

Geopolitical situation in the world
(ChatGPT knowledge mining)
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Preface to knowledge mining

One of the consequences of digitalization and artificial intelligence in society was the creation of Big Data, data mining, which laid new foundations for earlier statistical and sociological research. Large language models, such as ChatGPT, in the latest versions can reliably present such a large amount of accumulated knowledge in seconds that the previous preliminary stages of truly original research - empirical fact-gathering and relevant theoretical aspects - can be radically shortened. The almost total knowledge that the version of ChatGPT4o is already approaching, but the 5th version to be released in the near future may already be realized, makes it possible to switch to a new way of gaining knowledge, knowledge *mining*. This new way of gaining knowledge takes the researcher to the limits of knowledge, and in addition to and partly instead of the fundamental works of the researched topic, this lightning-fast knowledge mining shortens the time to start truly original discoveries. Although we cannot expect the creation of originally new knowledge from large language models, we can expect the accumulated knowledge to be received at lightning speed. And since a very large number of university professors actually work only at the limits of knowledge while writing university teaching and teaching materials, but do not create anything originally, their study writing activities can already be done largely with the help of ChatGPT4o. But not in months and years, but in hours, days and weeks.

Here, just asking questions is a human intellectual additive to ChatGPT4o, but of course a series of consecutive questions on a given topic is fundamental to what the result of knowledge mining will be from the total knowledge of artificial intelligence on the topic. I myself have written studies in broad legal science (legal theory, legal dogmatics, legal history), sociological theory, sociology of law, political sociology, sociology of science and political science in the past 45 years, and I have already undergone preliminary studies for a multitude of questions in knowledge mining. But even on a general intellectual knowledge base, practically the entire field of social and historical sciences can be used by anyone to ask a series of deepening, interconnected questions on a given topic, and thus mine study-level knowledge from the total knowledge of ChatGPT4o. It should be pointed out, of course, that I have already read studies for some of the mind investigations here, although they were only intended to help me understand other contexts, but I could not have undertaken to undertake an independent study in this field, even at the level of summarising knowledge. But now for ChatGPT4o to ask questions, they were useful, so I was a little beyond the level of general intellectual knowledge in this area.

In this volume, I again tried to explore a single topic, with the need for a monographic summary of knowledge on how this can be achieved with the ChatGPT4o version. Thus, compared to the previous two volumes consisting of several smaller, interlaced additions, and similarly to the third volume, this one aims to be a higher experiment in the new way of gaining knowledge, knowledge mining.¹ Publishing it on the academia.edu portal in Hungarian, English and other languages is also another attempt to spread it.

¹ For the first volume, see Béla Pokol: ChatGPT Questions: Knowledge Mining. Budapest academia.edu 2024; the second volume: Béla Pokol: Aspects of intellectual life (ChatGPT - knowledge mining). Budapest

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US Geopolitics Honestly: Brzezinski's "Great Chessboard" Summary

I.

Please describe the main components of Brzezinski's geopolitical concept "The Great Chessboard".

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Zbigniew Brzezinski's book "The Grand Chessboard: American Primacy and Its Geostrategic Imperatives" was published in 1997 and is about post-Cold War American geopolitical strategy. Brzezinski's main goal in the book is to define the strategy needed for the United States to maintain world political leadership. The main components of the concept are:

1. **According** to Brzezinski, Eurasia is the most important geopolitical region of the world, which determines global power relations. The one who rules Eurasia will be able to dominate the world.
2. **Maintaining American dominance:** The United States must maintain its leadership in Eurasia, as this region is crucial economically, politically, and militarily. It can achieve this by preventing the rise of a single power that could dominate the region.
3. **Alliances and partnerships:** The U.S. must build and maintain strong alliance systems in Europe and Asia. Of particular importance are NATO and the alliance with Japan, which provide stability and counteract potential rivals.
4. **Regional stability:** The United States should promote regional stability and conflict resolution in various parts of Eurasia, including Eastern Europe, the Middle East, South Asia, and East Asia.
5. **Democratization of Europe and Asia:** Brzezinski emphasizes the importance of democratization and the development of market economies in Eurasia as they promote political stability and economic development that ultimately serve the geopolitical interests of the United States.
6. **Russia role:** Russia deserves special attention as it could pose a potential challenge to U.S. dominance. The US should strive to integrate Russia into the global economic and political system while preventing Russia from gaining too much influence in Eurasia.

7. **The rise of China:** Brzezinski recognizes China's growing power and economic importance. The US must pursue a strategy in which it cooperates with China while balancing its influence in Asia.

These main elements form the basis of Brzezinski's concept of the "grand chessboard", according to which the United States must actively shape global geopolitical relations in order to maintain its leading role in the world.

II.

Please describe in detail how Brzezinski divides states in terms of his role as a subject of geopolitics.

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Zbigniew Brzezinski in his book "The Great Chessboard" analyzes the world from a geopolitical point of view, paying special attention to the role and significance of states. In categorizing geopolitical actors (state actors), Brzezinski divides states according to different criteria. It divides states into two main categories: geostrategic players and geopolitical pivots.

Geostrategy players

Geostrategy players are states that have significant power potential and actively shape the geopolitical situation for their own benefit. These states are:

1. **American United States:** The only post-Cold War global superpower capable and willing to intervene in different regions of the world.
2. **China:** An emerging great power whose economic and military potential is constantly growing.
3. **Russia:** A historic great power that continues to exert considerable military and political influence after the collapse of the Soviet Union.
4. **France and Germany:** Two of the most influential Member States of the European Union, playing a central role in European politics and economy.
5. **India:** A growing regional power with significant influence in South Asia.

Geopolitical axis states

Geopolitical axis states are countries that are key to major powers due to their strategic location. These states themselves do not necessarily have great power potential, but due to their position they can have a significant impact on the geopolitical balance of the region. According to Brzezinski, these states are:

1. **Ukraine:** Located between Russia and Europe, it has a significant impact on Russia's geopolitical position.
2. **Azerbaijan:** Due to its energy resources and location, it is important for energy supply and regional stability.
3. **South Korea:** Plays a key role in security and stability in Northeast Asia.
4. **Turkey:** It is a bridge between Europe and Asia and plays an important role in stability in the Middle East and the Balkans.
5. **Iran:** Regional power in the Middle East with significant influence on regional stability.

6. **Pakistan:** Due to its strategic location, it is important for the stability of South Asia and the Middle East.

Other considerations

Brzezinski also emphasizes that there are important players in other regions of the world, but their impact is regional rather than global. Geopolitical strategies should take into account the economic, military, political and cultural strength of states, as well as their historical and geographical features. Thus, based on Brzezinski's approach, he categorizes states according to their role and influence, and accordingly develops the geopolitical strategy of the United States in different regions of the world.

III.

Please describe in detail how Brzezinski sees Russia from the perspective of US geopolitics.

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Zbigniew Brzezinski's "The Great Chessboard" deals in detail with Russia and its role in the geopolitical strategy of the United States. Brzezinski sees Russia as a country that historically and geographically plays a significant role in Eurasia and that could pose a potential challenge to American dominance. Below I detail Brzezinski's views on Russia:

Russia geopolitical significance

1. **Strategic location:** Russia vast territory spans a significant part of Eurasia, which is crucial for the global balance of power. The central location of the country allows it to exert influence in Europe, the Middle East and Asia.
2. **Energy sources:** Russia has significant energy resources, especially oil and gas reserves. These resources are not only important for the Russian economy, but also crucial for Europe's energy supply.
3. **Military power:** Although Russia military power decreased after the collapse of the Soviet Union, the country still has a significant nuclear arsenal and conventional military power that gives it regional and global power.

US geopolitical strategy vis-à-vis Russia

1. **Integration into the global system:** According to Brzezinski, the US should strive to integrate Russia into the global economic and political system. This can help ensure that Russia does not become an isolated and revanchist power.
2. **Prevent hegemony:** It is important for the USA to prevent the emergence of a Eurasian power that could dominate the region. Russia could potentially be such a power, so the US needs to monitor the growth of its influence Russia.
3. **Alliances and partnerships:** The US must build and maintain alliance systems in Europe (e.g. NATO) and Asia to balance its Russia influence. Central and Eastern European countries are particularly important to the US as strategic partners.
4. **Regional conflict management:** Russia involvement in regional conflicts (e.g. Ukraine, Georgia) can destabilise the region. The US must be actively involved in

managing and resolving these conflicts in order to prevent Russia from growing its influence.

Russia internal challenges

Brzezinski also emphasizes that Russia faces a number of internal challenges that could affect its geopolitical role:

1. **Economic problems:** Russia economic development is often volatile and highly dependent on energy prices. This limits Russia's ability to maintain its status as a great power in the long term.
2. **Demographic challenges:** Russia's population is ageing and shrinking, which can lead to economic and social problems in the long term.
3. **Political instability:** Authoritarian governance and the weakness of democratic institutions can cause internal tensions and instability.

Russia's future role

According to Brzezinski, Russia's future role largely depends on the direction in which its internal political and economic situation develops, as well as on the relations it builds with other major powers, especially the United States and China. It is best for the US to integrate Russia into the international community as a stable, democratic and market-oriented country.

In summary, Brzezinski sees Russia as a major challenge to US geopolitical strategy, and the US needs to pursue a thoughtful and proactive policy to manage its Russia influence and ensure global stability.

IV.

Why does Brzezinski see it as important to break away from Russia's sphere of influence geopolitically Ukraine?

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Zbigniew Brzezinski in his work "The Great Chessboard" pays special attention to Ukraine and its geopolitical significance. Brzezinski considers it important to break Ukraine out of Russia's sphere of influence for several reasons. Below I will describe these reasons in detail:

1. Geopolitical balance of Eurasia

According to Brzezinski, Eurasia is the most important geopolitical region in the world, and its governance determines the global balance of power. Ukraine, as one of the largest and most populous European countries, plays a key role in this balance. If Ukraine remains under Russian influence, Russia could be significantly strengthened and able to dominate the region.

2. Curbing Russia

Brzezinski said losing Ukraine would be a significant blow to Russia. Without Ukraine, Russia would find it more difficult to pursue its reunification aspirations and less able to extend its

influence to Europe and Asia. Ukraine's independence and Western orientation would prevent Russia from restoring Soviet-era great power status.

3. Strengthening the West and the European Union

Ukraine's integration into the West and the European Union would strengthen European security and stability. According to Brzezinski, the expansion of the European Union and NATO to the east will increase Europe's stability and prevent Russia from trying to dominate the region again.

4. Democratisation and economic development

Ukraine's independence and Western orientation can promote democratization and economic development of the country. Brzezinski emphasizes that democratic and economically stable Ukraine can serve as a positive example for other countries in the region and promote the spread of democratic values and market economies in Eastern Europe and Eurasia.

5. Geopolitical buffer zone

Ukraine could serve as an important geopolitical buffer zone between the West and Russia. An independent and Western-oriented Ukraine could reduce Russian influence in Central and Eastern Europe and stabilize the region. According to Brzezinski, such a role Ukraine can help reduce tensions between major powers and preserve peace.

6. Cultural and historical factors

Ukraine plays a culturally and historically significant role in Russian identity. For Russia, losing Ukraine means not only a geopolitical, but also a cultural and historical loss. This would reduce Russia's self-confidence and ambitious ambitions in the region.

In summary, Brzezinski believes that breaking Ukraine out of Russia's sphere of influence is crucial for several reasons. On the one hand, it weakens Russia and prevents it from dominating Eurasia, on the other hand, it strengthens the West and the European Union, promotes democratisation and economic development, and contributes to regional stability and security. All these factors are important for the United States's global geopolitical strategy.

V.

Please describe in detail how Brzezinski sees China from the perspective of US geopolitics.

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Zbigniew Brzezinski also pays considerable attention to China in his book "The Great Chessboard", as China's growing economic and military power could challenge the global dominance of the United States. Below is a detailed description of Brzezinski's views on China:

Importance and position of China

1. **Economic growth:** China's economic growth in the 1990s and after the turn of the millennium was dramatic. China has become the world's second-largest economy, which gives it significant influence within the global economic system.
2. **Military developments:** China has invested significant resources in developing its military capacity, including conventional and nuclear weapons. This increases China's regional and global military power, especially in the Pacific.
3. **Political stability and leadership:** China's political system remained stable throughout the 1990s, and the Chinese Communist Party firmly retained power. This has allowed China to pursue long-term strategic goals.

US geopolitical strategy towards China

1. **Cooperation and rivalry:** Brzezinski said the United States must balance cooperation and rivalry with China. Cooperation is important on global issues such as environmental protection and international trade, while rivalry is important for regional security issues and military balance.
2. **Balancing Strategy:** The United States must develop and maintain strong alliances with China's neighbors, especially Japan, South Korea, and Southeast Asian countries. This strategy aims to counter China's growing influence in the region.
3. **Supporting China's Internal Development:** Brzezinski believes that the United States should support China's economic development and integration into the international economic system. This not only increases China's stability, but also reduces the chances of China pursuing an aggressive foreign policy.

Regional and global impacts

1. **Stability of East Asia:** China's regional power increases the importance of East Asian stability for United States. Conflicts in the region, particularly the Taiwan issue and territorial disputes in the South China Sea, can directly affect U.S. interests.
2. **China-Russia relations:** Brzezinski emphasizes the need for the U.S. to monitor China's relationship with Russia. A close Sino-Russian alliance could pose a serious challenge to American dominance in Eurasia. The US must strive not to allow this relationship to become too close.
3. **Global Economic System:** China's growing role in the global economy creates new challenges and opportunities for United States. The U.S. must adapt to China's economic power while ensuring that global economic rules and institutions also serve U.S. interests.

Democratisation and human rights

Brzezinski believes that the United States should encourage democratization processes and respect for human rights in China. While acknowledging that China's internal political system differs from Western democracies, it considers it important to gradually reform and increase political openness as this can contribute to China's long-term stability and peace.

Summary

Brzezinski sees China as a growing superpower that has a significant impact on the United States's global strategy. The U.S. must balance cooperation and rivalry, strengthen regional

alliances, and support China's peaceful development. The U.S. strategy aims to ensure U.S. leadership while contributing to global stability and prosperity.

VI.

Please describe in detail how Brzezinski sees India from the perspective of US geopolitics.

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Zbigniew Brzezinski, in his work "The Great Chessboard", also pays attention to the importance of India in the geopolitical strategy of the United States. Brzezinski sees India as a growing regional power whose stability and development play an important role in US global strategy, especially towards Asia. Below is a detailed description of Brzezinski's insights on India:

India significance in American geopolitics

1. **Regional power:** India is the largest and most populous country in South Asia, with increasing economic and military power. Therefore, Brzezinski considers India a key regional power with a significant influence on the stability and development of neighboring countries.
2. **Democracy and political stability:** India is the world's largest democracy, with a stable political system and democratic institutions. This democratic arrangement is particularly important for the US, as its democratic development and stability India can set a positive example for other developing countries.
3. **Economic growth:** India's economy is growing rapidly and playing an increasing role in the global economy. For the US, India's economic development is important because it creates new markets and investment opportunities for US companies and increases global economic stability.

US geopolitical strategy towards India

1. **Strategic partnership:** The US needs to develop a strong and lasting strategic partnership with India. According to Brzezinski, this partnership is key for the US to balance China's growing influence in Asia and support regional stability.
2. **Military cooperation:** The US should maintain close military cooperation with India, including joint military exercises, sharing defence technologies and arms sales. This will help India develop its military capabilities and contribute to strengthening regional security.
3. **Economic relations:** The U.S. should support India's economic development and integration into the global economic system. This includes strengthening trade relations, encouraging investment and supporting economic reforms in India.

Regional and global impacts

1. **Stability in South Asia:** India stability and development are key to the stability of South Asia. It is important for the US to play a India role in addressing regional conflicts, such as problems in Pakistan and Afghanistan, and in the fight against terrorism.

2. **Counterbalancing China:** India's growing power and influence could help counteract China's dominance in Asia. For the US, it can be an India important strategic partner in limiting China's influence and maintaining the regional balance of power.
3. **Cooperation in international organizations:** The US should support India's active participation in international organizations such as the UN, WTO and other global for
 - a. India participation in these organisations can contribute to strengthening the international order and addressing global problems.

Democratisation and human rights

Brzezinski emphasizes the importance of India's democratic system and the need for the U.S. to support India's political and economic reforms. US policy aims to keep India democratic and stable, as this contributes to regional and global stability.

Summary

Brzezinski said India as a growing regional power and the world's largest democracy plays a key role in the United States's global strategy. The US should develop a close strategic partnership with India, support its economic and military development, and work with it to address regional and global challenges. India's stability and development can make an important contribution to maintaining global security and prosperity.

VII.

Please explain in detail how Brzezinski sees Europe from the perspective of US geopolitics

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In Zbigniew Brzezinski's *The Great Chessboard*, Europe plays a key role in the geopolitical strategy of the United States. Brzezinski discusses in detail the importance of Europe and American interests related to the stability and development of Europe. Below I describe in detail Brzezinski's views on Europe:

Europe's geopolitical importance

1. **Strategic partner:** Europe is the United States's most important ally and strategic partner. Close cooperation with European countries is essential to maintain American global dominance and ensure stability of the international order.
2. **Economic strength:** Europe is also of paramount economic importance, as the European Union is one of the largest economic blocs in the world. It is vital for the US to maintain economic stability and growth in Europe, as this contributes to the health of the global economy.
3. **Political and cultural values:** Europe and the United States share common political and cultural values such as democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law. These values provide the basis for transatlantic cooperation and the achievement of common foreign policy goals.

US geopolitical strategy towards Europe

1. **NATO and transatlantic security:** The US must maintain and strengthen NATO as the foundation of the transatlantic security architecture. NATO ensures the security and stability of European countries and allows the US to exert influence in Europe.
2. **Support for Europe's political integration:** Brzezinski argues that the United States should support the political and economic integration of the European Union. A strong and united Europe provides the US with a stable partner and counters Russian and Chinese influence.
3. **Stabilizing Eastern Europe:** The U.S. has an important role to play in promoting stability and democratization in Eastern Europe. The United States should support Eastern European countries in implementing reforms and European integration.

Regional and global impacts

1. **Countering Russia:** Brzezinski said the U.S. should help Europe resist Russian influence. This is particularly important in Eastern Europe and the Balkans, where Russia has traditionally been influential. U.S.-European cooperation is key to preventing Russian expansionist efforts.
2. **Stability of Eurasia:** The stability and development of Europe contribute to the stability of the entire Eurasian region. For the US, the stability of Europe is essential, as it allows US influence in Eurasia to be maintained.
3. **Tackling global issues:** Europe and the US work together to tackle global issues such as terrorism, climate change, international trade and human rights. The transatlantic partnership enables joint action and more effective responses to global challenges.

The future of Europe and American interests

1. **European unity and diversity:** Brzezinski believes that the U.S. should support European unity while taking into account the diversity of European countries. The US must be flexible and support the specific needs and interests of different European countries.
2. **Economic and technological cooperation:** The US must strengthen its economic and technological cooperation with Europe. This includes expanding trade relations, supporting joint research and development projects and developing the digital economy.
3. **Cultural and educational relations:** The U.S. should promote cultural and educational exchanges with Europe as they promote mutual understanding and strengthen transatlantic relations.

Summary

According to Brzezinski, Europe plays a key role in the United States's geopolitical strategy. The US must maintain a close alliance with Europe, support European integration and work with Europe to address regional and global challenges. The stability, unity and development of Europe are fundamental to American interests and contribute to maintaining global security and prosperity.

2

The world's current major geopolitical aspirations and collisions

I.

Please outline the world's current major geopolitical aspirations and collisions, and the statements of the major authors who have analyzed it.

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The world's current geopolitical aspirations and clashes are based on many complex factors, including competition between major powers, regional conflicts, conflicts of economic interest, and global challenges such as climate change and pandemics. Here's a comprehensive overview of them:

Main geopolitical ambitions

1. US-China rivalry

- **USA:** The United States is trying to maintain its global hegemony, especially military and technological superiority. It is trying to counteract China's growing influence with an increased presence in the Indo-Pacific region.
- **China:** China's goal is to increase its global influence through its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). In addition, technological development and military modernization play a key role in China's strategy.

2. European Union (EU)

- The EU is seeking to enhance its own strategic autonomy, particularly in defence and economic fields, in order to become independent from the US and China. It is also important to strengthen internal cohesion and ensure stability beyond the EU's borders.

3. Russia

- Russia aims to preserve dominance in its own region and prevent NATO's eastward expansion. The war against Ukraine clearly demonstrates this ambition of Moscow.

4. Middle East

- Competition between Iran and Saudi Arabia in the region determines geopolitical dynamics, particularly in Syria, Yemen and Iraq. Israel security interests and the Arab-Israeli conflict are also significant factors.

5. Indian Ocean region

- India is trying to counterbalance China's influence in the region through its growing economic and military power. The strengthening of the Quad alliance (USA, India, Japan, Australia) also serves this purpose.

Key authors and analyses

1. **Henry Kissinger**
 - According to Kissinger, maintaining geopolitical stability requires a balance between the great powers. It emphasizes the return of a multipolar world, where mutual interests and balances between great powers are decisive.
2. **Graham Allison**
 - Allison applies the Thucydides trap theory to today's US-China relationship, according to which conflict between an emerging power (China) and an existing dominant power (US) is almost inevitable unless a way is found for peaceful coexistence.
3. **John Mearsheimer**
 - As an advocate of the realist school, Mearsheimer argues that international politics is dominated by power competition between states. In his view, rivalry between major powers is inevitable, and the US-China conflict also fits into this pattern.
4. **Fareed Zakaria**
 - According to Zakaria, the world is entering a "post-American era" where the US is no longer the only global leading power. It emphasises the growing role of regional powers and non-state actors on the international stage.
5. **Parag Khanna**
 - Khanna emphasizes global connectivity and regional integration, especially the rise of Asia. According to him, the geopolitical map of the future will be determined by economic connectivity and infrastructural developments.

Regional conflicts

1. **Ukraine and Russia**
 - The Russia-Ukraine war is one of the most significant current conflicts with global implications, including security of energy supply and the future of EU-Russia relations.
2. **China and Taiwan**
 - Taiwan's situation and China's attempt to gain control of the island are potential sources of conflict in which the US is involved through its defense obligations to Taiwan.
3. **Israel and Palestine**
 - The Arab-Israeli conflict persists, which flares up from time to time and has a regional destabilising effect.

Global challenges

1. **Climate change**
 - Tackling global warming and climate change is becoming an increasingly important geopolitical issue requiring international cooperation and conflict resolution.
2. **Pandemics**

- The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the importance of global health security and the need for international cooperation in managing and preventing epidemics.

Closing remarks

The current geopolitical situation is determined by competition between major powers and responses to new challenges. The future of international relations is greatly influenced by the strategies chosen by these states and actors and their ability to cooperate in solving common problems.

II.

Please describe in detail John Mearsheimer's geopolitical analyses and claims.

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John Mearsheimer, one of the best-known exponents of neorealism in the theory of international relations, published several significant works that examine the topics of international political dynamics, especially great power rivalry and the balance of power. Mearsheimer's best-known works include "The Tragedy of Great Power Politics," in which he develops a theory of offensive realism, and "Why Leaders Lie: The Truth About Lying in International Politics." Below I present in detail Mearsheimer's main geopolitical analyses and claims.

Theory of offensive realism

1. Anarchy and the Security Dilemma

According to Mearsheimer, the international system is anarchic, i.e. there is no central authority to enforce order. States have to take care of their own security, which creates the security dilemma: when a state strengthens its own security (e.g. military capabilities), it can feel threatened by other states and take similar actions, which increases tensions and instability.

2. Power maximization

Mearsheimer argues that states naturally seek to maximize power in order to ensure their own survival in an anarchic world. Great powers always seek to increase their relative power compared to others and, when they have the opportunity, try to dominate the international system.

3. Achieving hegemony

According to Mearsheimer, the safest position for a great power is to achieve regional hegemony, as this minimizes direct threats. The example of the USA with North American hegemony supports this claim. States seek to prevent other powers from playing a hegemonic role in their own regions.

The US-China rivalry

1. The rise of China

According to Mearsheimer, China's economic and military rise will inevitably lead to conflict with the United States. As China gains power, the U.S. will try to curb its influence to prevent China's regional hegemony in East Asia.

2. Thucydides trap

Mearsheimer also often refers to the Thucydides trap, according to which tension between an emerging power and an existing power can lead to war. He believes that competition between the US and China is also heading in this direction, and serious geopolitical conflicts are expected in the coming decades.

NATO and Russia

1. NATO expansion

Mearsheimer is critical of NATO's eastward expansion and believes it was a provocative move for Russia. According to him, NATO enlargement contributed to the 2014 crisis in Ukraine and the escalation of tensions between the Russia and the West.

2. Russia Reaction

According to Mearsheimer, Russia sees NATO's expansion as a direct threat and therefore responds aggressively to NATO activities near its borders. Russia's response to the Ukraine crisis fits into this geopolitical logic.

The lie of the states

1. The purpose of lying

In "Why Leaders Lie," Mearsheimer examines why state leaders lie in international politics. He said leaders often lie to protect their country's security interests, manipulate public opinion or avoid international conflicts.

2. Lies and International Politics

Lying is a common tool in international politics that states use for various purposes. According to Mearsheimer, this tool becomes especially important when the international system is unstable and states need to react quickly to changing situations.

Critical analysis of Mearsheimer's theories

1. Criticism

Mearsheimer's theories are often criticized for portraying an overly pessimistic and deterministic view of international politics. Critics say his theory does not sufficiently take into account the possibilities of international cooperation and diplomatic solutions.

2. Responding to criticism

Mearsheimer's response to criticism is that his realism is realistic. According to him, the history of international relations proves that conflicts between great powers and power competition are the prevailing trends, and that due to the anarchic nature of the international system, states must always be cautious.

Summation

John Mearsheimer's geopolitical analyses and statements provide in-depth insights into the dynamics of international politics, particularly in terms of great power competition and balance of power. According to Mearsheimer, the anarchic nature of the international system and states' desire to maximize power inevitably leads to conflict, especially when the balance between an emerging power (such as China) and an existing dominant power (such as the US) is shifted. His analyses play an important role in geopolitical discourse and have a significant impact on the development of the theory and practice of international relations.

III.

Please describe Fareed Zakaria's geopolitical analyses and claims, and how they differ from Mearsheimer's views.

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Fareed Zakaria, the renowned American journalist, political scientist and creator of the concept of the "post-American world", analyzes global geopolitical trends differently in many ways than John Mearsheimer. While Mearsheimer takes a realistic perspective, Zakaria emphasizes more the positive aspects of globalization, economic integration, and multipolarity. Below I present Zakaria's main geopolitical analyses and claims, as well as their differences from Mearsheimer's views.

Geopolitical analyses of Fareed Zakaria

1. Post-American world

One of Zakaria's best-known works is "The Post-American World," in which he examines how the world will change in the 21st century with the decline of the relative power of the United States and the rise of other powers.

- **Multipolar World Order:** According to Zakaria, the world is moving in a multipolar direction, where major powers such as China, India, the European Union and other emerging economies work together to shape the global order. This does not mean the fall of the USA, but the distribution of power among several actors.
- **Economic Development and Globalization:** Zakaria emphasizes the positive effects of globalization, including economic growth, technological advancement, and global connectivity, which contribute to international stability and prosperity.

2. The rise of China and India

Zakaria pays special attention to the economic and political rise of China and India.

- **China:** Zakaria acknowledges China's economic success and growing global influence, but emphasizes that China has not yet become a full-fledged hegemonic power. China also faces internal challenges and regional rivalries.
- **India:** India emphasizes its demographic advantages and democratic structure as factors that can put the country in a favourable position on the global stage in the long run.

3. The role of United States

According to Zakaria, the US will remain a key player in global politics, but will have to adapt to the new reality.

- **Flexible Exercise of Power:** The US must accept that it cannot always be the sole decision-maker and instead focus on strengthening international institutions and multilateralism.
- **Innovation and Education:** Zakaria emphasizes that the U.S. can maintain its leadership in the world if it continues to lead the way in innovation, education, and technological development.

Differences between the views of Mearsheimer and Zakaria

1. Power Balance and Conflict

- **Mearsheimer:** Because of the anarchic nature of the international system, states seek power maximization and hegemony, which inevitably leads to conflict. Mearsheimer is pessimistic about the possibility of peaceful coexistence between major powers, especially between the US and China.
- **Zakaria:** While acknowledging power rivalry, Zakaria is more optimistic about the stabilizing effects of international cooperation and multipolarity. It believes that globalisation and economic integration can contribute to conflict prevention and peaceful coexistence.

2. U.S. Power and Strategy

- **Mearsheimer:** The U.S. must maintain its hegemony and dominance, especially in the military field, to ensure its own security and interests. Great power rivalry is inevitable, and the US must be ready for conflict with China.
- **Zakaria:** The U.S. needs to adapt to the changing global environment and show flexibility in the division of power. Instead of American dominance, multilateralism and strengthening international institutions may be the key to preserving stability.

3. Globalisation and Economic Development

- **Mearsheimer:** You focus less on the positive effects of globalization and more on the balance of power and the security dilemma. In his view, economic integration is not sufficient to prevent international conflicts.
- **Zakaria:** It emphasizes the positive aspects of globalization and economic development that can promote international cooperation and stability. According to him, economic connectivity can reduce the likelihood of conflict.

Summation

Fareed Zakaria's geopolitical analyses and claims differ significantly from those of John Mearsheimer. Zakaria is more optimistic about the stabilizing effects of a multipolar world and the positive role of globalization, while Mearsheimer focuses more on the inevitability of power rivalry and conflict. According to Zakaria, the US must adapt to the changing global environment and exercise its power flexibly, while Mearsheimer believes that the US must maintain its hegemony for security and stability.

IV.

While avoiding a world war between the USA and China, how do analysts see this as helping due to China's peculiarities, or pointing these peculiarities towards war? Please describe in detail the main authors and their analyses in this field.

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The question of how to avoid a world war between the USA and China occupies many analysts and authors. When assessing the geopolitical situation, various factors are taken into account, including China's internal characteristics, foreign policy aspirations, and structural dynamics of the international system. Below I present in detail the positions and analyses of some of the main authors on this topic.

Graham Allison - Thucydides Trap

Thucydides trap

In her book *Destined for War: Can America and China Escape Thucydides's Trap?*, Allison applies the concept of the Thucydides trap to U.S.-China relations. According to Thucydides, tension between an emerging power and an existing dominant power can lead to war.

- **Avoidability:** Allison argues that while conflict under the Thucydides trap may seem inevitable, war can be avoided with proper diplomacy, strategies, and mutual understanding. Allison emphasizes the importance of international cooperation and conflict resolution.
- **China's** authoritarian political system, rapid economic growth, and military modernization increase tensions with the US. Allison said addressing China's internal stability and regional ambitions is key to maintaining peace.

Henry Kissinger - Realist Perspective

China and the West

Kissinger deals with China's relationship with the West in several of his books, including "On China."

- **Avoidability:** Kissinger argues that avoiding world war depends on diplomatic skill and balancing the great powers. Mutual respect and a pragmatic foreign policy approach can provide opportunities to avoid conflicts.
- **According** to Kissinger, China's long-term strategic thinking and Confucian values provide an opportunity for peaceful coexistence if the West understands and respects China's cultural and historical characteristics.

John Mearsheimer - Offensive Realism

Power rivalry

Mearsheimer explores great power rivalry through the theory of offensive realism, which he describes in detail in his book "The Tragedy of Great Power Politics."

- **Avoidability:** Mearsheimer is pessimistic about the avoidance of world war, arguing that rivalry between major powers is inevitable. A conflict between the US and China is likely, he said, because both powers seek global dominance.
- **According** to Mearsheimer, China's aggressive expansionist policy and its pursuit of regional hegemony increase the risk of conflict. China's economic power and military development are further escalating tensions with the US.

Fareed Zakaria - Post-American World

Multipolar World Order

In his book "The Post-American World," Zakaria paints a more optimistic picture of the future of the world and emphasizes the benefits of a multipolar world order.

- **Avoidability:** According to Zakaria, avoiding world war depends on strengthening international institutions and promoting multilateralism. Global cooperation and economic interconnectedness can reduce the likelihood of great power conflicts.
- **According** to Zakaria, China's economic rise and integration into the international economic system can contribute to maintaining peace. Addressing China's internal challenges and pursuing reforms is important for stability.

Hugh White - Strategic Balance

US-China strategic balance

In his book "The China Choice: Why We Should Share Power," Hugh White argues that the U.S. must accept China's rise and share power with it.

- **Avoidability:** White argues that avoiding world war depends on establishing a strategic balance between the U.S. and China. The US needs to give more space by acknowledging China's regional influence.
- **China's Peculiarities:** China's historical grievances and national pride are important factors to consider. According to White, in order to ensure China's peaceful rise, the US must accept China's legitimate interests and aspirations.

Summation

The avoidance of world war in the power rivalry between the USA and China is a complex issue that many analysts are examining from different perspectives. A common element in the authors' analyses is the importance of China's characteristics and internal dynamics, as well as the structural features of the international system. While Allison and Kissinger emphasize diplomacy and cooperation, Mearsheimer paints a more pessimistic view of conflict avoidance. Zakaria and White emphasize the importance of global integration and power-sharing to

maintain peace. Based on the summary of various views and analyses, it is clear that the formation of the future world order and the avoidance of world war depend on many factors and depend on the wise decisions of the great powers.

V.

How do today's German geopolitical analysts see the struggle between the US and China to gain world dominance? Please describe in detail the main German authors and their analyses in this field.

ChatGPT4o

Today's German geopolitical analysts look at the power rivalry between the US and China from different perspectives. Below I present some leading German analysts and their analyses that offer different points of view and approaches to this issue.

1. Hans Kundnani

Analyzes

Hans Kundnani, deputy director of Chatham House's Europe programme and a leading figure in German geopolitical thought, often analyses the role of the EU and Germany in the US-China conflict.

- **Transatlantic Relations:** Kundnani said the US-China rivalry has a strong impact on the EU, especially transatlantic relations. The US expects Europe to support it against China, while the EU tries to balance the two great powers.
- **Strategic autonomy:** Kundnani stresses that Germany and the EU should strive for strategic autonomy so that they do not become actors exclusively influenced by the US. This means that the EU must be able to make its own decisions on China.

Features of his views

- **Balance Policy:** Kundnani said the EU should pursue a policy that balances the US and China while protecting its own economic and political interests.
- **Transatlantic cooperation:** While the EU strives for autonomy, it continues to attach importance to transatlantic cooperation and a close relationship with NATO.

2. Volker Perthes

Analyzes

Volker Perthes, former director of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), publishes extensively on the geopolitical aspects of US-China rivalry.

- **Global Governance:** Perthes emphasizes that mechanisms of global governance are critical to managing conflicts between major powers. He said strengthening the role of the UN and other international organizations could help de-escalate conflicts.

- **Mediation role:** Perthes proposes that Germany and the EU act as mediators between the US and China to promote constructive dialogue and peaceful resolution of conflicts.

Features of his views

- **Multilateralism:** Perthes highlights the importance of multilateralism and international cooperation in preserving global stability.
- **Diplomatic Approach:** Perthes proposes a diplomatic approach to dealing with great power conflicts and emphasizes the need to seek peaceful solutions.

3. Herfried Münkler

Analyzes

Herfried Munkler, professor at the Humboldt University of Berlin and an expert on modern warfare, also made significant contributions to geopolitical discourse.

- **Power Politics:** According to Munkler, competition between major powers is inevitable, and rivalry between the US and China fits into this pattern. At the same time, it underlines that maintaining economic and military balance is critical for world peace.
- **The role of Europe:** According to Munkler, Europe must be prepared to act as an independent pole of power on the international stage and not rely entirely on the USA.

Features of his views

- **Realism:** Munkler's realist approach is similar to Mearsheimer's, but stresses that Europe can play a greater role in global politics.
- **Autonomy and Independence:** Munkler calls for greater European autonomy so that Europe can defend its own interests and develop its own strategy in the global power play.

4. Jörg Haas and Mark Leonard - European Council on External Relations (ECFR)

Their analyses

Jörg Haas and Mark Leonard work for the European Council on External Relations (ECFR) and focus on EU-China relations.

- **Technology Competition:** Haas and Leonard highlight the importance of technology competition in the US-China conflict and recommend that the EU develop its own technology capabilities so that it is not completely dependent on either the US or China.
- **Green Transition:** ECFR analyses show that the EU needs to seize the opportunities of the green transition to become a global leader in sustainability policies.

Features of their views

- **Technological Independence:** Haas and Leonard call for increasing the EU's technological independence to keep the EU competitive on the global stage.

- **Environment and Sustainability:** The importance of environmental policies and sustainability is emphasised in the EU Global Strategy.

Summation

German geopolitical analysts take different approaches when assessing power rivalry between the US and China, but what they have in common is that they emphasize the importance of increasing autonomy between the EU and Germany and maintaining a strategic balance. While Kundnani and Munkler offer the perspective of realism and power politics, Perthes and ECFR analysts emphasize the importance of multilateralism and international cooperation. The common goal of German analysts is for Europe to act as an independent pole of power, able to balance the rivalry between the US and China while preserving its own economic and political interests.

Please explain the geopolitical positions of the German AfD party.

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The geopolitical positions and analyses of the German AfD (Alternative for Germany) party differ significantly from those of other German parties and reflect a populist, nationalist outlook. The AfD also takes specific approaches to German domestic and foreign policy, which I will describe in detail below.

Geopolitical Analysis and Allegations of the AfD

1. US-China conflict

- **Criticism of the US:** The AfD is often critical of United States's foreign policy. According to the party, the US is interfering too much in the internal affairs of other countries and destabilizing the world by putting its own economic interests first. Rather, the AfD emphasizes respect for sovereignty.
- **China Relations:** The AfD proposes a pragmatic approach towards China that focuses primarily on economic cooperation. The party supports strengthening economic relations with China, while at the same time taking a critical view of China's human rights record and geopolitical aspirations.

2. Europe and Germany role

- **EU Criticism:** The AfD is a Eurosceptic party that often criticizes the European Union for curtailing sovereignty and excessive bureaucracy. According to the party, the EU is too centralized and Germany should regain its political and economic independence.
- **Strategic autonomy:** The AfD supports increasing Germany and Europe's strategic autonomy, but seeks to do so by weakening the EU and strengthening national sovereignty, rather than an approach that would strengthen the EU as a central actor.

3. Central and Eastern Europe

- **Regional cooperation:** The AfD supports closer cooperation with Central and Eastern European countries, especially the Visegrad countries (Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia). The AfD sees these countries as examples when it comes to immigration policy and the protection of national sovereignty.

4. Immigration and Security Policy

- **Fight against migration:** One of the main political goals of the AfD is stricter regulation of immigration and the fight against illegal migration. According to the party, migration poses a serious security and cultural risk to Germany and to Europe.
- **NATO and Defence:** Although the AfD is not completely opposed to NATO, it often criticizes the alliance's military missions and US dominance within the organisation. The party supports strengthening the German army and increasing defence spending, but would rather focus on developing national defence capabilities.

Main authors and analysts from AfD circles

1. Alexander Gauland

- **American Criticism:** Alexander Gauland, one of the founders and leaders of the AfD, often criticizes U.S. foreign policy, especially U.S. interventions in the Middle East and other regions. Gauland said U.S. foreign policy was destabilizing and Germany should pursue a more independent foreign policy.
- **European Policy:** Gauland's Eurosceptic views are well known and he often stresses that the EU interferes too much in the internal affairs of its Member States. In his view, the EU should return to its original goals of economic cooperation and have less centralised political power.

2. Alice Weidel

- **Economic Realism:** Alice Weidel, parliamentary leader of the AfD, takes an economic approach to the rivalry between the US and China. Weidel emphasized that Germany should pursue politics in its economic interests and maintain pragmatic relations with both major powers.
- **German Sovereignty:** Weidel also emphasizes the importance of Germany's sovereignty and suggests that the country should not commit itself to any great power, but should put its own national interests first.

Summation

The AfD's geopolitical positions and analyses differ significantly from traditional German political guidelines. The party is critical of US foreign policy and proposes a pragmatic approach towards China. The AfD is Eurosceptic and supports increasing Germany and Europe's strategic autonomy, but prefers to do so by strengthening national sovereignty. The AfD's geopolitical approaches carry elements of populism and nationalism and focus primarily on protecting internal security and national interests.

VI.

How do today's French geopolitical analysts see the struggle between the US and China to gain world dominance? Please describe in detail the main French authors and their analyses in this field.

ChatGPT4o

Today's French geopolitical analysts look at the power rivalry between the US and China from many perspectives. Below I present in detail the positions of some leading French authors and analysts that offer different points of view and approaches to this issue.

1. Thierry de Montbrial

Analyzes

Thierry de Montbrial, founder and president of the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI), made a significant contribution to French geopolitical thought.

- **Balance of Power:** Montbrial emphasizes that the balance of power between the U.S. and China fundamentally determines the 21st-century international political system. According to him, both great powers must accept the emergence of a multipolar world order and its consequences.
- **Diplomatic Relations:** Montbrial says diplomatic relations and international cooperation are key to avoiding conflict. It stresses that France should play an active role in global diplomatic efforts.

Features of his views

- **Multilateralism:** Montbrial highlights the importance of multilateralism and recommends that France support strengthening international institutions.
- **Independent Policy:** France must pursue an independent and independent foreign policy that allows it to act as a mediator between the US and China.

2. Bruno Tertrais

Analyzes

Bruno Tertrais, a researcher at the Foundation for Strategic Research (FRS) and an IFRI fellow, has published numerous analyses on global security issues and the US-China rivalry.

- **Security Dilemma:** According to Tertrais, the security dilemma between the US and China increases the risk of military competition and conflict. Both countries seek to maximize their own security interests, which increases tensions.
- **Strategic Stability:** Tertrais stresses the importance of maintaining strategic stability and recommends that France and the EU strengthen their defence capabilities to be able to contribute to global stability.

Features of his views

- **Defence Capabilities:** Tertrais supports the development of European defence capabilities and close cooperation with NATO.
- **Geopolitical Realism:** Tertrais takes a more realistic approach and acknowledges that competition between the US and China is inevitable but can be managed with appropriate strategies.

3. Pascal Boniface

Analyzes

Pascal Boniface, founder and director of the Institute for International and Strategic Relations (IRIS), is a widely known geopolitical expert.

- **Global Impacts:** Boniface's analysis suggests that the power competition between the U.S. and China has global impacts, including economic, technological, and political dimensions. France and Europe must develop their own strategies to deal with these impacts.
- **Independent Europe:** Boniface says Europe should strive for strategic autonomy so that it does not become a satellite of a single great power. This means that Europe must pursue its own interests in the rivalry between the US and China.

Features of his views

- **Strategic autonomy:** Boniface stresses the importance of European strategic autonomy, which allows the EU to take autonomous decisions on global issues.
- **Multilateralism and Cooperation:** Boniface supports multilateralism and international cooperation to address global challenges.

4. Dominique Moisi

Analyzes

Dominique Moisi, an expert in geopolitical emotions and co-founder of the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI), approaches geopolitical issues from an emotional perspective.

- **Geopolitical Emotions:** According to Moisi, the competition between the U.S. and China is not only about economic and military issues, but also about emotional factors such as national pride and historical grievances.
- **European Role:** Moisi believes that France and Europe can act as mediators between the US and China, promoting peaceful dialogue and avoiding conflict.

Features of his views

- **Cultural Understanding:** Moisi emphasizes the importance of cultural understanding and diplomatic sensitivity in dealing with geopolitical conflicts.
- **European Mediation:** France and Europe can play an active role in global diplomatic efforts to promote peace and stability.

Summation

Today's French geopolitical analysts take different approaches when assessing power rivalry between the US and China, but they all have in common that they emphasize the importance of autonomy and independence of France and Europe. Thierry de Montbrial and Dominique Moisi emphasize the importance of multilateralism and diplomacy, while Bruno Tertrais and Pascal Boniface emphasize the importance of defence capabilities and geopolitical realism. It is crucial for France and Europe to develop their own strategies and act as independent poles of power on the global stage, while balancing competition between the US and China.

Please also present as further French positions the views of Mrs Le Pen's party and other French sovereigntist, right-wing authors in this area.

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Marine Le Pen, leader of France's Rassemblement National (formerly the National Front), and other French sovereigntist and right-wing authors have their own unique perspectives on the power rivalry between the US and China. These analyses tend to reflect a sovereigntist, nationalist outlook and are often critical of globalisation and international institutions. Below I present the positions of Mrs Le Pen and other right-wing French authors.

Marine Le Pen and the Rassemblement National

Analyzes

- **Sovereignty and Independence:** Marine Le Pen and her party stress the importance of France's national sovereignty and independence. According to them, France should stay away from direct involvement in the conflict between the US and China and put its own national interests first.
- **Criticism of the US:** Le Pen often criticizes the United States's foreign policy, especially its interventionist nature and hegemonic aspirations. According to him, excessive US influence in Europe and France is having harmful effects.
- **Pragmatic China Policy:** Le Pen proposes a pragmatic approach to China that focuses primarily on economic cooperation. Although it is critical of China's human rights record, it prioritises economic interests.

Features of his views

- **National Interests:** Le Pen stresses that France must first and foremost consider its own national interests in the competition between the US and China.
- **EU Criticism:** Le Pen is Eurosceptic and often criticizes the centralizing efforts of the European Union. According to him, France must regain its political and economic sovereignty from the EU.

Nicolas Dupont-Aignan and Debout la France (Awake, France)

Analyzes

- **Sovereignist Politics:** Nicolas Dupont-Aignan, leader of Debout la France, also takes a sovereignist position. Like Le Pen, she prioritizes France independence and sovereignty.
- **Independent Foreign Policy:** Dupont-Aignan said France should pursue an independent foreign policy and not submit to the influence of either the US or China. France must develop its own geopolitical strategy.

Features of his views

- **Preserving Sovereignty:** Dupont-Aignan said France and Europe must maintain their political and economic independence in the global power race.
- **EU criticism:** Like Le Pen, Dupont-Aignan is critical of the EU's centralising policy and advocates strengthening national sovereignty.

Eric Zemmour

Analyzes

- **Civilizational Conflict:** Eric Zemmour, a popular right-wing publicist and political commentator, often speaks of a civilizational conflict between the Islamic world and Western civilization. It also analyses the rivalry between the US and China through this prism.
- **Criticism of globalization:** Zemmour is highly critical of globalization, which he sees as a threat to national identities and cultures. According to him, both the US and China are engines of globalization, threatening France national character.

Features of his views

- **National Identity:** Zemmour emphasizes the importance of preserving national identity and culture in the context of globalization and great power competition.
- **Sovereignty and Independence:** Zemmour argues that France must stay away from direct involvement in great power rivalry to defend its sovereignty.

Philippe de Villiers

Analyzes

- **Conservative and Sovereignist views:** Philippe de Villiers, a French conservative politician and writer, also holds sovereignist and conservative views. It is critical of the competition between the US and China and stresses France independence.
- **Economic Independence:** De Villiers supports increasing France's economic independence, especially in strategic industries. According to him, France must reduce its dependence on both the US and China.

Features of his views

- **National Priorities:** De Villiers said France should prioritise national priorities and pursue independent policies in great power competition.
- **EU Criticism:** De Villiers is also Eurosceptic and supports strengthening national sovereignty over the centralizing tendencies of the EU.

Summation

A common feature of French sovereigntist and right-wing authors and politicians such as Marine Le Pen, Nicolas Dupont-Aignan, Eric Zemmour and Philippe de Villiers is that they emphasize the importance of national sovereignty and independence of France. They are critical of US foreign policy and globalisation and propose a pragmatic approach towards China that focuses primarily on economic interests. They are all Eurosceptics and call for the strengthening of national sovereignty over the centralising efforts of the EU. These analysts and politicians believe that France should prioritize its own interests in the power competition between the US and China and develop an independent geopolitical strategy.

VII.

How do today's Italian geopolitical analysts see the struggle between the US and China to gain world dominance? Please describe in detail the main Italian authors and their analyses.

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Italian geopolitical analysts examine the power rivalry between the US and China from a variety of perspectives. Below I present in detail the positions of some leading Italian authors and analysts that offer different points of view and approaches to this issue.

1. Lucio Caracciolo

Analyzes

Lucio Caracciolo, editor-in-chief of the Italian geopolitical journal "Limes", is one of the best-known Italian geopolitical analysts.

- **Multipolar World Order:** According to Caracciolo, competition between the US and China is part of the emergence of a multipolar world order. He believes that the rivalry between the two superpowers is fundamentally transforming the international political system.
- **The role of Europe:** Caracciolo stresses that Europe, and Italy in particular, must develop a strategy to preserve its autonomy and respond effectively to the challenges of great power competition. In his view, Europe must take an active role in global politics and put its own interests first.

Features of his views

- **Realist approach:** Caracciolo takes a more realistic approach and acknowledges that competition between great powers is inevitable but can be managed with the right strategies.
- **European Unity:** Caracciolo supports strengthening European unity so that Europe can act as an autonomous pole of power on the global stage.

2. Franco Venturini

Analyzes

Franco Venturini, journalist and international relations expert for Corriere della Sera, writes regularly about the conflict between the US and China and its effects.

- **Transatlantic Relations:** Venturini emphasizes that the rivalry between the US and China has a major impact on transatlantic relations with Europe. According to him, the US expects Europe to support him against China, which poses serious challenges to European countries.
- **Strategic autonomy:** According to Venturini, Europe must strive for strategic autonomy so that it can decide independently in the competition between the US and China. This is particularly important for the protection of the EU's economic and security interests.

Features of his views

- **Equilibrium Policy:** According to Venturini, the EU should pursue a policy of balance between the US and China while protecting its own economic and political interests.
- **NATO and European Defence:** Venturini supports close cooperation with NATO but stresses the need to develop European defence capabilities.

3. Alessandro Colombo

Analyzes

Alessandro Colombo, professor of international relations at the University of Milan and senior researcher at ISPI (Italian Institute for International Political Studies), has published several analyses of power rivalry between the US and China.

- **Geopolitical Tensions:** Colombo said rising tensions between the US and China posed serious risks to global stability. In his view, Europe has an important role to play in promoting peaceful coexistence and managing conflicts.
- **European Policy:** Colombo stresses the need for the EU to develop a united foreign policy capable of responding to global challenges and defending European interests.

Features of his views

- **Multilateralism:** Colombo supports multilateralism and international cooperation to address global challenges.
- **Strategic Coherence:** Colombo said the EU needed to develop a coherent and united strategy to deal with US-China rivalry.

4. Germano Dottori

Analyzes

Germano Dottori, a researcher at the Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI) and author of the journal "Limes", has also made significant contributions to geopolitical discourse.

- **Italy Role:** According to Dottori, Italy has an important role in European politics and should actively participate in the development of the EU's strategic autonomy. He stresses that Italy must put its own interests first in the competition between the US and China.
- **Security Issues:** Dottori stresses the importance of security issues and recommends that Italy and the EU develop their defence capabilities to address global challenges.

Features of his views

- **European Defence:** Dottori supports the development of European defence capabilities and cooperation with NATO.
- **Autonomy and Independence:** Dottori said Italy and Europe should strive for autonomy and independence in the global power race.

Summation

Today's Italian geopolitical analysts take different approaches when assessing power rivalry between the US and China, but they have in common that they emphasize the importance of autonomy and independence of Europe, and especially Italy. Lucio Caracciolo and Franco Venturini take a more realistic approach, while Alessandro Colombo and Germano Dottori emphasize the importance of multilateralism and international cooperation. All analysts agree that Europe and Italy should develop their own strategies to address global challenges and act as independent poles of power on the global stage.

Please also present as further Italian positions the views of Mrs Meloni's party and other Italian sovereigntist, right-wing authors in this area.

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Giorgia Meloni, leader of the Fratelli d'Italia party of the Italy, and other Italian sovereigntist and right-wing authors have their own unique perspectives on the power rivalry between the US and China. These positions tend to revolve around sovereignty, the defence of national interests and criticism of globalisation. Below I present in detail the views of Mrs Meloni and other Italian right-wing authors.

Giorgia Meloni and the Italy Brothers (Fratelli d'Italia)

Analyzes

- **National Sovereignty:** Giorgia Meloni and her party strongly support Italy defending national sovereignty and independence. Meloni said Italy should stay away from direct involvement in the US-China conflict and put its own national interests first.
- **Criticism of the EU:** Meloni is Eurosceptic and critical of the EU's centralising efforts. In his view, the EU is interfering too much in the internal affairs of the member states and Italy should regain its political and economic independence.
- **Economic Pragmatism:** Meloni proposes a pragmatic approach towards China that focuses primarily on economic cooperation. Although it is critical of China's human rights record, it prioritises economic interests.

Features of his views

- **National Interests:** Meloni stressed that Italy must first and foremost consider its own national interests in the competition between the US and China.
- **EU Criticism:** Meloni is critical of the EU's centralizing policy and calls for strengthening national sovereignty.

Matteo Salvini and the League (Lega)

Analyzes

- **Sovereignty and Independence:** League leader Matteo Salvini, like Meloni, emphasizes Italian sovereignty and independence. According to him, Italy should put its own interests first and not submit to the influence of either the USA or China.
- **Migration and Security:** Salvini focuses on migration and security and often criticizes the EU's immigration policy. He believes that illegal migration poses a serious security risk to Italy and to Europe.

Features of his views

- **National Sovereignty:** Salvini says Italy must preserve its national sovereignty and independence in the global power race.
- **Economic Interests:** Salvini supports economic pragmatism, especially towards China, to advance Italy's economic interests.

Marcello Foa

Analyzes

- **Media and Propaganda:** Marcello Foa, former president of RAI (Italian Public Television) and right-wing publicist, often writes about the role of media in geopolitical issues. According to him, Western media excessively influence public opinion in the conflict between the US and China.
- **Defending National Interests:** Foa emphasizes Italy's need to prioritize its own interests in great power competition and is critical of U.S. foreign policy.

Features of his views

- **Media criticism:** Foa often criticizes Western media for its bias, suggesting that Italy develop its own independent media and foreign policy.
- **Sovereignty:** Foa supports Italy preservation of national sovereignty and independence in the global power race.

Giulio Tremonti

Analyzes

- **Economic Policy:** Giulio Tremonti, a politician and economist who previously served as Italy's finance minister, takes an economic approach to the competition between the

U.S. and China. According to Tremonti, Italy must diversify its economic relations to reduce its dependence on any major power.

- **European Strategic Autonomy:** Tremonti stresses the importance of European strategic autonomy so that the EU can take independent economic and political decisions.

Features of his views

- **Economic Independence:** Tremonti supports Italy increase its economic independence and the development of strategic industries.
- **Sovereignty and Autonomy:** Tremonti says Italy and Europe need to increase their autonomy in the global power race.

Summation

A common feature of Giorgia Meloni, Matteo Salvini, Marcello Foa and Giulio Tremonti, as well as other Italian sovereigntist and right-wing authors, is that they emphasize the importance of national sovereignty and independence of Italy. They are critical of US foreign policy and globalisation and propose a pragmatic approach towards China that focuses primarily on economic interests. They are all Eurosceptics and call for the strengthening of national sovereignty in the face of the EU's centralising efforts. These analysts and politicians believe that Italy should prioritize its own interests in the power competition between the US and China and develop an independent geopolitical strategy.

VIII.

If Donald Trump is re-elected, what changes do his opponents fear in the US and Europe regarding the established US geopolitical positions? On the other hand, what changes are European sovereigntist politicians and other right-wing intellectuals hoping for?

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Donald Trump's possible re-term as president raises many concerns and hopes in both the US and Europe. Here's what changes Trump's opponents fear and what changes European sovereigntist politicians and other right-wing intellectuals are hoping for.

Trump Opponents in U.S. and Europe: Fears and Concerns

1. International Alliances and Multilateralism

- **Weakening Alliances:** Trump has often criticized NATO and other international alliances during his first term as president, raising concerns among Allies. If Trump returns, there are fears he could further weaken these alliances and U.S. commitment to collective security.
- **Rejection of Multilateralism:** Trump has often criticized international institutions such as the UN and the WHO and favored bilateral agreements. Opponents fear that under Trump's repeated presidency, the U.S. would move further away from multilateralism.

2. Trade and Economy

- **Trade Wars:** During Trump's presidency, he launched a trade war with China and imposed a number of tariffs. Opponents fear that if Trump returns, these trade conflicts would intensify again, which could cause global economic instability.
- **Protectionism:** Trump's protectionist economic policies have raised concerns among global free trade advocates. In the event of another Trump presidency, there are fears that the US would become even more reluctant to engage in global economic integration.

3. Climate Change and Environment

- **Climate policy:** Trump withdrew from the Paris Agreement during his first presidency and cut environmental regulations. Opponents fear that under another Trump presidency, the U.S. would be even less willing to get involved in the fight against global climate change.

4. Geopolitical instability

- **Unpredictability:** Trump's unpredictable foreign policy has often caused geopolitical instability. Opponents fear that if Trump returns, US foreign policy would again be unpredictable, which could increase international tensions and conflicts.

European Sovereignist Politicians and Right-wing Intellectual Men: Hopes and Expectations

1. Sovereignty and National Interests

- **Strengthening National Sovereignty:** During Trump's presidency, he emphasized the policy of national sovereignty and "America First." European sovereignist politicians and right-wing intellectuals hope that Trump's return will strengthen the principles of national sovereignty and self-determination in Europe as well.
- **EU Criticism:** European sovereignist politicians are often critical of the EU's centralising policies. They hope Trump will support anti-EU movements and strengthen member states' sovereignty.

2. Migration and Security

- **Tighter immigration policy:** Trump's tough immigration policy, including building a border wall with Mexico, could set an example for European right-wing politicians. They hope Trump's return will encourage European countries to adopt stricter immigration policies.
- **Security Policy:** European right-wing politicians also see Trump's security policy as an example to follow, especially in the fight against illegal immigration and the fight against terrorism.

3. Economic policy

- **Protectionism:** Some European right-wing politicians support Trump's protectionist economic policies that prioritize protecting domestic industry and jobs. They hope that Trump's return will encourage European countries to adopt similar protectionist measures.

4. China policy

- **China's Challenge:** Trump's hardline China policy, including trade war and technology sanctions, has won favor in European right-wing circles. They hope that if Trump returns, this hardline policy will continue, which could help counter China's growing influence in the world.

Summation

Donald Trump's possible re-term as president provokes mixed feelings in the US and Europe. Trump's opponents fear his return would weaken international alliances, reject multilateralism, increase trade wars and undermine the fight against climate change. By contrast, European sovereigntist politicians and right-wing thinkers hope that Trump's return will strengthen the principles of national sovereignty and protectionism, encourage stricter immigration policies, and continue a hardline China policy. The divergent perspectives reflect the diverse and complex nature of the global political map.

3

Russia's current geopolitical situation in the world

I.

Please present the positions of the main Russian geopolitical analysts on the geopolitical situation of the current Russia.

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The current geopolitical situation in Russia and the positions of analysts are determined by several main directions:

1. **Asian priority**As a result of the Russia-Ukraine war and Western sanctions, Russia increasingly relies on Asia, especially China and India. President Putin is building closer ties with these countries to make up for the loss of Western markets. Trade between China and Russia has reached record levels, but Russia is much more dependent on China than vice versa. India is also a major buyer of Russian oil and weapons, but is careful to balance the West and Russia so as not to push Putin too close to China ([DW](#)) ([International Politics Quarterly](#)).
2. **Geopolitical disruption:** Russia its limited resources, it acts more like a disruptive power trying to influence global developments through hybrid means. In addition to the Russian military, private military organizations such as the Wagner Group are actively involved in Africa and other regions, often supporting authoritarian leaders and thus gaining resources and influence ([International Politics Quarterly](#)).
3. **Háború Uukranával**The Russia-Ukraine conflict has remained central to Russia's geopolitical strategies. President Putin and the Russian elite will never accept Ukraine independence because it is central to Russia's imperial ambitions. Russian propaganda portrays war as a struggle against the West and has partially transformed the country's economy into a war economy to prepare for a long conflict ([International Politics Quarterly](#)) ([European Policy Centre](#)).
4. **New Trade Routes and Alliances**Western sanctions force Russia to seek new trade routes and alliances. Special attention is paid to Central Asia and the South Caucasus, where new infrastructure investments and the construction of trade routes are taking place. The North-South route to the Indian Ocean via Iran and the South Caucasus is also of increasing importance ([International Politics Quarterly](#)) ([Stratfor](#)).

Overall, Russia's geopolitical strategy is currently focused on making up for the loss of Western connections and markets by strengthening relations with Asian countries and disruptive

activities, while continuing to seek to maintain its influence in the post-Soviet space and beyond.

II.

Please list by name which Russian researchers have developed a comprehensive concept of Russia geopolitical situation and their dangers in this field in recent years, and describe them in detail.

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In recent years, several major Russian geopolitical analysts and researchers have been engaged in developing comprehensive concepts about Russia geopolitical situation and threats in this field. Here are some prominent figures and the main positions they express:

1. **Alexei Arbatov:** Arbatov, a researcher at Moscow's Institute of World Economics and International Relations, explained that Russian foreign policy in recent years has increasingly been based on military power and unconventional means such as hybrid warfare. According to him, Russia goal is to reduce the power gap between the West and Russia, which it seeks to achieve through military and non-military means, including the spread of disinformation and cyberattacks.
2. **Sergei Karaganov:** Karaganov, a professor at Moscow's Higher School of Economics, often emphasizes that Russia's geopolitical strategy is to promote Eurasian integration while opposing Western powers. He believes that Western sanctions and the war on Ukraine are central to Russia seeking alternative partners in Asia, especially China and India.
3. **Andrei Kortunov:** Kortunov, director of Russia's Council on International Affairs, pointed out that Russia's growing dependence on China poses serious economic and strategic challenges. In his view, Russia must balance economic pressure from Western sanctions with China's growing influence.
4. **Dmitry Trenin:** Trenin, former director of Moscow's Carnegie Center, explained that Russia's geopolitical strategy is to exploit the decision-making weaknesses of Western powers and the vacuums that are emerging in the international order. It stresses that Russia aim is not necessarily to occupy territories directly, but to increase influence through informal contacts.

All of these analysts point out that Russia's current geopolitical strategy is closely linked to confrontation with the West, the use of military force, and unconventional warfare methods such as disinformation and cyberattacks. Building closer ties with Asian partners is also a central element, especially to counter Western sanctions.

III.

Please describe Arbatov's geopolitical analyses in detail.

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Alexei Arbatov, renowned Russian geopolitical analyst and head of the Center for International Security at the Primakov National Research Institute for World Economics and International Relations, provides significant insight into Russia's geopolitical strategies and challenges.

1. **Hybrid Warfare and Military Strategy:** Arbatov emphasizes integrating military and non-military assets into his Russia strategy to mitigate power asymmetries vis-à-vis Western powers. This includes exploiting disinformation, cyberattacks and energy supplies [to disrupt and influence](#) geopolitical dynamics ([global](#)) ([NATO](#)).
2. **Nuclear Policy:** As a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic Research, Arbatov has extensively analyzed nuclear deterrence and arms control. It argues that nuclear strategy remains a key element of Russia's defence policy, especially in the context of strained relations with NATO and the United States. ([Global](#)).
3. **Regional Influence and Security:** Arbatov discusses Russia's approach to maintaining influence in the post-Soviet space and beyond. This includes supporting authoritarian regimes and using private military companies to expand Russian influence while avoiding direct military involvement ([global](#)) ([NATO](#)).
4. **Economic constraints and strategic adjustments:** Arbatov points out that Russia's economic constraints necessitate a strategic focus on cost-effective methods of influence, such as hybrid warfare and leveraging geopolitical partnerships with countries such as China and India to counteract Western sanctions and isolation ([global](#)).

Arbatov's analyses highlight the complex interaction between military power, economic constraints and strategic alliances in shaping Russia's current and future geopolitical position.

IV.

Please describe Karaganov's geopolitical analyses in detail.

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Sergei Karaganov, a prominent Russian geopolitical analyst and scientific supervisor at the Moscow College of Economics, developed several key geopolitical concepts and strategies. His analyses focus on Russia place in the changing world order and the country's strategic necessities. Here are some of his main ideas:

1. **Russia Fort** Karaganov supports the concept of "fortress Russia", emphasizing maximum sovereignty, independence and security. This strategy includes internal development and mobilization to reduce dependence on the West while avoiding total isolation. It argues that Russia needs to focus on economic, technological and intellectual growth to strengthen its resilience to external pressures ([Sergey Karaganov](#)) ([Sergey Karaganov](#)).
2. **Greater Eurasian Partnership** Karaganov envisions a new world order centered on a "Greater Eurasia", which includes close cooperation between the Russia, China and India. The aim of this partnership is to counter Western influence and promote stability in the region. Stresses the importance of integrating India into this framework in order to prevent it from aligning itself too closely with the US vis-à-vis China ([Sergey Karaganov](#)).
3. **Nuclear deterrence and escalation** Karaganov controversially suggested that the threat of nuclear escalation could be a means of maintaining global stability and deterring Western aggression. Considers that restoring the credibility of nuclear deterrence is

essential to prevent conflicts and ensure Russia security ([Sergey Karaganov](#)) ([Sergey Karaganov](#)).

4. **Criticism of Western hegemony:** Karaganov often criticizes the West's long-standing dominance and attempts to maintain global hegemony by military and economic means. He argues that the current global crises and conflicts are the result of changing power dynamics as the West's influence diminishes and other powers, especially Russia and China, grow ([new Cold War](#)).
5. **Ukraine and European security** Regarding the conflict in Ukraine, Karaganov believes that Russia should strive for the complete demilitarization and neutral status of Ukraine. It sees the conflict as part of a broader fight against Western interference and stresses that any solution must be part of a new European and Eurasian security framework ([Sergey Karaganov](#)) ([Russia in global affairs](#)).
6. **Economic and political mobilization** It calls for the nationalisation of Russian elites and the extermination of pro-Western elements within the country. Karaganov emphasizes the need for a cohesive internal front to withstand external economic pressures and maintain long-term public support, despite the fact that living standards may fall due to economic warfare ([Sergey Karaganov](#)).

Karaganov's analyses highlight the strategic shift towards greater autonomy, regional partnerships, and a robust defensive posture for navigating a changing geopolitical landscape. His views reflect a broader Russian strategic perspective that prioritizes sovereignty, regional influence and counterbalancing Western power.

V.

Please describe Kortunov's geopolitical analyses in detail.

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Andrei Kortunov, renowned Russian geopolitical analyst and director general of Russia's Council on International Affairs (RIAC), gave an extensive analysis of Russia's geopolitical strategies and the wider international arena. Here are some detailed insights from his work:

1. **Multilateralism and global governance:** Kortunov argues that traditional Western-led multilateralism is becoming increasingly ineffective in addressing global challenges. It highlights the limitations of institutions such as NATO and the EU in addressing today's geopolitical issues and suggests the need for a new form of multilateralism. This new approach should involve a wider range of global actors, including the emerging powers of the Global South, to create a more balanced and effective international order ([CIRSD](#)).
2. **Russia-NATO relations:** In analyzing the stalemate between the Russia and NATO, Kortunov stresses the need for practical measures to stabilize relations. It proposes confidence-building steps such as the creation of buffer zones, the revitalisation of the NATO-Russia Council, and potentially negotiations on a new Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE 2). These measures aim to reduce military tensions and avoid escalation, recognising that NATO's eastward expansion remains a contentious issue for Russia ([global](#)).
3. **Strategic partnerships:** Kortunov highlights the importance of strategic partnerships for Russia, especially with countries such as China and India. It sees these relations as key to balancing Western influence and promoting regional stability. The concept of

Greater Eurasia, which includes close cooperation between the Russia, China and India, is central to this strategy. He also emphasizes the need for Russia to manage relations with other regional powers and navigate complex dynamics, such as India-Pakistan tensions ([Wilson Center](#)).

4. **Internal development and sovereignty:** Kortunov advocates a focus on internal development and strengthening national sovereignty. This includes economic, technological and intellectual growth to reduce dependence on external actors. It stresses the need for Russia to nationalize its elites and eradicate pro-Western sentiment in order to create a united internal front capable of withstanding external pressure ([RSMD](#)).
5. **European security architecture:** Kortunov believes that the current European security architecture is outdated and needs reform. It proposes that Russia enter into a dialogue to establish a new security framework involving both European and Eurasian countries. This would include addressing the concerns of former Soviet republics aspiring to NATO membership and finding alternative security mechanisms to reduce their dependence on the alliance ([global](#)).
6. **Global Power Shifts:** Kortunov discusses broader changes in global power dynamics, noting the decline of Western hegemony and the rise of multipolarity. He sees this transition as an opportunity for Russia to play a more significant role in shaping the new international order. At the same time, it warns of transition risks, including the possibility of increased global instability and conflict ([CIRSD](#)).

Kortunov's analyses provide a comprehensive picture of Russia's strategic requirements in a changing global environment, emphasizing the need for internal cohesion, strategic partnerships, and a reformed approach to multilateralism and security architecture.

VI.

Please describe Trenin's geopolitical analyses in detail.

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Dmitry Trenin, a renowned Russian geopolitical analyst and former director of the Carnegie Moscow Center, gave a comprehensive analysis of Russia's evolving geopolitical strategies, focusing on his deteriorating relations with the West and his ambitions in the post-Soviet space.

Main topics of Trenin analyses

1. **Russia's geopolitical shift:** Trenin highlights a significant shift in Russian foreign policy from seeking integration with the West to developing a more autonomous and confident global position. This includes promoting closer ties with non-Western powers such as China, Iran and countries in the Global South. The aim of this strategic turnaround is to counter Western influence and establish new spheres of influence in regions such as Latin America and Africa ([global](#)) ([The Asia Today](#)).
2. **Post-Soviet Space Strategy:** Russia's approach to its immediate geographical periphery, especially in Ukraine, Belarus and the South Caucasus, reflects its intention to strengthen its influence without trying to resurrect the Soviet Union. In Ukraine, Russia's military deployment and actions are aimed at preventing Ukraine integration into NATO and maintaining a buffer zone against Western interference. Belarus has deepened political and military integration following the 2020 crisis, making Belarus

increasingly dependent on Russian support. Similarly, in the South Caucasus, it acts as a Russia mediator, while securing its strategic interests in the midst of regional conflicts ([global](#)) ([The Asia Today](#)).

3. **Ukrainian crisis and Western confrontation:** Trenin emphasizes that the Ukrainian crisis is not merely a bilateral issue between Russia and Ukraine, but a broader confrontation with the West. Russia's moves are driven by a desire to transform the European security architecture to reduce the influence of the United States and NATO. This includes a mix of military deterrence, political maneuvering, and economic measures to advance Russia's interests and prevent further westward drift Ukraine ([Global](#)) ([Davis Center](#)).
4. **Global Southern Engagement:** Trenin points out that Russia has successfully leveraged its historical connections and current geopolitical narratives to strengthen ties with countries in the Global South. This strategy is part of a broader effort to create a "world majority" bloc that challenges Western dominance and provides strategic partnerships and economic opportunities to Russia. The extension of the BRICS to include more countries in the Global South exemplifies this approach ([Davis Center](#)).
5. **Strategic autonomy and military readiness:** Trenin discusses possible scenarios for Russia's future moves, ranging from strategic containment and calculated geopolitical moves to more aggressive military interventions if necessary. It notes that while Russia prepared for different contingencies, the use of force would entail significant risks and costs, both domestically and internationally. The focus remains on maintaining strategic autonomy and ensuring that Russia can defend its interests without going too far ([global](#)).

Conclusion

Dmitry Trenin's analyses provide a nuanced picture of Russia's geopolitical strategies in a rapidly changing global environment. His insights reflect Russia's complexity of his relations with the West, his efforts to strengthen his influence in the post-Soviet space, and his strategic turn towards the global south.

You can find more detailed information about Trenin's views through the Carnegie Russia Eurasia Center and other publications ([Global](#)) ([The Asia Today](#)) ([Davis Center](#)).

VII.

Please describe Dugin's geopolitical analysis in detail.

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Alexander Dugin is a prominent Russian political philosopher and analyst known for his neo-Eurasian views and advocates a multipolar world order that challenges Western hegemony. His geopolitical theories emphasize the cultural, political and strategic dimensions of the struggle between the "Atlantic" (maritime) and "Eurasian" (land) powers.

Key elements of Dugin's geopolitical analysis

1. **Multipolarity vs. Unipolarity:** Dugin criticizes Western universalism, arguing that the West's claim to represent all of humanity is imperialist and wrong. He envisions a

multipolar world where different civilizations, such as Russia-Eurasia, China, and India, coexist and maintain their distinct identities and governance models. This framework contrasts with the unipolar world dominated by Western liberal democracy and neoliberal capitalism ([MEMRI](#)) ([The Geopolity](#)).

2. **Clash of civilizations** Dugin's perspective on global conflicts, such as the Ukraine crisis, is that they represent deeper geopolitical struggles between land powers (Eurasia) and maritime powers (West). It sees Western countries' support for Ukraine as part of a broader strategy to weaken Russia by extending Western influence into traditional Eurasian territories ([Pulsar bolygó](#)) ([Wikipedia](#)).
3. **Strategic goals and actions:** Dugin urges Russia to strengthen his influence in the post-Soviet space through strategic alliances and subversion rather than direct military conquest. Among its recommendations are strengthening closer ties with Germany and France to counter American influence, as well as supporting the integration of parts of Belarus, parts Ukraine and other former Soviet states into the new Eurasian bloc ([Wikipedia](#)).
4. **Critique of liberalism and modernity:** Dugin is critical of Western liberalism, which he sees erodes traditional values and identities. He warns of the dangers of globalism, which he sees leading to the destruction of cultural and national identities, and advocates a "fourth political theory" that rejects liberalism, fascism and communism in favor of a new political ideology focused on traditionalism and multipolarity ([The Geopolity](#)).
5. **Geopolitical influence and alliances** Dugin emphasizes the importance of forming strategic alliances with non-Western powers such as China and Iran. He argues that these alliances are key to resisting Western hegemony and creating a balanced global order where multiple centers of power coexist. It also highlights its Russia role in leading a coalition of land powers to challenge the maritime dominance of the United States and its allies ([Pulsar bolygó](#)) ([Eurasia Review](#)).

Conclusion

Alexander Dugin's geopolitical theories have a great influence on shaping contemporary Russian strategic thinking. The vision of a multipolar world challenges the existing order of Western domination and attempts to strengthen the influence of traditional land civilizations. By promoting strategic alliances and a return to traditional values, Dugin's ideas resonate with those seeking alternatives to current global power structures.

VIII.

Are there two intellectual camps among current Russian thinkers about Russia aspiration towards Europe or, on the contrary, their orientation towards Asia? Please describe the main authors in this field and analyse each of their positions in detail.

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There are indeed two main camps among current Russian thinkers about Russia's aspirations towards Europe and Asia. One camp is oriented towards Europe, while the other is more oriented towards Asia and the multipolar world. Below I present the positions and analyses of the main authors from both camps.

Camp oriented towards Europe

1. **Dmitri Trenin:** Trenin thinks it would be vital for Russia to get closer to Europe, but he recognizes that in the current political and economic environment it is becoming increasingly difficult. Trenin emphasizes that strong historical and cultural ties remain between Russia and Europe, on which closer cooperation should be established. However, Trenin also admits that opposition to the West and conflicts around the Ukraine hinder this rapprochement ([SpringerLink](#)).
2. **Vladimir Lukin:** Lukin, a former Russian ombudsman and diplomat, supports a pro-European policy of integrating and cooperating Russia with European countries. Believes that the adoption of democratic values and a market economy could help Russia develop economically and socially, although it recognises that this is difficult to achieve in the current political climate ([Russia Beyond](#)).

Camp oriented towards Asia and multipolarity

1. **Aleksandr Dugin:** Dugin is a major proponent of neo-Eurasianism, which emphasizes the role of Russia in a multipolar world as opposed to Western hegemony. According to Dugin, Russia should act as an ally of China, Iran and India to counter the influence of United States and Europe. It stresses that, due to cultural and civilisational differences, Russia's natural allies tend to be located in Asia ([MEMRI](#)) ([Planet Pulsar](#)).
2. **Sergei Karaganov:** Karaganov is one of the main proponents of the concept of "Greater Eurasia", according to which Russia should orient itself towards Asia, especially with regard to cooperation with China and India. According to Karaganov, this strategy will not only bring economic benefits, but also bring geopolitical stability to Russia to counter Western sanctions and confrontation ([SpringerLink](#)).

Comprehensive analysis

The dispute between the two camps reflects Russia geopolitical dilemma of how to balance Europe and Asia. Supporters of a European orientation emphasize the advantages of Western values and integration, while supporters of an Asian orientation emphasize the potential of a multipolar world and resistance to Western hegemony. The future of Russian foreign policy is likely to be the result of a constant balancing act between these two trends.

IX.

Russia do they feel a Chinese intrusion into Siberian territory, and are current Russian geopolitical analysts afraid of this? If so, who among them has addressed this issue in detail?

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Yes, many current Russian geopolitical analysts are concerned about Chinese incursions into Siberian territory. Analysts point out that China is exerting increasing economic and demographic influence in the Russian Far East, especially in the mining and energy sectors. While such Chinese investments may bring economic benefits to Russia in the short term, they carry sovereignty and strategic risks in the long term.

China is making significant investments in the Russian Far East, especially in infrastructure development and energy exploitation. Projects such as the Power of Siberia pipeline and its

planned expansion, as well as numerous mining projects financed by Chinese companies, all contribute to China's growing influence in the region ([SpecialEurasia](#)) ([Eurasia Review](#)).

Some analysts, such as articles in SpecialEurasia and War on the Rocks, warn that asymmetries in Russian-Chinese relations could tilt in China's favor, especially over its war against Russia Ukraine and subsequent Western sanctions. These developments could further increase Russia's economic dependence on China, with long-term geopolitical risks ([War on the Rocks](#)) ([The Diplomat](#)).

Dr. Alicja Bachulska and other experts stress that although Russian-Chinese relations are strengthened by a common anti-US stance, tensions and conflicts of interest persist between Moscow and Beijing, particularly on issues of economic influence and control over strategic areas such as the Arctic and Central Asia ([The Diplomat](#)).

Please list the main authors in this field and describe their views in detail.

ChatGPT4o

Several important authors and analysts expressed their views on Russian-Chinese geopolitical relations and issues related to China's influence in Siberia. Below are some of the main authors and their positions in detail:

1. Dr. Alicja Bachulska

- **According** to Dr. Bachulska, the balance of power between China and Russia is increasingly tilted in China's favor, especially as a result of Russia's war against the Ukraine and subsequent Western sanctions. At the same time, he points out that Moscow still has certain technological and strategic advantages that are valuable to Beijing, for example, in the production of aircraft engines. Dr. Bachulska emphasizes that although Russian-Chinese relations are strong, there are tensions and conflicts of interest in them, especially when it comes to economic influence and control over strategic areas such as the Arctic and Central Asia ([The Diplomat](#)).

2. Giuliano Bifulchi (SpecialEurasia)

- **Position:** According to Bifulchi's analysis, China's growing investments in the Russian Far East bring significant economic benefits, but pose long-term sovereignty and strategic risks for Russia. He points out that the increase in China's economic presence increases dependence on Russia, especially in energy and infrastructure projects. Bifulchi highlights that the asymmetry in Russian-Chinese relations is increasingly shifting in China's favor, which could pose a challenge for Russia in the long run ([SpecialEurasia](#)).

3. War on the Rocks

- **Point of view:** The War on the Rocks analysis emphasizes long-term geopolitical tensions between China and Russia, especially in the Russian Far East and Central Asia. According to the analysis, China's immigration and growing economic influence are

creating tension in the region and may pose a challenge to Russia in the future. The analysis also points out that Russia's military strategic plans anticipate a possible Chinese invasion of the Far East, which could mean further uncertainty and potential conflict ([War on the Rocks](#)).

4. Eurasia Review

- **Point of view:** According to Eurasia Review, China's growing interest in the Russian Far East, especially in the Khabarovsk Krai region, is leading to an increase in its economic and demographic influence. The analysis shows that although economic cooperation between the two countries is deepening, this could lead to an increase in Russia's economic dependence in the long run, which carries strategic risks. The analysis underlines that the balance in Russian-Chinese relations is increasingly shifting in China's favour, which may pose long-term challenges for Russia ([Eurasia Review](#)).

5. Alexander Korolev

Korolev is a Russian geopolitical analyst who deals in detail with the dynamics of Sino-Russian relations, especially in the territories of the Russian Far East and Siberia. According to him, China's economic influence in the region is growing, which is also indicated by infrastructure investments and projects implemented in the energy sector. Korolev warns that while Russia benefits economically from Chinese investments, there is a long-term risk of losing sovereignty in certain strategic areas ([War on the Rocks](#)).

6. Yuval Weber

Weber, a fellow at the Daniel Morgan Graduate School of National Security, has written numerous studies and articles on Russian-Chinese geopolitical relations. According to Weber, China's demographic and economic pressures could destabilize Russia's Far East in the long run, especially if Moscow fails to adequately manage Chinese immigration and economic expansion. Weber believes that Russia will become strategically vulnerable if it continues to rely so heavily on China ([War on the Rocks](#)) ([SpecialEurasia](#)).

7. Marcin Kaczmarek

Kaczmarek, associate professor at the Institute of Eastern European Studies at the University of Warsaw, analyzes Russian-Chinese relations in detail. According to him, the asymmetry between the two countries is increasingly shifting in favor of China, especially in the field of energy and infrastructure investments. Kaczmarek draws attention to the fact that while Russia enjoys economic benefits in the short term, in the long term there is a risk that its geopolitical position will be weakened by unilateral dependence on China ([Eurasia Review](#)).

8. Xiaochen Su: According to his research, China's presence in the Russian Far East is declining, partly due to stricter regulations by Russian authorities. Su points out that although Chinese traders and entrepreneurs used to have significant influence in the region, many of them have now withdrawn from business due to rising costs and falling profits. The Russian government's strategy is to curb Chinese dominance, for example by organizing the Eastern

Economic Forum to attract investment from other countries such as Japan and South Korea ([The Diplomat](#)).

9. Balasubramanian Chandrasekhar: Chandrasekhar analyzes in detail the Power of Siberia gas pipeline project, which is a symbol of strategic partnership between Russia and China. The importance of the project for both countries is fundamental and implies long-term commitments on both sides. Chandrasekhar emphasizes that this project is not only important from an energy point of view, but also has geopolitical significance ([The Geopolitics](#)).

10. Joao Peixe: According to Peixe's articles, the Russian government is concerned about Chinese migration and the increase in Chinese economic influence in the Siberian and Far Eastern regions. The Russian authorities are trying to strengthen the presence of the Russian population and prevent the formation of "Chinese enclaves" with various programs. However, China continues to play a significant role in the region (OilPrice.com) in terms of infrastructure and industrial development ([South China Morning Post](#)).

These analysts all emphasize different points of view, but they all share the recognition that the growth of Chinese influence in Russia Far East and Siberia could pose serious challenges for Moscow in the long run.

X.

Are Russian geopolitical experts and other intellectual people concerned about U.S. efforts to acquire Russia Siberian territories, which it might want to achieve by splitting up Russia current territory and dividing it into several states?

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Russian geopolitical experts and other intellectual people are less concerned with the theory that the US would seek to acquire Russia Siberian territories. Rather, they focus on the fact that US policy is aimed at weakening Russia and reducing its status as a global power. The United States's strategy, particularly during the conflict in Ukraine, is to reduce Russia's military and economic capabilities, thereby preventing Russia from acting as a major global power ([Foreign Policy Research Institute](#)).

According to some experts, the increasing military presence of the US and NATO in Asia and the Pacific region is a central element in maintaining the balance of great powers, and this indirectly affects Russia position ([Voice of America](#)). In parallel, Russia and China are building strategic partnerships to counter US influence ([SpringerLink](#)).

As for the territory of Siberia and the Far East, experts focus primarily on the growth of Chinese influence, which they are experiencing in the form of economic investment and demographic changes. The possible role of the US in this region is less pronounced, as US policy seeks to reduce its influence on Russia global scale rather than directly seeking to acquire territory ([CGI Stratfor](#)).

Overall, Russian geopolitical analysts focus more on the overall strategic goals of the US and the growth of China's influence than on the US plans to acquire specific Siberian territories.

4

Current major geopolitical and collisions of East Asia

I.

What are the geopolitical aspirations and struggles in the current East Asian region?

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The current East Asian region is experiencing a number of geopolitical aspirations and struggles that affect stability and security in the region. Some of the main factors and conflicts include:

1. China's growing power and influence:

- **South China Sea:** China's active territorial claims and construction of artificial islands in the South China Sea are causing serious tensions with several neighboring countries such as Viet Nam, the Philippines and Malaysia. The United States is also involved in the region to ensure free navigation and curb China's influence.
- **Belt and Road Initiative:** China is trying to expand its influence in the region and globally through economic and infrastructure investments, which provokes mixed reactions from participating countries.

2. North Korea:

- **Nuclear program:** North Korea's nuclear weapons program and missile tests are causing significant tensions in the region, particularly with South Korea, Japan and the United States. The UN and several countries are using sanctions to pressure Pyongyang to disarm.

3. Japan defence and security policy:

- **Defence reforms:** Japan has increased defence spending and overhauled its defence policy in recent years, partly due to China's growing military presence and threats from North Korea. Tokyo cooperates closely with the United States and is actively involved in regional security issues.

4. Taiwan question:

- **China's relationship with Taiwan:** China considers Taiwan a province and has pledged to unite the country by force if necessary. Taiwan, on the other hand, has

democratic self-government and part of the international community supports its autonomy, which is a source of ongoing tensions between Beijing and other countries.

5. Disputes between Southeast Asian countries:

- **Territorial disputes:** There are territorial disputes between several countries in the region that generate tensions, such as border disputes between Thailand and Cambodia and disagreements over maritime areas between Malaysia and Indonesia.

6. Regional cooperation and alliances:

- **ASEAN and other regional organizations:** ASEAN and other regional cooperation organizations seek to mediate and promote peaceful solutions to conflicts in the region. ASEAN is a particularly important platform for promoting economic and political cooperation among its members.

Together, these factors contribute to the complexity of the geopolitical dynamics of East Asia, where great power competition, regional ambitions and security challenges all influence the future of the region.

II.

In the intellectual circles of the countries of East Asia, what more comprehensive geopolitical concepts have been formulated about the desirable geopolitical state of their region? Please list the main authors in this field and describe these concepts.

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In the intellectual circles of East Asia, several comprehensive geopolitical concepts have been formulated about the desirable geopolitical state of the region. These concepts propose different approaches and strategies to achieve regional stability, security and prosperity. Below are some of the main authors and concepts:

1. Kishore Mahbubani (Singapore)

- **Koncepció:** „The Asian Hemisphere: The Irresistible Shift of Global Power to the East”
- **According** to Mahbubani, global power is gradually shifting to East Asia. Asian countries need to come together and work together to promote regional stability and economic growth. The concept emphasizes the importance of Asian values and collective identity in developing geopolitical strategies.

2. Zheng Bijian (China)

- **Concept:** "Peaceful Rise"
- **According** to Zheng's concept, China wants to peacefully increase its global influence and power, avoiding direct conflicts with other major powers. The strategy aims to gradually increase China's economic and political power by preserving international order and maintaining global stability.

3. Lee Kuan Yew (Singapore)

- **Concept:** "Asian Values"
- **According** to Lee Kuan Yew, Asian countries should build on their own values and cultural traditions to create strong and stable societies. The emphasis on Asian values can help countries in the region resist the growth of Western hegemony and influence.

4. Shinzo Abe (Japan)

- **Concept:** "Proactive contribution to peace"
- **Abe** said Japan should play a more active role in maintaining international peace and security. This concept proposes increasing defence spending, working more closely with allies and strengthening regional security structures.

5. Wang Jisi (China)

- **Concept:** "March West"
- **According** to Wang, China needs to pay more attention to Central Asia and Western Asia to balance geopolitical pressure in the East Asian region. This strategy aims to strengthen China's economic and political ties in its western neighbourhood.

6. Park Geun-hye (South Korea)

- **Concept:** "Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative"
- **According** to Park, countries in the region should work together to promote common challenges, such as the North Korean threat and economic cooperation. The initiative aims to promote dialogue and cooperation between the countries of the region.

These concepts offer different approaches to addressing the geopolitical situation in the East Asian region and propose different strategies to achieve stability, security, and economic growth. The common element in these concepts is that they all emphasise the importance of regional cooperation and taking into account specific cultural and historical contexts.

III.

Please describe Kishore Mahbubani's geopolitical concept in detail.

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Kishore Mahbubani Geopolitikai Konceptiója: "The Asian Hemisphere: The Irresistible Shift of Global Power to the East"

Kishore Mahbubani, a Singaporean diplomat turned academic, is one of the best-known Asian thinkers who deals extensively with the shift of global power relations in favor of East Asia. In "The Asian Hemisphere: The Irresistible Shift of Global Power to the East," Mahbubani outlines an overarching concept that the world's center of power is shifting increasingly to Asia. Below is a detailed description of Mahbubani's concept.

1. Rearrangement of power

According to Mahbubani, the realignment of global power is an inevitable and unstoppable process, with economic, political and cultural influence increasingly shifting to East Asia. This process is facilitated by several factors:

- **Economic growth:** Asian countries, especially China and India, are experiencing rapid economic growth that helps them increase their economic power and influence on the global stage.
- **Demographic advantages:** Asia's population is young and growing, which provides the region with a labour and consumer base in the long run.
- **Education and innovation:** Asian countries place increasing emphasis on education and technological innovation that helps them compete in the global economy.

2. Asian Values and Cultural Peculiarities

Mahbubani emphasizes the importance of Asian values and cultural specificities in the geopolitical strategy of the region. Among them:

- **Collectivism:** Asian societies have a strong sense of community and a strong prioritization of collective interests over individual interests.
- **Harmony and stability:** In Asian cultures, social harmony and political stability are highly valued, which can contribute to long-term economic and political development.
- **Family ties:** Strong family ties and respect between generations play an important role in the organization and functioning of society.

3. Regional Cooperation and Integration

Mahbubani said regional cooperation and integration were key to the future of the Asian region. Cooperation needs to be strengthened in the following areas:

- **Economic integration:** Asian countries need to step up economic cooperation, including free trade agreements and joint infrastructure projects.
- **Security cooperation:** Countries need to act together to address regional security challenges, such as terrorism and territorial disputes.
- **Political dialogue:** Strengthening political dialogue and diplomatic relations between Asian countries can promote regional stability and peaceful resolution of conflicts.

4. Global engagement

Mahbubani said Asia should play a greater role in global affairs. This includes:

- **Participation in international institutions:** Asian countries should take a more active role in international institutions such as the UN, WTO and IMF.
- **Supporting developing countries:** As Asia's economic power grows, it must take responsibility for supporting developing countries and reducing global inequalities.
- **Environment:** Asian countries must take the lead in addressing global environmental challenges, especially the fight against climate change.

Summary

According to Kishore Mahbubani's geopolitical concept, the world's centre of power is gradually shifting to Asia, which presents significant opportunities and challenges. Asian countries must work together to take advantage of economic growth and demographic advantages while preserving their cultural characteristics and values. Strengthening regional cooperation and integration and increasing global engagement are key to Asia successfully strengthening its position in the world.

IV.

Please describe Zeng Bijian's geopolitical concept in detail.

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Zheng Bijian's Geopolitical Concept: "Peaceful Rise"

Zheng Bijian, a Chinese political thinker and an influential strategist of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), developed the concept of the so-called "Peaceful Rise," which seeks to bring China's growing global influence and power to life in a peaceful and cooperative manner. Below I describe in detail the concept of Zheng Bijian.

1. Principles of peacetime ascension

The main goal of the "Peaceful Rise" concept is to carry out China's growth and rise in a way that avoids direct conflicts and tensions with other great powers. The basic principles of the concept are as follows:

- **Peaceful Development:** China is committed to peaceful development that excludes aggressive expansion and military conflict. The aim of peaceful development is to preserve internal stability and external peace.
- **Economic Cooperation:** China seeks to increase its influence through economic cooperation, which includes strengthening trade relations, implementing joint infrastructure projects and mutually beneficial investments.
- **Mutual Benefit and Win-Win Strategy:** The concept emphasizes win-win solutions that benefit all participants. This approach promotes global cooperation and conflict avoidance.

2. China's International Role and Responsibility

According to Zheng Bijian, China must take responsibility for addressing global problems and actively participate in the international community. This means:

- **Global Governance:** China intends to participate in global governance, including cooperation to reform international institutions and solve global problems.
- **Environment and Sustainable Development:** China is committed to environmental protection and sustainable development and intends to actively contribute to solving global environmental challenges.
- **Humanitarian Aid:** China intends to increase its contribution to humanitarian aid and disaster relief efforts around the world.

3. Internal Reforms and Stability

According to Zheng's concept, China's internal reforms and stability are essential for a peaceful rise. To this end, China is reforming in the following areas:

- **Economic Reforms:** China continues market-oriented economic reforms aimed at maintaining economic growth and increasing social welfare.
- **Political Stability:** In order to preserve political stability, China emphasizes the importance of strengthening social harmony and state institutions.
- **Social Development:** China also prioritizes social development, with a focus on education, health and social welfare systems.

4. Regional Cooperation and Security

The "Peaceful Rise" concept emphasises the importance of regional cooperation and security. China's goal is to create a peaceful and stable regional environment:

- **South China Sea:** China wants to resolve territorial disputes through diplomacy and dialogue, avoiding military confrontation.
- **Cooperation with neighbouring countries:** China wants to establish closer economic and political cooperation with neighbouring countries, promoting stability and development in the region.
- **Regional Security Mechanisms:** China supports strengthening regional security mechanisms that help resolve conflicts peacefully and address common security challenges.

Summary

Zheng Bijian's "Peaceful Rise" concept offers a comprehensive strategic framework for China's rise in a peaceful and cooperative manner. The concept aims to increase China's economic and political power without generating direct conflicts and tensions with other major powers. Zheng emphasizes peaceful development, economic cooperation, mutually beneficial solutions, and China's responsibility for dealing with global problems. Internal reforms and stability, regional cooperation and security are also key elements of the Peaceful Rise concept.

V.

To what extent does the actual international activity of the Chinese state correspond to Zeng's "Peaceful Rise" concept, and are there disputes among the Chinese leadership elite regarding geopolitical directions and methods?

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The actual international activities of the Chinese state partly correspond to Zheng Bijian's concept of "Peaceful Rise", but there are also significant differences and disputes within the Chinese leadership elite regarding geopolitical directions and methods. Below I will describe in detail how elements of Zheng's concept were implemented, as well as the discrepancies and internal disputes.

Realized elements of the "Peaceful Rise" concept

1. Peaceful development

- **Economic Cooperation:** China has placed great emphasis on economic cooperation, including the launch of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which supports infrastructure development and trade relations with dozens of countries.
- **Participation in international institutions:** China has taken an active role in international institutions such as the UN, WTO and IMF. It has also established new international institutions such as the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).

2. Regional cooperation

- **South China Sea:** Although China is trying to resolve territorial disputes diplomatically, its practical moves, such as building artificial islands and installing military facilities, have caused tensions with neighboring countries.
- **Cooperation with neighbouring countries:** China has developed closer economic ties with its neighbours, such as ASEAN countries, and has concluded several regional free trade agreements.

3. Internal Reforms and Stability

- **Economic Reforms:** China continued its market-oriented economic reforms, albeit under the direction of the central government.
- **Political Stability:** Ensured political stability through tighter internal control and strengthening of the CCP's power.

Differences from the concept "Peaceful Rise"

1. Military expansion

- **South China Sea:** The development of military infrastructure and the aggressive assertion of territorial claims have created tensions in the region and are contrary to the principle of peaceful ascension.
- **Regional tensions:** Border conflicts between China and India, as well as increasingly aggressive rhetoric and military pressure on Taiwan, are exacerbating regional instability.

2. Economic pressure

- **Mutually Beneficial Solutions:** Although China invests in many countries, it is often accused of exerting economic pressure and creating debt traps under the Belt and Road Initiative.

Disputes among the Chinese leadership elite

There are also disputes among the Chinese leadership elite regarding geopolitical directions and methods:

1. More open vs. closed politics

- **Supporters of a more open policy:** Some leaders say China needs to be more open to international cooperation and integration, promoting global stability and increasing China's soft power.
- **Supporters of more closed politics:** Others prefer to emphasize national sovereignty and security, even at the cost of more aggressive geopolitical actions.

2. Economic priorities

- **Supporters of market reforms:** Some leaders are calling for continued market reforms and economic liberalisation for long-term growth and innovation.
- **Supporters of State Control:** Others prioritize strengthening state control and protecting strategic industries to ensure China's economic and political stability.

Summary

China's actual international activities are partly in line with Zheng Bijian's concept of "Peaceful Rise", especially in the areas of economic cooperation and internal reforms. However, there are also many differences, particularly in terms of military expansion and economic pressure. There are also disputes within the Chinese leadership elite regarding geopolitical directions and methods, which influence China's long-term strategy and international role.

VI.

Please describe Wang Jishi's geopolitical concept in detail.

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Wang Jishi's Geopolitical Concept: "March West"

Wang Jishi, professor of international studies at Peking University and one of the leading geopolitical experts of the People's Republic of China, developed the concept of "March West." This concept proposes that China pay more attention to the regions of Central Asia and Western Asia in order to balance geopolitical pressure in the East Asian region. Below I describe in detail the concept of Wang Jishi.

1. A "March West"

The "March West" concept is based on a few principles:

- **Geopolitical Balance:** The concept aims to focus China's geopolitical attention and resources not only on East Asia, but also on Central Asia and West Asia. In doing so, it can reduce tensions and conflicts in the East Asian region.
- **Economic and Energy Security:** Central Asia and West Asia are rich in natural resources, especially energy carriers (oil and gas). It is vital for China to secure access to these resources and diversify its energy sources.
- **Infrastructure Development:** The development of infrastructure, including routes, railways and energy networks, between China and Central Asia and West Asia promotes economic integration and stability between regions.

2. Strategic objectives

Wang Jisi's concept defines several strategic goals:

- **New Silk Road:** Part of the concept is the "New Silk Road" initiative, which is a modern version of the historical Silk Road and aims to revive and develop trade routes between China, Central Asia and Western Asia.
- **Economic Corridors:** China's goal is to create economic corridors connecting China to Central Asia and Western Asia. These corridors facilitate trade and investment and increase the region's economic connectivity.
- **Security Cooperation:** To strengthen security cooperation between regions, China wants to build closer ties with Central Asian and West Asian countries in the fight against terrorism, extremism and separatism.

3. Economic and Political Benefits

The "March West" concept offers China a number of economic and political advantages:

- **Economic Diversification:** Diversifying economic relations and opening up new markets reduces China's dependence on traditional trading partners and increases its economic stability.
- **Increase political influence:** China can increase its political influence in Central Asia and Western Asia, which can contribute to a stronger presence on the global political scene.
- **Regional Stability:** By developing infrastructure and promoting economic growth, China can contribute to the stability and development of regions, which indirectly also strengthens China's security.

4. Challenges and Limitations

However, the "March West" concept also faces a number of challenges and limitations:

- **Regional Conflicts:** Central Asia and Western Asia are the scene of numerous political and ethnic conflicts, which make stable cooperation and the implementation of development projects difficult.
- **Great Power Rivalry:** Other major powers such as Russia and United States also have significant influence in the region, which intensifies geopolitical competition and complicates China's strategy.
- **Cultural and Social Differences:** Cultural and social differences challenge regional cooperation, especially in terms of political systems and values.

Summary

Wang Jisi's "March West" concept is a comprehensive geopolitical strategy that directs China's attention towards Central Asia and Western Asia. The concept aims to geopolitical balancing, increase energy and economic security, and promote regional stability. While the concept has many economic and political benefits, it also faces many challenges, including regional conflicts, great power rivalry, and cultural differences.

VII.

Please describe Park Geun-hye's geopolitical concept in detail.

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Park Geun-hye's Geopolitical Concept: "Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative"

Park Geun-hye, former president of South Korea, developed the Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative (NAPCI), a geopolitical concept aimed at promoting regional cooperation and peace in Northeast Asia. Basically, the concept focuses on confidence-building and multilateral cooperation between the countries of the region. Below I describe the concept of NAPCI in detail.

1. NAPCI principles

The basic principles of the NAPCI concept are as follows:

- **Confidence building:** One of the main goals of the concept is to increase trust between countries in the region. In order to overcome historical grievances and current political tensions, it is necessary to strengthen mutual trust.
- **Multilateral Cooperation:** NAPCI stresses the importance of multilateral forums and cooperation mechanisms in solving regional problems.
- **Pragmatic Approach:** The concept takes a pragmatic and gradual approach that includes concrete, achievable steps to achieve peace and stability.

2. Strategic objectives

NAPCI has several strategic objectives:

- **Regional Stability and Peace:** The initiative aims to ease tensions and conflicts in the region, in particular between North and South Korea and China, Japan and South Korea.
- **Economic Cooperation:** Increase interdependence between countries in the region by strengthening economic integration and trade relations, which can contribute to maintaining peace and stability.
- **Security Cooperation:** Promote regional security cooperation to address common security challenges such as nuclear proliferation, terrorism and cybersecurity.

3. Specific measures and programmes

NAPCI proposes a number of specific measures and programmes:

- **Regional Forums and Dialogue:** Establish and support multilateral forums where countries in the region can meet regularly and engage in dialogue on common challenges and problems.
- **Cultural and Scientific Cooperation:** Support cultural and scientific exchanges and joint research projects to increase mutual understanding and trust.

- **Energy Cooperation:** Facilitating joint energy projects and infrastructure developments that can increase the security and sustainability of energy supply in the region.

4. Challenges and Limitations

The NAPCI concept faced a number of challenges and limitations:

- **Political tensions:** Political tensions and historical grievances in the region make confidence-building and cooperation difficult.
- **North Korea:** North Korea's nuclear programme and unpredictable policies are major obstacles to achieving regional peace and stability.
- **Great Power Rivalry:** The growing geopolitical competition between United States and China also complicates cooperation between countries in the region.

Summary

Park Geun-hye's "Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative" concept offers a comprehensive strategy to promote peace and stability in Northeast Asia. The basic principles of the concept are confidence-building, multilateral cooperation and a pragmatic approach. NAPCI proposes concrete actions and programmes in the field of regional forums and dialogue, cultural and scientific cooperation, and energy cooperation. At the same time, the concept faces many challenges and limitations, including political tensions, the threat of North Korea, and great power rivalry.

VIII.

India what geopolitical concepts are popular in intellectual circles regarding its role India, and are there any current Indian geopolitical conceptualizers?

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India intellectual circles, a number of geopolitical concepts and strategies have been formulated that offer different approaches to the country's global role and regional influence. These concepts reflect India's ambition to become a major global power while promoting regional stability and security. Below I will describe some of the most popular concepts and some notable Indian geopolitical thinkers.

Popular geopolitical concepts

1. "Non-Alignment 2.0"

- **Bottom line:** This concept builds on the original policy of non-alignment that India launched in the 1950s. "Non-Alignment 2.0" emphasizes the preservation of sovereign decision-making and strategic autonomy, while India actively participate in global and regional issues.
- **Objectives:** India aims to avoid direct conflicts between great power blocs and to shape its foreign policy according to its own interests. The country will continue to maintain strategic autonomy while strengthening relations with various global actors.

2. "Act East Policy"

- **The aim** of the Act East Policy is to strengthen economic, political and cultural ties between India and Southeast Asia. India takes a more active role in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and other regional organisations.
- **Objectives:** The policy aims to increase India's economic presence and influence in Asia and to promote regional stability and security.

3. "Neighborhood First Policy"

- **Its essence:** This policy emphasizes strengthening and developing relations with India immediate neighbours. The aim is to strengthen economic cooperation, political dialogue and security relations in the South Asian region.
- **Objectives:** India aims to create a stable and friendly environment in its immediate neighbourhood conducive to regional peace and development.

Current geopolitical conceptualists

1. C. Raja Mohan

- **Profession:** International relations expert, writer and academic.
- **Concepts:** Raja Mohan discusses India strategic role in numerous books and articles, especially maritime safety and the Indian Ocean region. It stresses the need to increase India's maritime power and the importance of maritime cooperation.

2. Shyam Saran

- **Profession:** Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Strategic Adviser.
- **Concepts:** Shyam Saran focuses on geopolitical realities, especially the rise of China and its effects on India. It stresses the importance of strategic autonomy and multifaceted diplomacy.

3. Shivshankar Menon

- **Profession:** Former National Security Adviser and Minister of Foreign Affairs.
- **Menon**, in his book "Choices: Inside the Making of India's Foreign Policy," analyzes India's foreign policy decisions and strategies in detail. It emphasizes a pragmatic approach and adaptive strategy in a changing global environment.

4. Bharat Karnad

- **Profession:** Strategic analyst and academic.
- **Concepts:** Karnad supports the "Realist India" strategy, which builds on strong military and nuclear capabilities to ensure India's security and global influence. It is critical of over-dependence and advocates for strengthening self-reliance.

Summary

India intellectual circles, several geopolitical concepts are popular, offering different approaches to the global and regional role of the country. These concepts share the common

goal of increasing India's influence and role on the global stage, while preserving strategic autonomy and promoting regional stability. Current Indian geopolitical conceptualists such as C. Raja Mohan, Shyam Saran, Shivshankar Menon and Bharat Karnad offer different perspectives and strategies that contribute to India's richness of foreign policy and strategic thinking.

IX.

Japan what geopolitical concepts are popular in intellectual circles regarding Japan's role, and are there any current Japanese geopolitical conceptualizers?

ChatGPT4o

Japan intellectual circles, several geopolitical concepts are popular, offering different approaches to Japan international role and regional influence. These concepts reflect Japan's ambitions to promote regional stability, security and economic growth while adapting to a changing international environment. Below I describe some of the most popular concepts and some notable Japanese geopolitical thinkers.

Popular geopolitical concepts

1. "Proactive contribution to peace"

- **Essence:** This concept was introduced by former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and aims to take a Japan more active role in maintaining international peace and security. Japan focuses on enhancing its military and security capabilities and participating in international peacekeeping missions.
- **Objectives:** Increase the country's defence spending, work more closely with Allies, in particular the United States, and strengthen regional security structures.

2. "Free and Open Indo-Pacific"

- **Essential:** This concept focuses on upholding freedom and open sea routes, and promoting democratic values and the rules-based international order in the Indo-Pacific region.
- **Objectives:** To ensure regional stability, increase maritime safety, strengthen economic cooperation and develop infrastructure in the area.

3. "Collective Self-Defense" (Kollektív Önvédelem)

- **Its essence** is a change in the interpretation of Japan constitution, which allows the country to use military force in collective self-defense to protect its allies.
- **Objectives:** To strengthen the Japanese-American alliance, to expand Japan military capacities, and to maintain regional security.

Current geopolitical conceptualists

1. Yoichi Funabashi

- **Profession:** International relations expert, author and founder of the Rebuild Japan Initiative Foundation.
- **Concepts:** Funabashi often addresses Japan-United States relationships and Japan's role in Asian regional security architecture. It stresses the importance of the rules-based international order and multilateral diplomacy.

2. Ryozo Kato

- **Profession:** Former Japanese ambassador to the United States and national security adviser.
- **Concepts:** Kato strongly supports alliances between Japan and United States, as well as policies of collective self-defense and proactive peacekeeping. It also highlights Japan's role in maintaining regional stability and increasing military cooperation.

3. Kunihiko Miyake

- **Profession:** Diplomat, international relations expert and research director at Canon Global Studies Institute.
- **Concepts:** Miyake analyses Japan's foreign policy strategy and regional security challenges. It supports Japan more active role in international politics and the strengthening of regional security structures.

4. Ken Jimbo

- **Profession:** Professor of International Relations at Keio University and security policy expert.
- **Concepts:** Jimbo emphasizes Japan's role in the Indo-Pacific region, particularly in the framework of the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" concept. It underlines the importance of regional cooperation and maritime safety.

Summary

Japan intellectual circles, several geopolitical concepts are popular, offering different approaches to Japan's international role and regional influence. These concepts share Japan common goal of enhancing security and stability while promoting regional and global peace and cooperation. Current Japanese geopolitical conceptualizers such as Yoichi Funabashi, Ryozo Kato, Kunihiko Miyake, and Ken Jimbo offer diverse perspectives and strategies that contribute to Japan's richness of foreign policy and strategic thinking.

X.

What geopolitical concepts are popular in Indonesian intellectual circles regarding Indonesia's role, and are there any current Indonesian geopolitical conceptualizers?

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Indonesia intellectual circles, several geopolitical concepts are popular, offering different approaches to the international role and regional influence of the country. These concepts reflect Indonesia's ambitions to promote regional stability, security and economic growth while

adapting to a changing international environment. Below I describe some of the most popular concepts and some notable Indonesian geopolitical thinkers.

Popular geopolitical concepts

1. "Poros Maritim Dunia" (Global Maritime Fulcrum)

- **At its core**, a concept introduced by President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) aims to build on its Indonesia geographical position and maritime traditions to make the country a center of global maritime trade and security.
- **Objectives:** Development of maritime infrastructure, improvement of maritime safety, sustainable use of fisheries and marine resources, and strengthening regional and global maritime cooperation.

2. "Free and Active" (Független és Aktív Külpolitika)

- **Its essence:** Indonesia traditional foreign policy doctrine, which emphasizes the independence and neutrality of the country in international relations.
- **Objectives:** To preserve the independence and sovereignty of the country, to follow the principles of non-alignment and peaceful coexistence, and to participate actively in international organisations and initiatives.

3. "ASEAN Leadership"

- **Its essence is** to strengthen Indonesia role in ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and act as the leader of ASEAN.
- **Objectives:** To promote regional integration and cooperation, strengthen ASEAN's central role in regional security and economic issues, and disseminate ASEAN's values and standards.

Current geopolitical conceptualists

1. Rizal Sukma

- **Profession:** Diplomat, academic, and former ambassador Indonesia London.
- **Concepts:** Rizal Sukma advocates a more active and proactive engagement in Indonesian foreign policy, especially in ASEAN and the wider Asia-Pacific region. It stresses the importance of maritime safety and regional cooperation.

2. Dewi Fortuna Anwar

- **Profession:** Political analyst and academic.
- **Concepts:** Anwar advocates a modern interpretation of the "Bebas dan Aktif" doctrine, which emphasizes preserving Indonesian independence and promoting international cooperation. It highlights the importance of leadership in ASEAN and strengthening Indonesian diplomacy.

3. Dino Patti Dajalal

- **Profession:** Diplomat, former ambassador to the United States Indonesia, and founder of the Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia (FPCI).
- **Concepts:** Djalal advocates a more dynamic and proactive approach to Indonesian foreign policy, especially in addressing global challenges such as climate change and terrorism. It stresses the importance of increasing Indonesia's global role and international cooperation.

Summary

Indonesia intellectual circles, several geopolitical concepts are popular that offer different approaches to the international role and regional influence of the country. These concepts share the common goal of increasing Indonesia's influence and role on the global stage, while promoting regional stability and security. Current Indonesian geopolitical conceptualizers such as Rizal Sukma, Dewi Fortuna Anwar, and Dino Patti Djalal offer diverse perspectives and strategies that contribute to Indonesia's richness of foreign policy and strategic thinking.

Indonesia has the world's largest Islamic community, so my question is, has there been a geopolitical concept in intellectual circles here that wants to integrate Indonesia more strongly into an Islamic world community?

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Indonesia, as the world's most populous Muslim country, geopolitical concepts have emerged from time to time that seek to integrate Indonesia more strongly into the Islamic world community, the so-called Ummah. These concepts offer different approaches to strengthening the country's Islamic identity and its international role. Below I describe some significant such concepts and their background.

Geopolitical concepts for integration into the Islamic world community

1. "Moderate Islam Leadership"

- **Its essence** is to emphasize Indonesia leading role of moderate Islam, based on tolerance, pluralism and peaceful coexistence. This concept aims to set a Indonesia example in spreading the values of moderate Islam on a global scale.
- **Objectives:** To strengthen moderate voices in the Islamic world, to combat religious extremism, and to strengthen the role of the Indonesia bridge between the Western and Muslim worlds.

2. "Umma Diplomacy" (Umma Diplomacy)

- **Its essence** is to Indonesia diplomatic relations and cooperation with Islamic countries in order to strengthen solidarity and cooperation within the Ummah.
- **Objectives:** To strengthen economic, cultural and political ties between Islamic countries, to address common challenges and problems, and to increase the influence of Indonesia in the Islamic world.

3. "Islamic Economic Cooperation"

- **Its essence** is to strengthen Islamic economic principles and practices and to develop economic cooperation between Islamic countries.
- **Objectives:** To promote the Islamic banking system and financial practices, to increase trade and investment between Islamic countries, and to promote economic independence and stability.

Current Indonesian geopolitical conceptualists

1. From Syamsuddin

- **Profession:** Former president of Muhammadiyah, a large Indonesian Islamic organization, and head of the Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI).
- **Concepts:** Din Syamsuddin emphasizes Indonesia's role as a leader of moderate Islam and the importance of active participation in the Islamic world. It supports solidarity among the Ummah and the global dissemination of Islamic values.

2. Azyumardi Azra

- **Profession:** Islamic scholar and former rector of Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University.
- **Concepts:** Azra highlights Indonesia traditions of moderate Islam and their role in international relations. It supports Indonesia's active role in the Islamic world and global religious dialogue.

3. Yenny Wahid

- **Profession:** daughter of former President Gus Dur (Abdurrahman Wahid), political activist and head of the Wahid Institute.
- **Yenny Wahid** advocates the compatibility of Islam and democracy and supports Indonesia's role in spreading moderate Islamic values globally. It emphasizes religious tolerance and pluralism.

Summary

Indonesia intellectual circles, several geopolitical concepts are popular that seek to integrate the country more strongly into the Islamic world community. These concepts offer different approaches to strengthening Islamic identity and enhancing Indonesia's international role in the Islamic world. Current Indonesian geopolitical conceptualizers such as Din Syamsuddin, Azyumardi Azra, and Yenny Wahid offer diverse perspectives and strategies that contribute to Indonesia's richness of foreign policy and strategic thinking.

Indonesia his emphatically moderate position on Islam has ever raised geopolitical disputes within the Islamic world community with the intellectual circles of other countries with a hard Islamic position?

Indonesia position of moderate Islam has indeed raised geopolitical debates within the Islamic world community, especially with countries and intellectual circles that take a harsher, more conservative or fundamentalist Islamic position. Here are some of the most important aspects of this kind of debate.

Geopolitical Controversies and Fault Lines

1. Moderate vs. Conservative Islam

- **Key differences:** Indonesia traditions of moderate Islam, which emphasize pluralism, tolerance and peaceful coexistence, contrast with more conservative and fundamentalist Islamic traditions, which require stricter religious rules and regulations.
- **Debate:** Debates between moderate and conservative tendencies often revolve around religious interpretations and practices. Indonesia often criticizes countries that take tougher stances on enforcing religious rules and restricting religious freedom of speech.

2. Political and Ideological Conflicts

- **Sunni vs. Shiite Tensions:** Indonesia is mostly a Sunni Muslim country, but supports religious pluralism and peaceful coexistence between different Islamic streams. This contrasts with some Middle Eastern countries, where tensions between Sunni and Shiite communities are a major problem.
- **Countering terrorism and radicalism:** Indonesia actively participates in the fight against terrorism and religious radicalism and supports the promotion of moderate Islamic values. This can sometimes lead to conflicts with countries in which radical Islamic groups have significant influence.

3. Regional Alliances and Cooperation

- **ASEAN and Islamic Countries:** Indonesia plays a significant role in ASEAN and supports regional cooperation on economic, political and security issues. In other parts of the Islamic world, especially in the Middle East, regional cooperation between countries is often more difficult due to religious and political divisions.
- **International Diplomacy:** Indonesia actively participates in international diplomacy and often acts as a mediator in international conflicts, including disputes between Islamic countries. This mediation role can sometimes lead to tensions with countries that take a tougher stance.

Examples of geopolitical disputes

1. Tensions with Saudi Arabia

- **Religious Ideology:** Tensions sometimes arise between Saudi Arabia and Indonesia due to differences in religious ideology. Saudi Arabia supports Wahhabism, a conservative Islamic movement, while Indonesia represents moderate Islam.
- **Hadjutra Travelers:** The number of Muslims making pilgrimages from Indonesia to Saudi Arabia is very large, and sometimes disputes arise over the organization of the pilgrimage and religious practices.

2. Relations with Iran

- **Shiite vs. Sunni:** Iran Shiite country and its relations with Sunni Indonesia sometimes become strained due to religious differences and regional political interests.
- **Political Support:** Indonesia often tries to find balance in political tensions in the Middle East, and this can sometimes lead to disputes with the Iranian leadership.

Summary

Indonesia position of moderate Islam has indeed raised geopolitical disputes with countries with a harder Islamic position. These disputes arise in the fields of religious ideology, political and ideological conflicts, as well as regional and international diplomacy. Indonesia seeks to mediate and lead the global spread of moderate Islamic values while confronting challenges associated with more conservative and fundamentalist Islamic trends.

5

Geopolitical collisions in Central Asia

I.

Please outline the internal geopolitical tensions in the Central Asia region.

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Internal geopolitical tensions in the Central Asia region stem from a number of factors, including historical, ethnic, economic and political differences. Below I summarize the most important internal geopolitical tensions in the region:

1. Border disputes and territorial conflicts

- **Uzbekistan-Tajikistan-Kyrgyzstan:** These countries are struggling with numerous border disputes, especially in the Ferghana Valley, where borders are complicated and disputed. Border incidents are frequent, sometimes leading to armed clashes.

2. Ethnic tensions

- **Ethnic diversity:** Many ethnic groups live in the region, and ethnic minorities often face discrimination and marginalization. For example, the Uzbek minority in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan often comes into conflict with local authorities.

3. Control over water sources

- **Water resources:** Water is one of the most important sources of conflict between countries in the region. Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have significant water resources, while Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan are heavily dependent on water imports. The distribution of water and the construction of new hydroelectric power plants often result in disputes and tensions.

4. Economic inequalities

- **Economic differences:** The economic situation varies considerably from country to country. Kazakhstan, for example, is the richest country in the region thanks to its oil and gas reserves, while Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan are among the poorest. Inequalities contribute to internal political instability and social unrest.

5. Political instability and autocratic regimes

- **Autocratic governments:** Most countries in the region are controlled by authoritarian leaders, often leading to political repression, human rights abuses, and limited political freedom. This causes political instability and internal tensions.

6. Terrorism and radicalism

- **Terrorist threat:** Radical Islamic groups such as Islamic State and al-Qaeda are present in the region and pose a threat to stability. These groups often take advantage of political instability and economic hardship.

7. External influences and alliances

- **Influence of major powers:** Russia, China and the United States have significant influence in the region. Competition between countries and relations with various major powers can create further internal tensions.

8. Corruption and economic abuses

- **Corruption:** Corruption is widespread, undermining public trust and hampering economic development. The fight against corruption often serves as a political tool in internal power struggles.

Together, these factors shape Central Asia's internal geopolitical tensions and pose significant challenges to the stability and development of the region.

II.

Please outline China's geopolitical plans and aspirations for the Central Asian region.

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China's geopolitical plans and aspirations for Central Asia are extremely complex and include many strategic goals. These objectives are mainly expressed in economic, political and security areas. Below I present China's Central Asian strategy and aspirations in detail:

1. Economic expansion and the Silk Road Economic Belt

- **Belt and Road Initiative (BRI):** One of China's most important geopolitical projects is BRI, which aims to develop infrastructure links between Central Asia and China. As part of this, China is investing heavily in railways, highways, ports and energy infrastructure.
- **Securing energy resources:** Central Asia is rich in oil and gas reserves. It is vital for China to ensure stable energy supplies, which is why it concludes long-term contracts with energy-producing countries such as Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan and builds pipelines to supply these resources.

2. Increase political and diplomatic influence

- **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO):** China plays an active role in the SCO, which includes countries in Central Asia as well as Russia and other regional actors. Within the framework of the SCO, China is building political, economic and security cooperation with the countries of the region.
- **Strengthening bilateral relations:** China maintains close bilateral relations with Central Asian countries, with regular diplomatic meetings and cooperation agreements. These relations provide China with the opportunity to directly influence political decisions in the region.

3. Security cooperation

- **Countering terrorism and radicalism:** China is concerned about the spread of radical Islamic groups that could destabilize the region and pose a threat to Chinese border areas. To this end, China cooperates with Central Asian countries in the fight against terrorism, conducting joint military exercises and sharing intelligence.
- **Border security:** China is investing significant resources in strengthening border security, especially on the border of the Xinjiang-Uyghur Autonomous Region. Due to the activities of the Uyghur minority and extremist groups living here, China closely monitors and influences the stability of border regions.

4. Cultural and social influence

- **Language and educational programs:** China is increasing the dissemination of Chinese language and culture in Central Asia through the establishment of Confucius Institutes and educational exchanges. In the long run, this could contribute to the growth of Chinese influence in the region.
- **Strengthening cultural relations:** China supports cultural events and events aimed at promoting bilateral relations and mutual understanding.

5. Economic and trade integration

- **Free trade agreements:** China's goal is to establish free trade zones and remove trade barriers with countries in the region. This will help expand the market for goods and services in China.
- **Economic investment:** China makes significant investments in the region's economy, including financing industrial parks, mining projects, and agricultural initiatives.

6. Regional cooperation and integration

- **Multilateral forums and cooperation:** China actively participates in regional forums and initiatives aimed at promoting the integration of Central Asia and increasing stability in the region.

China's geopolitical plans and aspirations in Central Asia are therefore multifaceted and are part of a comprehensive strategy aimed at influencing and stabilizing the economic, political and security situation in the region.

III.

Please outline Russia's geopolitical plans and aspirations for the Central Asian region.

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Russia geopolitical plans and aspirations for Central Asia stem from historical, economic, political and security interests. Below I present in detail Russia's strategy and aspirations in Central Asia:

1. Maintaining historical and cultural links

- **Post-Soviet space:** For Russia, Central Asia remains part of the post-Soviet space, where it historically has a strong influence. Russia aims to maintain and strengthen these relationships.
- **Russian language and culture:** Russia supports the dissemination of Russian language and culture in Central Asia through educational programs, cultural events and media.

2. Security and military cooperation

- **Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO):** Russia plays a leading role in the CSTO, which provides security cooperation with countries in the region. The CSTO includes joint military exercises and intelligence sharing.
- **Military bases:** Russia maintains military bases in Central Asia, such as Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, which play an important role in maintaining stability in the region.

3. Economic integration and trade relations

- **Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU):** Russia actively supports the EAEU, which aims to promote economic integration and free trade between member states, including Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. Through the EAEU, Russia increases its economic influence in the region.
- **Energy sources and infrastructure:** Russia makes significant investments in energy and transport infrastructure, including oil and gas pipelines and rail and road networks.

4. Political influence and diplomatic relations

- **Bilateral diplomacy:** Russia maintains close diplomatic relations with Central Asian countries through regular state visits and summits. Russian diplomacy aims to promote political stability and support Central Asian leaders.
- **Political support:** Russia often supports the political leadership of Central Asian countries, including authoritarian regimes, to ensure its influence and stability in the region.

5. Ethnic relations and diaspora

- **Russian minorities:** Russia monitors the situation of Russian minorities in Central Asian countries and provides support to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity.

6. Countering terrorism and radicalisation

- **Regional security:** Russia is concerned about the spread of radical Islamic groups, which could destabilise the region and pose a threat to Russia. To this end, Russia is working closely with Central Asian countries to fight terrorism and radicalism.

7. Economic and trade relations

- **Trade cooperation:** Russia is a major trading partner for Central Asian countries, especially in energy and raw materials. Russia aims to expand trade relations and deepen economic integration.

8. Maintaining regional stability

- **Regional stability:** maintaining stability in the Central Asian region is crucial for Russia, as this has a direct impact on Russia's internal security and economic interests. To this end, Russia supports the preservation of internal stability in Central Asian countries, including political and economic support.

Russia's geopolitical plans and aspirations for Central Asia are therefore broad and complex, and their goal is to preserve and increase influence in the region. The Russian strategy is implemented along economic, security and political dimensions and, in the long term, is aimed at promoting stability and development in the region.

IV.

Please outline the geopolitical plans and aspirations of the USA for the Central Asia region.

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The United States's geopolitical plans and aspirations in Central Asia manifest themselves in several dimensions, including security, economic, political and diplomatic aspects. Below I present in detail the strategy and aspirations of the USA in Central Asia:

1. Security and military cooperation

- **Fight against terrorism:** For the US, the Central Asia region is crucial to the global fight against terrorism, especially because of its proximity to Afghanistan. The U.S. military presence and the training and support of local security forces are important elements of U.S. strategy.
- **Military bases and logistical support:** The U.S. previously operated military bases in Central Asia, such as Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, which were important logistics centers for operations in Afghanistan.

2. Political and diplomatic relations

- **Support for Democracy and Human Rights:** The U.S. aims to promote democracy and human rights in Central Asia. To this end, the U.S. government supports civil society, human rights organizations, and democratic reforms in the region.

- **Diplomatic Presence:** The U.S. maintains close diplomatic relations with Central Asian countries, with regular high-level visits and bilateral cooperation agreements.

3. Economic and trade relations

- **Economic assistance and development:** The U.S. provides economic assistance to Central Asia through various development programs designed to promote economic stability and growth. The U.S. supports economic diversification and infrastructure development in the region.
- **Energy sources:** It is in the interest of the US to ensure access to Central Asian energy resources and their transportation to Western European markets, which could help reduce Russian energy dependence.

4. Regional stability and security

- **Regional cooperation:** The U.S. supports regional cooperation and integration that can promote stability and economic development in the region. As part of this, the US cooperates with regional organizations and forums.
- **Conflict prevention and management:** The U.S. is involved in preventing and managing conflicts between Central Asian countries, such as border disputes and ethnic tensions.

5. Counterbalancing Chinese and Russian influence

- **Geopolitical rivalry:** The US aims to counter Chinese and Russian influence in Central Asia. To this end, the US government offers political and economic alternatives for Central Asian countries to reduce their dependence on China and Russia.
- **Strategic partnerships:** The U.S. builds strategic partnerships with Central Asian countries to strengthen its position and influence in the region.

6. Education and cultural relations

- **Education programs:** The U.S. supports a variety of educational and exchange programs in Central Asia designed to train youth and strengthen cultural ties. These programs contribute to the dissemination of American values and norms.
- **Cultural Diplomacy:** The U.S. organizes cultural events and programs in the region designed to promote bilateral relations and mutual understanding.

7. Economic integration and trade relations

- **Trade cooperation:** The US aims to expand trade relations with Central Asia, including the development of free trade agreements and economic partnerships.
- **Investment:** The U.S. encourages U.S. companies to invest in Central Asia, particularly in the energy, infrastructure development, and technology sectors.

The United States's geopolitical plans and aspirations in Central Asia are therefore multifaceted and complex, and their goal is to promote stability and development in the region and to protect American interests in order to counterbalance Chinese and Russian influence.

V.

Please outline the geopolitical plans and aspirations of India and Pakistan for the Central Asia region.

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India's geopolitical plans and aspirations in the Central Asia region

1. Economic relations and energy sources

- **Access to energy sources:** for India, Central Asia offers significant energy sources, especially natural gas and oil. India is actively looking for opportunities to conclude long-term energy supply contracts with the countries of Central Asia.
- **Trade relations:** India aims to expand trade relations with the region. To this end, several trade and investment forums will be organised in India and Indian companies will be facilitated to enter the Central Asian market.

2. Infrastructure and connectivity

- **Trans-Afghan Railway:** India supports the development of infrastructure projects such as the Trans-Afghan Railway, which connects India to Central Asia via Afghanistan. This would allow India to establish direct trade routes.
- **International Transport Corridors:** India is involved in the development of various international transport corridors, such as the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC), which connects India with Central Asia via Iran and Russia.

3. Political and diplomatic relations

- **Bilateral cooperation:** India maintains close bilateral diplomatic relations with the countries of Central Asia through regular state visits and high-level meetings. These relations contribute to promoting political stability and economic cooperation.
- **Multilateral for a:** India actively participates in regional and international forums to promote Central Asia's integration into the international community.

4. Cultural and educational relations

- **Educational programs and scholarships:** India offers a variety of education and scholarship programs for Central Asian students to support training and cultural exchanges.
- **Cultural diplomacy:** India organizes cultural events and events in the region aimed at strengthening bilateral relations and mutual understanding.

Pakistan's geopolitical plans and aspirations in the Central Asia region

1. Economic relations and trade

- **Trade expansion:** Pakistan aims to expand trade relations with Central Asia, especially in textiles, agricultural products and industrial goods. Pakistan sends trade delegations and participates in regional trade forums.
- **Economic corridors:** Pakistan participates in the development of various economic corridors connecting Central Asia with the South Asian region.

2. Infrastructure and connectivity

- **Gwadar Port:** Pakistan offers the development and use of Gwadar Port to Central Asian countries as an alternative to land and maritime trade routes. This gives Central Asia the opportunity to get direct access to sea routes.
- **Regional Transport Networks:** Pakistan is actively involved in the development of regional transport networks aimed at improving transport and transport infrastructure in the region.

3. Political and diplomatic relations

- **Strategic partnerships:** Pakistan is building strategic partnerships with Central Asian countries aimed at promoting political stability and regional security. As part of this, regular diplomatic meetings and bilateral agreements are concluded.
- **Multilateral cooperation:** Pakistan actively participates in regional organisations and for a, such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), to promote regional cooperation and integration.

4. Security and military cooperation

- **Fight against terrorism:** Pakistan cooperates closely with Central Asian countries in the fight against terrorism and radicalism. They conduct joint security exercises and intelligence cooperation.
- **Military cooperation:** Pakistan builds military relations with Central Asian countries, including military training and technical support.

Summation

For both India and Pakistan, Central Asia is an important strategic region where both countries pursue different economic, political and security interests. India mainly seeks to expand economic relations and secure energy resources, while Pakistan focuses on developing trade routes and infrastructure and promoting regional security. Both countries are trying to strengthen diplomatic and cultural ties with Central Asia, while also seeking to counterbalance Chinese and Russian influence.

VI.

Are there debates in the intellectual communities of the Central Asian region about geopolitical alternatives that influence state policies here?

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Indeed, in the intellectual communities of the Central Asia region (such as intellectual circles, academic institutions and civil society organizations), debates and discourses influence

geopolitical alternatives and state policies in the region. Below I will outline some of the most important topics and debates that are present in intellectual communities in Central Asia:

1. Geopolitical orientation and great power relations

- **Russia and China's influence:** There is considerable debate in the region about how close countries should be to Russia and China. Some intellectuals and political analysts advocate strengthening relations between Russia and China for economic benefits and security guarantees, while others worry about excessive dependence and influence.
- **Western orientation:** There is also a tendency to strengthen relations with the European Union and the United States. These opinions are often based on support for human rights, democracy and economic liberalisation. Thinkers of this orientation argue that a Western orientation can promote political reforms and long-term economic development.

2. Regional integration and cooperation

- **Regional organisations and associations:** There is an ongoing debate in Central Asian intellectual communities about the possibilities of regional integration. Organisations such as the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the successor to the Soviet Union, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) are assessed differently. Some advocate closer regional cooperation and economic integration, while others advocate preserving national sovereignty and an independent foreign policy.

3. Energy and economic strategy

- **Managing energy resources:** There is considerable debate in intellectual communities about how to manage the region's rich energy resources. Some argue for strengthening national controls and local economies, while others advocate international investment and export-oriented economic models.
- **Economic diversification:** The issue of economic strategy is also under discussion. While some advocate maintaining an economic model based on raw materials (oil, gas, minerals), others stress the need for economic diversification and industrial development.

4. Political reforms and human rights

- **Democratization and reforms:** Many intellectuals and civil society organisations support democratic reforms and improvements in human rights. These groups often openly criticize authoritarian regimes and political repression and call for the expansion of political freedoms, free elections and the strengthening of the rule of law.
- **Conservative forces and stability:** Conversely, there are voices that prioritize maintaining political stability and order. These forces often support authoritarian governments and believe that rapid political changes can destabilize countries.

5. National identity and cultural policy

- **Ethnic and national identity:** The identity and cultural policies of the different ethnic groups and nations living in the region also generate considerable debate. The rights of ethnic minorities, language policy and questions of national identity are often on the agenda of intellectual communities.
- **Post-Soviet identity:** The evaluation and management of post-Soviet heritage is also a matter of debate. Some emphasize the positive aspects of the Soviet past and the benefits of integration, while others emphasize independence and national sovereignty.

Summation

The debates and discourses in the intellectual communities of Central Asia have a significant impact on state policies in the region. These debates shape public opinion, influence policymakers and contribute to shaping geopolitical directions in the region. Through such discourses and debates, the countries of Central Asia seek the most appropriate strategies and policy directions to ensure their long-term stability and development in a changing international environment.

VII.

To what extent are American global foundations, such as Georg Soros's Open Society foundation, present in the countries of the Central Asian region?

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In countries in the Central Asia region, American global foundations, such as George Soros's Open Society Foundations, are present to varying degrees. The political and legal environment of each country, as well as the attitude of governments, significantly influence the activities and impact of these foundations. Below I describe in detail the presence and activities of the Open Society Foundations in certain countries of Central Asia.

Kazakhstan

- **Open Society Foundations:** In Kazakhstan, Open Society Foundations play an active role, supporting various programs and projects in the fields of education, human rights, the rule of law and strengthening civil society.
- **Government reaction:** The activities of foundations have received mixed reviews. While some programmes are adopted and supported, others are strictly controlled or restricted, especially when they concern politically sensitive topics.

Kyrgyzstan

- **Open Society Foundations:** The Open Society Foundations have a strong presence in Kyrgyzstan and support numerous initiatives in the fields of democratic reform, education and human rights.
- **Government reaction:** Kyrgyzstan is relatively open to the activities of international foundations, so foundations can operate extensively here. However, political pressure and restrictions also occur from time to time.

Tajikistan

- **Open Society Foundations:** In Tajikistan, foundations are more limited in their activities, but they are present and support civil society organisations, education and health.
- **Government reaction:** The government strictly controls the activities of foreign foundations, especially those working in politically sensitive areas. The work of foundations often faces obstacles.

Uzbekistan

- **Open Society Foundations:** In Uzbekistan, the activities of Open Society Foundations are significantly limited. The government of Uzbekistan has strict control over foreign foundations and has imposed a number of restrictions on their operation.
- **Government reaction:** Uzbekistan authorities are often suspicious of foreign foundations, especially if they support political reforms or human rights issues. The operation of foundations is thus often difficult.

Turkmenistan

- **Open Society Foundations:** Open Society Foundations are virtually non-existent in Turkmenistan. The government of Turkmenistan strictly controls and restricts the activities of foreign foundations.
- **Government reaction:** The Turkmenistan government is extremely closed to foreign influence and almost completely excludes the operation of international foundations in the country.

Summation

The presence and influence of Open Society Foundations and similar U.S. global foundations in Central Asia varies greatly between countries. While in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan they are relatively active and can operate widely, in Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan their activities are more limited and face a number of obstacles. The attitude of local governments and the political-legal environment are decisive factors in the operational possibilities and impact of these foundations.

In addition to the Americans, are organizations nurturing and maintaining Russian influence present in this region as competitors?

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Yes, there are organizations and initiatives in Central Asia that cultivate and maintain Russian influence. These organizations and programs operate in various fields, including economy, culture, education, and security. Below I present in detail the main types and activities of organizations and initiatives that maintain Russian influence in Central Asia.

1. Economic and commercial organisations

- **Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU):** The EAEU is an economic integration organization whose purpose is to promote free trade and economic cooperation between member states. Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan from Central Asia are members of the EAEU, which gives Russia significant economic influence in the region.
- **Joint projects and investments:** Russia makes significant investments in Central Asia in various industries, including energy, transport and infrastructure development projects.

2. Cultural and educational organisations

- **Russkiy Mir Foundation:** This foundation supports the dissemination of Russian language and culture worldwide, including in Central Asia. The Russkiy Mir Foundation finances Russian language centers and cultural programs in the region.
- **Branch institutions of Moscow State University:** Russian universities, such as Moscow State University, are present in Central Asia through branches and collaborations, promoting Russian-language higher education and research.
- **Russian-language media:** Russian-language media channels such as Russia Today (RT) and Sputnik also have significant influence in the region, providing news and content from a Russian perspective.

3. Political and diplomatic organisations

- **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO):** The SCO is an organization for regional security and economic cooperation in which Russia and China play a leading role. Within the framework of the SCO, Russia is strengthening its political and security relations with Central Asian countries.
- **Bilateral diplomatic relations:** Russia maintains close diplomatic relations with the countries of Central Asia through regular state visits and high-level meetings. Russian embassies and consulates are actively involved in maintaining and strengthening political relations.

4. Security and military cooperation

- **Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO):** The CSTO is a military alliance designed to ensure security cooperation and collective defense of member states. From Central Asia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are members of the CSTO, which ensures close military ties with Russia.
- **Joint exercises:** Russia regularly holds joint military exercises with Central Asian countries aimed at strengthening military cooperation and enhancing security in the region.

5. Ethnic and religious relations

- **Support for Russian minorities:** Russia monitors the situation of Russian minorities in Central Asia and provides them with support through cultural and educational programs. This contributes to the preservation and strengthening of Russian identity in the region.
- **Orthodox Church:** The Russian Orthodox Church also plays a significant role in maintaining Russian cultural and religious influence in Central Asia.

Summary: In Central Asia, therefore, there are many organizations and initiatives that cultivate and maintain Russian influence, which are active in various fields. These organisations and programmes contribute to Russia maintaining and strengthening its influence in the region, competing with other international players such as the United States and China. Russian influence is strongly present in the economy, culture, education, politics and security, which is an important factor in shaping the geopolitical situation of Central Asian countries.

6

Current geopolitical situation and collisions in the countries of the Arab world

I.

Please describe in detail the geopolitical situation in the region of Arab countries.

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The region of Arab countries, which includes the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, has an extremely complex geopolitical situation. This region includes many countries that differ politically, economically, and socially, but also have many things in common, such as the dominance of language (Arabic) and Islam. Below I describe in detail the geopolitical situation of the region:

1. Political and social situation

Political systems

- The political systems of the region are very diverse, ranging from monarchies (for example, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Morocco) to republics (for example, Egypt, Tunisia, Syria).
- Both authoritarian regimes and democratic transitions are present, such as Tunisia's relatively successful transition to democracy after the Arab Spring in 2011, while Syria continues to experience civil war.

Social Movements and Conflicts

- The Arab Spring (2010-2011) triggered major political and social changes, although the results were mixed.
- Internal conflicts and instability continue in many countries, such as Yemen, Libya and Syria.

2. Economic situation

Oil & Gas

- A significant number of Arab countries have rich oil and gas reserves (e.g. Saudi Arabia, the U.A.E., Qatar, Kuwait) that give them significant economic and geopolitical power.
- Energy prices and global demand have a significant impact on economic stability and political situation in the region.

Economic diversification

- Some countries, such as U.A.E. and Saudi Arabia, have attempted to diversify their economies to reduce their dependence on oil revenues (e.g. Vision 2030 program).

3. Regional Alliances and Conflicts

Regional associations

- The Arab League is an important regional organisation, although its effectiveness and influence are often questioned.
- The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) represents close economic and political cooperation between the Gulf states.

Regional conflicts

- Sunni-Shia conflict: Religious and political conflicts between Sunni and Shia Muslims have a significant impact on the region, especially between Saudi Arabia (Sunni) and Iran (Shia).
- The civil war in Yemen, the conflict in Syria and the internal war in Libya are major destabilising factors.

4. International relations

Influence of global powers

- The United States, Russia, China and the European Union all have significant influence in the region.
- The US has a tradition of strong alliances with Israel and many Gulf countries.
- Russia has a significant military presence in Syria, while China is increasing its economic influence in the region.

Israel and the Palestinian Question

- Israel conflict between Palestinians and Israelis remains a key geopolitical issue affecting the political dynamics of the region.
- In recent years, several Arab countries (e.g. U.A.E., Bahrain, Morocco) have normalized relations with Israel within the framework of the "Abraham Accords".

5. Security issues

Terrorism and Radicalism

- Many countries in the region are facing the threat of terrorism and Islamic radicalism, such as the presence of ISIS in Iraq and Syria and al-Qaeda's activities.

Military Conflicts and Interventions

- Military conflicts are taking place in several places in the region, often involving foreign forces (e.g. the Saudi Arabia-led coalition in Yemen, Russian and Iranian interference in Syria).

Summary

The geopolitical situation in the region of Arab countries is extremely complex and dynamic. Internal political and social tensions, economic challenges, regional alliances and conflicts, and the influence of global powers all contribute to the region's instability and volatility.

II.

Please describe the geopolitical conflicts of interest between Russia and the US in the Arab region.

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Geopolitical conflicts of interest affecting the Arab region between Russia and the United States manifest themselves in many areas. I will detail these conflicts and the countries involved below:

1. Syria

US Interests

- The United States initially supported moderate opposition groups during the Syrian civil war to overthrow Bashar al-Assad's regime.
- The U.S. goal was to preserve stability in the region, fight ISIS and protect human rights.
- The United States has close alliances with Israel and has sought to limit Iran's influence in Syria.

Russia Interests

- Russia is a strong supporter of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and has provided him with significant military support during the civil war.
- Syria Russia is an important strategic ally and the only Russian naval base is located in Tartus in the Mediterranean.
- Russia aims to maintain the Assad regime in order to maintain its influence in the Middle East and demonstrate its military capabilities.

2. Iran

US Interests

- The US aims to curb Iran's influence in the region by Iran supporting various Shiite militias and Hezbollah, which threatens US allies, particularly Israel and Saudi Arabia.
- The United States withdrew from the Iran nuclear deal (JCPOA) and imposed sanctions on Iran to limit its nuclear programme and regional influence.

Russia Interests

- Russia has supported the Iran nuclear deal and is working with Iran on Syria and other regional issues.
- Iran and Russia have a common interest in curbing American influence in the Middle East.
- Russia Iran an important economic and military partner.

3. Persian Gulf and Saudi Arabia

US Interests

- They Saudi Arabia a long-term ally of the US and have significant economic ties, particularly in the oil industry.
- The U.S. has military bases in the Persian Gulf and supports GCC countries in defending against the Iranian threat.
- The United States aims to maintain regional stability and fight terrorism.

Russia Interests

- Russia has sought closer ties with GCC countries, including Saudi Arabia, in recent years, particularly through oil market cooperation under OPEC+.
- Russia aims to increase its influence in the global oil market and diversify its economic relations in the Middle East.

4. Israel and the Palestinian question

US Interests

- The United States is a strong supporter of Israel, providing it with significant military and economic assistance.
- The US aims to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, although in recent years US policy has been more Israel (e.g. moving the US embassy to Jerusalem).

Russia Interests

- Russia maintains a more balanced policy between Israel and the Palestinians and tries to act as mediators in the conflict.
- Russia aims to increase its diplomatic influence in the Middle East and exploit potential tensions between the US and Israel.

Summary

Geopolitical conflicts of interest affecting the Arab region between Russia and the United States occur in many areas. While the U.S. aims to preserve stability in the region, protect its allies, and limit Iranian influence, Russia aims to increase its influence, support its allies, and curb the U.S. presence. These conflicts of interest manifest themselves in many countries and conflicts, including Syria, Iran, the Persian Gulf, Saudi Arabia and the Israeli-Palestinian question.

III.

Please describe the geopolitical conflicts of interest between China and the USA concerning the Arab region.

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Geopolitical conflicts of interest between China and the United States in the Arab region manifest themselves on many levels and in many areas. Below I describe these conflicts of interest in detail:

1. Energy resources and economic interests

US Interests

- The United States has traditionally had strong ties with oil-rich countries in the region, such as Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait.
- The US aims to ensure stable access to energy resources, which is critical to the global economy and US energy policy.
- U.S. oil and gas companies are making significant investments in the region.

China's interests

- China has significantly increased its demand for energy in recent years and has therefore intensified its relations with Arab countries to secure energy supplies.
- The People's Republic of China has significant long-term oil and gas contracts with several Arab countries and is making significant investments in the energy sector.
- Under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), China is launching infrastructure projects in the region, which will further strengthen its economic presence and influence.

2. Military and Security Issues

US Interests

- The United States has several military bases in the region, including Qatar, Kuwait and Bahrain, where the US Gulf Navy is stationed.
- The US aims to ensure security in the region, particularly against Iranian threats, and to combat terrorism and radicalism.
- The US has defence agreements with several Arab countries providing arms and military support.

China's interests

- China has shown a growing interest in security issues in the region, although it currently has a limited military presence.
- It is in China's interest to maintain regional stability in order to ensure the security of its economic investments and energy supply.
- China is gradually increasing its military cooperation and arms sales in the region, which could challenge US influence.

3. Diplomatic and Political Influence

US Interests

- The US's long-term goal is to secure its influence in the Middle East, which is key to its global strategy.
- The United States supports a peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, although its policies often favor Israel's interests.
- The US is trying to limit its regional influence and nuclear ambitions in Iran.

China's interests

- China is trying to pursue a balanced policy in the region that allows it to maintain good relations with both Arab countries and Iran and Israel.
- China does not intervene directly in the region's domestic political issues, but is intensifying its diplomatic presence and economic cooperation.
- China aims to increase its influence in global diplomacy and offer an alternative to US hegemony.

4. Technology and Infrastructure Development

US Interests

- United States technology companies play a significant role in the region's digital and technological development.
- The US supports cybersecurity and internet freedom in the region.

China's interests

- China is investing heavily in infrastructure and technology in the region under the Digital Silk Road initiative, including the development of 5G networks and digital infrastructure.
- China's tech companies, such as Huawei, are playing an increasing role in the region's technology sector, raising concerns about cybersecurity risks in the US.

Summary

Geopolitical conflicts of interest between China and the United States in the Arab region manifest themselves at several levels, including access to energy resources, military and security issues, diplomatic and political influence, and technological and infrastructural developments. While the U.S. has traditionally had a strong influence in the region, China's growing economic and diplomatic presence poses a challenge to U.S. interests. These conflicts of interest are expected to deepen in the future as both major powers seek to strengthen their positions in the Arab region.

IV.

Have geopolitical alternatives been developed in intellectual circles within the Arab world regarding the region and how relations with the West, China and Russia are shaped?

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In the intellectual and political circle of the Arab world, many geopolitical alternatives and ideas have emerged about the future of the region and the shaping of relations with the great powers. These ideas go in different directions, depending on the priorities and interests of the respective countries or groups. Here are some significant alternatives and ideas:

1. Arab Unity and Autonomy

Pan-Arabism and Arab Unity

- The idea of pan-Arabism, whose roots go back to the beginning of the 20th century, advocates political and economic unity in Arab countries. The idea is associated with leaders such as former Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser.
- One of the aims of the Arab League is to promote cooperation and integration between member states, although its effectiveness and influence are often questioned.

Economic integration

- Some Arab thinkers and political leaders are pushing for economic integration and cooperation within the region to reduce foreign dependency. The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), for example, is the result of such an effort.
- Initiatives such as the Greater Arab Free Trade Area (GAFTA) also aim at economic integration.

2. Rethinking relations with the West

Critical confrontation with the West

- Some Arab intellectuals and political groups are calling for a rethink of relations with the West, especially with the US. These groups are often critical of U.S. foreign policy, especially in relation to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and the Iraq war.
- Rebuilding relations with the West aims to strengthen independence and sovereignty.

Balanced relationships

- Some Arab countries, such as the U.A.E. and Saudi Arabia, seek balanced relations both with the West and with other major powers such as China and Russia. This multilateral foreign policy strategy aims to maximise stability and economic benefits.

3. Relations with China and Russia

China: Economic Partnership and Infrastructure Development

- China's growing economic presence and infrastructure investments under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) are a major attraction for many Arab countries. Chinese investments can help develop infrastructure and promote economic growth.
- For some Arab countries, China offers an alternative to American and European economic influence, especially since China does not intervene in domestic political issues.

Russia: Military and Political Cooperation

- Russia role has become particularly significant in the Syrian conflict, where Moscow's support has contributed to the survival of Bashar al-Assad's regime. Some Arab countries are seeking military and political cooperation with Russia to counter Western influence.
- Russia's role in the global energy industry, especially within OPEC+, is also an important factor for Arab countries.

4. Regional Cooperation and Conflict Management

Regional balance of power

- Some Arab countries, such as Qatar and Oman, seek to mediate regional conflicts and support diplomatic solutions. This approach can help increase regional stability and reduce foreign influence.
- The search for regional balance of power is an important factor in dealing with conflicts such as the Yemeni civil war and the Libyan conflict.

Summary

In the intellectual and political circle of the Arab world, many geopolitical alternatives and ideas have emerged about the future of the region and the shaping of relations with the great powers. These ideas focus on Arab unity and self-reliance, rethinking relations with the West, and cooperation with China and Russia. Arab countries seek to pursue balanced foreign policies to maximize their economic and political advantages while reducing their foreign dependence and increasing regional stability.

Who are the main authors in this field? Please describe their positions in detail.

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In the field of geopolitical alternatives to the Arab region and attitudes towards the great powers, several important authors and thinkers have emerged who represent different points of view. Below I present some of the main authors and their positions.

1. Edward Said

- **Main works:** "Orientalism", "Culture and imperialism"
- **Positions:** Edward Said's works are critical of Western orientalism and imperialism imposed on the Arab world by Western powers. Said argues that the West tends to paint a distorted and subordinate image of the Arab world that justifies colonialism and intervention. He proposes that Arab countries become independent of Western influence and strengthen their own cultural identity.

2. Fawaz Gerges

- **Fő művei:** „The Far Enemy: Why Jihad Went Global”, „ISIS: A History”

- **Positions:** Fawaz Gerges focuses on the political dynamics of the Arab world and the emergence of radical Islamism. According to Gerges' analysis, military intervention by the US and Western powers, as well as the repression of local authoritarian regimes, contributed to the spread of radicalism. Gerges said the Arab world needed internal reforms and democratization, while reducing foreign military intervention.

3. Ali Mazrui

- **Fő művei:** „The Africans: A Triple Heritage”, „Cultural Forces in World Politics”
- **Positions:** Ali Mazrui is a supporter of pan-Arabism and Pan-Islamism who advocates cultural and political unity in the Arab and African worlds. According to Mazrui, the historical colonial policies of Western powers and the resulting divisions are the main causes of instability in the region. He recommends that Arab countries strengthen their cooperation among themselves and become independent from Western influence.

4. Marwan Bishara

- **Fő művei:** „The Invisible Arab: The Promise and Peril of the Arab Revolutions”
- **Positions:** Marwan Bishara's analysis is based on the revolutions of the Arab Spring and examines how these movements emerged and what impact they have on the region. According to Bishara, the Arab revolutions were an expression of democratization and the desire for freedom, which were suppressed by Western powers and local authoritarian regimes. According to Bishara, political reforms and the promotion of social justice are necessary for the Arab world.

5. Shibley Telhami

- **Fő művei:** „The Stakes: America and the Middle East”, „The World Through Arab Eyes: Arab Public Opinion and the Reshaping of the Middle East”
- **Positions:** Shibley Telhami specializes in Arab opinion polls and the analysis of political influences of Western powers. According to Telhami, US foreign policy often ignores public opinion and interests in the Arab world, which destabilizes the region. Telhami suggested that the US and other Western powers should listen more closely to the views of Arab peoples and seek fairer political solutions in the region.

6. Rami G. Khouri

- **His main works:** Numerous articles and essays on the political situation in the Arab world and the influence of Western powers.
- **Positions:** Rami G. Khouri is critical of Western interference and support for local authoritarian regimes. According to Khouri, it is important for the Arab world to promote internal reforms and democratization, while reducing foreign influence. Khouri recommends that Arab countries strengthen their regional cooperation and become independent from the political games of the great powers.

Summary

In the intellectual circle of the Arab world, many important authors and thinkers are engaged in geopolitical alternatives in the region and shaping relations with the great powers. These authors

represent different points of view, but they all have in common an emphasis on independence, autonomy and the importance of internal reform. For the Arab world, these ideas can guide the development of future political and economic strategies.

V.

How do the elites of each Arab state relate to radical Islamism, and is there any difference between them?

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The elites of Arab states have different attitudes towards radical Islamism, and these differences depend on the political, economic and social context of each country. Below I will describe in detail how the elites of each Arab state relate to radical Islamism and what differences can be observed between them.

1. Saudi Arabia

Official Position and Political Elite

- **Wahhabism:** Saudi Arabia a follower of Wahhabism, a strict Sunni branch of Islam. The Saudi state and ruling family have historically supported the spread of Wahhabism, which contributed to the emergence of radical Islamist movements.
- **Fighting radical Islamism:** In recent years, especially under the leadership of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Saudi Arabia has increasingly taken a stand against radical Islamism and introduced reforms to promote more moderate religious trends and modernize the country.

2. Egypt

Official Position and Political Elite

- **Muslim Brotherhood:** In Egypt, the Muslim Brotherhood is a significant political and social force. After the 2013 military coup, Abdel Fattah el-Sisi's government banned the Muslim Brotherhood and cracked down on radical Islamist groups.
- **Security Policy:** The Egyptian government has implemented strict security measures to combat radical Islamist groups, especially terrorists operating in Sinai.

3. Jordan

Official Position and Political Elite

- **Moderate Islam:** Jordan political elite supports moderate Islam and maintains close ties with Western countries. The royal family bases its religious legitimacy on moderate forms of Islam.
- **Fight against radical Islamism:** Jordan actively participates in the international coalition against radical Islamism and takes action against radical groups that could threaten the stability of the country.

4. Tunisia

Official Position and Political Elite

- **Post-Arab Spring situation:** In Tunisia, after the Arab Spring, the moderate Islamist Ennahda party was a major political force, but in recent years it has receded in favor of secular forces.
- **Fight against radical Islamism:** The Tunisian government is actively targeting radical Islamism, especially jihadist groups trying to infiltrate from neighboring Libya.

5. Libya

Official Position and Political Elite

- **Fragmented Political System:** Libya political system has been extremely fragmented since Muammar Gaddafi's regime was overthrown in 2011. There are several rival governments and armed groups, including radical Islamist groups.
- **Combating Radical Islamism:** The situation in Libya is extremely complex, and various local and international forces, including the internationally recognized government and its allies, are involved in the fight against radical Islamist groups.

6. Yemen

Official Position and Political Elite

- **Civil War and Fragmentation:** Yemen's civil war has seen various armed groups and foreign interveners struggle for power, including local branches of Al-Qaeda and ISIS.
- **Fighting Radical Islamism:** The Yemeni government and its allies, especially the Saudi coalition, are actively cracking down on radical Islamist groups, although this is a challenging task due to the complexity of the civil war.

Summary

The attitude of elites in Arab states to radical Islamism is different and depends on the political, economic and social context of each country. While some countries, such as Saudi Arabia and Egypt, take a tough stance against radical Islamist groups, others, such as Jordan and Tunisia, prefer to support moderate Islam and cooperate with more moderate political forces. In civil war-torn countries such as Libya and Yemen, the fight against radical Islamism is particularly challenging due to the fragmented political and military situation.

VI.

In Western European cities, the number of Muslims following the Islamic religion is now around 30 million, and a minority of them are inclined to commit terrorist acts in addition to radical Islamist views. Are there signs that some Arab state elites are using this radical Islamism as a weapon to increase their influence in Europe?

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Whether some Arab state elites deliberately use radical Islamism as a political weapon in Europe is an extremely sensitive and complex question. In the following points, I summarize the most important aspects related to the topic, including the current situation, possible strategies and relevant signs:

1. Current situation

Muslim communities in Western Europe

- Western Europe has significant Muslim communities, the vast majority of whom are peaceful and integrated members of society.
- Radical Islamism, although present, is a problem of minorities in Muslim communities.

2. Political strategies of Arab states

Foreign Interference and Influence

- Some Arab countries, especially the wealthy Gulf states, are investing heavily in building Islamic centers and mosques in Europe. These efforts often aim to strengthen religious and cultural ties.
- In addition to funding religious institutions, some countries also send religious leaders, who may sometimes represent conservative or even radical views.

Radical Islamism and State Aid

- Although there is no direct evidence that radical Islamism is consciously promoted at the state level to achieve terrorist goals, political and religious institutions in some countries sometimes spread radical views.
- Countries like Saudi Arabia have historically supported the spread of Wahhabism, which may include extremist views.

3. Signs and Suspicions

Terrorist Groups and State Relations

- Suspicions of the activities of state-backed terrorist groups are common, but concrete evidence is rare.
- Some countries, such as Iran, may indirectly exert influence in Europe with the support of Hezbollah, although this is more for political and military purposes in the Middle East.

European intelligence reports

- European intelligence reports sometimes mention attempts by Arab countries to influence Muslim communities, but these efforts are often used to strengthen cultural and religious ties rather than direct terrorist purposes.
- The authorities of the European Union and the Member States are constantly monitoring these activities and trying to prevent the spread of radical ideas.

4. Possible Strategies and Consequences

Influencing by applying soft force

- Arab countries prefer to use soft power to exert influence in Europe, including by strengthening religious and cultural ties.
- This strategy is less risky than supporting radical Islamism and provides greater legitimacy in the long run.

Terrorism and National Security

- European countries and the international community are cracking down on terrorism and devoting considerable resources to detecting and curbing radical groups.
- Supporting radical Islamism as a strategy would also destabilize donor countries in the long run, so such an approach is unlikely.

Summary

While there is no concrete evidence that some Arab state elites knowingly use radical Islamism as a political weapon in Europe, there are signs and suspicions that some countries may be spreading radical views. Arab countries prefer to use soft force to exert influence, while European authorities are constantly monitoring and trying to prevent the spread of radical Islamism.

VII.

Does the opposition between Iran and Saudi Arabia in the Arab world, which also follow different Islamic trends, involve different geopolitical points of view? Please describe in detail the context and issues in this area.

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The confrontation between Iran and Saudi Arabia is based not only on religious differences, but also on deep-rooted geopolitical differences. In addition to pursuing different Islamic trends, both countries pursue different political and strategic goals that have a significant impact on the Middle East as a whole. Below I present in detail the connections and issues of the confrontation between the two countries:

1. Religious differences

Shiite Iran

- Iran is the leading power of Shiite Islam and aims to protect and support Shiite communities in the region.
- The Iranian government follows the principle of velayat-e faqih (rule of Islamic jurists), which is the basis of theocratic leadership.

Sunni Saudi Arabia

- Saudi Arabia is the center of Sunni Islam, especially Wahhabism, which represents the conservative trend of Islam.

- The religious legitimacy of the Saudi royal family is based on the support of Wahhabi religious leaders.

2. Geopolitical differences

Iran Geopolitical goals

- Iran aims to gain regional hegemony and expand its influence in the Middle East.
- Iran supports Shiite groups and militias in various countries in the region, such as Hezbollah in Lebanon, Houthi rebels in Yemen, and various Shiite militias in Iraq and Syria.
- Iran aims to ensure security in the Persian Gulf and the protection of Shiite minorities in the Gulf countries.

Saudi Arabia Geopolitical goals

- Saudi Arabia aims to maintain the dominance of Sunni Islam and limit Iran's influence in the region.
- Saudi Arabia maintains close alliances with the United States and other Western countries to counter Iran's influence.
- One of the main goals of Saudi foreign policy is to maintain regional stability and fight terrorism, although this is often achieved by spreading Sunni views and countering Shiite influence.

3. Regional Conflicts and Alliances

Syria

- Iran supports Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and provides significant military and economic assistance to the Syrian Government during the civil war.
- Saudi Arabia supports Syrian opposition groups to overthrow Assad's regime and weaken Iranian influence in Syria.

Yemen

- Iran supports Shiite Houthi rebels fighting against the Yemeni government, which Saudi Arabia supports.
- Saudi Arabia is leading a coalition to carry out a military intervention in Yemen to repel Houthi rebels to prevent Iran from growing influence on their southern border.

Lebanon

- Iran supports Hezbollah, which represents a major political and military force in Lebanon.
- Saudi Arabia supports Sunni political forces and seeks to weaken Hezbollah's influence.

Iraq

- Iran wields considerable influence in Iraq by supporting Shiite militias and political parties.

- Saudi Arabia seeks to strengthen ties with the Iraqi government and Sunni communities to counter Iranian influence.

4. NUCLEAR QUESTION

Iran nuclear programme

- Iran's nuclear programme has raised serious concerns in the international community, particularly Saudi Arabia, which fears Iran could acquire nuclear weapons.
- The nuclear deal with Iran (JCPOA) was intended to limit Iran's nuclear program, but Saudi Arabia and its allies were skeptical about its effectiveness.

Saudi Arabia reaction

- Saudi Arabia indicated that if Iran develops nuclear weapons, they will consider similar steps.
- The risk of a nuclear arms race in the region could be a serious destabilising factor.

5. Economic and Energy Policy

Oil policy

- Both countries are major oil exporters and have influence on the global oil market.
- OPEC+ occasionally works together to stabilise global oil prices, but the two countries are often at odds over oil production volumes and prices.

Summary

The opposition between Iran and Saudi Arabia is based on deep religious, political and geopolitical differences. Iran Shiite Islam is the leading power and goal of gaining regional hegemony, while Saudi Arabia seeks to maintain the dominance of Sunni Islam and limit its influence Iran. These differences manifest themselves in a number of regional conflicts and geopolitical issues, including Syria, Yemen, Lebanon and Iraq. The rivalry between the two countries has a significant impact on stability in the Middle East and global geopolitical dynamics.

VIII.

Does Egypt, with its large population, have its own geopolitical ambitions? Please describe in detail the context and issues in this area

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Egypt, as one of the largest and most populous countries in the Middle East and North Africa, has always played a significant role in the geopolitical dynamics of the region. The country's geopolitical ambitions are reflected in many areas, including increasing regional influence, ensuring internal stability and strengthening international relations. Below I describe in detail Egypt's geopolitical ambitions and the related connections and issues.

1. Regional Power and Influence

Political leadership

- Egypt historically has been one of the leading states of pan-Arabism, especially under President Gamal Abdel Nasser.
- The country aims to regain leadership in the Arab world and strengthen its influence in the Middle East and North Africa.

Diplomatic relations

- Egypt is an active member of the Arab League, headquartered in Cairo.
- The country is seeking to strengthen diplomatic relations with other countries in the region, including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Jordan.

2. Economic ambitions

Economic Reforms and Growth

- The government of President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi has launched major economic reforms to stimulate economic growth and investment.
- The country aims to modernize its economy and reduce unemployment, especially among young people.

Energy & Infrastructure

- Egypt has significant natural gas reserves and aims to become a regional energy hub.
- The country places great emphasis on infrastructure development, including the expansion of the Suez Canal and the construction of new cities, such as the planned new capital east of Cairo.

3. Security issues

Fight against terrorism

- Egypt is making significant efforts in the fight against terrorism, in particular jihadist groups operating in Sinai.
- The country cooperates closely with other countries and international organisations to counter security threats.

Regional conflicts

- Egypt involved in mediation in regional conflicts and seeks to contribute to peace, such as the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

4. International relations

Western relations

- Egypt maintains close ties with the United States, which provides significant military and economic support to the country.
- The country is also trying to maintain good relations with the European Union and other Western countries.

Russia and China

- Egypt strengthening relations with Russia and China, especially in the economic and military fields.
- Russia makes significant arms sales to Egypt, while China invests heavily in the country under the Belt and Road Initiative.

5. Geopolitical challenges

Great Renaissance Dam of Ethiopia (GERD)

- The Great Renaissance Dam being built in Ethiopia is causing serious concerns in Egypt over fears of a decline in the flow of the Nile, which is vital for the country's water supply.
- Egypt is taking diplomatic and political steps to resolve the situation and seeks international support to strengthen its position.

Libya

- Egypt has strong interests in neighboring Libya and supports General Khalifa Haftar, who heads the Eastern Army, against the internationally recognized government.
- The country's goal is to bring stability to Libya in order to prevent the spread of terrorism and ensure border security.

Summary

Egypt's geopolitical ambitions are multifaceted and include increasing regional influence, economic growth, addressing security challenges and strengthening international relations. The country aims to regain its leadership in the Arab world and stabilize its internal situation while adapting to global geopolitical dynamics. Regional conflicts, such as GERD and the situation in Libya, pose significant challenges for Egypt, but the country is actively working to resolve them and expand its influence.

IX.

What are the main positions vis-à-vis Israel regarding one large Arab state? Please describe the dilemmas and differences between Arab states here.

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Towards Israel, Arab states have different positions, which have undergone significant changes over the years. Below I present the main positions and the related dilemmas and differences between individual Arab states.

1. Historical Context and Positions

General hostility (1948-1979)

- After the 1948 Arab-Israeli War, most Arab states maintained hostile relations with Israel.
- Most Arab countries did not recognize Israel state and supported the Palestinians' aspirations for independence.

Peace Agreements and Normalization (1979–present)

- In 1979, Egypt became the first Arab country to conclude a peace agreement with Israel (Camp David Accords), which many Arab countries considered a betrayal.
- Jordan followed Egypt's example in 1994 and concluded a peace agreement with Israel.

2. Different positions and differences

Egypt: Position: Egypt officially recognizes Israel and maintains diplomatic relations. The peace agreement between the two countries is stable, although part of the population still harbors hostility towards Israel.

Dilemma: Egypt is trying to balance national interests with support for the Palestinian cause while maintaining peace with Israel.

Jordan: Position: Jordan has also concluded a peace agreement with Israel and maintains diplomatic relations. The two countries cooperate on security issues.

Dilemma: Jordan challenge is to raise Palestinian refugees and maintain solidarity with Palestinians while maintaining peace with Israel.

Saudi Arabia Position: Saudi Arabia does not officially recognize Israel, but informal relations between the two countries have improved in recent years, especially along common interests in countering the Iranian threat.

Dilemma: Saudi Arabia tries to balance support for the Palestinian cause with possible cooperation with Israel, especially on regional security issues.

U.A.E. and Bahrain

- **Position:** In 2020, the U.A.E. and Bahrain normalized relations with Israel under the Abraham Accords.
- **Dilemma:** These countries hope for economic and security benefits from normalizing relations, but face criticism for their commitment to the Palestinian cause.

Qatar

- **Position:** Qatar does not recognize Israel, but maintains a low level of economic and trade relations. Qatar provides substantial financial support to the Gaza Strip.
- **Dilemma:** Qatar tries to balance regional diplomacy with support for the Palestinian cause while maintaining ties with the United States and Israel.

Syria and Lebanon

- **Position:** Syria and Lebanon are officially hostile to Israel and do not recognize Israel. The Israeli occupation of the Golan Heights is a particularly sensitive issue in Syria.
- **Dilemma:** Both countries are challenged by internal instability and Hezbollah's activities while maintaining a hostile stance towards Israel.

3. Dilemmas and Questions

Palestinian Cause and Arab Solidarity

- Arab countries must face a balance between supporting the Palestinian cause and their own national interests. For many Arab countries, the Palestinian issue is an important domestic and diplomatic issue.
- Under the influence of the Abraham Accords, some Arab countries have begun to normalize relations with Israel, complicating the handling of the Palestinian question and the maintenance of Arab solidarity.

Regional security issues

- To combat Iranian influence and maintain regional stability, some Arab countries, such as Saudi Arabia and U.A.E., are taking a more pragmatic approach to Israel.
- Security cooperation and improving relations around common interests are important strategic goals for some countries.

Economic and technological cooperation

- The prospect of economic and technological cooperation with Israel is attractive to some Arab countries, especially those seeking economic diversification and modernization.
- However, cooperation in economic benefits and innovation can be controversial due to commitment to the Palestinians.

Summary

Arab countries' positions vis-à-vis Israel differ significantly and raise different dilemmas and questions. While some countries, such as Egypt and Jordan, have reached peace agreements with Israel and maintain diplomatic relations, others, such as Saudi Arabia and Qatar, are taking a more cautious approach. The U.A.E. and Bahrain have normalized relations with Israel, while Syria and Lebanon remain hostile to Israel. The Palestinian issue, regional security issues and economic cooperation are all important factors influencing Arab countries' policy towards Israel.

X.

Iran beyond the Arab world, what geopolitical positions do you occupy towards Pakistan and Afghanistan?

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Iran's geopolitical positions towards Pakistan and Afghanistan are multi-layered and complex. For both countries, Iranian policy revolves around preserving common borders, historical and cultural links, and regional stability and influence. Below I describe in detail Iran's geopolitical strategies and positions towards Pakistan and Afghanistan.

1. Iran and Pakistan

Cultural and Religious Relations

- **Shiite Minority:** Iran care is about supporting and protecting Pakistan's Shiite minority. Pakistan has a large Shiite community who are often targets of sectarian violence.
- **Cultural Relations:** There are historical and cultural ties between the two countries, which strengthen the ties between the two nations.

Economic relations

- **Energy transport:** energy transport projects between Iran and Pakistan, such as the Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline, represent an important economic interconnection. Iranian energy sources can provide Pakistan with energy supplies.
- **Trade:** Trade relations between the two countries are expanding and Iran an important trading partner for Pakistan.

Security issues

- **Border security:** Drug trafficking, terrorism and arms smuggling are challenges for both countries along their common border. Iran and Pakistan are working together to curb them.
- **Sectarian Violence:** Sectarian violence is a common problem in Pakistan that affects Iran's Shiite communities.

Regional Policy

- **Taliban Relations:** Iran and Pakistan both maintain ties with the Taliban, albeit with different goals and strategies. Iran takes a pragmatic approach, while Pakistan has traditionally supported the Taliban for its own strategic interests.
- **India-Pakistan Conflict:** Iran important to maintain balance in the region, especially in dealing with conflicts between India and Pakistan.

2. Iran and Afghanistan

Historical and Cultural Relations

- **Cultural Proximity:** There are deep cultural and linguistic ties between Iran and Afghanistan, especially through Afghan Persian (Dari) speakers and the Shiite Hazaras community.
- **Shiite Communities:** Iran is particularly interested in protecting Shiite Hazaras, who are one of the largest minority groups in Afghan society.

Economic and Humanitarian Relations

- **Trade:** Iran a major trading partner for Afghanistan, especially in the field of energy and food.
- **Refugees:** Iran has taken in millions of Afghan refugees over the years, posing a major humanitarian challenge to the country.

Security issues

- **Relations with the Taliban:** Iran takes a pragmatic approach to the Taliban. Although the Taliban are Sunni extremists, Iran is willing to work with them for regional stability.
- **Terrorism and Drug Trafficking:** Along the Iranian border, drug trafficking and terrorism pose a significant threat that poses a serious security challenge to Iran.

Political Interference and Influence

- **Regional Power Play:** Iran aims to increase its influence in Afghanistan, especially after the withdrawal of NATO troops. Iran seeks to balance support for different Afghan groups to secure its influence and protect its interests.
- **Water resources:** Access to water resources along the Iran-Afghan border is a major geopolitical issue. The Iranian government is concerned about the impact of Afghan water projects that could affect Iran's agriculture and water supply.

3. Common geopolitical issues

Sectarian tensions

- Iran faces sectarian tensions in both Pakistan and Afghanistan that could destabilize the region and threaten Iranian interests.

Regional stability

- Iran important to maintain regional stability in order to prevent the spread of terrorism and drug trafficking, as well as to ensure economic development and the security of trade routes.

International relations

- Iran's policy towards Pakistan and Afghanistan often influences international relations, especially with the United States, China and Russia.

Summary

Iran's geopolitical positions towards Pakistan and Afghanistan are complex and multi-layered. For both countries, Iran takes a pragmatic approach in which religious relations, economic interests, security challenges and maintaining regional stability play an important role. Cross-border issues and challenges between the two countries, such as terrorism, drug trafficking and sectarian tensions, also have a significant impact on Iran policy.

XI.

Have geopolitical alternatives been developed in intellectual circles within Iran regarding the region and how relations with the West, China and Russia are shaped?

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Yes, geopolitical alternatives have emerged in many intellectual circles within Iran regarding the region and relations with major powers, especially the West, China and Russia. These alternatives represent different perspectives and strategies that reflect the country's political, economic and social goals.

1. Relations with the West

Reformists and Moderates

- **Opening and Diplomacy:** Reformist and moderate circles support a more open foreign policy approach aimed at improving relations with the West, especially the United States and the European Union.
- **Economic Integration:** These groups advocate the lifting of economic sanctions and international economic integration, which can promote economic development and modernization of Iran.

Conservatives and Hardliners

- **Resistance and Autonomy:** Conservative and hardline circles tend to favor resistance to the US and the West, emphasizing Iran's sovereignty and independence.
- **Self-Reliance and Internal Development:** These groups emphasize self-sufficiency and internal economic development, reducing dependence on the West.

2. Relations with China

Strategic partnership

- **Economic Cooperation:** Many Iranian intellectual circles support the strengthening of economic cooperation with China, especially within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative. China invests heavily in Iran and is an important trading partner.
- **Technological Development:** China's involvement in technology and infrastructure development projects could benefit Iran, especially in boosting the sanctioned economy.

Political and Military Relations

- **Defence Cooperation:** Iran is also interested in defence cooperation with China, which could include the acquisition of military technology and joint military exercises.

3. Relations with Russia

Geopolitical Alliance

- **Syrian Conflict:** Iran and Russia jointly support the Syrian government under President Bashar al-Assad, strengthening the strategic alliance between the two countries.

- **Regional Stability:** Cooperation between the two countries includes maintaining regional stability and fighting terrorism.

Energy cooperation

- **Oil & Gas:** Iran and Russia also collaborate in the energy industry, including sharing oil and gas extraction technologies and implementing joint projects.

4. Geopolitical Alternatives and Strategic Approaches

Multilateral approach

- **Regional Cooperation:** Some Iranian intellectual circles support strengthening regional cooperation, for example with the Gulf countries and neighboring states. This approach can reduce dependence on major powers and strengthen regional stability.

Neutral foreign policy

- **Balanced Relations:** Some thinkers believe Iran should pursue a balanced foreign policy with good relations with the West, China and Russia. This strategy can help protect Iran's interests and economic development.

Active participation in international organisations

- **Diplomatic Presence:** Some groups support Iran's active participation in international organizations, such as the United Nations, to increase its diplomatic influence and promote its international interests.

Summary

Within Iran, different intellectual circles represent different geopolitical alternatives and strategies regarding the region and relations with major powers. While reformists and moderates advocate improved relations with the West and economic integration, conservatives and hardliners advocate independence and resistance to the West. It seeks strategic partnership and economic cooperation with China and Russia Iran, while some intellectual circles prefer a multilateral and balanced foreign policy approach. These different approaches and alternatives reflect Iran's internal political and social dynamism and its role in the region.

XII.

Please describe the main Iranian authors in this field and outline their ideas in detail.

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Iran's geopolitical strategies and relations with major powers have been discussed by several prominent Iranian authors and thinkers who represent different perspectives and ideas. Below I present some of the main Iranian authors and describe their ideas in detail.

1. Mohammad Javad Zarif

Background

- Mohammad Javad Zarif is Iran former foreign minister who played a significant role in establishing the Iran nuclear deal (JCPOA).

Ideas

- **Diplomatic approach:** Zarif supports strengthening diplomatic relations, especially with the West. It believes that diplomatic dialogue and negotiations are the way to lift international sanctions and Iran economic development.
- **Multilateral Relations:** Zarif stresses the importance of multilateral cooperation, including active participation in international organizations such as the UN and the UN Security Council.
- **Balanced Foreign Policy:** According to Zarif, Iran must pursue a balanced foreign policy that includes cooperation with the West, China, Russia and neighboring countries.

2. Hossein Shariatmadari

Background

- Hossein Shariatmadari is editor-in-chief of Iran's Kayhan newspaper, which has close ties to Iranian hardliners and the stance of Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei.

Ideas

- **Anti-Western Policy:** Shariatmadari is highly critical of the West, especially the United States. He said Iran must resist Western influence and maintain its independence.
- **Economy of Self-Reliance and Resistance:** Shariatmadari supports an economic policy of self-sufficiency that reduces the effects of foreign sanctions on the Iran's economy.
- **Alliance with China and Russia:** He said Iran should pursue closer ties with China and Russia to counter Western influence and secure regional influence.

3. Ali Akbar Velayati

Background

- Ali Akbar Velayati is a foreign policy adviser to the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic, a former foreign minister, and one of Iran's most influential diplomats.

Ideas

- **Regional Influence:** Velayati emphasizes increasing Iran's regional role and influence. According to him, Iran should actively participate in political and security issues in neighboring countries.
- **Shiite Associations:** Velayati prioritizes supporting Shiite communities in the Middle East, particularly in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Yemen.
- **Resistance to the West:** Velayati supports resistance to Western powers and defense of Iran sovereignty.

4. Saw Jalili

Background

- Saeed Jalili is a former chief nuclear negotiator and secretary of the Supreme National Security Council, a representative of hardliners in Iranian politics.

Ideas

- **Defense of Nuclear Rights:** Jalili emphasizes Iran's right to develop nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and opposes Western powers interference in this matter.
- **Economic Resistance:** Jalili supports the concept of a resistance economy that reduces the country's dependence on foreign economic relations.
- **Hardline Foreign Policy:** According to Jalili, Iran must pursue a firm and tough foreign policy, especially vis-à-vis the West, to defend its national interests and sovereignty.

5. Mohammad Marandi

Background

- Mohammad Marandi is one of Iran's leading academics and political analysts who frequently speaks in international media about his geopolitical strategies Iran.

Ideas

- **Critics of Western Narrative:** Marandi is critical of narratives in Western media and politics, which are often negative towards Iran.
- **Cultural Diplomacy:** Marandi supports the use of cultural diplomacy and soft power to strengthen Iran's international position.
- **Balanced Geopolitics:** Marandi said Iran should pursue a balanced geopolitical strategy based on cooperation with the West, China and Russia.

Summary

Discourses on Iran's geopolitical strategies and relations with major powers involve several prominent authors and thinkers who represent different points of view. Mohammad Javad Zarif emphasizes a diplomatic approach and the importance of multilateral relations, while Hossein Shariatmadari and Saeed Jalili take a hardline and anti-Western stance. Ali Akbar Velayati focuses on increasing regional influence and supporting Shiite alliances, while Mohammad Marandi advocates a balanced geopolitical strategy and cultural diplomacy. These ideas reflect Iran's internal political and social diversity and the country's foreign policy challenges and opportunities.

7

Africa's current geopolitical situation and collisions

I.

Please describe in detail the current geopolitical situation, internal tensions and conflicts in Africa.

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Africa's geopolitical situation is complex and dynamic, fraught with numerous internal tensions and conflicts. Below I present in detail the current situation, internal tensions and conflicts in Africa.

Regional and Geopolitical situation

1. North Africa:

- **Libya:** The country has been unstable since the fall of the Gaddafi regime in 2011. There are currently two rival governments: the UN-backed Government of National Accord in Tripoli and the Libyan National Army led by Khalifa Haftar in Tobruk. There are many militias and armed groups operating in the country, which causes further instability.
- **Tunisia:** Although the Arab Spring was one of its successful transformations to democracy, recent years have been marked by political crises and economic problems.
- **Egypt:** The country is stable, but the human rights situation is worrying and the geopolitical significance around the Suez Canal is constantly in focus.

2. Sub-Saharan Africa:

- **Sahel:** Countries such as Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso face serious security challenges from Islamist groups and local armed groups.
- **Nigeria:** The spread of the Boko Haram terrorist group and Islamist states in the country is a serious problem. In addition, oil-related conflicts are present in the south.
- **Ethiopia:** The ongoing conflict in the Tigray region has led to a serious humanitarian crisis. Ethnic tensions and political instability persist.

3. Kelet-Africa:

- **Somalia:** Al-Shabaab poses a significant threat. The country's government is weak and UN peacekeepers are present.
- **Kenya:** Relatively stable, but threats from neighbouring Somalia and internal political tensions are cause for concern.

- **South Sudan:** Since independence in 2011, the country has been marred by civil war and ethnic conflicts.
- 4. **Central Africa:**
 - **Democratic Republic of Congo:** The east of the country is characterised by ongoing armed conflicts and activities of rebel groups. Fighting for natural resources is also a serious problem.
 - **Central African Republic:** The country is also facing internal conflicts, particularly fighting between Muslim and Christian militias.
- 5. **South Africa:**
 - **South Africa:** Economic difficulties, high unemployment and social tensions. Xenophobia and crime are also serious problems.
 - **Mozambique:** Islamist rebels in the northern province of Cabo Delgado pose a significant threat.

Internal Tensions and Conflicts

1. **Ethnic and Religious Conflicts:**
 - In many countries, ethnic and religious tensions dominate the internal political situation. These conflicts often lead to violence and civil war.
2. **Economic difficulties:**
 - Poverty, unemployment and inequality are serious problems in many African countries. These economic challenges often provide breeding grounds for political instability and social unrest.
3. **Political Instability and Corruption:**
 - Political corruption and the presence of authoritarian leaders are a problem in many countries. The weakness of democratic institutions and struggles for political power often lead to violence and instability.
4. **Migration and Refugee Crisis:**
 - Violence and economic hardship have caused many Africans to leave their homeland. Migration and refugee flows cause major humanitarian crises and often create tensions in host countries.

International Actors and Influence

1. **China:**
 - China is investing heavily in Africa, particularly in infrastructure and mining. This can bring economic development, but it can also increase China's political influence.
2. **European Union and United States:**
 - Both the EU and the US are important players on the geopolitical scene in Africa, particularly in the area of development aid and security cooperation.
3. **Regional organisations:**
 - The African Union and other regional organisations seek to promote peace and stability, but their efforts are often limited due to a lack of resources and political will.

Africa's geopolitical situation is therefore extremely complex, shaped by many internal and external factors. Resolving tensions and conflicts requires long-term commitment and international cooperation.

II.

How do the geopolitical ambitions of certain external powers manifest themselves in parts of Africa? Please explain them in detail.

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Africa's rich natural resources and strategic importance make it an attractive destination for major powers. The geopolitical ambitions of individual external powers often clash, affecting Africa's political, economic and security situation. Below I will describe in detail how these collisions manifest themselves.

China

Economic Investment and Infrastructure Development

- **Strategic Goals:** China is investing heavily in African infrastructure, especially in the transport and energy sectors. It finances a number of infrastructure projects under the Belt and Road Initiative.
- **Conflicts:** China's influence often leads to tensions with other major powers, such as the United States and the European Union, who are watching China's dominance grow with concern. The exploitation of local labour and the risk of falling into a debt trap can also lead to conflicts.

United States

Military and Security Presence

- **Strategic Goals:** The U.S. military presence in Africa is part of the fight against Al-Shabaab, Boko Haram and other terrorist organizations. The African Command (AFRICOM) operates several bases on the continent.
- **Conflicts:** U.S. military intervention and the fight against terrorism often conflict with the political and economic interests of other major powers such as China and Russia. In addition, local populations and governments may resist the U.S. military presence.

European Union

Development Aid and Trade Relations

- **Strategic Goals:** The EU provides substantial development aid to African countries and maintains close trade relations. It aims to promote stability and economic development.
- **Conflicts:** The EU's economic interests often conflict with those of China and the US. European countries, especially France, also seek to exert influence through their historical and cultural links, which could lead to tensions with other great powers.

Russia

Political and Military Support

- **Strategic Goals:** Russia provides political and military support to several African countries, including arms trafficking and military advice. The presence of the Russian Wagner Group can be observed in several conflict zones.
- **Conflicts:** Russia's growing influence competes with other major powers, especially the US and the EU. Russian support can often have a destabilising effect, exacerbating existing tensions in the region.

Middle East

Economic and Political Influence

- **Strategic Goals:** The U.A.E., Saudi Arabia and Turkey want to exert a growing influence in Africa. They are trying to gain position through economic investment and political alliances.
- **Conflicts:** These countries often compete for influence with Western and Eastern powers, especially in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden. Their impact on the regional balance of power increases tensions.

India

Trade and Cultural Relations

- **Strategic Goals:** India maintains close economic and cultural ties with several African countries. It invests in IT, pharmaceuticals and agriculture.
- **Conflicts:** India's growing economic presence often conflicts with China's interests, especially in the East African region, where both countries make significant investments.

Consequences and Effects

1. **Economic tensions:**
 - Competition between major powers causes economic tensions, particularly over access to resources. African countries often take advantage of this competition to achieve better conditions for investment and aid.
2. **Political instability:**
 - The intervention of external major powers often leads to political instability, as they influence internal political processes by supporting local political elites and groups.
3. **Katons Konfliktsok:**
 - Military competition and intervention between major powers intensify local conflicts and civil wars. The arms trade and military advice can have a destabilising effect.
4. **Humanitarian crises:**
 - Competition and conflicts lead to humanitarian crises, including refugee flows and food insecurity. International aid is often insufficient to deal with crises.

Thus, Africa's geopolitical situation is complex and dynamic, and the interests and interventions of external powers have a significant impact on the political, economic and security situation of the continent. Rivalry and clashes between major powers will continue to be decisive factors in Africa's future.

III.

Which African states have major geopolitical ambitions in parts of Africa?

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Several states in Africa have significant geopolitical ambitions and are actively seeking to expand their influence in different parts of the continent. Below I will describe these countries and their goals in detail.

Nigeria

Hegemony of West Africa

- **Economic and Political Leadership:** Nigeria, Africa's most populous country and one of its largest economies, is the leading power of the Economic Community of West Africa (ECOWAS). The country strives to be a regional leader and plays an active role in regional security issues.
- **Military influence:** Nigeria has significant military power and frequently leads peacekeeping missions in the region. The country plays a role in the fight against terrorism, especially in the fight against Boko Haram.

South Africa

South Africa regional leadership

- **Economic Dominance:** South Africa has the most developed economy on the continent and wields significant influence within the framework of the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The country is a leader in regional trade and economic integration.
- **Political and Diplomatic Influence:** South Africa active in the Pan-African Parliament and the African Union. The country often acts as mediator in regional conflicts.

Ethiopia

Hegemony of East Africa

- **Regional Security and Political Influence:** As the home country of the African Union, Ethiopia has significant political influence. The country plays an active role in peacekeeping operations in East Africa, particularly in Somalia and South Sudan.
- **Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development:** The country is experiencing rapid economic growth and significant investments in infrastructure, which increases its regional influence.

Kenya

The central role of East Africa

- **Economic and Trade Centre:** Kenya major economic centre in East Africa and the leading economy of the East African Community (EAC). The country is an important logistics hub, especially through the port of Mombasa.
- **Political and Diplomatic Role:** Kenya plays an active role in regional diplomacy and acts as a mediator in several conflicts, such as South Sudan and Somalia.

Egypt

North Africa and the Sudan Issue

- **Political and Military Influence:** Egypt is the leading power in the North African region and wields significant influence through the Suez Canal. The country plays an important role in regional policy through its military might and diplomatic relations.
- **Economic and Infrastructure Development:** Egypt active in regional economic cooperation and strives to develop infrastructure, especially on Nile water sharing issues.

Morocco

Influence of Northwest Africa and the Sahel

- **Economic expansion:** Morocco has significant economic influence in West African countries and is an active player in regional trade networks. The country seeks to extend its influence to West African economies.
- **Political Role:** Morocco is diplomatically active and seeks to regain membership of the African Union in order to increase its influence on the continent.

Angola

Central and South Africa Economic and Political Actor

- **Economic resources:** Angola has significant oil and mineral resources, which gives it economic influence in the region. The country takes an active role in regional economic cooperation.
- **Political and Military Influence:** Angola exerts political and military influence in the region and plays an important role in managing conflicts in Central Africa.

Senegal

Political and Economic Influence of West Africa

- **Political Stability and Diplomacy:** Senegal is an important player in West Africa through its political stability and democratic structure. The country is an active diplomatic actor in regional conflicts and peacekeeping missions.
- **Economic development:** Senegal increases its influence in the region through economic development and infrastructure investments.

These countries are using different strategies and instruments to increase their influence in different parts of Africa. Their geopolitical ambitions have a significant impact on the

continent's political and economic dynamics and contribute to shaping Africa's internal and external relations.

IV.

Have groups of military and intellectual elites from parts of Africa developed geopolitical concepts for their region? Please list the main authors and their positions in this area.

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Indeed, military and intellectual elites from different parts of Africa have developed geopolitical concepts and strategies for the development and stability of their region. Below I present some important authors and their positions.

North Africa

Ali Mazrui

- **Position:** He advocates an African Renaissance that calls for the cultural and political rebirth of the African continent. Mazrui emphasized the importance of African unity and West African cooperation on the global stage.

Nyugat-Africa

Chinua Achebe

- **Position:** Although Achebe is primarily known as a writer, his work has had a significant impact on shaping African identity and political thought. In his works, he often criticizes the legacy of colonialism and internal conflicts in African countries.

Ibrahim Illustrated

- **Position:** Nigerian diplomat and political thinker who emphasizes the importance of regional security and integration. According to him, strengthening ECOWAS and other regional organisations is key to stability and development.

East Africa

Ali A. Mazrui

- **Position:** The well-known historian and political scientist Mazrui has written extensively about the geopolitical situation and development of Africa. According to him, crossing national borders and strengthening regional cooperation is key for Africa.

Master Julius Nyerere

- **Position:** First President of Tanzania and creator of socialist philosophy "Ujamaa". Nyerere was a strong supporter of East African cooperation and integration and played an important role in the creation of the OAU, the predecessor of the African Union.

Central Africa

Paul Kagame

- **Position:** President of Rwanda, who advocates reconstruction and economic growth in the country. Kagame stresses the importance of internal stability and regional cooperation, especially in the Great Lakes region.

Georges Nzongola-Ntalaja

- **Position:** Congolese political scientist working on democracy and self-determination in Africa. Nzongola-Nsoila stresses the importance of fighting internal conflicts and authoritarian regimes.

South Africa

Nelson Mandela

- **Position:** Mandela, South Africa's first black president, advocated peace and reconciliation. He stressed the importance of post-apartheid reconstruction and international cooperation.

Thabo Mbeki

- **Position:** South Africa's second black president to promote the concept of "African Rebirth." According to Mbeki, Africa's rise requires economic reforms and the unity of the continent.

General African perspectives

For the sake of Nkrumah

- **Position:** First President of Ghana and one of the main advocates of Pan-Africanism. Nkrumah called for political and economic unity on the African continent so that African countries can become stronger together on the global stage.

Wole Soyinka

- **Position:** Nobel Prize-winning Nigerian writer who emphasizes the protection of African identity and cultural heritage. His works often criticize political corruption and human rights violations.

Military Authors and Thinkers

Olusegun Obasanjo

- **Position:** Nigerian general and politician who emphasizes the importance of regional security cooperation and democratic transition. Obasanjo has written several books about the future of Africa and the role of leadership.

General David M. Rodriguez

- **Position:** Former Head of AFRICOM (African Command), who emphasizes the importance of counter-terrorism and regional security cooperation. According to him, military cooperation between African countries is key to creating stability.

These authors and thinkers have had and continue to have a significant impact on the formation of geopolitical concepts in Africa. Their works and ideas contribute to the development and stability of the continent and to address internal and external challenges.

V.

Do old African colonists, such as France and England, still play a role in shaping the geopolitical ties of their old colonial regions?

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Yes, France and United Kingdom, as former colonial holders, continue to play a significant role in shaping the geopolitical ties of their old colonial regions in Africa. This manifests itself in several ways:

France

Francafrigue Koncepció

- **Political and Economic Relations:** France maintains close political and economic ties with its former colonies, particularly in West and Central Africa. Through the so-called 'Francafrigue' policy, it exerts France influence on policymaking, economic investment and trade in these countries.
- **Military Presence:** France has a significant military presence in Africa, particularly in the Sahel region of Africa. Through "Operation Barkhane", it supports local governments with France military force in the fight against terrorism and rebel groups. It also maintains several military bases in the region, such as Chad, Niger and Mali.
- **Language and Cultural Ties:** The French language and culture also have strong links with the former colonies. Through the International Organization of La Francophonie, France supports the dissemination of French language and culture, as well as educational and cultural exchanges.

United Kingdom

Commonwealth Relations

- **Political and Economic Relations:** The United Kingdom maintains close ties with its former colonies through the Commonwealth Commonwealth. This organisation ensures political, economic and cultural cooperation between Member States. The United Kingdom is investing heavily in several African countries, particularly in the financial services, mining and energy sectors.
- **Development Aid:** The United Kingdom provides substantial development aid to African countries, especially former colonies. Through the British Department for

International Development (DFID), the United Kingdom supports education, health, infrastructure and agriculture.

- **Military Cooperation:** The United Kingdom cooperates militarily with several African countries, including military training and support for peacekeeping missions. For example, the British Army has a presence in Kenya, where it operates a training base.

Effects and Consequences

Political influence

- Both countries exert significant influence on the political systems of their former colonies. They often participate in electoral processes, provide political advice and support the development of democratic institutions.

Economic relations

- France and United Kingdom are major economic partners for African countries. They maintain and strengthen their influence through trade relations, investment and development aid.

Cultural ties

- Language and cultural ties remain strong. French and English are an important part of education and official communication in many African countries, which contributes to maintaining cultural influence.

Military Presence and Security Cooperation

- France and the military presence and security cooperation of the United Kingdom help maintain regional stability and support local governments in addressing security challenges. This is particularly important in the fight against terrorism and armed groups.

Overall, France and United Kingdom remain major players in Africa's geopolitical landscape. By various means – political, economic, cultural and military – they maintain and strengthen relations with their former colonies and influence their development and stability.

VI.

Does this role create clashes between the old colonists and the new invaders with the incursion of China, the USA and Russia into these territories?

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Yes, competition and presence between old colonists like France and United Kingdom and new geopolitical players like China between United States and Russia in Africa often leads to clashes and tensions. Below I will detail how these collisions manifest themselves in different areas and aspects.

Economic competition

China

- **Infrastructure and Investment:** China is investing heavily in infrastructure in Africa, including construction, energy, and transport networks. This often clashes with French and British economic interests, who have traditionally been major investors in these regions.
- **Credit and Debt:** China offers favorable loans to African countries, making it a competitive alternative to Western aid and credit. This often creates tensions, as some African countries may find themselves in a debt trap.

United States

- **Trade and Aid:** U.S. economic and development aid competes with Chinese investment. The US is seeking to prevent China's dominance of African markets and economies.

Russia

- **Natural Resources:** Russia has a significant interest in Africa's natural resources, particularly mining and energy. This could compete with traditional mining investments by France and United Kingdom.

Political influence

China

- **Diplomacy and Political Relations:** China's growing political influence in African countries poses a challenge to French and British political relations. China offers political support and infrastructure investment in exchange for diplomatic support in international forums.

United States

- **Democratic Values:** The U.S. often emphasizes democratic values and human rights and makes them a prerequisite for providing aid and aid. This contrasts them with China, which focuses less on these values in economic cooperation.

Russia

- **Political and Military Support:** Russia provides political and military support to several African countries, which may compete with French and British political influence. Russia often supports authoritarian regimes that run counter to Western democratic values.

Military and Security Collisions

France

- **Military Missions:** France has a significant military presence, particularly in the Sahel. French military missions and bases compete with US AFRICOM missions and China's growing military presence, such as its military base in Djibouti.

United States

- **Peacekeeping and Anti-Terrorism Missions:** U.S. military presence and anti-terrorist missions, such as operations in Somalia and West Africa, often conflict with French military interests. In addition, the U.S. and France are vying for support and cooperation from local governments.

Russia

- **Arms Trade and Military Consulting:** Russia's growing arms trade and military advisory services compete with military aid from Western countries. The presence of private Russian military companies such as the Wagner Group is causing tensions in several conflict zones in Africa.

Cultural and Educational Conflicts

France and United Kingdom

- **Language and Cultural Programs:** France and United Kingdom devote significant resources to cultural and educational programs to maintain their linguistic and cultural influence. This is in competition with the cultural diplomacy of China and other new players.

China

- **Confucius Institutes:** China establishes Confucius Institutes in several African countries to spread its language and culture. It competes with French and British cultural programs and influences the cultural orientation of African countries.

Consequences

- **Political Instability:** Competition between major powers can often destabilize local political systems as local elites and governments try to balance between different outside backers.
- **Economic tensions:** The economic structures and markets of African countries often suffer the consequences of competition between major powers, which can lead to debt problems and unequal economic development.
- **Security Risks:** The increased military and security presence increases the risk of conflict, especially in the fight against terrorism and insurgent groups.

Overall, competition and clashes between old colonial holders and new geopolitical players have a significant impact on Africa's political, economic and security situation. These dynamics continue to determine the future and development of the continent.

VII.

According to forecasts, the demographic explosion of some African countries will make it a country of several hundred million people, for example. It is growing Nigeria and other African countries to a huge size. What geopolitical changes do these changes foreshadow according to the analyses?

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The demographic explosion of African countries, especially Nigeria and others, could result in significant geopolitical changes in the future. Nigeria is projected to have a population of over 400 million by 2050, while other African countries may also experience significant growth. Below I present in detail the geopolitical changes that these demographic changes foreshadow.

1. Economic changes

A larger labour market

- **Benefits:** Population growth can lead to a larger labor market, which can be attractive to investors. A young and growing population offers opportunities in industry, services and innovation.
- **Challenges:** Strengthening infrastructure, education and health systems is essential to exploit the labour market. High unemployment and an increase in poverty can lead to serious social tensions.

Markets and Consumption

- **Advantages:** A growing population means a larger internal market, which can help expand local production and trade. A growing middle class and consumer base can be attractive to international companies.
- **Challenges:** Economic inequalities can increase if economic development does not keep pace with population growth. Inflation and rising food prices can also be a problem.

2. Policy changes

Greater political influence

- **Pros:** African countries, especially Nigeria, can gain more political influence on the regional and global stage with their growing populations. Nigeria, for example, could become a leading player in the African Union and other regional organisations.
- **Challenges:** Internal political instability and ethnic tensions may intensify, especially if governments fail to effectively address the challenges arising from population growth.

Democratization and Government Reforms

- **Pros:** A young and dynamic population can push for democratic change, which can promote political reforms and good governance.

- **Challenges:** Autocratic leaders and corruption can continue to hinder the process of democratization. Political instability and electoral violence may also increase.

3. Security and Geopolitical Challenges

Regional security

- **Benefits:** A growing population and economic development can provide an opportunity to strengthen regional security cooperation. African countries can be better prepared to deal with terrorism, insurgent groups and other security threats.
- **Challenges:** Population growth can exacerbate internal security challenges, including ethnic conflicts and poverty-related crime. Migration and refugee crises could also worsen.

External influence and competition

- **Benefits:** African countries of increasing strategic importance receive more attention from the international community, which can increase foreign investment and international support.
- **Challenges:** Competition between African countries for external influence and support may increase. Geopolitical competition between major powers such as China, the US, the EU and Russia could intensify, with destabilising effects.

4. Social change

Urbanization and Infrastructure Development

- **Advantages:** Rapid urbanization can create new economic opportunities and promote modernization. Development of infrastructure, including transport and housing, is necessary to manage a growing urban population.
- **Challenges:** The rapid pace of urbanisation can overwhelm urban infrastructure and services, leading to housing problems, traffic jams and environmental problems.

Education and Health

- **Benefits:** A growing young population offers great opportunities for improving education and health. Investment in human capital can promote long-term economic development.
- **Challenges:** Without strengthening education and health systems, population growth can lead to negative effects, including low education and lack of health services.

Conclusion

The demographic explosion could lead to major geopolitical changes in some countries in Africa. These changes present both opportunities and challenges that require comprehensive and well-designed strategies to address. Cooperation between African countries and the international community will be key to achieving positive results and minimising negative consequences.

VIII.

With regard to Africa, what geopolitical role do major Western geopolitical concepts see? Please list the main authors in this area and describe their views in detail.

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To understand Africa's geopolitical role, Western geopolitical thinkers and concepts provide significant insights. Below I present some notable authors and their positions on Africa's geopolitical role.

Zbigniew Brzezinski

The Grand Chessboard

- **According** to Brzezinski, global geopolitical competition takes place primarily in Eurasia, but Africa's strategic importance cannot be ignored either. Africa's economic development and natural resources are important for the global balance of power.
- **The role of Africa:** Brzezinski highlights that Africa's stability and development have a significant impact on Europe's security and economy. The stability of African countries has a direct impact on migration flows and energy security.

Samuel P. Huntington

The Clash of Civilizations

- **Position:** In Huntington's theory, Africa is significant mainly along different civilizational boundaries. Conflicts and cooperation between different cultural and religious groups on the continent influence global geopolitical dynamics.
- **According** to Huntington, Africa is located at the crossroads of Western, Islamic and African civilizations and therefore plays an important role in global civilizational conflicts and cooperation.

Robert D. Kaplan

The Revenge of Geography

- **Position:** According to Kaplan, Africa's geographical features, such as deserts, rivers and mountain ranges, have a significant influence on the continent's geopolitical position. Geographical factors determine the development of African countries and the development of international relations.
- **Africa's Role:** According to Kaplan, Africa is playing an increasingly important role on the global geopolitical map due to its growing population, resources and economic opportunities. However, the continent's instability and challenges can pose a serious threat to global security and economy.

John Mearsheimer

The Tragedy of Great Power Politics

- **Position:** According to Mearsheimer, competition and conflict between great powers are inevitable due to the anarchic nature of the international system. Africa's strategic importance must be understood in the context of great power competition.
- **According** to Mearsheimer, Africa serves as an arena of great power competition, where United States, China and other great powers compete for resources and political influence. For African countries, this is both an opportunity and a challenge.

Walter Russell Mead

The Different American Foreign Policy Traditions (Special Providence)

- **Position:** Mead distinguishes four traditions of American foreign policy: Hamiltonian, Wilsonian, Jeffersonian, and Jacksonian. Each tradition approaches Africa's geopolitical role in different ways.
- **Africa's Role:** According to Mead, the different foreign policy traditions of the United States have different attitudes towards Africa. For example, the Hamiltonian tradition emphasizes economic cooperation and trade, while the Wilsonian tradition focuses on promoting democratization and human rights.

Joseph Nye

Soft Power Box

- **Position:** According to Nye's theory, soft power, i.e. an attractive cultural, political and economic model, plays an important role in international relations. In the case of Africa, soft power instruments can be key to long-term stability and development.
- **Africa's Role:** According to Nye, Africa's soft power strategies, such as education, culture and diplomacy, could be important in strengthening the continent's international position. For African countries, soft power instruments can help win international support and cooperation.

Nicholas Spykman

Rimland Theory

- **Position:** According to Spykman, world political control depends on gaining power over the territories that surround the Eurasian continent (Rimland). Due to its strategic location, Africa can play an important role in the global balance of power.
- **Africa's Role:** According to Spykman, Africa's northern coast and the Suez Canal area are particularly important for the global balance of power. Stability and cooperation between African countries can be key to maintaining the global balance of power.

Conclusions

According to Western geopolitical concepts, Africa's geopolitical role is extremely diverse and dynamic. The following main points can be highlighted:

1. **Economic Potential and Challenges:** Africa's economic development and natural resources make the continent a major geopolitical factor. Improving infrastructure, expanding the labour market and tackling economic inequalities will be key.

2. **Political Stability and Influence:** Africa's political stability and development affect global security and political dynamics. The promotion of democratisation, good governance and regional cooperation are important objectives.
3. **Security Challenges:** Addressing terrorism, rebel groups and ethnic conflicts is essential for stability in Africa. Competition between major powers and military cooperation also play an important role.
4. **External Influence and Competition:** Competition between the United States, China, Russia and other major powers has a significant impact on Africa's geopolitical position. African countries must make strategic decisions to manage external influence and protect their own interests.

These authors and their positions help us understand Africa's growing geopolitical role and the challenges and opportunities facing the continent.

8

Current geopolitical situation and collisions in Latin America countries

I.

Please present general findings on the current geopolitical situation and internal conflicts in Latin America countries.

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Latin America geopolitical situation and internal conflicts present a complex and varied picture, as countries in the region face different political, economic and social challenges. Below is a summary of the general findings of the region:

Political situation

1. **Political polarization:** There are sharp political divisions in many countries, especially between left- and right-wing political forces. This polarization often leads to political instability and social tensions.
2. **Populism:** Populist leaders, who often promise radical change and the fight against corruption, are becoming increasingly popular. Such leaders can be found both on the left and on the right.
3. **Democratic challenges:** Several countries are weakening democratic institutions, including the erosion of judicial independence and restrictions on press freedom.

Economic situation

1. **Economic inequalities:** Latin America is one of the regions with the greatest economic inequalities in the world. The differences between low-income strata and wealthy elites are significant.
2. **Economic crises:** Economic difficulties are experienced in many countries, such as Argentina and Venezuela. These are often associated with high inflation, unemployment and debt problems.
3. **Corruption:** Corruption remains a serious problem in the region, undermining economic development and public trust.

Social and security situation

1. **Violence and crime:** Crime rates are high, especially in Central America and Mexico, where drug cartels and organized crime pose a significant threat.

2. **Migration:** Economic and security problems are causing significant migration, especially from Central America to the United States. This often leads to humanitarian crises.
3. **Social movements:** In recent years, social movements have emerged in many countries advocating for issues such as inequality, human rights and environmental protection.

Geopolitical factors

1. **Regional cooperation:** Regional organisations such as ALBA, Mercosur and CELAC have tried to promote economic and political cooperation with varying degrees of success.
2. **Great Power Influence:** The United States has traditionally had significant influence in the region, but in recent years China has also become increasingly involved through economic investment and trade.
3. **Neighbouring conflicts:** Although there are few international conflicts in the traditional sense in the region, internal political and social tensions often transcend borders, which can lead to regional destabilisation.

Overall, Latin America's geopolitical situation and internal collisions are highly complex and diverse, reflecting the region's historical heritage, economic challenges and political dynamics.

II.

Which major Latin American states have major geopolitical ambitions and do they conflict with each other?

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Several major countries in Latin America have significant geopolitical ambitions. Among them, Brazil, Mexico and Argentina stand out, which seek to increase their influence both in their own region and globally. These ambitions often reflect different goals and strategies, but there are also cases where they clash.

Brazil

Geopolitical ambitions:

1. **Regional leadership:** Brazil aims to be a leader in South America, in particular Mercosur and UNASUR.
2. **Global influence:** Brazil seeks to increase its global influence, for example by becoming a permanent member of the UN Security Council and actively participating in the BRICS group (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa).

Possible conflicts:

- Brazil's aspiration to regional leadership can sometimes come into conflict with other South American countries trying to protect their own interests and spheres of influence.

Mexico

Geopolitical ambitions:

1. **Regional influence:** Mexico intends to play a central role in Central America and North America, particularly through economic and political relations with the United States.
2. **Global engagement:** Mexico plays an active role in global for a such as the UN and the G20 and is a major player in global climate policy.

Possible conflicts:

- Mexico relationship between United States and can sometimes become strained, especially on immigration and trade issues.
- In Central America, Mexico's influence may compete with local power interests there.

Argentina

Geopolitical ambitions:

1. **Regional engagement:** Argentina, as one of Mercosur's founding members and leading countries, seeks to influence South American integration and economic cooperation.
2. **Antarctic policy:** Argentina has significant interests in the Antarctic region and is actively involved in the Antarctic Treaty System.

Possible conflicts:

- Competition with Brazil for regional leadership, although relations between the two countries are generally cooperative in nature.
- Tensions with the UK over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

Conflicts and Collaboration

- **Regional organisations:** Mercosur, UNASUR and other regional organisations involve cooperation and rivalry between Brazil, Argentina and other countries.
- **Foreign policy goals:** Brazil and Mexico's global ambitions often pursue different goals, but both countries are actively involved in international organizations and forums, which can sometimes lead to rivalry.
- **Economic and trade issues:** There may also be conflicts of interest in regional economic integration and trade agreements, particularly between Brazil and Argentina in the Mercosur context.

Overall, while there are tensions stemming from geopolitical ambitions between Latin America major states, these often take the form of competitive cooperation, with each country seeking to maximise its own influence and interests in the region and globally.

III.

Are these ambitions linked to the preference of an external superpower that complicates Latin America's internal geopolitical tensions?

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Latin America's geopolitical situation and internal tensions are significantly influenced by the relations of the countries of the region with external superpowers such as the United States, China and Russia. These ambitions and external relations sometimes further complicate the internal geopolitical situation.

United States

The United States has traditionally had considerable influence in Latin America. In many countries, however, close ties with the US are the subject of political debate.

Examples:

1. **Mexico:** The U.S. and Mexico have close economic and political ties, particularly through the USMCA (formerly NAFTA). However, immigration policy and trade issues sometimes cause tension.
2. **Colombia:** There is close military and security cooperation with the US, particularly in the fight against drugs. This sometimes provokes criticism from other Latin American countries, who see US intervention as too dominant.

China

China has built up an increasing economic presence in Latin America in recent years, particularly in infrastructure development, raw materials and trade.

Examples:

1. **Brazil:** China is Brazil largest trading partner, especially in the export of agricultural products and raw materials. This relationship is of strategic importance to Brazil, but it can also cause tensions in relations with the US.
2. **Argentina:** Argentina also attracts significant Chinese investment, especially in energy and infrastructure. Global competition between the US and China sometimes generates internal political disputes in Argentina.

Russia

Russia is also trying to increase its influence in Latin America, albeit to a lesser extent than China or the US.

Examples:

1. **Venezuela:** Russia is a major supporter of the Venezuelan government, particularly in the field of economic and military cooperation. This relationship stands in stark contrast to US sanctions against Venezuela and exacerbates regional tensions.
2. **Nicaragua:** One of the main supporters of Russia Nicaragua, especially in the military and security fields, which also increases internal and regional tensions.

Regional tensions and external influence

- **Geopolitical buffers:** The presence and influence of the US, China and Russia in Latin America often leads to competing geopolitical strategies, which can cause tensions between countries.
- **Political polarization:** In some countries, relations with external powers can lead to political divisions. For example, left-wing governments are often closer to Russia and China, while right-wing governments tend to seek close ties with the US.
- **Economic dependence:** External investment and trade relations increase the economic dependence of some countries on external superpowers, which can influence their internal political decisions and strategic direction.

Overall, relations with external superpowers significantly influence Latin America's geopolitical situation and internal tensions. These ambitions and relationships create complex political and economic dynamics that further intensify the challenges facing the region.

IV.

Latin America internal geopolitical dilemmas and conflicts of individual countries go hand in hand with greater armaments in this region, and so are there rivalries in this area?

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Indeed, the internal geopolitical dilemmas and collisions of individual countries in Latin America may go hand in hand with greater armaments and increased military spending. These processes are linked not only to internal security issues, but also to regional rivalries and the influence of external powers.

Armament trends in Latin America

1. **Brazil:** Brazil has the largest and strongest military force in the region. The country spends significant amounts on modernizing the army, including the development of the Air Force and Navy. Brazil nuclear submarine program and defense industry also play a prominent role.
2. **Colombia:** Colombia's armaments are very much linked to internal conflicts, especially the fight against drug cartels and the FARC. The United States provides significant military support to Colombia in this area.
3. **Venezuela:** Venezuela is pursuing a major arms program, partly because of its strained relations with the US. Russia and China support the country with significant arms deliveries.
4. **Mexico:** Mexico's military spending is mainly focused on fighting drug cartels, but the country's army and police forces are also undergoing significant developments.

Regional rivalries and tensions

- **Brazil vs. Argentina:** Although there is currently no direct military conflict between the two countries, competition for regional leadership sometimes causes tension. Both countries make significant defence expenditures and monitor each other's military developments.
- **Venezuela vs. Colombia:** Tense relations and border disputes between the two countries have sometimes led to military incidents. The increase in political and military

tensions between Colombia and Venezuela contributes to the destabilisation of the region.

- **Domestic political tensions:** In many countries, governments often increase military spending and armaments to suppress domestic political conflicts, such as demonstrations and riots.

The role of external powers

- **US:** The United States supports several Latin American countries with military aid and arms shipments. U.S. influence is particularly significant in Colombia, Mexico, and Central America.
- **China and Russia:** China and Russia are playing an increasing role in the region, especially in Venezuela and other countries with left-wing governments. These great powers support their partners with modern weapons systems and military advice.

Arms race and regional stability

The arms race and the increase in military spending in Latin America pose a number of problems:

- **Economic burden:** Significant military spending can divert resources from economic and social development.
- **Political instability:** An arms race can further increase political instability and regional tensions.
- **Security dilemmas:** Countries may increase their own military spending in response to each other's armaments, leading to a security dilemma.

Summary

Latin America's internal geopolitical dilemmas and collisions often go hand in hand with increased armaments and military spending. This process is linked not only to internal security issues, but also to regional rivalries and the influence of external major powers. The result is a complex and often unstable geopolitical situation that further exacerbates the challenges in the region.

V.

What geopolitical theories have emerged about Latin America's position in intellectual circles here, and what impact do they have on the political objectives of individual states here?

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Several geopolitical theories and trends have developed in Latin America that reflect the specific historical, political and economic situation in the region. These theories have a significant impact not only in scientific and intellectual discourse, but also in political decision-making.

Key geopolitical theories

1. **Liberation Theology (Felszabadítási Teológia)**

- **Essentials:** A theory developed in the 1960s that emphasizes the Catholic Church's commitment to social justice and focuses on the fight against poverty, oppression, and injustice.
- **Impact:** Many leftist movements and political parties, especially in Central America and South America, have adopted and integrated the principles of liberation theology into their political programs. Examples: Nicaragua Sandinista Revolutionary Front (FSLN), Salvador Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN).

2. **Dependency Theory**

- **Essence:** It developed in the 1950s and 1960s, mainly through the work of Latin American economists and sociologists such as Raúl Prebisch and Fernando Henrique Cardoso. According to the theory, the economic development of developing countries is hampered due to unequal economic relations with developed countries.
- **Impact:** The theory has strongly influenced economic policy in Latin America, particularly in the development of import substitution industrialization strategies and the pursuit of national economic independence. Examples: Economic policies of Brazil, Argentina and Mexico in the second half of the 20th century.

3. **Bolivarianism**

- **Essence:** A political trend based on the ideals of Simón Bolívar, which emphasizes Latin American unity, sovereignty and the struggle against imperialism. Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez has revived and popularized this ideology in the 21st century.
- **Impact:** Venezuela and other left-wing governments have adopted the ideas of Bolivarianismo, which have been central to regional integration efforts and political rhetoric against the US. Examples: ALBA (Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America).

4. **Neoliberalismo (Neoliberalizmus)**

- **Essence:** Economic and political theory, popular in the late 20th century, arguing for free markets, privatization, and minimizing government involvement.
- **Impact:** Based on the principles of the Washington Consensus, many Latin American countries, such as Chile, Mexico and Argentina, have implemented major economic reforms along neoliberal lines. These reforms are often controversial and have provoked considerable political opposition.

5. **21st Century Socialism**

- **Its essence is** a theory popularized by Hugo Chávez and other left-wing leaders, which offers a modern version of socialism, emphasizing state control, social justice and community participation.
- **Impact:** The theory became dominant in Venezuela, Bolivia, and Ecuador, where governments introduced major nationalizations and social programs.

Impact on States' policy objectives

- **Economic policies:** Shifts between dependency theory and neoliberal theories have significantly influenced the direction of economic policies, from nationalization and protectionism to liberalisation and privatisation.
- **Regional integration:** Bolivarianismo and the ideals of 21st century socialism have promoted regional integration efforts such as ALBA and UNASUR.

- **Social Justice:** Liberation theology and the ideals of 21st-century socialism have led to the introduction of major social programs and reforms, especially to reduce poverty and inequalities.
- **External relations:** The direction of relations with the US is often influenced by various geopolitical theories. Left-wing tendencies are often critical of the US, while neoliberal policies are more cooperative.

Overall, these geopolitical theories and trends are deeply embedded in Latin America's political culture and decision-making processes, shaping each country's domestic and foreign policy, economic strategies and regional cooperation efforts.

VI.

In Brazil, as the largest country here, what Latin American intellectual influences have shaped geopolitical aspirations in recent years?

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Brazil's geopolitical aspirations have been shaped considerably in recent years along the lines of Latin American intellectual influences and theories. The country's political directions and foreign policy objectives are influenced by a number of ideas and trends that are deeply rooted in the historical, economic and social characteristics of the region.

1. Dependency Theory

The theory of dependency continues to have a significant influence on Brazil's economic policies and international strategies. This theory emphasizes the disadvantages of unequal economic relations and sets the goal of striving for greater economic autonomy Brazil.

- **Import Substitution Industrialization:** Although it peaked in the second half of the 20th century, the influence of dependency theory is still felt in economic policy, especially in promoting domestic industry and technological development.
- **Diversified foreign trade:** Brazil actively seeks to diversify its trading partners, thereby reducing its dependence on traditional major powers such as the United States and the European Union.

2. Bolivarianism

Although Bolivarianismo is distinctly specific to Hugo Chavez and Venezuelan politics, Brazil geopolitical aspirations have also been shaped in part by this idea.

- **Regional leadership:** Brazil actively participates in regional integration efforts, such as Mercosur and UNASUR, with the aim of strengthening South American cooperation and promoting regional stability.
- **South-South cooperation:** Brazil places great emphasis on cooperation between developing countries, which is one of the basic principles of Bolivarianismo. As part of this, Brazil is actively involved in strengthening relations with developing countries in Africa and Asia.

3. 21. századi szocializmus (Socialism of the 21st Century)

Although Brazil's political system and economic direction differ from classical 21st-century socialism, certain elements of this trend have influenced the policies of left-wing governments, especially during the presidencies of Lula da Silva and Dilma Rousseff.

- **Social programs:** Social justice and poverty reduction programs, such as the Bolsa Família, aimed at poverty alleviation, have been partly influenced by these principles.
- **State involvement:** Increasing state involvement in the economy and social sphere reflects the effects of 21st century socialism.

4. Neoliberalismo (Neoliberalizmus)

The effects of neoliberal economic policies can also be seen in Brazil's geopolitical aspirations, especially under right-wing governments such as those of Jair Bolsonaro.

- **Privatisation and deregulation:** The privatisation of state-owned enterprises and the reduction of economic regulations were carried out along neoliberal principles.
- **Attracting foreign investment:** Neoliberal policies aim to increase Brazil attractiveness to foreign investors, which often goes hand in hand with economic opening and the removal of regulatory barriers.

5. Dependency Theory and Global South

Brazil's geopolitical ambitions focus heavily on bringing countries of the Global South together and working together.

- **BRICS:** Brazil active participant in the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) group for economic and political cooperation between developing countries.
- **South-South cooperation:** Brazil launches development aid programs and technical cooperation with African and Latin American countries, thus promoting South-South cooperation.

Summation

Brazil's geopolitical aspirations in recent years have been closely linked to Latin American intellectual trends and theories. These trends have a significant impact on the country's foreign policy, economic strategies and internal policy objectives. The result is a geopolitical strategy that balances policies promoting regional leadership, global southern cooperation and economic development.

During the Bolsonaro presidency, were there signs of a geopolitical turnaround?

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Under President Jair Bolsonaro, Brazil geopolitical direction has indeed seen certain twists and turns. These changes were mainly in the areas of foreign policy relations, economic direction

and international cooperation. Here is a summary of the most important geopolitical changes during Bolsonaro's presidency:

1. Strengthening relations with the United States

- **Closer cooperation:** During Bolsonaro's administration, Brazil significantly strengthened ties with the United States, especially during Donald Trump's presidency. This closer cooperation extended to the economic, military and diplomatic fields.
- **Ideological similarities:** Bolsonaro and Trump shared similar political views on a number of issues, including economic liberalization, migration policy, and skepticism about international organizations.

2. Economic liberalisation and privatisation

- **Neoliberal economic policy:** Bolsonaro's government pursued neoliberal economic policies that included privatisation, deregulation and encouraging foreign investment.
- **Paulo Guedes' influence:** The Minister of Economy, Paulo Guedes, who follows the principles of economics of the Chicago School, had a significant influence on the introduction of economic reforms and neoliberal policies.

3. Environmental policy and international criticism

- **Amazon deforestation:** Under Bolsonaro, Amazon deforestation has increased, drawing considerable international criticism. Many countries and international organisations have expressed concern about environmental policy.
- **Sovereignty arguments:** Bolsonaro has often asserted his sovereignty over Brazil Amazon and opposed international interventions in environmental policies.

4. Relations with international organisations

- **WHO and UN:** Bolsonaro's government has often criticized the International Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations, especially over their handling of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Multilateral for a:** Although Brazil continued to participate in international organizations, Bolsonaro's government has sometimes taken a more skeptical and critical stance towards these forums.

5. Relations with China and other BRICS countries

- **China:** Bolsonaro was initially critical of China, but economic realities and Brazil's significant exports of agricultural goods eventually led him to take a more pragmatic stance. China remained Brazil its largest trading partner.
- **BRICS:** Brazil continued to be active in the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa), although under Bolsonaro the emphasis was more on bilateral relations.

6. Regional engagement and integration

- **Mercosur:** Under Bolsonaro's government, Brazil supported Mercosur's economic integration and free trade agreements, although internal political disputes and environmental criticism have at times complicated negotiations.
- **Venezuela:** Bolsonaro's government has sharply criticized Venezuela's Nicolás Maduro government and supported opposition leader Juan Guaidó. This relationship further increased tensions between Brazil and Venezuela.

Summation

During Bolsonaro's presidency, Brazil's geopolitical stance has undergone several significant changes. Closer ties with the United States, economic liberalization and privatisation, environmental policies and international criticism, and relations with international organisations have all contributed to the geopolitical situation of Brazil taking new directions. These changes have at times resulted in internal and external tensions, but they have also offered Brazil new opportunities on the international stage.

VII.

Can we expect a radical increase in China's influence in Latin America in the future, and as a result, Latin America stronger internal fragmentation in terms of geopolitical integration?

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China's influence in Latin America has grown steadily in recent years and is expected to continue to grow in the future. This growing influence is due to a number of factors, including economic investment, trade relations, and diplomatic activity. Below I detail the possible effects of this trend and how it may affect Latin America's internal geopolitical fragmentation.

China's growing influence in Latin America

1. Economic relations and investment

- **Infrastructure development:** China is investing heavily in Latin America, particularly in infrastructure development. Examples are the construction of railway lines, ports and highways.
- **Trade relations:** China has become the largest trading partner of many countries in the region, especially in the import of raw materials such as soybeans, copper and iron ore.
- **Lending and financial assistance:** China provides significant loans and financial assistance to Latin American countries, often on advantageous terms.

2. Diplomatic activity and soft power

- **Confucius Institutes:** China has established several Confucius Institutes in Latin America dedicated to spreading Chinese language and culture.
- **Diplomatic relations:** China is actively building diplomatic relations with countries in the region, especially to counteract the influence of the United States.

Effects on Latin America internal geopolitical fragmentation

1. Economic dependence and asymmetries

- **Trade balance:** The increase in Chinese investment and trade relations can cause economic dependence, especially in countries that rely heavily on Chinese demand. This economic dependence can generate internal tensions, especially if the trade balance shifts significantly.
 - **Economic asymmetries:** Countries that are less able to take advantage of Chinese investments may be at an economic disadvantage, which could further increase economic disparities within the region.
2. **Political and diplomatic tensions**
 - **Ideological differences:** The rise of Chinese influence could cause tensions in countries that are more politically aligned with the United States or other Western powers. This situation may be particularly true of the political divisions between right-wing and left-wing governments.
 - **Regional organisations:** China's growing influence could affect the functioning and cohesion of regional organisations such as Mercosur, UNASUR and ALBA. Countries with closer ties with China may have different priorities, which may make it difficult to reach a common position.
 3. **Strategic and military impact**
 - **Security cooperation:** Although China's current military presence in Latin America is limited, an increase in future security cooperation and arms purchases could create new tensions, especially in the context of global competition between the United States and China.

Summation

China's growing influence in Latin America could have a significant impact on the geopolitical dynamics of the region. While economic growth and infrastructure development can bring benefits, increasing economic dependence and political tensions can increase the internal fragmentation of the region. Future geopolitical directions will largely depend on how countries deal with China's influence and shape their foreign policy in a changing international environment.

VIII.

How would the re-election of Trump as president and the implementation of an isolationist US foreign policy around the world as a whole affect relations between Latin America and the US so far? Have there been analyses of this question so far?

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The re-election of Trump as president and the implementation of an isolationist US foreign policy could have a significant impact on relations between Latin America and United States. There have already been signs of this approach under the previous Trump administration, and there have been several analyses of how these policies might affect the region. Below I summarize what effects can be expected and what analyses have been carried out so far on this topic.

Effects on relations between Latin America and the US

1. Trade relations

- **Protectionism:** Under Trump's administration, protectionist measures came to the fore, such as the renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the conclusion of a new USMCA agreement. In the event of an isolationist policy, these measures could be further strengthened, which could cause tensions in trade relations, particularly with Mexico and Canada.
 - **Trade wars:** An isolationist approach can increase the chances of trade wars, which could have a negative impact on Latin America economies, especially countries that are heavily dependent on trade with the US.
2. **Migration policy**
 - **Migration restrictions:** Trump pursued strict migration policies during his previous presidency, including strengthening border security and tightening immigration rules. Under another Presidency, these policies could become stricter further, causing a humanitarian crisis and political tensions with Central American countries such as Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.
 3. **Security cooperation**
 - **Reduced military presence:** A major element of isolationism is the reduction of foreign military presence. This could reduce U.S. military and security support in the region, especially in countries like Colombia, which has received significant support from the U.S. in its fight against drug cartels.
 - **Anti-narcotic measures:** U.S. involvement in the fight against drugs may also decrease, which could increase the spread of drug trafficking and violence in the region.
 4. **China's growing influence**
 - **Geopolitical vacuum:** US withdrawal could increase China's influence in Latin America. China is actively seeking new economic and diplomatic partners, and the reduced presence of the US could provide an opportunity for China to increase its influence in the region.

Analysis and findings

There have been many analyses of the effects of Trump's previous presidency and isolationist policies on Latin America. Some key findings include:

1. **Council on Foreign Relations (CFR):** A 2019 report showed that Trump administration's policies have increased tensions with Mexico and other Central American countries, particularly on migration and trade. According to the report, the US withdrawal could provide an opportunity for other major powers, especially China, to increase their influence in the region.
2. **Brookings Institution:** A 2020 analysis emphasized that isolationist policies could have a negative impact on U.S. security cooperation with Latin American partners. Reduced military and economic support could have a destabilising effect on the region, particularly in the fight against drugs.
3. **Inter-American Dialogue:** A 2021 report pointed out that Trump administration's policies have increased economic and political uncertainty in Latin America. According to the analysis, a continued isolationist policy could deepen the region's economic and social problems, while China's growing influence could pose challenges for the US.

Summation

The re-election of Trump as president and the implementation of an isolationist foreign policy would have a significant impact on relations between Latin America and the United States. The tightening of trade relations, the tightening of migration policy, the reduction of security cooperation and China's growing influence can all contribute to the transformation of the geopolitical dynamics of the region. According to analyses so far, these changes could increase internal tensions and instability in Latin America, while creating new challenges for the US in the region.