

QUAD

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QUAD Latest News

Senior defence officers from Quad nations have expressed concerns over China's growing assertiveness in the Indo-Pacific during a panel on "Deepwater Perils: Securing Trade".

What is the Quad?

- **Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD)** is a **strategic forum** involving **India, the US, Japan, and Australia**, focusing on maritime security and economic cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.
- **Not a military alliance** but a **diplomatic partnership** aimed at maintaining a free, open, and rules-based Indo-Pacific.
- Quad operates through **annual summits, foreign ministers' meetings**, and **six working groups** covering: Health, Climate, Critical & Emerging Technology, Space, Infrastructure and Cybersecurity.

Evolution of the QUAD

- **2007:** Japan's **Shinzo Abe** proposed the Quad during an informal **ASEAN meeting**.
- **2012:** The Concept of the '**Democratic Security Diamond**' (India, US, Japan, Australia) was introduced.
- **2017:** Quad **revitalised** due to China's growing influence; first **formal meeting** held in Manila.
- **2020:** **Malabar naval exercises** expanded to include Australia, marking the first **joint military exercise** of Quad.
- **2021:** Quad **leaders met virtually** and released the joint statement "**The Spirit of the Quad**".

Functioning of the QUAD

- **Not a formal alliance** like NATO, but a **strategic grouping**.
- **Engagement through** summits, meetings, intelligence sharing, and military drills.
- **Key Summits:**
 - **March 2021:** First virtual meeting.
 - **September 2021:** First **in-person** Quad Summit.
 - **Ongoing meetings** to enhance security and economic cooperation.

What is the Indo-Pacific Region?

- The **Indo-Pacific** refers to the interconnected waters of the **Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean**, a region of **strategic, economic, and geopolitical** significance.
- It serves as a **major trade route**, facilitating **60% of global maritime trade**.

QUAD FAQs

Q1. What is the QUAD?

Ans. The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) is a strategic partnership between India, the United States, Japan, and Australia, focusing on regional security, economic cooperation, and a free and open Indo-Pacific.

Q2. When was the QUAD formed?

Ans. The QUAD was first conceptualized in 2007 but became more active in 2017 due to rising geopolitical challenges in the Indo-Pacific region.

Q3. Is QUAD a military alliance?

Ans. No, QUAD is not a formal military alliance like NATO. It is a strategic grouping focused on economic and security cooperation. However, QUAD members conduct joint military exercises like the Malabar Exercise.

Source: IE

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