

THE CHINA-INDIA NEXUS: CONFRONTING CHALLENGES IN THE ASIA PACIFIC

Dr. Munikrishna. C

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Government First Grade College, K R PURAM, Bangalore - 560036

ABSTRACT

The geopolitical landscape of the Asia Pacific is increasingly defined by the complex interplay between China and India, two of the world's largest and most influential nations. This article examines the multifaceted challenges that India faces due to China's expanding influence in the region. It delves into economic competition and cooperation, highlighting issues such as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and trade imbalances. The discussion extends to military tensions, particularly border disputes and maritime security concerns, emphasizing the strategic rivalry between the two nations. Diplomatic maneuvering, including India's participation in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) and regional engagement through ASEAN and BIMSTEC, is analyzed as part of India's strategy to counterbalance China's dominance. Technological advancements and infrastructure development are explored, alongside environmental and sustainability challenges such as resource management and transboundary river disputes. The article concludes by assessing how the evolving China-India nexus will shape the future of the Asia Pacific, impacting regional security, economic development, and diplomatic relations.

KEYWORDS: *China, India, Asia Pacific, Belt and Road Initiative, trade imbalance, border disputes, maritime security, Quadrilateral Security Dialogue.*

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