

Part II

Q.2. Saudi-Iran negotiations brokered by China

Introduction

In March 2023, China brokered a deal between Iran and Saudi Arabia under which the two regional rivals agreed to restore diplomatic ties. As surprising as the announcement of the deal between Iran and Saudi Arabia itself was the fact that the deal was brokered or facilitated by China and not the United States (US) which has been a key diplomatic player in the middle eastern region. The ~~also~~ announcement of the deal came from Beijing after days of ~~the~~ talks between Iran and Saudi Arabia behind closed doors. China's role as a diplomatic power in the region was subsequently strengthened at the expense of US' diplomatic hegemony over the region.

Restoration of diplomatic ties between regional rivals

Saudi and Iran have played the role of each other's adversaries for decades over a number of geopolitical issues and their fight for regional supremacy. Diplomatic ties between Iran

and Saudi Arabia were suspended after relations between the two deteriorated in 2016 following the killing of a Shia cleric in Saudi Arabia which led to the burning of Saudi embassy in Tehran. Under the diplomatic leadership of China, both countries have agreed to restore diplomatic ties after more than 7 years of frozen diplomatic relations.

Chinese role in brokering the deal

One of the most significant factors of this deal is the fact that it was facilitated by China and reached in Beijing. The US has historically held the position of a diplomatic leader in the region. China's growing diplomatic influence over the middle east has caused ripples globally which were strongly felt by the US.

China's Global Security Initiative

Chinese President Xi Jinping announced China's new Global Security Initiative in April 2022. The initiative while reiterating China's previous foreign policy and security statements also states that it seeks to challenge the confrontational and zero-sum approach and replace it with dialogue.

Partnership and win-win results. The deal between Iran and Saudi Arabia is also a part of this global initiative recently unveiled by China while also countering the US economically, militarily and strategically, China now wants to counter it diplomatically too through increasing its soft power.

China offers to resolve Israel-Palestine Issue

After brokering the deal between Iran and Saudi Arabia, China soon offered to play a role in resolving the decades old Israel-Palestine issue in the middle east. This shows China's increasing diplomatic interests in the region where major decisions have historically been made by the US.

United States' Pivot to Asia and a move away from the middle east

The US under its pivot to Asia Policy is focusing more on the Indo Pacific region in its efforts to counter the rise of China there but this has left a vacuum in the middle east. China has rushed into the middle east to fill this vacuum left by the US on diplomatic fronts.

China's BRI project linked with peace in the middle eastern region

China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) can earn dividends only if there is peace in the middle eastern region whose markets ~~the~~ China wants an access to for importing energy hydrocarbons and exporting manufactured goods. The success of the BRI project can be taken as a key factor behind China's eagerness to mediate bilateral deals in the region.

How China could prove a better mediator than the US

There are several reasons why China could prove itself a better mediator than the US. The US has dealt with the region in a rather authoritarian way. Its policies in the middle east have been deeply in favor of Israel which has emboldened the State of Israel.

China's Non-Interference Policy

Unlike the US which imposes its own ideas on other sovereign states, China upholds a policy of non-interference in the domestic or internal affairs of other states. This approach of China can prove it a better mediator than the US.

Non-coercive and Win-Win approach of China

China has a non-coercive approach towards other nations and promises win-win solutions for regional and global issues. Due to this, China can prove a better mediator than the US in middle eastern region.

this was the main qs and you have only added 2 arguments on it.

Conclusion

Under the Global Security Initiative (GSI), Xi Jinping is leading China towards a future of stronger diplomatic presence in regions like the middle east. The US, facing a dragon scare, is moving increasingly towards the Indo-Pacific region where it sees a growing influence of China. This move towards the middle east has left the middle east without its historical diplomatic leader which has left a vacuum in the region. China has availed itself of the opportunity by ~~not wanting to fill~~ this vacuum left by the US by brokering a historic deal between Iran and Saudi Arabia while also offering to resolve the Israel-Palestine issue.

short and incomplete answer. a 20 marks qs should have around 15 subheadings.

and should be on 7-9 sides of a page.

improve the paper presentation, headings quality, relevance and the references,

Q.3. The greatest danger to the international.

Introduction

The United States (US) and China have entered into the Thucydides Trap whereby a current global power or a hegemon is challenged by an emerging super power. China, despite its multiple assurances to the US and the West of its benign future, is seen by the West and the US as a challenge to the US led rule based global order. Peace is at stake in the rivalry between the two as developing nations are finding it hard to position themselves in this China-US rivalry. There are multiple manifestations of a growing rivalry between the US and China.

use relevant and self explanatory headings.

Cold War 2.0

China has accused the US on multiple occasions of having a cold war mentality towards China. Bloc politics are on the rise again. The war in Ukraine is believed to be a fight between the West and the East rather than just Russia and Ukraine. According to Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), the

global military spending in 2022 was 2.2 trillion dollars in the wake of the war in Ukraine. There is a rising level of distrust between global powers which is jeopardizing regional and international peace.

China-US Trade War and Global Markets' Security

The trade war between the US and China initiated by the former US president Donald Trump by adopting protectionist measures which were then retaliated by China could potentially disturb global markets where developing countries would face severe setbacks.

add references/examples against your arguments.

Militarization of the Indo-Pacific

The US, due to its reservations about China's rising influence in the Indo-Pacific region initiated a series of security pacts. Under the Australia-United Kingdom-US (AUKUS) pact, Australia would receive technology and cooperation from the US and UK to build and operate nuclear powered submarines which could easily access waters near China. Similarly the ~~QIA~~ Quadrilateral agreement signed by the US, India, Japan and Australia also is a tool to counter and contain

China in the Indo-Pacific. Countries like the Philippines, Indonesia and China have raised concerns over the US' moves towards militarizing the region which would cause instability in the Indo-Pacific.

Nuclear Arms Race (U. said)

In the words of United Nations (UN) Secretary General, "Diversity has replaced disarmament. The world is one miscalculation away from nuclear annihilation." The UN Secretary voiced concerns over the global nuclear race in the 10th review conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). China and the US are both nuclear powers. They have increased their nuclear spending in the past year by a significant margin. According to the Global Nuclear Spending, 2022 estimates by International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, the US spent 43.7 billion dollars on nuclear weapons. More than all other countries' nuclear spending combined. Similarly, the SIPRI estimated that the nuclear arsenal of China grew from 350 warheads in January 2022 to 410 in January 2023. Any conflict between the US and China would result in serious threats for global peace and humanity as a whole because

When two elephants fight, it is always the grass that gets trampled.

The Taiwan Issue

The Taiwan issue is a bone of contention between the US and China. Under the unification agenda of China, Taiwan would be, sooner or later, integrated into China even if by force. The US has over and over again warned China against doing so as it would trigger the US to retaliate. Provocations by the US like that of Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan back in 2022 have led to China conducting military drills around Taiwan. This issue of the Island of Taiwan can prove a major flashpoint between US and China which would have global repercussions vis a vis global peace and security.

Conclusion

The US and China are developing on two very different and often conflicting tines. The super power rivalry between China and the US poses a grave threat for international and regional peace and security. Bilateral relations are at a very low. Both countries ought to adopt confidence building measures to restore peace to regions like the Indo Pacific and South China Sea. International Peace

105 and security is tied to the course the US-China relationship takes

short and incomplete answer.

Q.5. The provision of F-16 and other Strategic weapons - - - - ?

Introduction

Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered the invasion of Ukraine on 24 February, 2022 after months of building up of troops on its borders with Ukraine. The war is believed to be a war between Russia and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). NATO allies have supplied Ukraine with western weapons to defend itself against Russian aggression without actually deploying troops in Ukraine to fight the war. It is believed by that this provision of weapons to Ukraine has prolonged the war without any serious efforts to resolve it, multiplying its cost.

Expansion of NATO and Russia's reservations

One of the key reasons behind Russia's initiation of the war in Ukraine is the expansion of NATO into the eastern Europe. Russia felt insecure at its borders when it talks of expansion of NATO membership with the entry

of countries like Ukraine, Finland and Sweden which led to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia.

US-led Nato Supplying weapons to Ukraine

The war in Ukraine has led to a unity among Nato members. Members have increased ~~there~~ their defence spending in order to be in a better position to help Ukraine fight off Russian aggression. Germany, France, UK and the US have been major suppliers of arms Ukraine for its war effort.

Provision of F-16s and air defence

The western powers have stopped short of providing Ukraine with air craft. Ukraine has been trying hard to get its hands on the US built F-16, but they haven't yet received the nod from the US. F-16s could be operated by highly trained fighter pilots which the Ukraine does not have yet. The US has not been clear about whether or not it would provide Ukraine with F-16s but it has stated several times that the soldiers in Ukraine must be trained first.

Ukraine's Counter-offensive against Russia

Ukraine has started its counter offensive against Russia aimed at regaining much of the lost territory. Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelenky has cited the absence of an air defence and attack system as a major factor why the counter offensive has not gained much.

Conflict Resolution Instead of Conflict Perpetuation

Both sides need to work towards conflict resolution instead of perpetuating it through a never ending supply of arms and ammunition.

Allowing China to play the role of a mediator

The western forces should allow China to leverage its influence over Russia and play a mediating role in resolving the Russian-Ukraine conflict. China recently proposed a 12 point Peace Plan for resolving the conflict but it was downright rejected by US-led western alliance without moving towards peace.

Allowing trade of essential goods throughout the war zone

Russia and Ukraine are the biggest exporters of staple food/grains like wheat and corn. Russia pulled out of the Black Sea Grain Deal brokered by

Turkey and the United Nations (UN) which has hampered the safe sailing of ships carrying food grains. Global food supply must not be disrupted due to wars as every person on earth has the right to have a belly full of food.

Conclusion

The war in Ukraine initiated by Russia has had serious repercussions globally and regionally. The global military spending has reached a record high. The US and European nations are supporting Ukraine against Russia by supplying it with military aid worth of billions of dollars. However, without efforts to resolve the issue through diplomacy, provision of military weapons would only perpetuate the war. In order to save human lives from being lost, the warring parties must be brought to the negotiating table where a mediator like China play a constructive role.

Q.4. There is an unprecedented rise in militancy ---

Introduction

Recently, Pakistan has

witnessed an unprecedented rise in militancy which has chiefly targeted law enforcement agencies. The government of Pakistan believes the rise of Taliban in neighboring Afghanistan to be the single most significant factor behind it. A breakdown of law and order situation in Pakistan, economic and political strife, insecurity at its borders and a rise in extremism and poverty have all contributed in varying degrees to this rise in militancy in Pakistan.

- The Taliban Government in Afghanistan.
- Breakdown of law and order situation in Pakistan
- Pakistan's appeasement policy towards the TIP in the form of ~~talk~~ talks with the terrorist organizations
- Insecure Borders
- ~~IFP~~ Afghanistan: a safe haven for TIP.
- Political and economic strife in Pakistan.

short and incomplete answer.

work on time management along with other pointed areas in the paper.