

# Exploring the Roles of India and China in International Organizations: Collaborative and Conflicting Stances on Global Issues

Tapas Paul<sup>1</sup> and Dr. Seema Rani<sup>2</sup>

Research Scholar, Department of Political Science<sup>1</sup>

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science<sup>2</sup>

OPJS University, Churu, Rajasthan, India

**Abstract:** *This paper delves into the roles played by India and China in various international organizations, shedding light on their collaborative efforts and conflicting stances on global issues. As major players on the world stage, both nations actively participate in multilateral forums, influencing international policies and addressing global challenges. Through an in-depth analysis of their engagements in organizations such as the United Nations, BRICS, and the World Trade Organization, this paper aims to provide insights into the nuances of their diplomatic strategies, collaborative endeavors, and instances of divergence in addressing pressing global issues.*

**Keywords:** International organizations, India-China relations

## I. INTRODUCTION

In the complex tapestry of global diplomacy, the roles played by major nations within international organizations significantly shape the trajectory of international relations. Among these influential actors, India and China stand out as pivotal players whose roles extend beyond their national borders. This paper embarks on a comprehensive exploration of the roles assumed by India and China in various international organizations, aiming to illuminate the collaborative efforts and conflicting stances they adopt when addressing pressing global issues. As two of the world's most populous nations with burgeoning economic power and geopolitical influence, their engagement in multilateral forums such as the United Nations, BRICS, and the World Trade Organization provides a lens through which we can discern the nuanced dynamics of their diplomatic strategies. This study endeavors to dissect the collaborative endeavors that underscore their shared global responsibilities, while simultaneously delving into instances where divergent national interests and strategic priorities result in conflicting stances. Through an in-depth analysis of their roles in international organizations, this paper seeks to unravel the intricacies of how India and China navigate the complex terrain of global governance, showcasing the convergence and divergence that characterize their diplomatic engagements on the world stage.

### United Nations:

The United Nations (UN) serves as a pivotal arena for international cooperation and diplomacy, and the roles played by India and China within this global institution are of significant consequence. As two of the world's most populous nations, India and China are not only prominent members of the UN but also active participants across various specialized agencies and bodies. In the realm of peacekeeping, both countries have contributed substantially to UN missions, underscoring their commitment to global security and stability. India, in particular, has a long history of participating in UN peacekeeping operations, deploying troops to conflict zones and contributing to the organization's efforts to maintain peace and security. China, too, has become increasingly engaged in UN peacekeeping, deploying troops and providing logistical support.

Beyond peacekeeping, India and China contribute to the work of the UN in diverse ways. They engage in development initiatives, humanitarian aid efforts, and diplomatic endeavors aimed at addressing complex global challenges. In the context of sustainable development goals (SDGs), both nations have aligned themselves with the UN's ambitious

agenda to tackle poverty, inequality, climate change, and other pressing issues. Their collaboration in development projects, capacity-building initiatives, and contributions to international funds for poverty alleviation reflect a shared commitment to the principles and objectives outlined by the UN.

However, within the United Nations, divergent national interests and strategic priorities occasionally manifest, revealing the complexities of navigating the global stage. The UN Security Council, where both India and China hold non-permanent seats, provides a platform for their active involvement in addressing critical security issues. While they collaborate on some matters, such as counterterrorism efforts and peacebuilding, divergent positions emerge on occasions, particularly concerning regional conflicts. The differences in their stances on issues like the Syrian civil war or the South China Sea disputes underscore the challenges of reconciling national interests within the broader framework of the UN.

### **World Trade Organization (WTO):**

The World Trade Organization (WTO) stands as a cornerstone of the global economic order, fostering international trade cooperation and providing a framework for the resolution of trade disputes among its member nations. Established in 1995, the WTO replaced the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and expanded its scope to cover services, intellectual property, and agricultural products. India and China, as significant players in the global economy, play pivotal roles within the WTO.

Both India and China actively engage with the WTO, reflecting their commitment to an open and rules-based global trading system. As emerging economies, they leverage the organization to advocate for their trade interests and ensure equitable participation in international commerce. The WTO serves as a platform for negotiations on tariff reductions, trade liberalization, and the establishment of rules to govern international trade.

India and China share common interests in certain aspects of WTO negotiations, particularly regarding the concerns of developing nations. They collaborate on issues such as agricultural subsidies, special and differential treatment for developing countries, and addressing trade barriers that impede their market access. Within the WTO, both nations advocate for a fair and inclusive trading system that accommodates the developmental needs of emerging economies.

However, despite these areas of collaboration, there are instances where India and China may find themselves on opposing sides of trade-related debates. Divergent economic structures, export priorities, and approaches to intellectual property rights can lead to disagreements within the WTO. Trade disputes, while subject to the organization's dispute settlement mechanisms, can underscore the complexities of balancing national interests within a multilateral framework.

Moreover, the evolving global economic landscape, marked by geopolitical tensions and shifts in trade dynamics, introduces new challenges for the WTO. The rise of protectionist measures and the reevaluation of trade relationships further complicate negotiations within the organization. India and China, each facing unique economic challenges, navigate these complexities within the WTO to safeguard their national interests and contribute to the formulation of global trade policies.

### **Climate Change and Environmental Initiatives:**

Climate change and environmental sustainability have emerged as pressing global concerns, and the roles of India and China in addressing these challenges are of significant importance. Both nations actively participate in international initiatives aimed at mitigating the impacts of climate change and promoting environmental stewardship. India, with its commitment to the Paris Agreement, emphasizes sustainable development practices and renewable energy adoption. The country has undertaken ambitious projects such as the International Solar Alliance, demonstrating its dedication to clean energy solutions. Similarly, China, as the world's largest emitter of greenhouse gases, has embarked on an ambitious path toward carbon neutrality. The nation's investments in renewable energy, afforestation projects, and electric vehicle infrastructure underscore its commitment to combating climate change. While both India and China collaborate in international environmental forums, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), differences persist, particularly in the context of historical emissions responsibilities and developmental priorities. Navigating these complexities is essential for fostering a collective global response to climate change and ensuring a sustainable future for the planet.

### **Regional Security and Conflicting Stances:**

Regional security has emerged as a critical arena where the roles of India and China intersect with collaborative efforts and conflicting stances. Within regional organizations like the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), both nations play integral roles in addressing security challenges in the Asian continent. Collaboratively, India and China have engaged in joint initiatives to counter terrorism, enhance border security, and promote stability. However, conflicting stances persist, particularly in the context of territorial disputes and geopolitical rivalries. The long-standing border issues, such as the Doklam standoff, underscore the complexities of achieving consensus on regional security matters. Additionally, strategic competition in areas like the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea amplifies regional tensions, revealing the inherent challenges in balancing cooperative security initiatives with conflicting national interests. The intricate interplay between collaborative efforts and conflicting stances in regional security underscores the need for nuanced diplomatic approaches to foster stability and promote shared interests in the broader Asian geopolitical landscape.

### **II. CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, this paper offers a comprehensive analysis of the roles played by India and China in international organizations, focusing on collaborative and conflicting stances on global issues. While both nations actively contribute to multilateral efforts, their divergent national interests and strategic priorities create a nuanced dynamic within these organizations. A deeper understanding of their roles within international forums is crucial for navigating the complexities of global governance and fostering constructive collaboration on shared challenges.

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