

Define Conflict of interests between USA and China. What are the implications of ongoing war in the general region and particular in Pakistan. What measures Pakistan should take to escape from this rivalry and secure its interests.

I Introduction

United States of America and China have long been indulged in conflicts and tussle over ideological domains. However, the confrontation has taken new dimensions with the passage of time. China's economic rise is one of the main dynamics aggravating USA's concerns about its global footing. Moreover, the technological war, the trade dispute, the clashes over economic alliances have intensified ~~changed~~ the global disharmony. Ostensibly, the ongoing rivalry between the two giants have severe repercussions on the global peace. Similarly, Pakistan, a developing state,

has entangled between the two countries. This could generate severe negative outcomes for Pakistan. Therefore, ~~the~~ the country should develop proactive approach to neutralise the geo-political consequences originating from USA-China strife.

II. Historical manifestation of USA-China hostility

i- Ideological tussle over Korean war

Korean war, which erupted in 1950, was between North and South Korea. USA backed South Korea and China supported North Korea. The tussle over communism and capitalism concluded in 1953.

ii- Escalation of tension over China's Nuclear test

In 1964, China conducted nuclear test. It has generated ^{concerns} fear among western countries, particularly USA due to the fear of spread of communist ideologies.

Thus, China's nuclear test was the path towards threatening USA global hegemony of nuclear arms competition.

iii- Taiwan Strait Crisis

In 1954, Taiwan Strait Crisis erupted when USA President Dwight Eisenhower lifted USA navy blockade opening vistas for Taiwan to deploy military troops near the island. Although USA endorsed One China Policy but at the backdoor, it has also supported Taiwan by enhancing its defense military capabilities. Thus, it has ignited aggression among China.

III. The continuation of disagreement in the 21st century

i- Concerns of USA over China's economic rise

China's economic boom has incited the sentiments of fear among USA regarding its global supremacy. China has

crossed Japan in 2010 and became second largest economy. Moreover, it has surpassed USA in purchasing power parity in 2016.

"It is on the track to overtake USA as the world's number one economy by 2027." (Jerm O'Neil)

ii- Rising trade war

USA-China has involved in trade war to counter each other economic rise.

2012	Trade deficit arose from \$273.1bn in 2010 to \$295.5bn in 2011
2018	Imposition of trade tariffs over \$34 billion
2019	Intensification of trade war by imposing tariffs on both sides
2019	Maneuvering of USA against Chinese Tech company by allegation of spying
1/2019	Designation of China as currency manipulator by the USA
2020	Phase One Deal by relaxing tariff restrictions proved ineffective

2021	Continuation of Trump strict policies by Biden
2022	Biden's China strategy to revive USA competitiveness
2022	Restrictions of USA-made computing chips to exporting China.

Figure: Timeline of USA-China Trade war

iii- Growing competition over regional influence through economic diplomacy

USA pivot towards Asia In 2011, USA has tried to engage Asian region through economic, military and security collaboration.

Free and Open Indo-Pacific This project has initiated by Japanese prime minister but endorsed by USA in its effort to contain China.

Belt and Road Initiative The mega project of China has spread over 144 nations in its strides to make the world free of doing economic investments.

iv- Military alliances for geo-strategic influences

In Indo-Pacific region, USA has endeavored to contain China's rise by making alliances like AUKUS and QUAD. Moreover, it has opened several military bases in the region in the guise of security imperatives. Whereas, China through the string of pearls strategy is striving to maintain its influence in the region.

v- Dollar Vs Yuan competition

Recently, dollar has acquired the sole of global reserve currency. But China is making efforts to replace dollar with its currency. The battle of currency supremacy is aggravating further tension between the two powers.

vi- An epic battle for tech supremacy
Semiconductor supremacy is gaining momentum in recent years. USA has endeavored to

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maintain its supremacy through export control
restrictions to china. But China however
company is striving hard to become
self-reliant in this domain.

vii- Reconciliation effort in Middle-East

Saudi-Iran rapprochement by China has
significantly reduced USA influence in the
region. Now it has become another point
of contention between two countries.

IV. Repercussions of USA-China rivalry

i- Threatening global peace

The conflict has the potential of
damaging the world peace because it
could culminate in the form of nuclear war.

ii- Regional alliances generating new battle ground for another war

By making alliances against each other,
USA and China to disharmony could
produce tussle in the world order by
pushing it towards another war

iii- Impact ^{on} of global economy

The tactics of disrupting smooth supply of commodities in the guise of sanctions and tariffs has restricted the world's economic standards to standstill.

V- Impacts on Pakistan

i- Raising economic concerns

USA-China rivalry has the potential of upsetting Pakistan's economic opportunities by disrupting the real spirit of CPEC.

ii- Maintaining balance between the countries is a hard nut to crack

It is hard for Pakistan to maintain balance between both countries because of the divergent of interests.

iii- Inciting security imperatives

The discord between USA and China could raise security imperatives in the region and particularly in Pakistan.

iv- Impact on stability

The ongoing disagreement has the capacity of igniting instability in Pakistan by over the question of alignment between USA and China.

VI. Policy options for Pakistan

i- Hedging approach between USA and China

Pakistan should attain proactive strategy, which it has done in 1970 by opening vista for USA-China ~~to~~ diplomatic relationship.

ii- Neutralising the rivalry by diplomatic balancing

Undoubtedly, by balancing ties with USA and China, Pakistan could adopt stability in terms of diplomatic relations.

iii- Strategic engagement policy rather than strategic alignment

Pakistan should engage with both countries on equal domains. Prioritizing one country over the ^{other} could only raise tensions.

iv- Economic partnership with both countries

There is an ample opportunity for Pakistan to make partnership with both countries and gain economic benefits.

VII Conclusion

In a nutshell, USA and China rivalry has profound implications on the geo-strategic, geo-politic, and geo-economic domains of the world. The conflict is not the story of the current era but it has its roots in the historical background, started with the debate of ideological preferences. Notwithstanding, the confrontation has reshaped in the form of trade and the clash in the form of technological supremacy. This continuation of ~~war~~ war has the potential of disrupting the world peace. Thus, Pakistan should adopt a neutral strategy by hedging between USA and China.