



Consortium of Indo-Pacific
Researchers

Indo-Pacific Weekly Mail Oct 23 - 29, 2023

Greetings Colleagues,

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

Albanese's State Visit to the U.S.



Figure 1: The Guardian/Tasos Katopodis/Getty Images

U.S. President Biden hosted Australia's Prime Minister Anthony Albanese for an official State Visit at the White House, October 24 - 26' 2023. In an [arrival ceremony at the White House](#), Biden stated, "As two proud Pacific nations, we're ensuring the Indo-Pacific remains free, open, prosperous, and secure, including through our historic AUKUS partnership with the United Kingdom." Both leaders stressed managing the competitive relations with China; President Biden said in the joint press conference, "We are in extreme competition with China but not in conflict."

Albanese visit is seen crucial as the U.S. is shoring up on alliances at the tumultuous time of war: Russia- Ukraine in Europe and now Israel-Hamas in the Mideast. Biden said, "Together, we're standing with Israel against Hamas terrorism. We're standing with Ukraine against Putin's tyranny." Albanese [reiterated](#) the strength of the U.S-Australia alliance and said, "This is at the heart of our alliance, the soul of our partnership. Not a pact against a common enemy, a pledge to a common cause. A shared belief that freedom, peace, and equality are not just American ideals or Australian values, they belong to all humankind." He further stated, "Our alliance has been shaped by history, and it is ready to shape the future."

It's worth noting that Albanese is scheduled to visit Beijing next, and this could be a positive sign towards repairing the strained relationship between China and Australia. Recently, [China has lifted the ban](#) on wine as the third Australian product after coal and barley. The export ban has been the main cause of diplomatic tension between the two countries since 2021. [Read More](#)

Blinken Meets with Wang Yi in Washington, D.C.

The U.S. Secretary of State Mr. Anthony Blinken hosted China's Foreign Minister and the Director of CCP Mr. Yang Yi on Oct. 26-28. The two leaders engaged in 'constructive and in-depth discussions' on various regional and global issues. They also explored the possibility of collaborating and maintaining an open line of communication. The meetings spanned over two days and lasted for more than 7 hours. During this time, they discussed several topics, including disrupting the worldwide flow of synthetic drugs, the Hamas attack on Israel, the Russia-Ukraine conflict, and the DPRK's missile launch. Both leaders highlighted the significance of working together to confront the shared challenges of climate change, public health, and food security. [Read More](#)

U.S.-Indonesia- 2+2 Foreign Policy and Defense Dialogue

This is the first time the U.S. and Indonesia's Senior Officials on Foreign Policy and Defense met in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 23, 2023. The two sides reaffirmed their leaders' intentions to elevate the U.S.-Indonesia relationship to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, deepening cooperation across multiple sectors. The U.S. officials Daniel Kritenbrink and Ely Ratner underscored the United States' continued support for ASEAN centrality and the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific. Furthermore, Indonesian President Widodo's upcoming visit to Washington, D.C., is a positive signal for enhancing the U.S.-Indonesia relationship. On the other side, China has also been expanding its economic and political ties with Indonesia; Li Qiang [visited](#) China in Sept. 2023 and announced a new Chinese investment of \$ 21.7 billion. [Read More](#)

IPEF Talk held in Kuala Lumpur, Oct. (15-24), 2023

Sixth Negotiating Round of Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) for Prosperity took place in Malaysia. The negotiations among the IPEF partners are ongoing and they are making steady progress towards high-standard outcomes under Pillars I (Trade), III (Clean Economy), and IV (Fair Economy). [Read More](#)

Protest and violence Erupted in Bangladesh

In a protest rally in Dhaka, violence broke out between the supporters of the Bangladesh National Party (BNP), the main opposition party, and the ruling party, *Awami League*. The authorities [arrested](#) the main opposition party leader, Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir. Now, the opposition party [is demanding the resignation](#) of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who has been in power for three consecutive terms. The situation in Bangladesh is delicate as any outbreak of violence ahead of the new general elections can escalate into a political crisis if the precautionary measures to calm the protesters are not exercised in a timely manner.

Indo-Pacific Quiz

Which country will hold the position of ASEAN Chair in the year 2024?

- a. Laos
- b. Cambodia
- c. Indonesia
- d. Singapore

Which country recently had its product ban lifted by China after three years?

- a. Japan
- b. Italy
- c. Australia
- d. France

Consortium Highlights

Upcoming: Consortium International Conference, Nov 1-4' 2023



The banner for the Consortium of Indo-Pacific Researchers 2nd International Conference 2023 (Virtual) features a blue sky and ocean background. It includes the Consortium logo, a QR code, and a list of panels and knowledge partners.

Consortium of Indo-Pacific Researchers
2nd International Conference 2023 (Virtual)

Alliances and Partnerships in the Indo-Pacific: Elevating Strategies and Interests
November 1st - 4th, 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:

-  Wisconsin Veterans Museum, USA
-  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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