

How has the expansion of BRICS impacted its influence in global geopolitics.

Introduction

BRICS is mainly a geopolitical and economic cooperation group of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. It recently added five new members to its coalition.

The BRICS plus is the world's ~~and~~ largest geo-
one of the

political and economic organization after the UN. This makes it a major geopolitical influence on world politics.

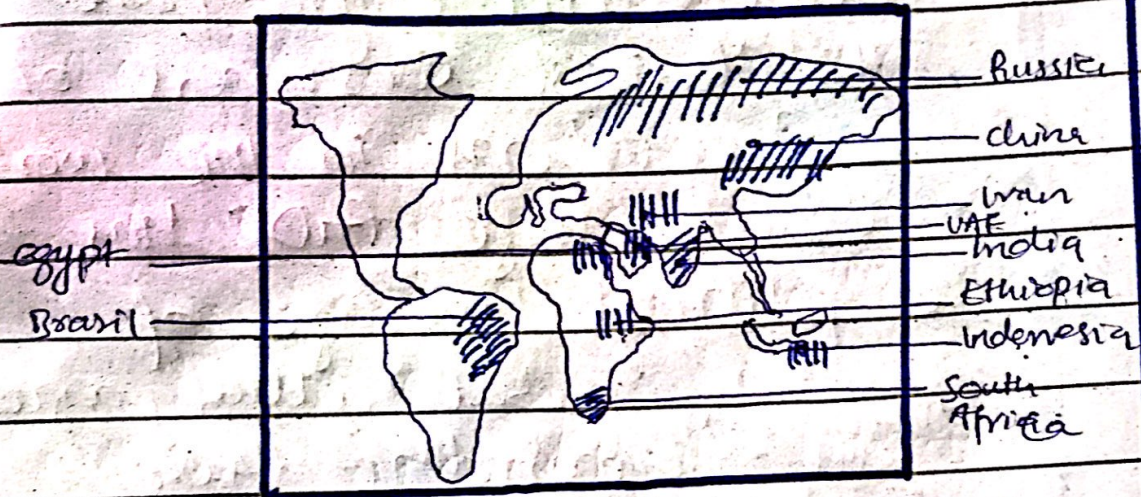
2- Assessment of the BRICS + geo political influence

BRICS plus has 55% of the world's population and 40% of the world GDP (measured as per ~~power~~ purchasing power Parity), 2015 according to the (IMF).

(i) BRICS + membership

BRICS members include Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, UAE, Ethiopia, Egypt, Indonesia and Iran. It also has 10 partnering countries. All these countries are

geopolitical and economic giants which enhances their geopolitical global political influence.



 BRICS

 BRICS plus countries.

(ii) Geopolitical economy of BRICS plus

Economy has always been a source of political influence. The BRICS countries have 40% of the world GDP (IMF). They have 23% of the world's hydrocarbon reserves. Russia is the

1st largest producer of gas and 2nd of oil. Iran is the 4th largest producer of gas and 5th of oil. India and China are the largest consumers of hydrocarbons in the world. Such huge GDP has a political leverage of forming global allies and ~~will~~ expanding their interests. Its GDP surpasses that G7.

(iii) Population of BRICS +

The BRICS plus has 55% of the world's population (IMF). This makes the organization a giant geopolitical entity. They can exert more influence on the world's countries and can attract them to join their block. On the contrary, the G7 has just 10% of the world

population.

(iii) De-dollarization

The BRICS plus is seeking the de-dollarization of the world. The member countries have signed currency swap agreement, which enable them to trade by exchanging their currencies. This measure particularly make the countries such as Iran and Russia to avoid supercede western sanction. The West has weaponized dollar against its adversaries. They sanction countries to trade which cripple down the sanctioned economy. China is also concerned about this problem that is why president Xi even suggest a BRICS currency just as EURO.

Due to China's currency swap agreements with over 40 countries, yuan has become the 2nd largest trading currency after dollar.

(iv) BRICS Banking

The BRICS newly developed bank provide loans for development, climate and poverty alleviation. This attracts international states actor to join the group who are facing troubles getting loans from IMF.

This BRICS bank further expands the geopolitical influence of BRICS via currency.

Contribution of money to the bank by member

State	Contribution in dollars
China	44 bn\$
Russia	18 billion
India	18 billion
Brazil	18 billion
South Africa	11 billion

have currency swap agreements to avoid dependence on Dollars. Pakistan, having a foreign reserves crisis, could benefit from by trading through its currency rather relying on Dollars. This would also reduce the outflow of dollars from the country and rupee devaluation.

Conclusion

BRICS is an economic cooperation organisation to further the economic and geopolitical interests of the members. The large economies and populations of the BRICS countries are the major sources of its world wide influence.