

THEORETICAL AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF NON-TRADITIONAL MARITIME SECURITY

Author: Shivam Kumar Pandey

(Research Scholar, Rashtriya Raksha University)

Co-Author: Dr. Ashi Rooth Stuart

(Assistant Professor, St. John's College, Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Agra)

Abstract

The Indian Ocean Region (IOR) has become the primary energy and economic route for the world. The irregular, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing industry, illegal immigration, smuggling of weapons and drugs, maritime terrorism, piracy, and climate change are just a few of the non-traditional maritime security issues that the IOR littorals are worried about. This study looks at the patterns and causes of the aforementioned problems, as well as how these threats affect the IOR littorals.

Cooperation in the marine realm is primarily based on addressing non-traditional maritime hazards. The South China Sea and Indian Ocean Region's differing levels of instability and security-related problems offer India and ASEAN a wide range of challenges and collaborative strategies to collaborate. This essay examines a range of factors that potentially present India and ASEAN with opportunities to collaborate throughout the Indo-Pacific region to address the many common non-traditional hazards to the sea.

Keywords: Theoretical framework and Conceptual framework, Non-traditional maritime security

INTRODUCTION

The phrase "non-traditional security" needs to be dropped from discussions of maritime matters, either completely abandoned or limited to the opinions of international relations pundits who lack a basic understanding of the ocean. "Non-traditional security," a term that inadvertently found its way into the strategic discourse during the long, peaceful shadow of the previous Cold War, is little more than a hand wave that consigns human-centric security concerns to an obscure category devoid of any true significance. As a word, non-traditional security, at best, offers little useful in terms of operations or analysis. At worst, it distorts perceptions and threatens a fair approach to addressing the problems we confront, especially in the maritime sector.¹

The concept that history concluded with the fall of the Soviet Union contributes to the confusion surrounding the term "non-traditional security" as well as its origins. It was believed that in an allegedly post-modern world, nation-state conflict had either vanished or at least became less likely to occur, allowing fleets to concentrate entirely on establishing good order at sea. Naturally, nation-state rivalries never really went away, and great power rivalry has

¹ Acharya, Amitav, et.al. eds. 2006. *Studying Non-Traditional Security in Asia: Trends and Issues*. Singapore: Marshall Cavandish.

resurfaced to take up a significant portion of the strategic agenda. However, it can never fully dominate the space, just as it never did in the past, save from the world wars, regardless of how strongly armed the peace period in question was.

There isn't a definition provided by the US Navy for unconventional methods of security. Though it might be argued that the phrase is (incorrectly) used to refer to tasks unrelated to naval combat, there is no suitable framework for defining what topics are covered by it. Naturally, any problem that falls outside of the maritime services' primary "warfighting" competencies is then interpreted as non-traditional security. This is detrimental to the professional development of the services and overlooks most of naval history. The deliberate division of labour between the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Navy, which are overseen by different departments of the U.S. government—the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defence, respectively—accentuates this separation in the United States. Since the U.S. Navy no longer has any law enforcement authority, it has detached itself from many of the concepts that most maritime forces use to describe maritime security.

The majority of allied navies share the same unclear aims although lacking the administrative divides found in the sea services of the United States. The Royal Navy of Britain is one instance. The Royal Navy's oldest formation is a Fishery Protection Squadron, but in recent decades, the underfunded service has neglected that important national maritime security task in British waters in order to maintain its high intensity capabilities while devoting limited resources, most notably its personnel, to the mostly land-based conflicts in the Middle East. Paradoxically, the Royal Navy never gave up on this kind of activity in regions like the Caribbean where Britain acknowledges the need for ongoing obligations as the post-colonial authority. The British public's lack of awareness of the Royal Navy's significance to national security may have been exacerbated by its recent absence from its home waters, despite the fleet's extensive efforts in various seas and emergencies. This may have led to the underfunding of the force structure, which was only recently stabilised.

Since 2000, there has been a substantial change in the environment surrounding international security. There is currently a high probability of major armed conflict and interstate warfare declining, but the world is becoming more and more faced with a number of security difficulties that are not of a military character. Some instances of this non-military protection the security and well-being of states and societies are threatened by a number of issues, such as pandemics, climate change, food and water shortages, environmental degradation, and irregular migrations as well as international crimes like cybercrime. These dangers are demonstrating greater severity and a higher propensity to do more harm to more people than the historical risks of interstate conflicts and hostilities. Consequently, the States' security concerns have evolved, requiring for them to devise new and creative approaches to these novel problems.

Consequently, these have had significant effects on the characteristics of international cooperation between states and governance in security scholars and security analysts have observed that these advancements have once again raised the bring the discussions about reevaluating and redefining security to the forefront. Regarding this, let us begin by making two observations about how non-traditional security, or NTS, is evolving as a theory and a method of security. Despite mentioning the developing since the majority of the people on the planet is based in Asia, where the concept of NTS originated, advances conceptual research and policy pertaining to NTS practice are being observed in other sections of the globe.

NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY: IDEA AND INFORMATION

Geopolitical terminology is used to define and comprehend traditional security, which is limited to relationships between sovereign states. In this context, security is concerned with topics include military cooperation, alliance relationships, power dynamics, and deterrence capacity, etc. Following the conclusion of the Cold War and particularly in the aftermath since the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the conventional understanding of security has become

more

been questioned on the best way to explain security and by whom of strategy. Non-Traditional Security (NTS) has becoming more popular: It draws attention to security features that were not previously thought of as security risk.²

Theoretically, NTS has gained popularity in the realm of international relations because it suggests new sources and the powers of insecurity and strife. The NTS viewpoints are based on two key assumptions:

- i. obstacles like terrorism, illegal immigration, trafficking in weapons, drugs, and people,

among other things in the past, environmental damage was typically not seen as security dangers. At most, their influence on security was indirect prevailing ideas in IR likewise paid less attention to incidents of this kind. Since the conclusion especially during the Cold War, several unconventional security risks have emerged such directly endanger the safety and well-being of the populace and the government.

Here, two things are important to remember: threats to non-traditional security have always possibility of evolving into conventional security risks and resulting in conflict and second, the idea of security is expanded to include presently, the protection of the community and state. It is necessary to note that the escalation of these risks may occasionally be connected to the procedures of globalisation. Therefore, unconventional security threats are not brand-new issues such as ethnic conflict, poverty, epidemics, and migration and refugees have always existed as aspects of human life living both between states and within a sovereign state. But what wasn't present were the novel traits of NTS dangers, namely their size and quick ascent time, speed of transmission, interconnectedness, and—perhaps most importantly—incapacity of a sovereign state to address these dangers on its own and within its borders.³

According to Cabellero Anthony (2010), this is the "new face" of an ancient phenomenon. Actually, a few States are unable to define these NTS at all threats appropriately; for example, economic instability, cyberattacks, etc. Additionally, the sheer variety of threats is incredible, encompassing everything from pandemics to environmental catastrophes brought about by development's unrelenting search of surface of long-standing religious and ethnic tensions. As a result, security had to be understood in broader terms than its conventional meaning of military security, which basically entailed guarding a sovereign's boundaries the rightful use of force to protect national sovereignty and the state region. The concept of an expanded security was well-captured by Barry Buzan et al. (1998). When he distinguished between the political, military, economic, and societal elements of security, as well as ecological. Within this concept of expanded security, Barry Buzan identified two significant observations: one, adjustments that require location in the "periphery" (developing nations) has a greater impact on the "centre" (developed countries); therefore, second, even though the five components are interconnected, each one emphasises a specific dimension. These components, once intricately entwined, provide grave risks to the safety of people as well as the nation-state.

- ii. Sovereign governments are ill-equipped to counter non-traditional security concerns;

they require concerted action and multilateral cooperation. Thus, NTS implores the state to alter its actions. There are two important points. Here, the relationship between regional governance and the NTS is fundamental of the NTS idea; additionally, the NTS perspective is proven to be especially more in line with the requirements of the Global South. Among the unforeseen consequences of The validation of regional methods to problem solving is the NTS danger.

² Caballero-Anthony, M. (ed.). *An Introduction to Non-Traditional Security Studies – A Transnational Approach*. (Sage Publications, London 2016)

³ Hai Thanh Luong, "Vietnam and the Mekong's Synthetic Drug Epidemic."

Mechanisms for regional governance and norm-setting are demanded in order to address problems such as pollution and diseases (Caballero-Anthony 2010:2). In addition, as according to Buzan, NTS dangers primarily impact the developing globe. To summarise, the NTS idea is predicated on five suppositions:

- The non-conventional Conflict or war may result immediately from threats or difficulties.
- Threats from NTS cannot be satisfied by a state; so, addressing NTS from a state perspective is inadequate difficulties.
- The state and the community have a responsibility to ensure security as well as the person.
- NTS hazards like pandemics and climate change are international in scope and call for non-military solutions.
- Owing to the international nature of these difficulties, Collaboration between nations is crucial.

Without a doubt, NTS provides a fresh viewpoint on security issues and methods of talking to them. Critics, however, highlight a few of its obvious flaws, like as one, the NTS views everything as a security danger, including poverty, illness, and hunger and diseases, infringements on collective rights, and environmental and human disasters. Opponents frequently ponder if there is a bottom line? Do we include everything that has a significant impact on the states and the towns within the NTS large basket dangers? Second, everything may get "securitised" as a result of this climate, organised crime, and illegal immigration. Thirdly, states continue to emphasise sovereignty. They often consent to supranational agreements only in situations where the difficulties are technical in nature, not politicized, and do not affect the deemed national priorities. However, areas like Europe with a lengthy history more accommodating regional governing institutions and a history of cooperation than in the establishment of regional governance institutions to address NTS concerns in areas like South Asia that have a history of instability and mistrust.

UNCONVENTIONAL PROTECTION: FRESH WINE IN OLD BOTTLES?

Many security experts have seen a consistent trend: there is a growing propensity to identify and designate as non-traditional security issues any security concern unrelated to the armed forces. Non-traditional security challenges that afflict Asia presently include worries about climate change, natural disasters, transnational crimes, epidemic disease outbreaks, irregular migration, and environmental degradation other issues. Taking ownership of the term for security connected to these concerns and risks has been a noteworthy evolution. It matters because "security-framing" is seen as a helpful tactic for bringing attention to these NTS difficulties, express urgency, and direct government funding to talk to them.

When following the development of the NTS idea and Southeast development experience Asia provides valuable insights since it illustrates how the earlier idea of "comprehensive security" has developed into what's known as non-conventional security these days. In the Southeast after colonisation for a very long period, comprehensive security in Asia was thought to be the predominant paradigm basis for the region's definition of security. Asian security expert Muthiah Alagappa has observed that thorough security in ASEAN was recognised as that which "embraces political, economic, and military aspects while not excluding them" as well as sociocultural aspects.⁴

Although compared to military threats, comprehensive security provided a broader sense of security, and the state continued to be the key security referent. An all-encompassing perspective providing security made regimes stable and, thus, cemented the state's position as the major actor that defines and delivers as well as the primary unit of analysis safety. The concept of all-encompassing security was met with harsh criticism, particularly during the Asian financial crisis that rocked the region in 1997 and 1998. In the course of that era, The state was the principal security

⁴ Dadwal, Shebonti Ray and Uttam Kumar Sinha, ed. 2015. Non-Traditional Security Challenges in Asia: Approaches and Responses. Routledge.

referent, and its primacy was contested, as those particularly impacted by the crisis were communities and vulnerable groups that already existed beyond the state. Since then, a lot of people who want to reconsider security have placed putting out "human security" as a potential paradigm to replace the conventional state-centric methodology, which its emphasis on the long-term and intricate insecurities affecting people and society. Human Security, at least in Southeast Asia, developed into a crucial forum for the developing world to confront (in)security-related issues.

NTS: AN IDEA, A METHOD, A STRUCTURE

Initially, one may argue that NTS refers to the portion of all-encompassing security risks that typically necessitate non-military (but not military) responses. If all-encompassing security is defined as the idea of security broadened to encompass non-military issues unavoidably non-state) reactions to tackle. Furthermore, even when these dangers or difficulties despite their non-military nature, they have the potential to spark conflict or even war for example, a conflict over vital yet limited resources (such as water or oil). Additionally, the NTS framework views both the individual and the state as security referents, whereas in terms of human security, the person is the primary concern. To put it briefly, NTS supporters seek to increase knowledge of security now so that those who are most at risk is associated with organisations, governmental institutions, non-state actors, and human persons more responsibility for supplying or guaranteeing their own protection.

NTS is a useful method for evaluating and analysing security concerns from a needs- and rights-based viewpoint, as opposed to a solely statist or military-oriented comprehension. The rigid interpretation of global security in words like "territorial integrity" and "national sovereignty" are no longer thought to be capable of tackling the wide range of pressing issues that our planet is currently confronting. It is impossible to dispute the transboundary nature of phenomena in today's world—take the Asian financial crisis swiftly expanded to other economies after originating in Thailand in the area could cause local currencies and stock values to drop.

The NTS problems' multinational nature was further demonstrated by the eruption of serious SARS, or acute respiratory syndrome, was the global pandemic that swept from Beijing to Hong Kong in 2002 and 2003 before spreading to Southeast Asia and beyond. The Syrian refugee crisis, which has presented well-publicized security and social issues in Europe, is a more recent example of a transboundary NTS issue. It is becoming more and more clear that unstable events might potentially originate from within the state or via non-state actors, rather than simply from neighbouring states—as was previously widely believed the previous instance. Currently, a country's sovereignty, international legitimacy, and security depend not just on dominance of territory but also on the quality of its offerings and its capacity to uphold the fundamental rights of its people. Even still, one may contend that NTS concerns are increasingly taking the stage for most policy communities and administrations in a few other places and in Asia. Take into account, for instance, that China's amount of money the government spends on internal security is equal to or more than that allocated to defence. Because the problems are transboundary, it is difficult for individual countries to successfully navigate NTS obstacles on their own, and the ability to nations that are especially overextended. Consequently, the efficient management of NTS matters depends on coordination and collaboration between nations and between players who are not states. The countries of Southeast Asia were forced to during the Asian financial crisis to seek support from the world community to keep their currencies stable. Both global financial organisations in addition important regional nations like China and Japan helped to moderate the rate at which the economy deteriorated. The harmful repercussions on local businesses led to the creation of several initiatives, such as the Chiang Mai Initiative, to provide financial security in the area.

Moreover, regional health governance has seen developments along similar lines. There's been greater coordination and collaboration on health issues, as demonstrated by the ASEAN+3 Program for Emerging Infectious Diseases in 2004, Monitoring and Examining Epidemic Circumstances in Southeast Asia, as well as the Greater Mekong Sub-

region Control Project for Communicable Diseases. This pattern has observed outside of Asia during the worst-ever Ebola outbreak in recorded history struck West Africa in the years 2013–14. The emerging nations were the least aware but most badly affected countries and resources. Consequently, both the reaction to assistance multinational organisations, donor countries, and non-governmental organisations like Doctors Without Borders has been essential to both the epidemic's global dissemination and its post-epidemic recovery. In addition to regional systems, there are other forums to promote communication on NTS concerns throughout various locations, such as the Asia-Europe Meeting, the EU-ASEAN Dialogue, and EU International Development initiatives.

Individuals and neighbourhood-based projects are essential components of an effective reaction to threats from NTS. Local entities have a better understanding of the issue on the ground play a crucial part in determining and evaluating the requirements and difficulties in relieving and recuperation. After the earthquake in 2015 in Nepal, the global humanitarian support and efforts to alleviate disasters showed that inadequate dialogue as well as the recovery effort faced coordination challenges since Relief supplies often fell short of local demands. In the same way, during community-based education and surveillance initiatives were implemented during the West African Ebola outbreak crucial to the disease's successful control. Thus, it's imperative to assess NTS problems at various analytical levels: geostrategic terms, the locations of states and when it comes to human security, political entities play a vital part in emphasising the needs of communities, individuals, and societies. Last but not the least, how these two layers work together, impact and support one another on a certain issue—whether it's pandemics, climate change, or water scarcity—allows for a better understanding of the current issue. Further most significantly, the implementation of such an extensive, multi-level viewpoint requirements that if we are to handle issues, we must create more comprehensive and inventive methods many-faceted difficulties.

NTS SCOPING

So how does one determine what risks and issues are covered under the NTS umbrella? Ultimately, there isn't a widely held agreement over the issues that qualify as NTS. Consequently, NTS problems are often defined in a contextualised way. For example, elements that might be deemed NTS in one country, like food, energy, or economic security, may already be included in the traditional definition of security in the opposite. As a prior academic has contended, energy security which is now covered in Japan had already considered them to be customary security measures (within the purview of NTS in Asia). Not only is NTS controversial, but concerns are complicated to aid in creating a more lucid understanding of NTS, the definition has been provided by the Consortium for Non-Traditional Security Studies in Asia (NTS-Asia).

Asia's NTS

Challenges to the existence and well-being of peoples and nations that predominantly stem from non-military sources, such as resource scarcity, infectious diseases, and climate change, are known as non-traditional security issues such as illnesses, calamities, irregular migration, scarcity of food, and people transnational crime, drug trafficking, and smuggling. These risks often have global reach, making unilateral solutions impossible and requiring comprehensive social, political, and economic responses in addition to the use of force for humanitarian purposes. These problems not only lack a military component, but they also share a few characteristics, such as:

- Rivalry among nations or transitions is not the source of NTS risks in the distribution of power.
- Human-induced disruptions to the delicate balance of nature can pose threats and have disastrous results to nations and states alike.
- Because national remedies are frequently insufficient, regional and bilateral collaboration.
- The state is no longer the exclusive focus of security (state sovereignty or territorial integrity), but also people—both individually and collectively—and their survival, health, and respect.

- Moreover, NTS hazards commonly interact with themselves, with the occurrence of one NTS emergency causing the development of another. As an example, severe societal disturbance was observed in Indonesia, and instability that followed the financial crisis in Asia. Many people in western Africa are worried that there have been serious economic and societal consequences from the worldwide spread of Ebola trauma, which could hinder local peacebuilding initiatives' effectiveness. These kinds of problems are easy to recognise and categorise thanks to the NTS framework and with it, emphasise the possibilities hazards present. This allows us to anticipate and potentially stop the occurrence of these kinds of advancements.

Non-traditional security concentrates on non-military threats that share the following traits:

- From their point of genesis to their consequences, the threats are international in character.
- Rather than being explained as the outcome of power struggles or shifts in the distribution of power among nations, they are commonly discussed in political and economic terms.
- Security is threatened by non-traditional security issues include irregular migration and resource scarcity because they lead to social unrest and political instability.
- The delicate natural balance is frequently disturbed by human activity, leading to other dangers like climate change, which have severe repercussions for both states and communities and are frequently hard to undo or repair.
- Since national responses to these challenges are typically inadequate, local, and worldwide collaboration is necessary. Security is no longer only defined by the state (on concerns pertaining to territorial integrity or state sovereignty), but also the people (their survival, welfare, and dignity) on a personal basis and social level.

1. Theft and Armed Robberies

The Indian Ocean's vastness dense trade and lax maritime law enforcement have encouraged piracy, which has expanded dramatically during the last five years in the Malacca Strait, Somali Basin, and Red Sea. Even though the source of this maritime lawlessness is on land, numerous countries have stationed their warships near the coast of Somalia in an attempt to safeguard commercial cargo. As a result, there have been fewer pirate assaults in the previous three years; in 2013, only 15 ships reported assaults off Somalia's coast, down from 237 in 2011. Similarly, there were two instances of hijacking in 2013 compared to 14 in 2012 and 28 in 2011.⁵ But during that same time frame, there was a steady rise in pirate incidents in Indonesian waters.

Three specialised The SNMG 1 and 2 of NATO the EU NAVFOR, along with CTF 15 are the counter-piracy coalition forces that have been in operation since 2008 in an effort to stop pirate away from Somalia's coast. In addition, merchantmen are being separately escorted by warships from South Korea, Japan, China, Russia, and India. Force-providing governments and coalitions employ the mechanism referred to as Shared Awareness and De-confliction (SHADE), which was launched in 2009, to share intelligence and coordinate the deployment of warships in the Globally Acknowledged Transit Corridor (GTC) situated in the Gulf of Aden. 2012 saw the decision by South Korea, Japan, China, and India will coordinate their escort activities in order to maximise the deployment of warships as a result of the SHADE agreement.⁶

Despite the threat, only significant both local and distant players are contributing to counter-piracy operations. The main reasons a pan-region system hasn't emerged are an inadequate capacity for the region and lack of a foundation for regional security. Indian policymakers have rejected multinational engagements when engaging in anti-piracy

⁵ Website icc-ccs.org, 'ICC International Maritime Bureau: Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships Report 2013'.

⁶ Website oceansbeyondpiracy.org, 'Guide to International Efforts to Address Piracy Off the Coast of Activity'.

efforts despite the Indian Navy's (IN) insistence on them because of domestic political concerns. Following considerable pressure and an annual cost of 80 crores for separate escort operations, the authorities eventually consented to India lagging behind South Korea, Japan, and China in coordination.

2. Trafficking in Drugs and Unauthorised Migration

Small arms proliferation, narcoterrorism, and drug trafficking are closely related. Immigration without authorization and covert drug trafficking in and there are signs of political unrest and poor governance all throughout the Indian Ocean. This issue has been exacerbated by uncontrolled vessel movement, containerised maritime commerce, and Flags of Convenience (FoC) shipping.⁷ The Golden Triangle (Myanmar, Thailand, and Laos) and the Golden Crescent (Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan) are crossed by drug trafficking, which results in money laundering and the funding of gunrunning, insurgency, and terrorism. A further international security risk that exacerbates socio-political instability is human trafficking.⁸ Small arms proliferation since the end of the Cold War, has increased, which puts domestic security in many nations at serious risk. It foreshadows a grave danger to security between and within states by redistributing authority between the state and non-state actors (terrorists, drug dealers, and insurgents). Given the significant scope of these issues in the IOR, collaboration across the regional community is imperative in addressing these formidable challenges to state sovereignty.

3. Globalisation

Populations have more access to the economy thanks to globalisation, which depends solely on the unrestricted flow of international seaborne trade. But terrorists and rogues also take advantage of these openings, employing maritime commerce to smuggle WMD materials into unlawful territories. Even though the main tool in the fight against proliferation may be diplomacy, containment will always be the solution. In IOR, the Initiative for Proliferation Security (PSI), which aims to encourage the intercepting of illicit WMD cargo, has not been subscribed to. In addition to the UN's lack of support, PSI faces two main legal obstacles. First of all, the Law of the Sea restricts the ability to stop, board, and search ships without authorization. Second, because the transportation of materials for illicit WMD purposes is not a crime that is punished internationally, it is difficult to seize them or prosecute the traffickers.⁹ Without intelligence cooperation, There is too much to explore in the Indian Ocean nation to contain any unlawful migration. Although technology has the potential to use to obtain precise Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA), willing nations working together to exchange intelligence and present a single front is more crucial.¹⁰

4. Natural Disasters

Because of the dense population along the coastal regions, this region experiences severe results from over 60% of natural disasters worldwide. In such cases, relief efforts are platform intense, requiring group involvement and effort.¹¹

⁷ Anil Kumar Singh, 'India's Security Concerns in the Indian Ocean Region',).

⁸ GS Khurana, 'Maritime Security in the Indian Ocean: Convergence Plus Cooperation Equals Resonance',.

⁹ Thomas Bowditch, 'Maritime Threats, Risks and Priorities in the IOR: An American Perspective', in 'Security Challenges along the Indian Ocean Littoral: Indian and US Perspectives'.

¹⁰ Emma Belcher, 'A Tighter Net: Strengthening the Proliferation Security Initiative'.

¹¹ PK Ghosh, 'Indian Ocean Naval Symposium: Uniting the Maritime Indian Ocean Region'.

ASIAN NTS CONCERNS NOW

Severe problems have been brought about in portions of Southeast Asia by extreme weather events. The longest dry spell on record has affected Singapore, Malaysia, and northwest Indonesia. As a result, there have been water shortages, fish decreases and transboundary haze pollution species. Tropical cyclone Hagupit also touched down in the region, causing additional destruction to Cyclone Yolanda's effects were still being felt in the Philippines, where in the year 2013. The Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Southeast Asia has been identified in the Report (AR5) as potentially the area most susceptible to the consequences of changing climate.

Humanitarian aid and climate change challenges (adaptation and mitigation) and disaster relief (HADR) are therefore among the top priorities for the majority of ASEAN states. In a same vein, there is rising anxiety concerning the development of nuclear capability for peaceful use in Asia-Pacific. Given that Southeast Asia is a region prone to earthquakes and cyclones, should nuclear energy production begin without the required despite governance and safety measures, there may still be disastrous dangers. Additionally, managing the issue of human migration is proving to be extremely challenging in terms of security. Human trafficking in the sex and labour sectors, as well as refugee migration in nations like Myanmar, as well as the radicalisation of people and their exodus are all turning into urgent security concerns that need to be addressed by governments and communities.

The majority Several of the topics listed above also concern South Asia: the 2009 swine flu pandemic, which started in northern India spread to neighbouring Pakistan and Nepal. Millions of people's daily lives were said to be affected by the flu as well as the impacted regions' economies. It's an exemplary case of a cross-border issue with possibly harmful repercussions, but also of how two sides of an argument can have conflicting goals for a given resource boundary between countries. Energy security is at issue here (in the case for India) and security of water (for Pakistan). How this dispute is resolved in the end will have significant repercussions for the countless numbers of people who rely on this vital international river

as well as for both countries. South Asia has also experienced its fair share of erratic and catastrophic weather conditions and recent weather occurrences include extremes in temperature, cyclones, and droughts millions more lives and impacted thousands more. The Himalayas, a significant mountain range one of the areas of the global weather system that is most susceptible to forecast alterations to the world's climate. India just decided to join China and the United States fighting climate change together is undoubtedly a good place to start.

These issues' framing and understanding will greatly influence how they are confronted, dealt with, and ultimately, how many or how few people end up with them end up in pain. Understanding and acknowledging NTS as a threat to national security transboundary consequences will force states to not just collaborate but also to establish systems to address these kinds of problems. Thus, going ahead, the queries that we now ought to enquire about:

- How can we encourage states to work together with a variety of stakeholders to deal with the variety of fears impacting their own neighbourhoods?
- How can we improve multi-level governance by forming partnerships amongst various stakeholders and thereby addressing NTS concerns and advance human security?
- To counter the problems posed by NTS, calls for more multilateral security cooperation are undoubtedly gaining popularity throughout the world, especially in Southeast Asia.

One illustration of an ASEAN is the ASEAN Political and Security Community (APSC) developing regional system with well-established organisations. Within the APSC, there are three foundations support ASEAN's "comprehensive" strategy for a safe and peaceful community of ASEAN. In addition, the ASEAN Socio-Economic Community (ASCC), which aims to create an economically competitive and wealthy ASEAN region, and the ASEAN

Economic Community (AEC), which an ASEAN society that is socially conscious. Within the scope of the APSC, the ASEAN the purpose of the Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM) and ADMM Plus was to improve security collaboration in important NTS concerns via their work in humanitarian aid and disaster response (HADR).

In the same way, the AEC, ASCC, and the Food security is pursued by the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR). Facilitated by the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA) multinational initiatives to identify regional answers to numerous interconnected difficulties with non-traditional security that have an impact on the governments and peoples' human security in ASEAN and the surrounding area. The outcomes thus far are promising. APTERR in particular has yielded noteworthy outcomes. developed with the assistance of all ASEAN members with the reserve was established by China, South Korea, and Japan in advance of any prospective difficulties to food security that the region may face as a result of natural catastrophes significant disturbances to the supply anywhere within the member states. Additionally, it is made to protect against possible failures of the global market (such as the one in 2007–2008). Reviving the SAARC Food Bank has been discussed recently as a way to reduce food insecurity in the South Asian area is also a beneficial development during times of crisis. These instances show how NTS problems are becoming more well known in Asia.¹²

NON-TRADITIONAL INDIAN SECURITY CONCERNS

Since the conclusion of the Cold War, there has been a change in how "security" is conceptualised, leading to the acceptance of "non-traditional" or non-military security threats. Non-traditional security threats include things like worldwide migration, international terrorism, infectious diseases, food security, hunger and energy security issues, and people and drug smuggling. Analysts call this the "nexus" between progress and human security. When talking with more "urgent" national security issues, such territorial invasion, these NTS areas are frequently left out. Solving these problems often requires the participation of international organisations.

1. Food Safety

- We might take inspiration from Latin American nations that have adopted consumer-, producer-, or trade-oriented options for both short- and long-term national food security policies.
- The comprehensive strategy includes political discourse at the national and intergovernmental levels, encompassing all government ministries, in order to properly execute PDS.
- It is possible to reproduce the micro-planning-based district-level program for community-based acute malnutrition management in Rajasthan.

2. Concerns Regarding Energy Security

- Regulations akin to the "energy" of Tunisia, the "conservation system" law, which depends according to the National Fund for Energy Management, encourage investment in renewable energy and increase industry ability to perform skills, ought to be put into effect.
- Because China looks past its boundaries and purchases gasoline employing a combination of political and economic tools, people from all over the world as well as numerous other financial incentives, it can be quite helpful to learn from China.

3. Environmental Pollution and Climate Change

- If levies on inputs that pollute were raised and then reinvested in the long-term construction of infrastructure instead of just generating funds, we could achieve a similar level of success as the Netherlands and France have.

¹² Nye, J.S. and Welch, D.A. (2014) Understanding global conflict & cooperation: Intro to theory & history. Harlow (Essex): Pearson Education.

4. Concerns about infectious conditions, epidemics, and other issues related to public wellness

- The Universal Access and Explicit Guarantees policy, which promises to offer universal health care to all residents through a two-tier public health care system, is the foundation of the "Chilean Model," which ought to be implemented.

5. Pollution and Scarcity of Water

- Consider the Denmark model as an example
- Cooperation with Israel on water technology

6. Terrorism Abroad

- Since "violence begins in the mind," as stated by UNESCO, people's brains need to be rewired to shift them from a culture of violence towards one of peace.
- India ought to make use of its global platform to speak with one voice regarding the idea of international terrorism.
- Working with Israel on monitoring and eavesdropping would be very beneficial in reducing international terrorism.

7. Catastrophes

- Planning is essential for preparing for cyclones, earthquakes, shortages, and floods. Bangladesh and Patna are inundated.
- There are crisis management lessons to be learnt from Japan.

8. Organised Crime, Both Domestic And International

It is one of the most important issues we have, and there are solutions available like:

- Substantive legislation, investigation protocols, and police organisation all need to undergo significant modifications.
- Localise programs: a comprehensive initiative, like Brazil's Pronasci, that integrates a number of elements that contributed to the nation's violent past, including creating gun-free areas, establishing regional frameworks, as well as encouraging a civic mindset to lower crime rates.

9. Unauthorised Immigration

Challenges for the country come from illegal immigration such as the Rohingya Muslims. These treatments can be applied to get rid of it:

- Redefining citizenship and updating legislation in accordance with US immigration regulations will encourage legitimate immigration.
- Neighbouring nations are working together bilaterally to document illegal immigrants and come up with a workable solution.

10. Concerns About Human Security

Early prevention should be prioritised in order to reduce the impact feeling uneasy and provide long-term fixes.

11. Nuclear Security Problems

- The main challenges are loosely controlled radioactive materials and tracking issues, as well as open and unguarded sites.
- Expand the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).
- Embracing India's stance on complete disarming of nuclear weapons.
- Expand the Code of Conduct's global reach.
- Boost the number of volunteers.

12. Destitution

- Access to all irrigation infrastructure is an essential for farmers.
- They need to get instruction and training.
- Commercialisation of agriculture is necessary.

- It is necessary to put family planning programs into place.

13. The spread of chemical and biological weapons

- Chemical and Weapons of Bioterrorism Conventions (1992) and Their Remedies (1975)
- Enhancing the Export Control System

14. Concerns around information security

- It is the condition of not having information, especially electronic data, used illegally.
- Protection of Infrastructure for Critical Information through Public-Private Partnerships
- Harmonisation of The Domestic and Global Legal Frameworks
- It will be highly advantageous to set up a complete cyber-security infrastructure.
- The National Cybersecurity Agency's (NCSA) creation

15. Extremism in religion

- "Faith-based behaviours that are deliberate attempts to hurt others" is the definition of religious extremism.
- Spiritual Care
- Social Intervention
- Media
- Legal Handling

16. Issues with Economic Security

- It is the requirement to maintain one's current and future level of living with a reliable source of income or other resources.
- Accelerating the adoption of technology for civilian use.
- The growing tax base.
- The uproar is reducing imports.

GROWTH OF NON-STATE ENTITIES

Significant and disruptive changes occurred in the world during the 20th century, including the end of the Cold War, the US's rise to prominence as the leading global power, two devastating global conflicts, the division of the world under the control of two major powers, and other indirect conflicts. The use of offensive military force by UN member-states has been effectively outlawed since the organisation of the UN following World War II and its subsequent declaration that members may only use their armed forces for collective self-defence, self-defence, or collective security, as authorised by a UN resolution. The World Bank reports that compared to the 20th century, there are less interstate and civil wars occurring today. When the United Nations was first founded, its main objective was to address issues concerning nation-states. However, modern warfare goes beyond conventional warfare fought only by national armed forces. The rise of terrorist organisations and organised crime networks in the twenty-first century has made The security of a nation is more threatened by non-state actors than foreign armed forces. Examples of these networks include drug cartels.

TRANSNATIONAL ORGANISED CRIME

Internationally coordinated criminality For a number of reasons, The security of a country is seriously threatened by multinational networks of organised crime. According to the World Bank (2013), an organised criminal network is a group that uses pressure and force to obtain wealth through illegal means. This definition identifies global narcotics cartels, organisations that smuggle weapons, and networks of marine pirates as examples of large organised crime networks. Drug cartels have grown in importance over the past few decades as a result of their improved obtaining resources, such as organisational and financial capacities. In order to evade discovery by state security services, they have also refined their risk management strategies through the use of cutting-edge technology. Usually found in countries that are seen as "fragile" or "collapsed" states, organised criminal syndicates thrive there in developing and underdeveloped nations. These states are typified by a judiciary corrupted by corruption, a weak regulatory framework to protect commercial operations, a deficient law enforcement infrastructure, and inadequate government

control. These networks do not by nature follow the international norms and agreements that govern the use of force by states thus they function as non-state actors. Non-state actors do not recognise the concept of sovereignty and are not bound by national boundaries.

As a result, while engaging in their business, multinational drug cartels and networks that sell illicit weapons outright flout all international laws. Furthermore, they use bribery as a powerful instrument to persuade or attract the very people who work for the government to oppose their actions. Organised crime networks thrive in underdeveloped and emerging nations as a result of the increased susceptibility of state security agencies and law enforcement to bribes. However, this does not mean that organised crime activities only exist in these specific locations. The two main markets for drugs are the US and the EU, and criminal gangs can make significant profits by focussing just on these areas. Williams (2014) asserts that a number of states are involved in the movement of drugs from their point of manufacturing to their ultimate destination. The "home" state (where the drugs are made initially), the transshipment states either the market or the host states (where the drugs are sold), and the service states are the different categories for these states (which usually acts as a secure location for illicit financial transactions) this idea applies to other criminal organisations as well, such those involved in the illegal trade of firearms or the encouragement of unauthorised immigration.

As a result, these networks violate the authority of several countries and may even bribe the relevant authorities, so expanding their sphere of influence and simultaneously jeopardising the national security of other states. For state authorities, It's gotten harder and harder to capture the heads of these networks. As seen in nations like Colombia, where it ensures the "protection" of the leaders, institutionalised corruption inside the state apparatus is a fundamental aspect. Sometimes, ebullient bosses of organised crime groups go so far as participating in charitable giving and generosity, even in public, in an effort to project an image of being more successful and more concerned with welfare than local elected administration. This tactic typically succeeds in the home region, where the populace is impoverished, crime is common, and the government is often not too strict about taking care of their problems.

Networks of organised crime take on the persona of a charitable supporter and defender of the populace, creating a kind of Stockholm Syndrome-like feeling in the public. As a result, the population begins to doubt the government and turns to these criminal syndicates for support, which erodes local law enforcement and the military and worsens the state of security in the country. As so, the state progressively weakens and produces a declining a situation involving security that might worsen and lead to chaos and the probable outbreak of civil war. One of the main obstacles to taking on an organised crime network is the perception that the government is weak, which inadvertently contributes to the criminals' perceived power. When drug cartels are fighting fiercely for supremacy and when there is violence between them and the state administration, as there was in the Mexico Drug War, the situation gets worse.

INSURGENCIES AND TERRORISM

The two most obvious and noticeable threats to a country's security, especially in the wake of the 9/11 attacks, are terrorism and insurgency. Hoffman (2013) offers a succinct definition of terrorism as the deliberate act of creating fear through the use of violence or the threat of violence in order to bring about political change. Although criminal networks and terrorist organisations both use force to achieve their goals, the key difference is in the purposes behind each group's actions. Terrorist and insurgency networks always have political objectives in mind, unlike drug cartels and arms smuggling networks, which are solely interested in accumulating wealth. The quest of territorial control and self-determination sets insurgency groups apart from terrorist organisations. Usually, they get into arguments oppose the internationally accepted local government or what they consider to be illegal foreign occupiers. Furthermore, criminal networks take advantage of state institutions to ensure the success of terrorist organisations attack civilian populations to draw attention to their political grievances, while companies remain unaffected. Their status as non-state actors are the main resemblance between international organised crime networks and terrorist organisations, which presents a serious security danger to a state that provides shelter to these groups.

Terrorist organisations, like networks of organised crime, have no respect for national boundaries, national sovereignty, or international laws and conventions governing the use of force. Terrorist organisations usually target

media personnel, diplomats, and civilians. The intentional suicide bombers' targeting of bystanders in heavily populated places, in addition to Governments' attempts to destroy terrorist organisations have been severely hampered by the use of cutting-edge technology and tactics such as sleeping cells, which are more common in India, phantom cell networks, and leaderless movements—terrorist organisations without a clear leader. Moreover, while suicide bombers who are part of a terrorist network in particular—may be seen as nonsensical or brainwashed, the terrorist organization's chief is an entirely "rational" person. As a result, finding and eliminating terrorist organisations and their leaders is becoming more difficult for governments. Terrorist groups, such as Peru's Shining Path, take advantage of organised crime's infrastructure to create a highly effective drug trafficking network that provides them with a profitable source of revenue for their terrorist endeavours.

Sometimes, this leads to the blurring of borders between organised governments under more pressure to combat these interwoven networks of crime and terrorism. The main A terrorist organization's advantage lies in their deft application of surprise, which catches taking the people and the government by surprise, particularly when they utilise a neutral area as a base from which to launch their terrorist attacks. Terrorist organisations' enhanced operational effectiveness, such as their leaderless networks, along with the state's intentional deaths and the inefficient use of force in areas like Chechnya and Palestine, have made counterterrorism operations less successful. It is important to remember that Israel and an Arab state last fought an interstate war over thirty years ago.

The latest disputes that Israel has taken part in, particularly with Hamas and Hezbollah, are non-state actors. Uncertainty about the likelihood of completely eliminating terrorism has plagued counterterrorism agents. The state's capacity to successfully confront this worldwide danger to safety and tranquilly is further compromised by this ambiguity. Therefore, The possibility of terrorism still poses a serious risk in influencing a country's view of its own security.

REGIME CHANGE AND THE CIVIL WAR

While the United Nations has been firmly rooted and reinforced, and a "pluralistic security community" (a term first used by Karl Deutsch) composed of countries that fought in the previous world wars (the US, the EU, and Japan), where interstate conflict is unimaginable, has been formed, this does not imply a world community that is peaceful. Apart from the rare battles that involve non-member states, the security community is also endangered by intra-state conflicts, especially civil wars, which put countless civilians caught in the middle of the fighting at risk. According to Annan (1998), internal conflicts account for the bulk of disputes that arise in modern society. According to Nye and Welch (2013), out of the 113 conflicts that broke out between the end of the Cold War and the start of the 21st, 89 were limited to civil wars.

Due to their lengthier duration, high civilian casualties, government's difficulty in decisively defeating rebel groups (when state and non-state actors are involved), and the participation of numerous ethnic groups, civil conflicts are more destructive than inter-state conflicts. Civil wars are viewed as domestic issues by the state since they usually involve factions within a single state, such as the government and non-state entities. As a result, this designation makes it more difficult for the UN to get involved in the conflict early on and may hinder efforts to prevent it from getting worse. The civil conflict in Syria represents how the conflict escalated and chemical weapons were used against defenceless civilians as a result of the UN and its member states' inability to adequately intervene and stop it. The United Nations' existing organisational structure has an inherent flaw in that it only permits the use of force in situations when there is clear and convincing proof of aggression. Nye and Welch (2013) state that it can be difficult to identify the offender in civil disputes. When UN action is rendered ineffective, foreign intervention may be necessary. This is especially true when the situation gets out of control, as demonstrated by the events in Libya (Downes, 2011). However, civil wars have a natural propensity to recur or revert to earlier phases or circumstances. In over 40% of the states where a foreign power imposed a new government after a civil war, there was another conflict within ten years. The abrupt change in power dynamics within the particular group involved in the conflict usually results in the group's disagreement, which is usually expressed through violent means, making regime transitions ineffective. Therefore, it is difficult to end civil wars through UN or outside involvement. These conflicts

usually end when one side triumphs comprehensively and overwhelming over the other groups, which can take several decades. In the meantime, there has been a sharp rise in crime and killings, and law and order are in total disarray.

This provides giving birth to a situation known as "failed states," where the state and the military are no longer under the authority of the government because of a combination of internal strife and outside meddling. Iraq, Afghanistan, and Rwanda are just a few examples of states that collapsed as a result of civil warfare. Furthermore, there's a chance that "spillover" consequences could occur if a civil war in one country disturbs the peace and stability of nearby nations. This happens because of the inflow and outflow of arms and ammunition into the neighbouring states, as well as refugees and rebel fighters. Therefore, regional instability and a worsening security situation are invariably the outcome of civil conflicts.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION'S EFFECTS

In the twenty-first century, environmental deterioration—including climate change and its effects—poses a serious threat to national security. Natural resources are running out at an unsustainable rate due to the world's population expansion and rising energy demands, especially in developed and developing countries. In recent decades, the importance of climate change for international security has grown. There is anticipated to be a domino effect from the phenomenon of global warming brought on by climate change. Higher temperatures will result from this, which will make Storms and cyclones are more frequent in tropical regions. That being said, low-lying places and island nations could be in danger of sinking, which would be quite dangerous for them. Because there are more airborne and aquatic vector vectors present in warmer temperatures, infectious diseases like cholera and malaria can also spread more easily. Because it is the source of many interconnected environmental phenomena that may jeopardise human survival in the coming decades, climate change is an important concern for governments.

Many academics have predicted future interstate conflicts over water due to the depletion of freshwater reserves. For example, Dupont (2013) notes that China has used the tactic of rerouting freshwater resources from Tibet to the province of Northern China, which lacks access to water. This activity has produced a noteworthy affects the riparian regions, where the water was redirected, and the livelihoods of millions of people living there. These initiatives may negatively impact the environment and strain ties with neighbouring nations that might be negatively impacted by a state's search for additional water supplies.

In terms of national security, states are very concerned about water scarcity. It serves as a perfect example of Hardin's "tragedy of the commons" theory (1968). According to this theory, resource degradation and contamination can result from overcrowding and a mindset that exploits shared resources without making an effort to preserve them. Due to temperature rise, climate change can affect agricultural productivity by upsetting regular climate cycles. The issue Among the most significant problems that governments will have in the future is the widespread perception of a food shortage. Inflation in food prices is already noticeable, especially in developing countries with dense populations.

Even though there hasn't been a food deficit as of yet, it's still vital to be aware that it can happen in the future. The increasing population would unavoidably put more strain on the earth's finite resources, and overuse of fertilisers could result in chemical imbalances that render the soil sterile. States' foreign policies will continue to be significantly influenced by energy security. States are expected to rely more on nuclear energy in the future to meet their energy needs since oil, gas, and coal are finite resources their requirements for energy. This will bring up the issues of managing radioactive waste and protecting radioactive material from non-state terrorist and criminal groups that could use it to produce nuclear weapons. It is impossible to rule out resource conflicts since countries might be prepared to use force to protect their energy needs in the future.

The recent move by Russia to claim sovereignty over the Arctic seabed provides an example. Due to its undeveloped resources, this region is very attractive to a number of nations, including the US, Canada, Denmark, and Norway (Dupont, 2013). Because to the state of the environment, the lack of food, and the paucity of water, environmental refugees are about to arise. This could lead to widespread movement of individuals from the impacted regions, which may cause instability in the nations that accept them. Therefore, protecting and enhancing the environment is a crucial

need right now, since an unstable environment could cross a line that could have dire and unavoidable outcomes, such as a rise in the frequency of natural disasters, endangering the life of the country and its citizens.¹³

CHANGES IN THE POPULATION AND THEIR EFFECTS

In certain emerging and undeveloped locations, overcrowding is already a serious problem, making it a legitimate issue. Nonetheless, a dramatic change in the world's population is about to occur in the developed world. Because of recent improvements in life expectancy and lowering fertility rates, the population is both ageing and shrinking at the same time. Howe and Jackson (2011) project that by 2025, the labour force will be rapidly shrinking and elderly people will make up the majority of the population in Western Europe and Japan. This will increase the demand on public funds and force them to be reallocated to the care and assistance of the population is getting older.

This will be made worse at the same time by a declining working-age population, which won't be able to make up for the lack. A little amount of the demographic change may be mitigated by the migration of workers from developing and developing countries. However, the possibility of religious radicalism and ethnic disputes could make it difficult for them to integrate into society. Social assistance will receive a bigger portion of the national budget, which could have an impact on defence spending and jeopardise national security. Numerous scholars contend that there is evidence to support China's rise as a possible challenger to US supremacy. But over the past 40 years, China's population has aged too soon as a result of the Communist Party's stringent enforcement of the one-child policy. Howe and Jackson (2011) forecast that China will overtake the United States as the nation having the highest percentage of elderly citizens by 2030.

Furthermore, it is projected that, in comparison with other large countries, Russia would undergo the greatest demographic decline. In places like Sub-Saharan Africa, where the proportion of youth population is increasing, poverty and political unrest would prevent these individuals from contributing significantly to the economies of their countries. Due to a lack of soldiers, a state with an elderly and declining population would see a decline in its military prowess. Therefore, it makes sense that changes in the demographic mix—that is, the age and population composition—have an effect on a country's security, even in the face of technological advances in high-tech weapons.¹⁴

CYBERWARFARE AND HOMELAND SECURITY

The twenty-first century is known as the Information Age, in which people have access to information like never before. Technology for information and communication (ICT) had a profound impact on how Data is utilised, transferred, and retained. This has implications for government, military, and intelligence agencies as well as the general population. The internet has become a new front in conflict. Significant obstacles to a nation's Cyber-exploitation and cyber-conflict are security issues. Both offensive and defensive operations take place in the cyber realm, just like in a traditional kinetic conflict (TKC) (Lin, 2013). The lines between civilian and military organisations can become hazier in since civilian computer systems, a cyber-conflict might be used to launch offensive cyberwarfare against a state that is considered to be an enemy.

Furthermore, determining the proper legal response when a cyberattack is detected is made more difficult by the challenge of identifying the offender, who may be a state or a non-state entity. A number of cyberattacks have recently

¹³ Howe, N. and Jackson, R. (2011) 'Global aging and the crisis of the 2020s'.

¹⁴ Art, R.J., Crawford, T.W. and Jervis, R. (2023) *International Politics Enduring Concepts and Contemporary*

Issues. 13th edn. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield.

been covered by the media, particularly in the past few years. It's thought that the US, China, and Israel engage in frequent cyberwarfare with other nations. Their goals are cyber-exploitation, or taking advantage of private company or military data, and cyber-conflict, or interfering with or taking down the military systems of adversaries. Because cyberwarfare may operate across international borders, it presents a serious danger to national security and sovereignty. It uses public resources like electricity grids and broadband networks, and it frequently involves malevolent non-state actors include fringe extremist organisations and networks of organised crime.

These individuals participate in actions like breaking into government databases and stealing sensitive material, frequently going unnoticed.¹⁵

It is challenging to predict the effects of a disruptive cyberattack. The dynamics of cyber-war are the opposite of traditional kinetic conflict (TKC), where the tactics of deterrence, dissuasion, and defence are thought to be more beneficial than offensive. In TKC, the enemy can be identified or spotted visually; in cyberwarfare, this is not feasible. Lin (2013) argues that cyber-offense only needs to be successful once, whereas cyber-defence must always be successful. Conflicts involving either states or non-state actors against states are not the only types of conflicts that can occur online. ICT is frequently used by networks that smuggle weapons into countries, and other illegal businesses to carry out financial operations in secret. They then use these illegal gains to further their influence and jeopardise state security.

Cyberattacks and cyber-exploitation by state and non-state actors are still a serious threat to the national security of contemporary governments in the twenty-first century, even though their frequency is now lower than that of traditional battles between or within states. This is mostly because, unlike traditional kinetic conflicts, there are no explicit United Nations laws pertaining to cyber-warfare, making it difficult to identify the perpetrators of these attacks, and there is a risk that cyber-conflicts could develop. Moreover, because there have been no previous instances, it is hard to predict the prospective results or consequences of a cyberworld-war, which may involve more than just nation-states.

AN OVERVIEW OF NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY ISSUES

South Asia

Natural catastrophes have resulted in a series of problems for the South Asian region. For example, in 2004 the Indian Ocean was ravaged by a massive tsunami and earthquakes littoral regions. Cyclone Sidr devastated Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, and Sri Lanka after making landfall in 2007 was a couple years later. Cyclone Amphan in 2020 caused around 5 million people to be uprooted from their residences in Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, and Myanmar; this was one of the largest natural disaster-related displacements ever recorded. These catastrophes cause significant death tolls as well as financial damages. Insufficient inadequate post-disaster recovery efforts and early warning systems actions frequently exacerbate the effects.

Additionally, lately countries in the area have been addressing an increase of NTS hazards because of the changing climate. Increasing ocean levels, as per the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), would have disastrous consequences for the region's low-lying communities. River systems may be seriously threatened by the glacial recession that is currently occurring in the Himalayas, for instance.

¹⁵ Annan, K. (1998) Secretary-general reflects on 'intervention' in thirty-fifth annual Ditchley Foundation Lecture | UN press, United Nations.

Furthermore, Migration due to climate change is becoming more frequent. According to a 2018 World Bank assessment, the effects of climate change will force over 140 million people to leave their home nations by the year 2050. Climate change-related migration affects access to necessities like healthcare and education as well as escalating tensions and inequality. For instance, Bangladesh is now a centre for this issue. Adding to Bangladesh's difficulties is the influx of Myanmar's Rohingya refugees. Out of a million, 860,000 are Rohingyas who have been internally displaced and who are seeking asylum Bangladesh alone is home to refugees from numerous neighbouring countries, as per the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).¹⁶

Southeast Asia

The illicit drug gang that controls the Golden Triangle, which is thought to rank as the second-biggest drug-producing region in the world and the primary producer of opium, still has its headquarters in Southeast Asia.

According to UN estimates, poppy production has expanded to 60,703 hectares, or 150,000 acres, of land in Myanmar, having tripled since 2006. Even though Myanmar's economy has grown somewhat, development initiatives have not reached the country's periphery, which has allowed industries like poppy growing to flourish. Although the UN has tried to intervene by implementing crop substitution in Laos and Myanmar, the problem of drug trafficking has only become worse quickly, creating difficulties for other countries as well.

For example, Vietnam, which has some of the strictest drug prohibitions in the world, is a centre for the transportation of methamphetamine and heroin. The usage of stimulants similar to amphetamines (ATS), which are trafficked and smuggled from the Golden Triangle's borders, is shifting away from heroin in nations like China, Korea, Japan, and the ASEAN countries.¹⁷

Southeast Asian nations, particularly Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, Myanmar, and the Philippines are facing numerous climate-related hazards, much like their South Asian counterparts. According to UN estimates, Southeast Asia's risk of floods and droughts, for instance, would only rise over the next ten years, resulting in financial losses equivalent to 3% of GDP for Laos, above 1.5% for the Philippines, and 2% for over 1.5 percentage in favour of Cambodia.¹⁸

Other threats are equally dire: due to overexploitation of palm oil, Indonesia's forest cover has decreased from 65.4% in 1990 to 50.2% in 2013; plastic garbage from China and a few other SEA nations, makes up a significant portion of all the plastic trash in the waters worldwide; additionally, considering their placement inside the Pacific Ring of Fire, nations like Indonesia and the Philippines are constantly at risk of earthquake-related disasters.

Small Island Nations

Small islands continue to have low greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, but the risks of global warming—particularly sea level rise—to these islands cannot be understated. Natural disasters, unlawful and unsustainable resource extraction, and international crime are among problems faced by these states. Frequently, they lack the means to address the challenges, and as a result, multilateral collaborations would be required.

¹⁶ <https://sinay.ai/en/key-concept-of-maritime-security>

¹⁷ Brian Eyler, “[Solving Southeast Asia’s Drug Problem.](#)”

¹⁸ “Vietnam and the Mekong’s Synthetic Drug Epidemic.”

NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY THREATS IN THE POST-COLD WAR ERA

The ideological foundations of capitalism and socialism throughout the Cold War offered a clear-cut option. If one might say so, one was forced to choose between capitalism and socialism. According to a renowned American strategist as one thinker described it, "metamyth." Everything was quite big, and this misguided notion that everything could be controlled. The belief in the supremacy of ideologies disappeared along with the end of the war. Academics discussed a "peace divided" after the Cold War that promised an unbroken, protracted peace. That kind of stuff did not occur. Following the end of the Cold War, numerous conflicts between states persisted. It was noted that a number of these disputes were not political or ideological in character. Instead, these confrontations were of tribal and ethnic or environmental in character; so, they persisted even after ideological clash between socialist authoritarianism and capitalist democracy. Actually, many of these battles picked up again, this time with even more ruthlessness in terms of taking many other ethnic and tribal identities under its wing and causing human casualties. Second, there were recently emerged disputes, most of which were within states. These intra-state disputes followed the fault lines of ethnicity, tribe, and faith, etc. These internal conflicts were waged with unspeakable brutality without any standards and without anyone ever facing consequences. Out of the 86 armed 84 of the conflicts that were reported in 1997 were intra-state in character. The situation in the 1990s, Rwanda was one such instance that caused immense suffering on the whole country. It was observed that the 1990s saw a rise in intrastate conflicts has significant human casualty rates; about 90% of those who died in those battles involved unarmed, defenceless bystanders, mostly women, and kids. Even worse, there were no uniformed soldiers fighting in these battles; and the different fighting groupings obeyed international legal convention.

In today's conflicts and wars, people account for eight out of ten casualties. More individuals perish in little battles, frequently inside states, as opposed to major wars involving sovereign states. The usage of tiny, readily accessible weapons is the reason for a higher death toll accessible and have persisted through all disarmament conferences and accords. In the 1990s, there were about 500 million tiny weapons in circulation.

Additionally, as a result of the domestic-international interplay, a relatively new diaspora actors making their way into the international relations landscape. Diasporas, up to then, an entity that was mainly unknown in the field of international relations, acquired notable prominence during the 1990s. Diasporas were courted and enticed to participate in the domestic political spheres of their home nations. They turned into the origin of financing, the provision of weapons, worldwide campaigns, as well as advocacy and lobbying organisations. Conflicts involved diasporas, and additionally, sovereign nations decided to utilise them as bargaining chips with their "host" societies' governments. So, the question regarding whether diasporas "peacekeepers" or "peace wreckers" arose. Thirdly, there were fresh difficulties facing the international system states, in theory, the objects of the international system: They wrap up connections and agreements with other sovereign nations and rightfully use their power in "domestic jurisdiction" over them. They did not provide the safety for their populace. With the end of the Cold War, two new categories of states emerged: "failed" or "failing" states and "rogue" states. These states, which were not socialist nor liberal, were governed by coarse, chauvinist, nationalist elites who frequently have the backing of the people. Numerous of these governments were discovered engaging in what was later characterised in 1990s as "cleansing ethnicity." Large-scale murder and eviction of defenceless civilians the phenomenon of refugees and internally displaced people was caused by populations. Although sovereign nations sought solace in the fact that these were internal affairs being under "domestic jurisdiction," these intra-state disputes posed a threat the stability and tranquilly of the region. Additionally, these disputes resulted in seeking refugee anyplace; "boat people" continue to be among the most dangerous and unsolvable the issue of the previous 25 years.

Fourthly, globalisation gave rise to certain threats. Globalisation of the economy has resulted in both positive and negative outcomes; it has not been a consistent process. Natural resource exploitation and development initiatives, particularly those relating to hydropower and extraction, among other things, created significant environmental repercussions that cut across national boundaries. Several of these initiatives, realised, served the interests of the host countries rather than the small, affluent aristocracy supporting foreign financial interests. Fifth, there were additional threats that were just as harmful to the state stability and sovereignty. The risks presented by human trafficking are among them in drugs, human creatures, weapons and the money-laundering industry, and environmental degradations, etc. There is no denying the state of the world economy and politics. The world after the Cold War necessitated a redefinition of both the state's function and sovereignty. It was clear that states are neither unchangeable, nor are they weren't the sole players in the international system, nor were they all that sovereign. Several worldwide non-governmental organisations and organisations; the unstoppable trend of independent states' increased interconnectedness and the increasing internationalisation of marketing, consumption, and production all had raised questions about the state sovereignty's immutability argument. As UN General Secretary Kofi Annan's remarks regarding NATO's involvement in Kosovo and the East Timor UN-authorized mission, had declared: In its most fundamental form, state sovereignty is being reinterpreted by the powers of globalisation and cross-border collaboration. Nowadays, most people agree that the state should serve its citizens, not the other way around conversely. However, individual sovereignty, which I define as the human every person's rights and fundamental freedoms as guaranteed by our Charter — has been strengthened by a heightened understanding of the fundamental each person to be in charge of their own destiny.

TERRORISM RISK: INDIA'S CASE

What is the history of terrorism in India? And how has it addressed this non-conventional security risk? India has a very unique experience with terrorism in intricacy, size, and range. India has encountered since gaining independence in 1947 an extraordinarily high and varied number of terrorist organisations, including domestic, international, and cross-border ones. These organisations have widely differing ideologies and geographic origins. Academics note that political violence occurs in India engages and overlaps with questions of identity and affirmation in a variety of ways for independence and segregation. Political violence is fuelled by caste, religion, and ethnicity and terrorism; concurrently, they influence and mould the state's reaction to CT or absence of it. Furthermore, India is home to several of what are known as internal disputes could take the shape of insurgencies that use terrorism as their main characteristic. Organisations that fit the definition of "pure terrorist groups" include not very typical. Because of the similarities between terrorism and insurgency, the study of security threats posed by terrorism a challenging task in relation to India. Drawing a distinction between insurgency, militancy, and terrorism is difficult.¹⁹

Additionally, analysts discover that India's counterterrorism (CT) and counterinsurgency (COIN) responses are haphazard, erratic and sometimes even contradicting. India was home to at least 66 terrorist organisations in 2013. 2015 saw the Ministry of 39 prohibited groups were identified by Home Affairs. But there weren't many groups on the list. They were not prohibited but were in use. Next, there were teams that were inactive for a while or engaged in some kind of discussion with authorities. Considering the vast array and variety of these non-state entities, here is a succinct and comprehensive description:

1. In Jammu and Kashmir, Separatism and Militantism

¹⁹ Young, J. (2014) 'What is Terrorism?', American University – School of Public Affairs, pp. 1–39.

The state of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) in India is now experiencing one of the most complicated wars. There are international ramifications to the "Kashmir issue." A distinct persona and autonomy have been the main concern ever since J&K joined the Indian Union. Insurgent groups with distinct ethnic and religious beliefs surfaced during the 1990s bearing many agendas. The separatists who supported independence, headed by the JKLF (Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front) started using force to combat the Indian as of 1996. JKLF provided a generally secular definition of Kashmiri nationalism, but did not be afraid to rally support using Islamic terminology. Soon, Islamist organisations that supported Pakistan seized control of the separatist, pro-independence movement including Hizbul Mujahideen, who desired the union of Pakistan and J&K together. They believed that Kashmir was a jihadist target against a state that had turned against God. Pakistan started its own covert conflict with India and provided funding to several transnational Islamist organisations utilising terrorism as a means. Thus, the phenomena known as "Islamist" in J&K, there is terrorism. In the wake of terrorist attacks, a third kind of organisation the 9/11 incidents. A few of the transnational Islamist organisations leaned towards foreign Islamist terrorists and militants such as Al Qaeda collectives. Active in J&K are pro-Pakistan organisations like Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Al Qaeda and Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) grew closer. Their broader intellectual global ties and horizon allowed the two organisations to start their terror strikes in India's other regions as well as in Jammu & Kashmir. As they regional militant organisations or transnational organisations operating under the direction of the state of Pakistan, or others who had connections to international terrorist groups engaged in massive terrorist attacks in India's J&K and other regions. The global working together allowed LeT and JeM to develop both strategically and ideologically phrases. In 2008, LeT carried out the 26/11 terrorist strikes in Mumbai from a distance. J&K and showed that it might leverage contemporary technologies to aim for well-known structures in the business centre of India.

2. Islamist Acts of Terror

A quite lengthy history of marginalisation and exclusion following communal disturbances has made it easier for certain Muslims to become radicalised. The magnitude though it's unclear if radicalisation and the ability to commit terrorist acts are present, it appears to be constrained. In the 1980s, there weren't many domestic jihadi organisations that engaged in Pakistani intelligence supported them in a few illicit acts. The 1992 destruction of the Babri Mosque sparked a string of explosions in Mumbai in 1993 that were connected to Pakistani intelligence and Dawood Ibrahim organisations. Moreover, organisations such as the Students Islamic Movement of India became the SIMI. The Indian Mujahideen were floated by more militant SIMI activists(IM). Lastly, a few tiny traces of Daesh and Al Qaeda have also been located. According to these international terrorist organisations, India is a component of the Jewish, Crusader, and Hindu conspiracy against the Muslim people. There have been rumours that under the Daesh flag, a small number of Indian Muslims fought in Iraq and Syria.

3. Rebellion in Northeastern India

Numerous rebel features of paramilitarism are revealed by movements in India. Terrorist activities in the Indian states in the northeast have long been committed by insurgent groups. There are a lot of insurgent groups, and they all have different political goals vast and varied, which presents significant security issues for the Indian condition. Since the 1980s, insurgencies have posed a more significant threat. Among the numerous perhaps the longest and most unwinnable insurgencies have been the Naga separatist movement. Additionally, Rebel movements exist in Manipur, Mizoram, and Tripura. In the Northeast, political upheaval and distancing are pervasive. The North East's demand for autonomy and secession stems from ethnic identity based on tribe and religion. Many ethnic groups are adamant about being different and apart from the remainder of India. Government attempts over decades to limit to resolve

the ethnic disputes have not been successful thus far. Conversely, there have been more instances of splinter insurgency organisations committing acts of pure terrorism.²⁰

Attacks on law enforcement and security personnel have grown within the last around ten years. Any attempt at a peace conversation is fruitless since there are very numerous factions and offshoot groupings. Northeastern states exchange international boundaries. Adjacent nations provide safe havens for insurgent groups. Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Myanmar, which makes it more difficult for Indian security personnel. To put it succinctly, the security challenges in the Northeast are diverse and unmanageable.²¹

4. Punjabi Khalistan Militancy

Sikh militancy in the northern province of Punjab occurred from 1978 to 1993 in response to demands for a breakaway state called Khalistan. A gang of terrorists with guns appeared. Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale is in charge and has a lot of support in Punjab's Sikh community as well as elsewhere. Pakistan was involved in stoking the rebellion. But even with the use of terrorist attacks, the state persisted in should consider the Khalistani movement up to 1984 primarily as a matter of law and order. Operation Blue Star was the eventual response by the Indian state which fuelled rioting across the state of Punjab. This was superseded by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's murder at the hands of anti-Sikh protests and her Sikh bodyguards have broken out in Delhi and a few regions in India. terrorism by Khalistanis increased following 1984. Operation Black Thunder, a decisive police action, initiated in 1988 put a stop to the Indian Khalistan insurgency.

Since then, there have occasionally been acts of terrorism and violence. Within the Sikh diaspora, several pro-Khalistan factions are still active overseas. similar to the insurgent organisations in J&K, the media keeps mentioning Pakistan's support intelligence services to these Khalistani elements living abroad.

5. The Naxalite Movement

If the Naxalite movement is to be classified as a terrorist organisation? There's no simple solution. The Naxalite group's indulging in violence and terrorism has its roots in rural and ethnic unrest as well as their perception of long-term oppression and exploitation by an overbearing government. In West Bengal, the Naxalite movement first appeared in the 1970s among rural landless peasants who endured oppression and exploitation for many years by the group of property owners. The movement was motivated by Mao Zedong's writings and the Chinese Revolution that began in 1949 from the countryside. Consequently, it's a movement based on class rather than identity; additionally, it aims to establish a fair and modern social structure in lieu of the current Indian condition. Officials have the opinion that advancements in the small find a solution to the Naxalism issue under the influence of Naxals.

However, neither significant progress nor well-initiated counterterrorism measures have been made regarding the Naxal violence. Consequently, the movement keeps expanding and is currently dispersed in about 185 of India's 602 districts. Jharkhand, Orissa, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, and Andhra Pradesh are the most impacted states. The movement has made a point of being present in cities among industrial labourers and a segment of academics. Over the past few years, it has gotten been preparing terrorist attacks that target civilian infrastructure and security personnel and devastation. Economic liberalisation has played a role, among other things to the growth of illicit mining, Deforestation and questioning have both helped to reinforce the Naxal movement even more. Proceeded marginalisation and exclusion of other groups, including landless people, Dalits, and tribal people extensive rural poverty explains the movement's durability.²²

²⁰ <https://sinay.ai/en/key-concept-of-maritime-security>

²¹ Baruah, S., ed. 2009. Beyond Counter-Insurgency: Breaking the Impasse in Northeast India.

²² Singh, Rashmi. "India's Experience with Terrorism".

SYNERGIES AND NETWORKS

Leveraging convergences and platforms becomes essential for improving maritime security and regional economic success by increasing security, maintaining peace, and promoting stability as non-traditional marine threats continue to emerge and evolve. There are a number of platforms and convergence points between India and ASEAN where risks, challenges, and threats are discussed and cooperative solutions are determined. The list of several factors that are either directly or indirectly related to the marine realm has been consistent. The Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace documents many of the common elements that flow from platforms such as the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the Extended ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF), and others.

These elements that fall under the broad category of marine cooperation consist of humanitarian aid, maritime collaboration, maritime security, and maritime connection defence discussions, peacekeeping missions, counterterrorism, aid and disaster relief (HADR), and transnational crime. Two elements that are typically not included in discussions and cooperative efforts, with the exception of alliances such as NATO, have been a feature of the ADMM in addition to talks, humanitarian mine action, and military medicine. Although mine action mostly focusses on mine removal on land, it is necessary to look at the same in the sea domain. The prior knowledge of the tremendous work needed to clean sea mines in the Persian Gulf and the upcoming demining effort in the Black Sea. It is important to talk about ways to make ship transit navigation safe while maintaining the China Sea in the South circumstance in mind. One area of military medicine that might produce tremendous reward from cooperation, as the Indian Navy separates from massive land-based infrastructure, knowledge, and sufficient experience from procedures performed on ships having sufficient capacity and skill on board, as well as operations on smaller ships operated with constant online video connectivity guidance.²³

THE MATRIX OF MARITIME COOPERATION

The foundation of collaboration matrices is mutual trust and faith in one another's talents. These characteristics convert for marine nations into improved communication between military personnel on the sea. Acknowledgement and designation of strengths and weaknesses, which in turn support capacity building and improvement of capacities. Interoperable synergy is built by this cyclical action, which through marine drills, contacts with organisations at the regional level, information exchange, and discussions improves the marine cooperative matrix, particularly when it comes to handling unconventional dangers. In order to accomplish this, the Indian Navy conducts established bilateral maritime drills with Indonesia and the navies of ASEAN; Vietnam, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, and Thailand on a trilateral basis additionally Singapore. ASEAN India Maritime, the first multilateral exercise of ASEAN navies Exercise (AIME), a joint event in May 2023 saw with the Singapore Navy participation from Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Brunei.

Additionally, the Indian Navy patrols in tandem with Indonesia, Myanmar, and basically in the Bay of Bengal is Thailand. Apart from these endeavours, ASEAN countries have actively taken part in India's MILAN series since its launch in 1995. Five navies participated in the inaugural MILAN, including the navies of Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, and MILAN 2024, which took place in February eight ASEAN navies participated in the event. Although these activities offer a chance for navies to interact with areas of the sea outside of their own regions necessity of supporting such initiatives concurrently with involvement in regional organisations outside of the ASEAN. This is significant given that ASEAN countries view centrality as a key tenet of the Indo-Pacific region.

²³ Manoj Gupta, 'Prospects for Regional Cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region'.

Therefore, ASEAN countries could think about increasing India's influence in the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), the Indian Ocean Rim Foundation, the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI), the Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS), and the Disaster Resilient Infrastructure Coalition (CDRI). Increased involvement would expand multilateral cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond the South China Sea. ASEAN countries that don't meet the qualifications to become IORA or IONS members could join as conversation partners and observers, in turn. None of the ASEAN member states are currently a part of the CDRI. Considering that ASEAN countries and India are frequently the victims of disasters, ASEAN countries must seriously consider becoming members of CDRI. Asia-Pacific can join as an organisation by following the European Union (EU).

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

a. ASEAN

The regional security system of ASEAN has been continually tested over time by NTS problems. The 1997 Asian financial crisis, the 2002–2003 SARS outbreak, the 2007 avian flu pandemic, and, most recently, the 2020–starting Covid-19 pandemic are a few examples.²⁴

To address the diverse issues, ASEAN has established several mechanisms. The ASEAN-wide Agreement on Emergency Response and Disaster Management, for instance, provides the member states with a strong policy foundation to support their combined efforts in lowering the risk of disasters as well as reacting to them. In the meantime, members of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) collaborate to improve peace as well as regional safety through the evolution of suitable policy. The states can now pursue political alignment and security cooperation thanks to the efforts of the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC).

The ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Human Trafficking, Particularly of Women and Children has detailed action plans that must adhere to both pertinent international responsibilities and the national legislation and regulations of ASEAN members nations. The objective is to tackle shared regional issues among all participating nations. In response to the Covid-19 epidemic, the member states of ASEAN initiated information-sharing and issued a Movement Restriction Order (MRO) at the beginning of 2020.²⁵

Additionally, ASEAN collaborates with other nations on various fronts. As an illustration, it established the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) project with South Korea, Japan, and China. The bloc participates in the Disaster Relief Exercise of the ASEAN Regional Forum alongside India.²⁶ India does, in fact, hope to establish close connections with the Coordinating Centre for ASEAN for Disaster Management Aid to the Humanitarian. India has additionally shown a desire to collaborate alongside ASEAN in the creation of generic pharmaceuticals and medical technology during the Covid-19 outbreak.

b. Blue Dot Network

In 2019, the United States and its supporters launched the Blue Dot Network (BDN) to encourage the growth of infrastructure. Cooperating with nations such as Australia, Japan, and India, the BDN places a strong emphasis on

²⁴ Dominik Heller, “The Relevance of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) for Regional Security in the Asia-Pacific”

²⁵ [ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint](#), *ASEAN*, June 2009

²⁶ [“Forging a strategic ‘Gateway’: The Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea”](#)

infrastructure projects' sustainability. An infrastructure project that has earned a BDN accreditation is trying to be sustainable. The Blue Dot Marketplace can assist nations in building sustainable infrastructure by highlighting possible effects on disaster preparedness, food security, and wellness. A significant BDN agreement addresses an initiative pertaining to "smart cities" among the ASEAN countries.

c. Association for the Indian Ocean Rim (IORA)

With 23 member states and 10 conversation partners, the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) seeks to promote sustainable development and regional cooperation in the area. The group seeks to address the various conventional and unconventional security and safety issues that the nations in the area face, such as terrorism, human trafficking, illegal immigration, piracy, armed robbery at sea, and the trafficking of drugs and weaponry, and wildlife. Crimes related to the fisheries industry include illegal fishing, damaging ocean health, and misusing marine resources. These problems are made worse by the problems caused by global warming. A schedule for the establishment of the Working Group on Disaster Risk Management (WGDRM) within IORA was established at the inaugural Disaster Risk Expert Group Management of IORA in January 2021. The IORA Guidelines for HADR operations in the Indian Ocean were also finalised by member states. By implementing the suggestion in the IORA Action Plan to establish an ongoing Working Group on Maritime Safety and Security, the IORA should increase collaboration in the fight against non-traditional security issues surrounding the Indian Ocean.

d. BIMSTEC

The BIMSTEC countries—Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand—have determined that combating international crime and terrorism is a critical requirement for both sustainable development and regional peace. 2009 saw the group adopt the "BIMSTEC Convention on Cooperation in Fighting Transnational Organised Crime, Illicit Drug Trafficking, and International Terrorism." With fifteen articles, the custom serves as a guarantee-boosting tool for participating nations to work together to fight transnational organised criminality, worldwide terrorism, and the illicit trade in narcotics and psychoactive substances, including their precursor chemicals, while adhering to national laws and regulations.

However, unauthorised migration and human trafficking are not included in the pact. The BIMSTEC member states' national security advisers (NSAs) have been meeting annually, but the ratification of the mechanism for cooperation is still pending.²⁷ After that, the NSAs will devise plans for coordination and collaboration in the areas of security, intelligence, as well as law enforcement. This could facilitate the strengthening of the security system and make real-time information sharing possible. When it comes to disaster management, BIMSTEC can help with strengthening capacity through the sharing of information and technical expertise, standard operating procedure draughting, disaster reaction force creation, and funding allocation.

FORUMS ABOUT MINIATURES

a. The Quad

The US, India, Japan, and Australia are the partners in the Quadrilateral Security discussion (often known as the "Quad"), a strategic security discussion aimed at leveraging partner complementarities to promote prosperity in the

²⁷ Sreeparna Banerjee, "[The Rohingya Crisis and its Impact on Bangladesh-Myanmar Relations](#)", Observer Research Foundation, August 26, 2020.

Indo-Pacific region. Selected ASEAN nations can participate in issue-based cooperation within a larger Quad agenda that addresses collaboration in non-military areas such as infrastructure, quantum computing, artificial intelligence (AI), Covid response, climate change, key technologies and materials, reliable supply chains, and cyber concerns. The Quad is also while constructing a robust framework for disaster relief and Indo-Pacific capacity building. In this network, vaccine diplomacy is important, but there is still more that can be done to address other NTS issues.

b. Trilateral India-Japan-Australia

India, Japan, and Australia may find that the Indo-Pacific region's geostrategic area is ideal for fostering regional cooperation and a rules-based system. The three nations have pledged to supply HADR to one another as well as to their adjacent states. Additionally, India and Japan have collaborated on exercises that centre on HADR operations.²⁸ Through the exchange of medical supplies in addition to HADR activities for the general growth the Covid-19 epidemic has given the countries of the trilateral a chance to focus on scientific advancement and research capabilities.

Another issue is IUU fishing, which has only gotten worse because of consumer demand and threatens to make these few resources even more scarce. There's also the risk of marine crimes like irregular marine arrivals; forced work; and piracy, trafficking, and smuggling. India, Japan, and Australia, who are all home to sizable fishing communities, ought to cooperate via the IORA and other focused venues like the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) in order to broaden their influence.

INITIATIVE FOR THE INDO-PACIFIC OCEANS AND THE EAST ASIA SUMMIT
2019 saw the introduction of IPOI by Prime Minister Modi during the EAS summit. Prime Minister Modi presented the IPOI as a joint initiative during his remarks at the summit endeavour to convert Indo-Pacific ideals into actions. According to the marine environment, "The EAS is the logical venue to promote the Indo-Pacific area is free, open, inclusive, transparent, governed by norms, peaceful, and prosperous where territorial integrity, sovereignty, and the implementation of international law are concerned all States are equally assured of UNCLOS in particular." Consequently, the IPOI ought to be seen as a cooperative India-ASEAN project since it will draw partly from, but not only from, the ASEAN-led EAS framework of adaptability. With its seven spokes or pillars, IPOI is widely used because of these spokes encompasses a broad range of factors that influence diverse cooperation mechanisms, encompassing the maritime sector. But ASEAN has significantly undersubscribed countries, as only Indonesia and Singapore are included.

Germany has also joined the IPOI, although it has not yet stated which pillar it will adhere to. In addition to investigating potential collaboration to advance shared values, goals, and components between IPOI and AOIP and AMO, the IPOI would make joining and cooperating easier because of the similarities and convergence of solving issues in IORA, IONS, and CDRI problems. Thus, ASEAN countries had to think about affiliating with one or more pillars in light of their abilities, national interests, and capacity. Moreover, IPOI would make working between Quad countries and the larger Indo-Pacific area, outside of Quad's purview initiatives, even if they are connected to them because the IPOI is an open, non-treaty-based global project that seeks to improve management, preserve, uphold, and safeguard the marine environment. This strategy could calm the concerns accusing ASEAN countries of "picking sides," which has long been an ASEAN maxim.

WAY FORWARD

²⁸ <https://sinay.ai/en/key-concept-of-maritime-security>

By utilising convergences and partnerships, India and ASEAN can successfully negotiate the challenging maritime security environment and advance regional peace and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific platforms to successfully tackle non-traditional threats. While a way has been established prioritising actions to ensure that India and ASEAN maritime cooperation strengthen the bond even further. Here are some actions that you may want to think about taking:

- The ASEAN countries should think about joining regional associations like IONS and IORA as well as programs like CDRI and IPOI.
- Create trilaterals to facilitate concentrated work on issues arising from the IPOI foundations. These trilaterals might potentially be formed outside of the IPOI's purview if there are concerns about being a member of IPOI.
- India and ASEAN countries signing deals on logistics to uphold existence, as well as the duration of that presence over time, which would improve cooperation in tackling shared risks and difficulties. These contracts may draw on the current accords with Vietnam and Singapore. Enhance communication by placing liaison officers at the Indian Navy's the Indian Ocean Region's International Fusion Centre as soon as possible. This would facilitate the creation of a Maritime Domain Conscience (MDA) that is more thorough and informative.
- Create collaboration and information sharing in underwater environments in addition to MDA.
- As with HADR, strive to address upcoming pandemics. The encounters efforts and knowledge gained from fighting COVID-19 would help in the creation of a Standard Operating Procedure.

CONCLUSION

This essay argues that nation-states face a greater security danger in the twenty-first century from non-state actors, intra-state conflicts, environmental degradation and climate change, demographic shifts, and cyber-conflicts than from the armed forces of other nations. According to Nye and Welch (2013), international laws and institutions like the UN are essential for managing and averting conflict and fostering collaboration. However, these laws and organisations are established expressly to deal with issues pertaining to sovereign states; they do not have the tools necessary to deal with terrorist organisations or organised crime syndicates. The "tragedy of the commons" is a phenomena that has resulted in overuse of natural resources, with little care for replenishment. This is due to the fact that establishing moderation is harder to achieve than applying restriction.

Developed nations show a significant reluctance to voluntarily obstruct their economic development by adhering to the Kyoto Protocol, while rising governments are unwilling to concede on their recent economic successes. As a result, efforts to address the effects of climate change have reached a deadlock. Changes in the population make a big difference in whether a state's power dynamics succeed or fail in the future. Although cyberwarfare is still in its infancy, its efficacy has already been shown, as seen by the Stuxnet strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities that are purportedly the result of joint US and Israeli efforts.

It is a valuable supplement to conventional warfare techniques because of its affordability and absence of direct human losses, which appeals to both state and non-state actors. These new dangers to a country's security are not covered by traditional combat. Nye and Welch claim that nations are no longer the only players on the international political stage, which is getting more and more crowded. As a result, states are finding it more difficult to resolve these contemporary conflicts—not because the laws have changed, but rather because there aren't any established laws to begin with.