

QUAD – INTERNATIONAL REALTIONS

News: Leaders of the Quad group of countries met at their sixth summit-level meeting at Archmere Academy, Delaware, to announce a broad range of outcomes.

What's in the news?

Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD)

- It is an **informal multilateral grouping** of **India**, the U.S., Australia, and Japan aimed at cooperation for a free and open Indo-Pacific region.
- Origin: The Quad began as a loose partnership after the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami when the four countries joined together to provide humanitarian and disaster assistance to the affected region.
 - It was formalized by former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007, but then fell dormant.
- After a decade it was resurrected in 2017, reflecting changing attitudes in the region toward China's growing influence

Key Initiatives of QUAD 2024

- **Quad Cancer Moonshot**, a groundbreaking partnership to save lives in the Indo-Pacific region.
 - Under this, India will provide \$7.5 million worth of HPV sampling kits, detection kits and cervical cancer vaccines to countries in the Indo-Pacific.
 - A commitment from the Serum Institute of India, in partnership with Gavi and the Quad, to support orders of up to 40 million HPV vaccine doses for the Indo-Pacific region.
- **Coast Guard Cooperation:** The First-ever **"Quad-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission"** in **2025** to improve interoperability and advance maritime safety between our Coast Guards across the Indo-Pacific.
- The Quad Indo-Pacific Logistics Network pilot project, in order to support civilian response to natural disasters more rapidly and efficiently across the Indo-Pacific region.
- The "Quad Ports of the Future Partnership" will harness the Quad's collective expertise to support sustainable and resilient port infrastructure development across the Indo-Pacific.
- The "Semiconductor Supply Chains Contingency Network Memorandum of Cooperation" to enhance Quad resilience in semiconductor supply chains.
- **Reform at the UN Security Council:** The Leaders recognised the urgent need to make it more representative, inclusive, and democratic through expansion in permanent and non-permanent categories of membership

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- Quad Principles for Development and Deployment of Digital Public Infrastructure were welcomed for the region and beyond.
- The Maritime Initiative for Training in the Indo-Pacific" (MAITRI) to enable regional partners to monitor and secure their waters, enforce their laws, and deter unlawful behavior.



• India will host the first MAITRI workshop in 2025.

The Strategic Significance of Quad

- Act East policy: India's participation in the Quad emphasizing deeper engagement with East Asian nations and strengthening maritime security cooperation.
- **Military cooperation:** It provides a platform for military cooperation, intelligence sharing, and joint exercises aimed at maintaining maritime security and ensuring the rule of law.
- **Counterbalancing China's Influence:** QUAD is crucial for India's interests in safeguarding its maritime trade routes and ensuring freedom of navigation in international waters.
- India has supported a **rule-based multipolar world** and QUAD can help it in achieving its ambition of becoming a regional superpower.

Important outcomes of 2023 QUAD summits

• Quad Health Security Partnership: It was announced in 2023 to strengthen coordination and collaboration in support of health security in the Indo-Pacific. Open Radio Access Network (RAN) and 5G: In 2023, Quad partners announced the first-ever Open RAN deployment in the Pacific, to support a secure, resilient, and interconnected telecommunications ecosystem.

The Quad Investors Network (QUIN) a nonprofit initiative launched at the 2023 Quad

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Leaders' Summit aims to accelerate investments in critical and emerging technologies across the Indo-Pacific region.

Source: <u>https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-global/quad-china-modi-biden-us-visit-9581744/</u>



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