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Question

The intensifying rivalry between the United States and China often dubbed a "New Cold War", cast a long shadow over global affairs. Critically analyze the potential future trajectories of this conflict, assess its impact on Pakistan's strategic environment, and evaluate the implication of U.S support for India in this context. Discuss the range of options available to Pakistan

Introduction:-

The intensifying rivalry between United States and China often dubbed a "New Cold War" has significant implications for global geopolitics including Pakistan's strategic environment. U.S support for India add another another layer of complexity to the region's geopolitical dynamics. To navigate this complex landscape, Pakistan must consider various options.

New Cold War and Pakistan's Balancing Act: Navigating a Complex Geopolitical Landscape

The escalating rivalry between United States and China is a modern-day new cold war throws a long shadow over global affairs and Pakistan sits squarely with its penumbra

Future trajectories

Three potential scenarios can be happen

1) Escalation between both powers

a) South China Sea :-

China has ramped up its military exercises and patrols in the South China Sea including near disputed island and reefs. This can lead to encounter with US warships and aircraft raising the risk of accident or miscalculations. (Wall Street 2 & dec)

b) Taiwan :-

The US has continued to sell arms to Taiwan including a recent deal for \$120 million worth of spare parts for Taiwanese warplanes. This has angered China which considers Taiwan a breakaway province (Reuters, December 22, 2023)

c) Technology :-

The US has imposed sanctions on several Chinese tech companies citing national security concerns. This has strained economic ties and led to retaliatory measures from China (BBC, December 15, 2023)

a) Containment measures between USA & China :-

a) Military Containment :-

USA increased military presence in the Indo-Pacific. The US has deployed 60% of its naval fleet to the Indo Pacific (RAND Cooperation, 2023). As well as, US has conducted a number of military exercises with allies in the region including Japan, Australia, India and South Korea.

b) Economic Containment :-

The US has

imposed important-tariffs on over \$300 billion worth of Chinese ~~worth of~~ goods; and China has retaliated with tariffs on about \$110 billion worth of US goods

2) Technology Containment :-

The US has banned Huawei and ZTE from its telecommunication network, citing national security concern.

3) Cooperation :-

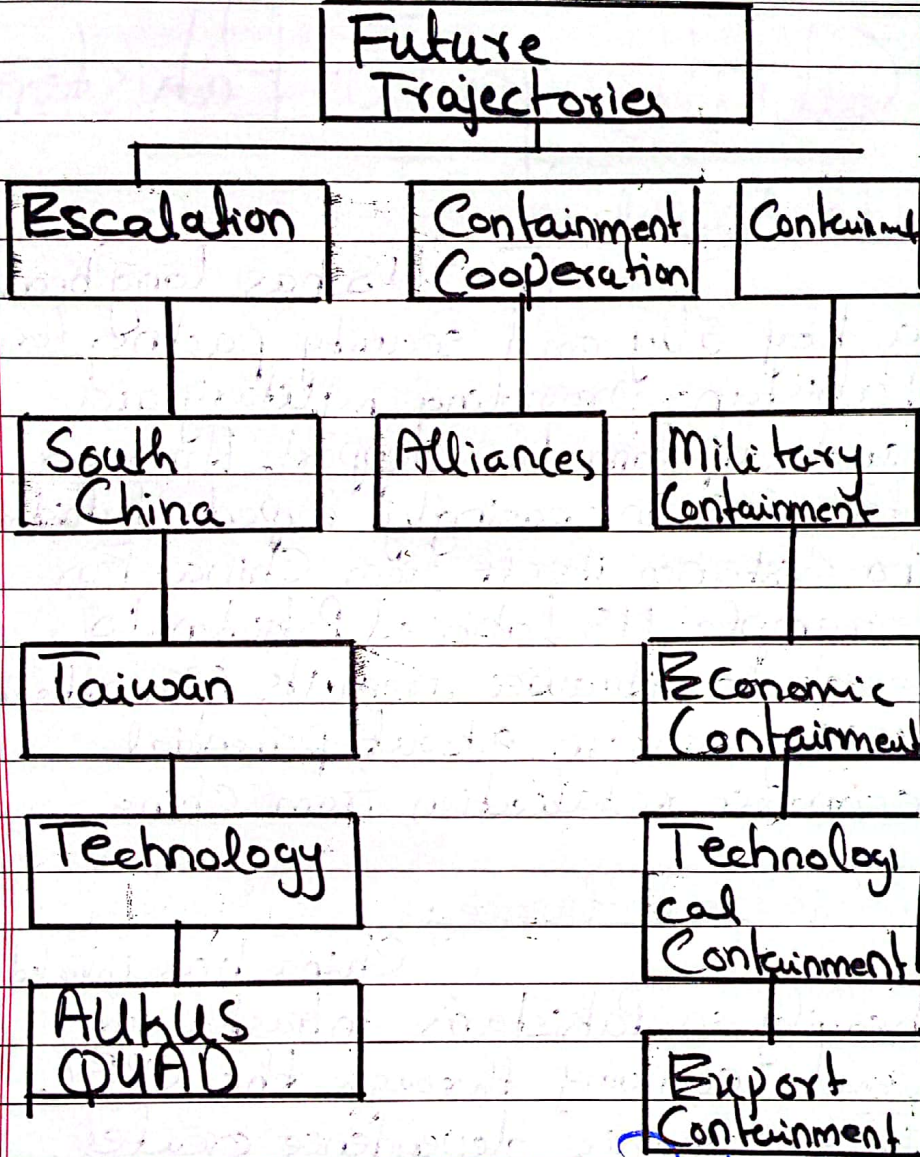
Recognizing the international nature of their economies and the global challenges they face both nations eventually prioritize collaboration over competition leading a more stable international order.

Challenges and Opportunities for Pakistan

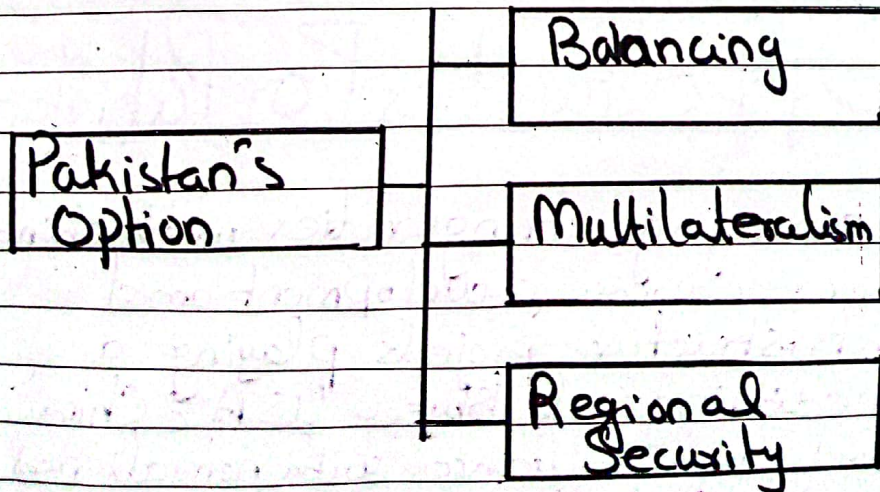
Impacts on Pakistan

Challenges

Opportunities



Options For Pakistan



Challenges For Pakistan

1) US Appeal:-

The US has long been a key ally and security partner for Pakistan, providing military aid and diplomatic support. However, the US increasingly expects Pakistan to distance itself from China. For example, US lobbied Pakistan to exclude Huawei from its 5G network raising concern about potential economic retaliation from China.

2) Chinese Influence:-

China has invested heavily in Pakistan's infrastructure and economy through the CPIC. This economic dependence creates pressure on Pakistan to be accommodating towards Chinese interest.

Opportunities For Pakistan

Leveraging stronger ties with China for economic development and infrastructure projects playing a mediating role between USA & China and forging alliances with non-aligned state strengthen its autonomy.

Balancing Pakistan

1) Independent Foreign Policy :-

Pakistan can prioritize regional issues like counterterrorism and economic development, aligning policies with both powers whenever possible. Openly communicating Pakistan's foreign policy objective to both China & US.

2) Limited Military Cooperation :-

While maintaining security ties with both, Pakistan can avoid formal military alliances and refrain from participating in actions targeting the other power.

Multilateralism :-

Engaging with regional and international organizations to promoting dialogue and cooperation and building alliances with non-aligned states to reduce dependence on super powers.

Regional Security :-

Engaging

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in confidence-building measures with india to promoting regional peace initiatives and fostering cooperation on issues like climate change and water security.

Conclusion:-

The New Cold War presents challenges and opportunities for the world. Pakistan can navigate this complex landscape and carve out a secure and prosperous future for itself.