



Consortium of Indo-Pacific
Researchers

Indo-Pacific Weekly Mail July 8-14, 2024

Greetings Colleagues,

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

NATO's Indo-Pacific Partners Attended its 75th Anniversary Summit



Figure 1: NATO Secretary General and U.S. President with its Indo-Pacific Partners/ IMAGE /<https://www.nato.int/>

During the 75th-anniversary celebration of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Washington from July 9-11, 2024, member nations prominently showcased their solidarity and commitment to stand with Ukraine against Russia's invasion. However, it's also crucial to emphasize NATO's expanding involvement with its Indo-Pacific partners, such as Australia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and New Zealand. Following the Madrid summit in 2022, NATO countries have significantly strengthened their collaboration and engagement with these Indo-Pacific partners, underscoring the organization's evolving global strategy.

In the [Washington Summit Declaration](#) statement, the People's Republic of China (PRC), is referred to as the "decisive enabler" of Russia's war against Ukraine due to its "No-Limits" Partnership with Russia. Reports indicate that China has been actively involved in transferring dual-use materials, including weapons components, equipment, and raw materials, to Russia, thereby significantly contributing to Russia's war efforts. NATO leaders are urging the PRC, as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, to take responsibility for upholding the principles of the United Nations Charter. Furthermore, the statement highlights the significance of the Indo-Pacific for NATO, with NATO countries expressing their commitment to

deeper engagement in addressing cross-regional challenges such as cyber defense, countering disinformation, and providing support to Ukraine.

In a [joint conference](#) with German Chancellor Olaf, Japanese Prime Minister Mr. Kishida referred to the security challenges in Eastern Europe and the Middle East, stated, "Security in the Euro-Atlantic and Indo-Pacific regions are inseparable." Also, NATO's Secretary General extended a warm welcome to the Prime Minister of New Zealand: "What happens in Europe matters for the Asia Pacific, and what happens there matters for us". He elaborated on his comments, emphasizing that "security is not regional, security is global."

This proactive approach demonstrates NATO's readiness to enhance the collective security and defense approach in the Indo-Pacific. [Read More](#)

BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers Meet in New Delhi

The 2nd Retreat of the Foreign Ministers of the [Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation](#) (BIMSTEC) was hosted by New Delhi. The Foreign Minister discusses and explores the

ways of cooperation across various sectors, including in the fields of security, connectivity, trade and investment, people-to-people contacts in the Bay of Bengal region and littoral. Indian Foreign Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar [said](#), "For India, BIMSTEC represents the intersection of its 'Neighborhood First' outlook, the 'Act East Policy' and the 'SAGAR' vision. Each of these endeavors is being purposed with a specific focus on the Bay of Bengal, where collaborative potential has long remained underrealized. Our challenge is to change that for the better and to do so rapidly." The leaders also convened with Indian Prime Minister Modi. Since assuming office for a third term, Modi has prioritized establishing a resilient and robust regional partnership. [Read More](#)

KP Sharma Oli Becomes the New Prime Minister of Nepal

K P Sharma Oli [will take the oath as the new Prime Minister of Nepal](#), replacing Pushp Kamal Dahal after he lost the confidence vote in the House of Representatives. The new coalition government, which is comprised of parties Unified Marxist Leninist (UML) led by Oli and Nepali Congress of Sher Bahadur Deuba, will lead the country until the next election in 2027. Prime Minister Oli is considered a pro-China

leader. It is uncertain how the state led by Oli in the Himalayas will interact with India in the region, especially considering India's strained relations with China. This dynamic could significantly impact the geopolitical landscape in the region. [Read More](#)

Australia Announces its New Indo-Pacific Broadcasting Strategy

The Australian government's Indo-Pacific Broadcasting Strategy is designed to strengthen connections with its regional partners by expanding access to reputable, trusted, and reliable news sources and providing high-quality content. This initiative aims to promote greater understanding and collaboration throughout the Indo-Pacific region through the dissemination of accurate and informative media content. As per the media release, “The Strategy provides a framework to help foster a vibrant and independent media sector, counter misinformation, present modern multicultural Australia, and support deeper people-to-people engagement.” [Read More](#)

Indo-Pacific Quiz

Which Country Acceded the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) in July 2024?

- a. Kiribati
- b. Djibouti
- c. Federated States of Micronesia
- d. Comoros

How Many members are there in the BIMST-EC Grouping?

- a. Five
- b. Seven
- c. Six
- d. Eight

Consortium Highlights

❖ A Podcast on **Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza**. Consortium member Rachelle Abboud speaks with Dr. Nahreen Ahmed who served as health worker in conflict Zone. [Listen Here](#)

❖ Roundtable Discussion on **Modi-Putin Summit: Analyzing Regional Dynamics** on July 15th, 2024 @ 09:30 AM EST [Zoom Link](#)



Consortium of Indo-Pacific Researchers
invites for a
Roundtable discussion on
Modi-Putin Summit: Analyzing the Regional Dynamics

July 15th, 2024 @ 9:30 AM New York Time / 7:00 PM Delhi Time / 10:30 PM Tokyo Time



Satoru Nagao, Ph. D.
Non-Resident Fellow,
Hudson Institute,
Japan.
Panelist



**Amb.(Fmr.) Anil
Trigunayat,**
India.
Panelist



Nataliya Butyrskaya, Asia
Expert, Ukraine.,
Panelist



Michael Kugelman,
Director, South Asia
Institute, Wilson Center,
USA.
Panelist



Indu Saxena,
Ph.D., Senior
Fellow, CIPR, US/
Chair

[Zoom link](#)

Contributions: Indu Saxena