

Q2 Taiwan is a potential conflict between ---
--- most avoid the conflict.

Taiwan, officially known as Republic of China (ROC) plays a pivotal role in foreign policy of world's leading economies and military: United States of America (USA) and China. In 1949, the Chinese civil war led to the establishment of the People's Republic of China (PRC) on the mainland, while the ROC took control of the Taiwan. Since then, Taiwan has operated as a separate political entity, with its own government setup. USA also steered its formal government ties in 1979 after the enactment of Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) and recognized PRC as government. Before TRA, USA had established formal ties with ROC government based in Taiwan. Since the rise of China, USA has changed its Indo-Pacific strategy to contain the rise of China. So, Taiwan plays a significant role for both USA to in its Indo-Pacific strategy. While a war between China and the United States over Taiwan is neither imminent nor inevitable, rising tensions raise important first-order question that need

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to be addressed: Why Taiwan is important to both USA and China.

China ~~sees~~ ^{considers} Taiwan as its integral part of "One-China" policy. These claims were ~~repeat~~ repeatedly made by Chinese government and also President of China has expressed "reunification" of Taiwan with mainland China soon. So Taiwan holds a key position in China's "One-China" policy. Additionally if China allows Taiwan to maintain a separate governance, it could enhance other separatist movements that are currently being suppressed by Chinese authorities like in their western province of Xinjiang. Such movements could challenge the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) control over the country. Taiwan's geo-strategic position ~~also~~ is also crucial for China as it lies on First Island Chain which is a virtual line separating China from Pacific ocean. So, ~~cont~~ control over Taiwan would enhance China's influence in the Asia-Pacific region. Taiwan also holds a significant position in USA foreign policy and USA's Indo-Pacific Strategy. Taiwan acts as an barrier to China.

and any threat to Taiwan could potentially threaten the USA Asian All+ allies, e.g. Japan and Phill+ Philippines. Et Taiwan also hosts world's top semi-conductor foundaries. Nearly 70% of world's semi-conductor chips are manufactured in Taiwan. These chips are crucial of USA's technological advancement. So controlling Taiwan or anykind of blockades could seriously disrupt the world's supply chain of semi-conductors. Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, there fear of Taiwan's invasion by China has grown. If China successfully absorb Taiwan into mainland unilaterally, it would set a pattern of authoritarian countries ~~est~~ using force to change borders, ultimately challenging global world order.

So, Taiwan can bring two nuclear powers on brink of full-fledged war. But these conflicts this conflict could be averted. First, both China and USA needs to engage diplomatically over Taiwan issue and adress ^dmisunderstanding through dialogue to build trust. USA should reaffirm its commitment towards TRA while China needs to moderate its ~~re~~ rhetoric regarding reunification, especially in terms of military actions. A crisis management

System should be established including hotlines between military leaders which could prevent escalations that might lead to conflict.

Q5

Pakistan successfully conducted SCO conference ----- Islamabad to follow?

Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) is an intergovernmental organization founded in 2001 with aims and objectives: Strengthen relationships among member states, promote cooperation and ensure regional stability. SCO's main field of cooperation is security, economics and culture. By the passage of time, the broad field of cooperation has not changed but its geographical focus has shifted when Belarus and Iran became the member states of SCO. SCO is an important INGO as it has 4 member states who are nuclear powered. Pakistan is an ideally positioned country on the globe being at the crossroads of Central Asia, South West Asia and South Asia.

Pakistan is a natural link between SCO countries.

Pakistan on 15, 16 October, 2024, hosted Heads of Governments conference of SCO. It was an major event for Pakistan as all member countries participated in it. In conference, the members highlighted the significance of to counter protectionist policies which are contrary to World Trade Organization (WTO) policies. All member countries advocated for promotion of cooperation.

The successful host-conduct of SCO summit shows that Pakistan is not internationally isolated and Pakistan is still connected to major regional powers.

In 2025, Pakistan will be hosting International Cricket Council (ICC) Champions Trophy. India claimed that Pakistan should not host this event due to security concerns. This summit shows that Pakistan can host world leaders so can a cricket tournament. SCO summit provided Pakistan a key platform to build and revive its relations with Russia and Central Asian Republics.

Through this, Pakistan can enhance economic and strategic cooperation. SCO has a body dedicated to fight against terrorism known as Regional

Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS). Pakistan's engagement with RATS shows Pakistan's commitment to eliminate terrorism. Although ⁱⁿ such summits, bilateral issues cannot be discussed but SCO summit can play a crucial role in revival of India-Pakistan relations. Both countries can diplomatically engage on such platforms as both are looking for another handshake event that took place between Musharraf and Vajpayee.

Pakistan could take great advantage of SCO platform. Pakistan is currently facing terrorism wave across the country, so a meaningful engagement in RATS could be beneficial for both Pakistan and other member states. Since Cold War, Pakistan had strained ties with Russia. This platform ~~could~~ through this platform, Pakistan can engage with Russia and work towards a more stable region and explore ample economic opportunities. Currently, Pakistan is facing severe energy crisis which is impacting the economy and livelihood of individuals in Pakistan. Central Asian countries ~~could~~ are rich in energy sources and could address Pakistan's energy woes. Pakistan should also work towards in Central-Asia-South

Asia (CASA-1000) Power projects to meet the energy demands and fuel the economy. So Pakistan should actively engage in SCO summits and meetings to reap benefits as all SCO's objective and aims are in Pakistan's best interests.