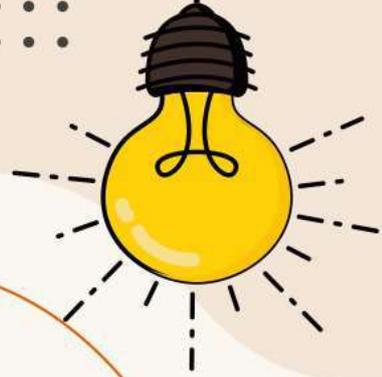




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31. US-China-Russia dynamics have created a foreign policy trilemma for India. Discuss the statement keeping national interest in mind.

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31. The US-China-Russia dynamics have created a foreign policy trilemma for India. Discuss the statement keeping national interest in mind.

Introduction

India must interact actively with all three major powers (US, Russia, China). This is due to the fact that there is no assurance that today's allies will not clash and that today's adversaries will not work together in the future.

Alterations in triangular ties between Russia, China, and the United States

Russia-China Convergence

- In the 1950s, they had extremely close connections owing to their common communist philosophy. In 1950, a formal treaty of alliance was concluded.
- China's nuclear programme was aided by the significant economic and scientific assistance provided by Russia.
- However, ties worsened in the 1960s, and in 1969 there was a skirmish between the troops.
- Both nations then sought to strengthen their ties with the United States as a countermeasure against the other. In the 1980s, however, relations returned to a degree of normality after American pressure.
- After the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the connection once again strengthened. It was owing to the western bloc's naive approach towards Russia.

Russia-US confrontational

- Russia, which now resents India's expanding strategic ties to the United States, has a long history of cooperating with Washington.
- Moscow and Washington wanted to build a new framework for shared global leadership while laying the groundwork for nuclear weapons limitation.
- The Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty system, with all its restrictions on India's atomic possibilities, was created by Moscow and Washington in the late 1960s. This system caused Delhi particular anxiety.

US-China Axis

- In the 1950s, their relationship was nasty. In the early 1950s, the nations fought each other in the Korean War.
- However, the growing differences with Russia and fear of two countries' global domination in the 1960-70s induced it to engage more with the U.S.
- As a sign of its allegiance to the United States, the Chinese leadership did not renew its security pact with Russia in 1980.
- China, with the aid of the United States, bolstered its economic might, which ultimately allowed it to become a future global leader.
- Despite this, China and the United States do not currently maintain a friendly relationship.

Impact of the Rivalry on India

- The resurgence of great power competition corresponds with
 - Difficult period in Indo-Chinese relations
 - Widening and deepening of Indo-US relations;
 - India's relations with Russia may not have the same warmth as in the past, but they remain essential in a variety of strategic sectors.
- Russia suggested a triangle consisting of Russia, China, and India to unite the three great nations. However, as a result of China's dismissive attitude and the burgeoning China-Pakistan axis, India began focusing its diplomatic efforts on a reconciliation with the United States.
- India's alignment with the United States on security and global concerns will also provide difficulties to India's independence of approach and participation in mini-lateral and plurilateral organisations such as the BRICS and the RIC, which include Russia and China as important interlocutors.
- In addition, India has little ability to sway Russia toward the United States, and it has no veto over Russia's strategic cooperation with China.
- The impending conference of the Quad foreign ministers in Australia and the scheduled summit of their leaders in Japan in May 2022 would provide some guidance for India's future manoeuvring among the big powers.

Way Forward

- India's strategy will be influenced by the new dynamic between the two coalitions as well as its own relationships with China, Russia, and the United States.



- India must evaluate the significance of coordinated Russian-Chinese operations. In circumstances such as the big power game, it is prudent to evaluate both words and actions. In the meanwhile, India must manage its disputes and balance its interests.
- India should use its sixth-largest economic potential and broad foreign policy foundation to properly balance its ties with the three.
- India sees no reason to exclude out significant changes in the short and medium-term relations with the United States, Russia, and China.
- India's best option would be to maintain distinct ties with Russia-China and the United States; otherwise, it stands the prospect of seeing its own space shrink.
- Leveraging Multilateral Institutions to Improve Relations: Promote mutually advantageous trilateral collaboration between Russia, China, and India, which might help reduce distrust and suspicion between India and China.

