



STRATEGIC TO CONTEMPORARY RELATIONS

FROM INDEPENDENCE TIME TO RECENT ISSUES.

Tsar regime of Alexander I, II, III- autocracy, orthodoxy, strict censorship code, minority language was banned, Jews Targeted, Unemployment rate increased. So, revolutionary movement was started inspired by Karl Marx Thoughts- German Philosopher and Father of Communism(The Communist Manifesto, Das Kapital/ Capital, Wage labour and Capital.)

- Revolutionary Movement Split 1903: Bolshevik and Menshevik
- Bolsheviks are a faction of the Marxist Russian Social Democratic Labor Party
- Mensheviks are the faction of the Russian Revolutionary Movement that emerged in 1904.
- Bolsheviks meant the majority. And Mensheviks meant the minority.

Bolsheviks wanted the party to be a small collection of disciplined professional revolutionaries.

- Mensheviks wanted the party to be a mass party that was not tightly knit. They wanted a party that was loosely organized.

Bolsheviks believed that by 1917, Russia was ready for a revolution that would establish communism in the country.

- Mensheviks believed that the country was still not ready and first they had to boost capitalism and then only communism could be achieved.
- Bolsheviks were not hesitant to use violence to achieve their goals. Mensheviks did not want to use violence.

October Revolution/ Bolshevik Revolution 1917 or Red October, 1917

- Led by Vladimir Lenin against Tsarist misrule from Russia and established Communism: Challenge to ideology of Capitalist Economy
- Union of Soviet Socialist Republic USSR came into being after 1917
- 15 republic together constitute USSR
- Formation of Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in 1922.USSR was a strong bloc with great control over global politics from 1922 to 1991.



Communist part in USSR, economy was planned and State Controlled.

Why Soviet Union disintegrate?

- Bureaucratic and Authoritarian rule
- Internal weakness of State Control Institutions
- Lack of democracy and absence of freedom of speech
- One party control over all
- All other 15 region neglected and often suppressed
- High expenditure on defence and
- Low on Infrastructure and development of well being
- Economic stagnation for many years, created economic burden
- Ordinary citizen become aware about economic advance of West
- Rise of Nationalism and desire for Sovereignty in Baltic Republic:
- This is immediate Cause of disintegration of USSR

Outcome of World War II (1939 to 1945)

- Emergence of Two Superpower as primary actor in International System
- Decline of Europe as the epicenter of International Power Politics
- End of WWII, was beginning of End of Colonial System
- Start of Cold War 1945/ 1947 to 1991

Cold War referred to competition, the tensions and a series of confrontations between the US and the Soviet Union backed by their respective allies. A real ideological conflict between Communism and Capitalism.

Logic of deterrence is a strategy for combining two goals : countering an enemy and avoiding war

Both sides have capacity to retaliate against an attack and to cause so much destruction that neither can afford to initiate war, thus cold remains cold.

Warsaw pact was the military alliance which kept the socialist group together. (Whereas , NATO, the military alliance for capitalist countries)

NATO: April 1949 called Western Alliance, , collective defence system Hq Brussels, Belgium 12 to 29 countries now

Warsaw pact: led by Soviet Union, created in 1955 for countering NATO forces in Europe.

Time Line

The Iron Curtain was a political boundary dividing Europe into two separate areas from the end of World War II in 1945 until the end of the Cold War in 1991.

- 1) 1947 American president Harry Truman Doctrine about Containment of Communism
- 2) 1947-52 Marshal Plan : US aid for reconstruction of Western Europe
- 3) 1948 Berlin Blockade by Soviet Union, Stalin President
- 4) 1950-53 Korean war div of korea along 38 degree parallel.
- 5) 1962 Cuba Missile crisis
- 6) 1979 Soviet Intervention in Afghanistan
- 7) 1989: Fall of Berlin Wall : mass protest against governments in eastern europe
- 8) 1990 Unification of Germany
- 9) 1991 Disintegration of Soviet Union, End of Cold War , Mikhail Gorbachev president

Geographical Factors:

- Officially called Russia Federation, largest country in area in the World.
 - About 77% Russia Population live in European Russia and rest in North Asia, Russia is transcontinental country
 - Russia lies between latitudes 41° and 82° N, and longitudes 19° E and 169° W
 - Russia extends across eleven time zones.
 - Russia Posses 10 % world arable land, 73 % Urban area and 27% Rural area in Russia.
 - China:longest land border of any country, China shares international borders with 14 sovereign states
 - Border countries : 14+2 :Russia shares its land border include North Korea, China, Norway, Finland, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Poland, Georgia, Mongolia, Latvia, Estonia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, and Lithuania.
 - two maritime boundaries with the United States and Japan, as well as the borders with the partially recognized states of South Ossetia and Abkhazia
 - The present borders of the Russia (then the Russian SFSR) have been drawn since 1956, and had remained the same after the dissolution of the Soviet Union; until in 2014, when Crimea was annexed by Russia from Ukraine.
-
- ✓ Russia, home to over 100,000 rivers, Lake Baikal, is the world's deepest Fresh water lake.
 - ✓ The Volga, widely seen as Russia's national river due to its historical importance, is the longest river in Europe.
 - ✓ The Siberian rivers of Ob, Yenisey, Lena and Amur
 - ✓ Kaliningrad Oblast, Russia's westernmost part along the Baltic Sea, is about 9,000 km (apart from its easternmost part, Big Diomedes Island in the Bering Strait
 - ✓ The oblast is bordered by Poland to the south, Lithuania to the north and east, and the Baltic Sea to the west. Both countries in NATO, and EU

- ✓ With the defeat of Nazi Germany in 1945 in the Second World War, the territory was annexed as part of the Russian SFSR by the Soviet Union.
- ✓ Russian proposals for visa-free travel between the EU and Kaliningrad have so far been rejected by the EU.
- ✓ Kaliningrad is the only Russian Baltic Sea port that is ice-free all year round and hence plays an important role in maintenance of the Baltic Fleet.

Vladimir Lenin : Russia Revolution 1917-1922/24

Joseph Stalin 1924-53 began rapid industrialization

Nikita Khrushchev 1953-64 : Cuba Missile Crisis: Introduce 1956 reforms ; Peaceful coexistence with West.; Crimea peninsula 1921- 1954 Part of Russia, Nikita transfer control to Ukraine; Kremlin, presidential home in Moscow.

Leonid Brezhnev leader 1964- 82: Proposed Asian Collective Security System and 1979 Soviet Intervention in Afghanistan

Mikhail Gorbachev: Last leader of Soviet Union

- ✓ Introduced Economic reforms and political reforms
- ✓ Perestroika means restructuring , Soviet economy, allowed Pvt companies
- ✓ Glasnost means Openness , to West
- ✓ Stopped the arms race with USA
- ✓ Withdraw troops from Afghanistan and East Europe
- ✓ Help in Unification of Germany
- ✓ Ended Cold War
- ✓ Blamed for disintegration of USSR, dissolved 24 Dec 1991.
- ✓ Divided into separate 15 independent countries.
- ✓ Boris Yeltsin : first elected President of Russia 1991 to 1999

Political factors:

Putin: former KGB intelligence officer for 16 years, born in Leningrad (now Saint Petersburg) and 1991 political entry, He later moved to Moscow in 1996 to join the administration of President Boris Yeltsin.

- Putin-Medvedev tandemocracy is the joint leadership of Russia
- The president is elected by popular vote for a six-year term (eligible for a second term, but not for a third consecutive term)
- ✓ Vladimir Putin 1999 to 2008
- ✓ Medvedev 2008 to 2012
- ✓ Vladimir Putin 2012 to 2018, and now 2018 to 2024
- ✓ Mikhail Mishustin, Prime Minister of Russia since 16 January 2020
- ✓ Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed a law paving the way for him to run for two more presidential terms, potentially extending his rule until 2036.

Arms Control Treaties

- ❖ Strategic Arms Limitation Talks I : SALT –I : 1972
- ❖ SALT –II 1979
- ❖ START I Strategic arms reduction treaty 1991
- ❖ START II 1993
- ❖ New START Treaty:

Russia has an Upper Middle Income mixed economy, Russia called energy superpower

- ✓ world's largest natural gas reserves,
- ✓ the second-largest coal reserves after USA
- ✓ the eighth-largest oil reserves ,after Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Iran Iraq, Kuwait, UAE
- ✓ Russia was also the world's first country to develop civilian nuclear power, and to construct the world's first nuclear power plant. In 2020, the 75th anniversary of the Russian nuclear industry was celebrated. Rosatom is the only



company in the world which has the resources and competencies to supply energy solutions across the nuclear supply chain.

- ✓ Nuclear power plants currently operate in 32 countries, France obtains about 70% of its electricity from nuclear energy
- ✓ Nuclear power is the fifth-largest source of electricity in India after coal, gas, hydroelectricity and wind power
- ✓ India has 23 nuclear reactors in operation in 7 nuclear power plants, with a total installed capacity of 7,480 MW. India has signed civil nuclear agreements with 14 countries: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Namibia, Russia, South Korea, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Vietnam
- ✓ supplied fuel for Kudankulam plant built by Rosatom but also supplied uranium to power India's oldest nuclear power plant in Tarapur.
- ✓ Largest NPP in India: Kudankulam. , India has agreed to a contract of six more NPP to Russia

Russia Challenges:

- ❖ Not proper democracy and jailing Political opponents
 - ❖ Weakening Economy due to foreign sanctions, oil prices, income inequality, Ruble Plummeted
 - ❖ Curtailed Press Freedom
 - ❖ Lack of free and fair election
 - ❖ Human Rights abuses
 - ❖ Living Std of people failing, Russia taking street to improve financial prospects
 - ❖ Deforestation and Pollution, Nuclear waste issue,
 - ❖ 2.5 times faster warming than rest of globe
 - ❖ Siberian Tiger, Amur Leopard are at risk.
- Linkages started with Afanasy Nikitin reaching India even before Vasco da gama revealed India to West. Gujarat traders settling in Astrakhan, Russia theatre in Kolkata that time, Mahabharat translated in Russia.
 - Diplomatic relations start 13 April 1947 before Independence: trust and Mutual Interest is base of Relationship:
 - The relationship began with India PM- Nehru visit to Soviet Union in June 1955 and Khrushchev return trip to India in same year. He announced /supported Indian Sovereignty over disputed territory of Kashmir region and Goa.
 - During the Cold War, India and the Soviet Union (USSR) had a strong strategic, military, economic and diplomatic relationship. After the collapse of the USSR, Russia inherited the close relationship with India. This resulted in India and Russia sharing a Special Relationship.
 - Russia help India in every Sphere: Help in Industrialization and Heavy industries, dev in Space and atomic energy, defence, Second five year plan, IIT Bombay.

India needs Russia because

- ❖ it can meet its abundant energy requirements at a cost-effective price.
- ❖ it can be critical source of energy security for India. ex- Hydrocarbons are an active area for exploring coop between two countries. ONGC-Rosneft -MOU in Offshore Arctic region of Russia.
- ❖ Despite expanding its defence purchases from the US, Israel and Europe, India still needs to collaborate with Russia to master future technology including for space.
- ❖ It improves India's bargaining power when it negotiates arms sales with the West.
- ❖ Russia can be a as pharmaceuticals, manufactured goods, dairy Products, bovine meat and frozen seafood. major market for Indian industry
- ❖ Geopolitically, Russia continues to be a balancing force against any designs China and Pakistan may have in our region.
- ❖ DAE and Russia Rosatam signed the strategic vision for improving coop in peaceful uses of atomic energy
- ❖ Defence Cooperation and transfer of technology. :India's indigenous defence industry is at an infant stage, and Russia's transfer of technology would boost the indigenous industry

Agreement Between:

- 1971 Indo soviet Friendship treaty for 30 years
- 'Declaration on the India Russia Strategic Partnership', in October 2000: Putin in India
- "Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership". December 2010: President Dmitry Medvedev

India Pm Modi, Launched 'Act Far East' policy: India will walk shoulder-to-shoulder with Russia in its development of the Far East as he announced a \$ one billion line of credit for the development of the resource-rich region.

. India was the first country to open a Consulate in Vladivostok, and that even during Soviet Russia when there were restrictions on other foreigners, Vladivostok was open for Indians

Alongwith, cultural and humanitarian fields, Under the Strategic Partnership, several institutionalized dialogue mechanisms, like Annual Summit(So far 20 Annual Summit meetings have taken place alternatively in India and Russia) operating both at the political and official levels have been instituted to ensure regular interaction and follow up on cooperation activities.

Ex: Putin Visit Delhi in 2018 , Modi visited Vladivostok in 2019 , 2019, President Putin signed the Executive Order On Awarding PM Russia's highest state decoration - Order of St Andrew the Apostle. The order was presented to PM for his distinguished contribution to the development of a privileged strategic partnership between Russia and India and friendly ties between the Russian and Indian peoples

Elements of Partnership



DEFENCE & SECURITY

lease of second nuclear powered submarine – are worth over \$12 billion

Moscow support critical for Russian-origin defence equipment in India; the two sides co-produced one of the world's deadliest missiles – Brahmos

SUKHOIS ARE BACKBONE OF INDIAN AIR FORCE

The two sides are currently working to circumvent US sanctions on Russian defence sales to India. Moscow is also one of the foremost counter-terror partners of India



HYDROCARBON

Pipeline being mulled from Russia to India

India's biggest FDI came from Russian oil major Rosneft for Essar Oil

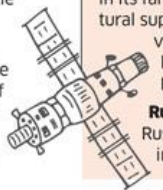
India has, so far, made over \$10-b investment in Russian hydrocarbon sector

Last year the two countries agreed to launch joint projects on exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons in the Arctic Shelf of the Russian Federation

SPACE

2015 marked the 40th anniversary of the launch of India's first satellite 'Aryabhata' on a Russian (then USSR) launch vehicle 'Soyuz'

Both sides exploring the possibility of cooperation in manned space flight



NUCLEAR ENERGY



A second site for Russian nuclear power plant will be allotted

Two units of Russian-origin reactors at Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant are supplying electricity and four more are under construction

Currently, Russia is the only foreign civil nuclear plant supplier in India. Russia has also been fuel supplier for other Indian nuclear power plants

CONNECTIVITY



International North-South Transport Corridor through Iran will be a game-changer in connectivity

India's role in Chabahar Port will help connect

Russia via Afghanistan

Russia has offered incentives for investment in its far-eastern region, including infrastructural support and favourable tax regimes. Revival of Vladivostok-Chennai shipping links can smoothly connect far-east Russia with India

Russia hoping India will join Russian-led connectivity projects in Eurasian region

Bilateral ties with Russia are a key pillar of India's foreign policy. India Views Russia as a time-tested, trustworthy and reliable strategic partner.

Indo -Russia strategic partnership has been built on Seven major components :

Politics, defence, civil nuclear energy , anti- terrorism co operation and space, energy sector, Economic sector like hydrocarbons, trade and Investment, setting a target for US\$50 billion in bilateral trade by 2025.

Defence Factors:

❖ India has longstanding and wide-ranging cooperation with Russia in the field of defence. India-Russia military technical cooperation has evolved from a buyer - seller

framework to one involving joint research, development and production of advanced defence technologies and systems.

❖ BrahMos Missile System as well as the licensed production in India of SU-30 aircraft and T-90 tanks, are examples of such flagship cooperation.

❖ India is the second largest market for the Russian defence industry. Russia is the chief supplier of defence equipment then USA and Israel are the major arms suppliers to India.

India and Russia have deepened their Make in India defence manufacturing cooperation by signing agreements for the construction of naval frigates, KA-226T twin-engine utility helicopters (joint venture (JV) to make 60 in Russia and 140 in India), Brahmos cruise missile (JV with 50.5% India and 49.5% Russia)

INDRA: Joint bi annual military exercise

Avia Indra : annual military exercise air force

India and Russia have several major joint military programmes including:

- BrahMos cruise missile programme
- 5th generation fighter jet programme
- Sukhoi Su-30MKI programme (230+ to be built by Hindustan Aeronautics)
- Ilyushin/HAL Tactical Transport Aircraft
- KA-226T twin-engine utility helicopters
- some frigates

Additionally, India has purchased/leased various military hardware from Russia:

- S-400 Triumf Air defence system
- Kamov Ka-226 200 to be made in India under the Make in India initiative.
- T-90S Bhisma with over 1000 to be built in India
- Akula-II nuclear submarine (2 to be leased with an option to buy when the lease expires)
- INS Vikramaditya aircraft carrier programme
- Tu-22M3 bombers (4 ordered, not delivered)
- US\$900 million upgrade of MiG-29
- Mil Mi-17 (80 ordered) more in Service.
- Ilyushin Il-76 Candid (6 ordered to fit Israeli Phalcon radar)
- The Farkhor Air Base in Tajikistan is currently jointly operated by Indian Air Force and Tajikistan Air Force

2019, in Amethi, PM announced the JV – Indo-Russian Rifles Pvt. Ltd. for production of AK Series Assault Rifles at Ordnance Factory Korwa under the ‘Make-in-India’ program

BrahMos : supersonic cruise missile that can be launched from submarine, ships, aircraft, or land. It is the fastest supersonic cruise missile in the world. It is a joint venture between the Russian Federation's NPO Mashinostroyeniya and India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), who together have formed BrahMos Aerospace. formed from the names of two rivers, the Brahmaputra of India and the Moskva of Russia.

Note : ballistic Missile :Long-range ballistic missiles leave the earth's atmosphere and re-enter it. ballistic missile's flight path is like a large arc up and back down again. Like parabola.

Heavy payload can be carried using ballistic missiles. It is developed primarily to carry nuclear warheads and conventional warheads.a. Examples: Prithvi I, Prithvi II, Agni I, Agni II and Dhanush missiles.

Cruise Missile like Jet Engine, Their flight path is within the atmosphere, they never travel out of it. Payload capacity is limited in Cruise missiles, It has been developed primarily to carry conventional warheads. Examples: BrahMos missiles

Cruise Missiles type:

Hypersonic (Mach 5): These travel at least five times the speed of sound (Mach 5).

Supersonic (Mach 2-3): These missiles travel faster than the speed of sound.

Subsonic (Mach 0.8): These missiles travel slower than the speed of sound.

Ballistic Missile Type:

Short-range (tactical) ballistic missile (SRBM): 300 km to 1,000 km range

Medium-range (theatre) ballistic missile (MRBM): 1,000 km to 3,500 km range

Intermediate-range (Long-Range) ballistic missile (IRBM or LRBM): 3,500 km to 5,500 km range

Intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM): Above 5,500 km range

INS Vikramaditya is a modified *Kiev*-class aircraft carrier and the flagship of the Indian Navy, which entered into service in 2013. June 2014, the Prime Minister of India formally inducted *INS Vikramaditya* into the Indian Navy and dedicated her to the nation. This is the current serving aircraft carrier of India.

Homeport : *INS Kadamba* is an Indian Navy base located near Karwar in Karnataka

Note : *INS Vikrant*, India's first indigenously made aircraft carrier, 1st aircraft carrier to be built in India.

Indigenous aircraft carrier (IAC). launching of sea trials of '*Vikrant*' is a true reflection of the Make in India and Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiatives of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, being built at Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Place Kochi

1. **Original Manufacturer – Mikoyan Gurevich 21, Russia India Airforce 1962- 2013**
2. **MiG 29, called Baaz/Hawk Second line of defence after Sukhoi**
3. **Sukhoi Su 30 : Original Manufacturer – Sukhoi, Russia, IAF 2002 till , Crew 2 Range 3000km service ceiling 17300m, 272 units**

Russia To Offer Customizable MiG-35 Jet To India

- The main competition is between Dassault Rafale, Boeing F/A-18 Super Hornet, Saab's Gripen, Eurofighter Typhoon, Russian MiG-35 and Lockheed Martin F-16

Institutional factors: Both countries are members of many international bodies where they jointly collaborate closely on matters of shared national interest.

Important examples include the UN, BRICS, G20 and SCO, India receiving a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council. In addition, Russia has expressed interest in joining SAARC with observer status in which India is a founding member.

Economic relations: Setting target for 50 billion dollars in bilateral trade by 2025.

Bilateral trade between both countries is concentrated in key value chain sectors. These sectors include highly diversified segments such as machinery, electronics, aerospace, automobile, commercial shipping, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, fertilisers, apparels, precious stones, industrial metals, petroleum products, coal, high-end tea and coffee products

Major items of export: Pharma products, tea, coffee, tobacco, organic chemicals, electrical machinery and equipment

Major items of Import: pearls, Precious stones and metals, nuclear power equipment, mineral oil and products, iron and steel, optical precision and surgical equipment.

Energy Sectors:

1. **Russia has agreed to build more than 20 nuclear reactors over the next 20 years**
2. **Gazprom Group and India's GAIL agreed to LNG shipments to India of 2.5 million tons a year for the period of 20 years.**
3. **Indian oil companies have invested in the Russia's oil sector a notable example is ONGC-Videsh which has invested over \$8 billion with major stakes in oil fields such Sakhalin-1.**
4. **Gazprom, the Russian company, and Gas Authority of India have collaborated in joint development of a block in the Bay of Bengal. Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project with two units of 1000 MW each is a good example of Indo-Russian nuclear energy co-operation.**
5. **The sides are working towards realization of an 'Energy Bridge' between the two countries, which is based on robust civil nuclear cooperation, LNG sourcing, partnership in the Oil and Gas sector, and engagement in renewable energy sources**

6. The North–South Transport Corridor is the ship, rail, and road route for moving freight between India, Russia, Iran, Europe and Central Asia. The route primarily involves moving freight from India, Iran, Azerbaijan and Russia via ship, rail and road.

Institute

ONGC- Rosneft

GAIL- Gazprom

DAE- Roastam

ISRO- Roscosmos

Cultural Cooperation



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There is a strong tradition of Indian studies in Russia. Apart from Hindi, languages such as Tamil, Marathi, Gujarati, Bengali, Urdu, Sanskrit and Pali are taught in Russian Institutions.

There is general interest among Russian people in Indian dance, music, yoga and ayurveda. There are regular cultural initiatives to promote people-to-people contacts between India and Russia

Space Cooperation

- India-Russia cooperation in the field of peaceful uses of outer space dates back to about four decades. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the launch of India's first satellite "Aryabhata" on a Russian (then- USSR) launch vehicle 'Soyuz.'

In 2007, India and Russia signed a framework agreement on cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, including satellite launches, Glonass navigation, remote sensing and other societal applications of outer space. In June 2015, the space agencies have signed a MoU on expansion of cooperation in the field of the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes

- Glonass is Russian Satellite Navigation System considered as counterpart to GPS of US, Galileo of European Union (EU) and Beidou of China.

Divergence With Russia because of :

- rapidly expanding ties between India and USA after Nuclear deal in 2008 with it.
- growing defence relationship between India and USA. Though Russia still largest supplier of defence equipment (70%), but its share in overall import has progressively declined

India decision to sign three " Foundational defence agreements with USA, has surfaced as serious concern----

1. Logistics Exchange Memorandum Of Agreement : LEMOA is a facilitating agreement that establishes basic terms, conditions, and procedures for reciprocal provision of Logistic Support, Supplies, and Services between the armed forces of India and the United States.

2. COMCASA Agreement: *Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement*: sensitive communication equipment and codes to enable transfer of realtime operational information. For instance, if a US warship or aircraft detects a Chinese submarine in the Indian Ocean, it can convey to India through warships or aircraft equipped with COMCASA-protected equipment in real-time.

3. Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement, BECA for geospatial cooperation. This agreement would facilitate exchange of geospatial information between India and United States for both military and civilian use.

- Russia defence agreement and Food Security agreement with Pakistan.
- want its space for Indo-Pacific region to play vital role in that region.
- Since Ukraine crisis Russia wants new friends, and also wants land route for access to warm water port in Arabian sea
- Recently Russia decided to supply MI-35 Hind attack helicopters to Pakistan

- India has been reasonably concerned over Russia's growing fondness for Pakistan, particularly in the defence field as most of India's military equipment is of the Russian origin

Need of the Hour

- India has to rebuild on its strengths and common concerns with the Russians.
- Both have to revitalize their earlier agreement on sharing intelligence for a joint strategy on terrorism.
- Indian and Russian anxieties on terrorism need to converge and bring about some positive outcome.
- India needs to deepen its scientific and technological relations with Russia since a base for this already exists.
- India can use some creative means to build a Russia-India-China (RIC) alliance.
- Needs focus is increasing trade and investment ties between India and Russia.
- A sharp rise in Russia-China defense ties, the assertive foreign policy of a rising China in the IndoPacific, and the China-Pakistan nexus will all encourage India to continue to strengthen ties with Russia. It is clear that India-Russia relations remain vital for both countries amid a changing regional and global security environment.
- More will need to be done if the relationship is to play the role both countries clearly expect. With more emphasis on defence deals as well as energy ties in recent times, India tried to ward off the impression that it is tilting towards the United States of America.



Friction areas:fate of the "color revolutions" — the symbolically-named series of peaceful uprisings in the former Soviet Union

1. Rose Revolution 2003 Georgia
2. Orange Revolution 2004, Ukraine
3. Tulip Revolution 2005, Kyrgystan
4. Kosovo Independence from Serbia, 2008, by USA, Russia Opposed
5. South Ossetia and Abkhazia separated from Georgia by Russia
6. Russia Ukraine Gas dispute 2009
7. Arab Spring 2011 Syria started in Tunisia (called Jasmine Revolution) and spread to many nations in the Arab world including Syria. These were a series of pro-democracy uprisings, both peaceful and armed. Many of them were crushed with a heavy hand by the government.
8. Arab Spring was a wave of pro-democracy protests and uprisings that took place in the Middle East and North Africa. The regions of protest include Egypt, Tunisia, Yemen, Syria, Libya and Bahrain, Morocco.
9. Ukraine Revolution 2014
10. Crimea annexation 2014 by Russia from Ukraine
11. Syria Intervention 2015 by Russia
12. Arab Spring 2.0 in Sudan and Algeria.

What happened after the Arab Spring?

- Government was overthrown and there was a successful transition to democracy.
- Government was overthrown and the new government is still developing.
- Government was not overthrown, but changes were made.
- Fighting a civil war
- Protests were stopped, no major changes were made.



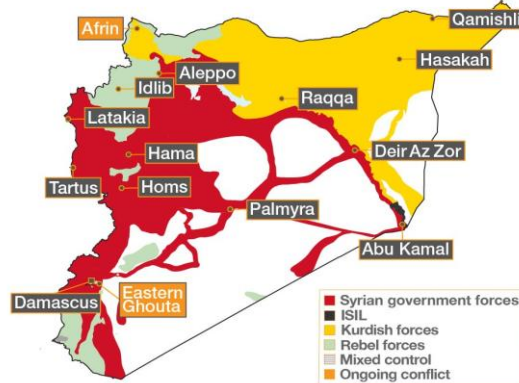
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The Kurds are native to the mountainous region known as Kurdistan in West Asia, spanning southeast Turkey, northern Iraq, northwestern Iran and northern Syria.



Syria: Who controls what?



Source: Institute for the Study of War, South Front
Updated: February 21, 2016

Syria case: Syria's civil war began during the Arab Spring in 2011 as a peaceful uprising against the country's president, Bashar al-Assad since 2000. Organizers called on Syrian President Bashar Assad to make democratic reforms. In response, the Free Syrian Army, a rebel group, that wanted to overthrow the government. By 2012, this armed struggle had devolved into a full-blown civil war.

Iran needs Syria to move its weapons and proxy militias to other allies. So when Assad seemed threatened, Iranian leaders sent Hezbollah, its Shiite allies in Lebanon, to aid the Syrian government. At the same time, Iran's Sunni rivals in the region — Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Turkey among them — began sending arms and money to anti-Assad rebels, including extremist militias. Israel carried out air raids inside Syria, reportedly targeting Hezbollah

Russia helped build the modern Syrian military, and Assad is one of Russian President Vladimir Putin's strongest allies in the Middle East.

At the UN Security Council, Russia and China have repeatedly vetoed Western-backed resolutions on Syria. India has traditionally supported the Assad regime. The relations between India and Syria have been cordial. The support for the Assad regime is largely seen as reciprocation for Syria's continued stance that the Kashmir issue is a bilateral issue between India and Pakistan.

Reason why Russia Interest is in Syria : Russia used airport base of Latakia, indefinitely and for free in Syria. Russia announced it had forming naval facility at Tartus. (want influence in Mediterrean sea)

Maintaining Strategic interest and permanent military presence, and it wants more market for export of its arms, Oils and want reconstruction contracts.



Revolution of Dignity:Ukraine Crisis: Ukrainian revolution of 2014 or Euromaidan Revolution:crimea's parliament votes for the region to become part of Russia, 97 percent wished to join with Russia., and to hold referendum in 10 days' time on endorsing the move. EU leaders are holding an emergency summit to decide their response to Russia's troop deployment in Crimea . annex Crimea on 23 February 2014, and in 2016 Ukraine Joined Properly with EU:aims to modernize and develop Ukraine's economy, governance and rule of law to EU standards and gradually increase integration with the EU Internal market and from 2017, Ukrainians will no longer require visas to travel to most EU countries for tourism,

family visits and business reasons

Note Eastern Ukraine and the Crimea have closer ties to Russia, while Western Ukraine is more friendly with Europe

Crimea



Historical ties with Moscow



The Caucasus is a region spanning Europe and Asia. It is situated between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea and mainly occupied by Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and parts of Southern Russia.

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- ✓ After the Russian Revolution in 1917, Georgia emerged as an independent republic under German protection. Following World War I, Georgia was forcibly annexed by the Soviet Union in 1922, becoming one of its fifteen constituent republics.



✓ Following the bloodless Rose Revolution in 2003, Georgia strongly pursued a pro-Western foreign policy; it introduced a series of democratic and economic reforms aimed at integration into the European Union and NATO. The country's Western orientation soon led to worsening relations with Russia, at one point even resulting in a brief war in 2008.

✓ after the western recognition of the unilateral declaration of independence by Kosovo from Serbia in February 2008,



- ✓ Recognized Independence: US+UK+ France+
- ✓ While Russia and China rejected. India does not recognise Kosovo Independence.
- ✓ After 6 month, Russia's initial recognition of the independence of Abkhazia and South Ossetia occurred in the aftermath of the Russo-Georgian War 2008
- ✓ Only four United Nations member states recognise Abkhazia and South Ossetia: Nauru, Nicaragua, Russia, and Venezuela.



Armenia and Azerbaijan - Conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh Region in the South Caucasus. Recently, tensions escalated at the border between the two countries. It is a territorial and ethnic conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan over the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh and seven surrounding districts, which are controlled by Armenia in reality but are internationally recognized as part of Azerbaijan.

*Nagorno-Karabakh, also known as Artsakh, is a landlocked region in the South Caucasus, within the mountainous

range of Karabakh.

*The root of the problem lies in the manner in which the Soviet authorities under Joseph Stalin divided the area after the Red Army conquered it in the 1920s and decided to make the Nagorno-Karabakh region an autonomous region of Soviet Azerbaijan. The region was an autonomous oblast within Soviet Azerbaijan. After dissolution of the Soviet Union, Armenia supported this move of the ethnic Armenians and war broke out between Azerbaijan and the Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh.

The war went on till 1994 when a ceasefire was brokered with the help of Russia. Again in April 2016-Four-Day War.

Recent: Turkey declared unconditional support for Muslim-majority Azerbaijan. Turkey has had tensions with Armenia over other issues as well. Russia, the dominant power in the area, maintains close ties with both Armenia and Azerbaijan, providing military and financial help to both countries.

However, its ties with Armenia can be considered closer since Armenia hosts a Russian military base and is part of the Moscow-led Eurasian Economic Union.

The war ended on 10 November 2020, when a trilateral ceasefire agreement was signed between Azerbaijan, Armenia and Russia, which forced Armenia to return all the remaining occupied territories surrounding Nagorno-Karabakh