific Quiz Key

Here are the **Answers** for November 16 Newsletter Quiz

Q. Where was the Conference of the Parties (COP 30) climate summit held?

- d. Brazil

Q. Which Former Prime Minister of a South Asian nation has received a death sentence from its International Crimes Tribunal?

- a. Bangladesh

Contributions: Indu Saxena

