



CUTS International *Global Affairs*

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Trump 2.0: Navigating Global Crises Amid a Multilateral Standoff

The re-election of Donald Trump to a second term as President of the United States marks a pivotal shift in both domestic and international landscapes. His administration is poised to implement radical policy changes that will reverberate globally. Multilateralism will be under siege.

International Impact

Internationally, Trump's policies are anticipated to disrupt established alliances and trade relationships. He has expressed intentions to reassess NATO's purpose, potentially withdrawing U.S. support for member countries that do not meet defence spending targets. In trade, Trump is expected to impose higher tariffs on imports, notably from China and also its North American neighbours: Canada and Mexico with whom he had entered into a new trade agreement in his earlier term. USA is also holding the WTO to ransom by not allowing its dispute settlement system to function. All this is reportedly aimed at reducing the U.S. trade and fiscal deficit and encourage domestic manufacturing. This protectionist approach could lead to trade wars and economic uncertainties, with spill over effects across the world economy.

Other global challenges can be seen on the radar, climate change. The G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro highlighted several pressing global challenges, including **Climate Change**. Leaders acknowledged the urgency of addressing climate change but struggled to reach a consensus on concrete actions and financing mechanisms. The summit's declaration emphasised the need for "strengthened multilateralism" in tackling climate issues.

The G20 Summit's outcomes directly influenced the subsequent COP29 climate talks in Baku, Azerbaijan. The G20's emphasis on multilateral cooperation set the stage for discussions on climate finance and emission reduction commitments at COP29. However, the lack of binding agreements at both summits underscored the challenges in achieving global consensus on climate action. The world is worried as to what would be Trump's reaction knowing that he never felt this to be a problem.

Conclusion

In sum, Trump's second term is set to reshape U.S. domestic policies and international relations, with significant unknown implications for a world which is already struggling. The G20 Summit and COP29 highlighted the urgency of addressing issues like climate change, biodiversity and economic inequality, yet the lack of decisive action reflects the challenges of multilateral cooperation in the current geopolitical climate. As multilateralism faces increasing pressures, the global community must navigate these complexities to effectively tackle shared challenges.

Pradeep S. Mehta
Editor

P.S.: Amid the gloom and doom, India continues to rise and the Prime Minister of India consolidates his power by a handsome victory in the State Elections in Maharashtra.

Message for our Readers

This is the eightieth edition of the Monthly Brief from the Centre, which carries select published news or comments on a relevant issue. There are equally important issues which may have been missed out to keep the Monthly Brief short and swiftly readable.

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India, Brazil and South Africa agree to use Digital public infra and AI to bridge the global inequality gap

Amid global economic growth stagnating at just over 3 percent-its lowest rate since the turn of the century-leaders from the G20 Troika, comprising India, Brazil, and South Africa, unveiled a visionary joint declaration on digital public infrastructure (DPI), artificial intelligence (AI), and data for governance.



- [China's premier defends free trade on the eve of the US presidential election](#) | Financial Times
- [AI and the Digital Economy Framework Agreement: Preparing ASEAN for the Next Tech Wave](#) | CIGI
- [Germany tells its ports to reject Russian gas cargoes](#) | Financial Times
- [Brazil's super-rich tax proposal may get stuck](#) | The Times of India

Strategic Issues

Chinese warships could use Peru's big new port, US general warns

A Chinese-built mega-port in Peru could be used by Beijing's navy, a top US general has said, highlighting the security risks to the US from "Belt and Road" projects in Latin America. Chinese President Xi Jinping is expected to inaugurate the US\$1.3bn Chancay port on the Pacific coast when he visits Peru for a summit in mid-November, amid growing concerns among US security officials that the facility's size, depth and strategic location make it suitable to host Chinese warships.



- [U.S. Backs Philippine Forces in South China Sea with Task Force](#) | US News
 - [US Space Force warns of 'mind-boggling' build-up of Chinese capabilities](#) | Financial Times
 - [Russia suspected of sending incendiary devices on US- and Canada-bound planes](#) | CNN
 - [Japanese troops will train with U.S., and Australian forces as concerns over China grow](#) | The Hindu
 - [PM Modi, Nigerian president pledges to fight terrorism and radicalisation](#) | The Times of India
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Energy and Climate



Indonesia, China ink \$10b in deals for high-tech, renewable energy

President Prabowo Subianto concluded his state visit to Beijing on Sunday by overseeing the signing of memorandums of understanding (MoUs) between Indonesian and Chinese companies worth a collective US\$10.07bn alongside his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping. (Paywall)



- [TotalEnergies chief warns Donald Trump against cutting climate rules](#) | Financial Times
- [Climate multilateralism clings on, just](#) | Financial Times
- [Our economic survival depends on unlocking green capital](#) | Financial Times
- [From confusion to fusion: Spending money to perfect the nuclear option is the best way to tackle climate change](#) | Economic Times

Geo-Politics

Israel will split the Western alliance

The war crimes indictment of Benjamin Netanyahu and Yoav Gallant is a disaster for Israel. It is also a big problem for the Western alliance. Israel is enjoying full bipartisan support in the United States as it tries to challenge International Criminal Court [ICC] charges against its prime minister and former defense minister. However, most governments in the EU, as well as those of Britain, Australia and Canada, are likely to comply with the lawsuit.



- [China Looks to Musk as Conduit to Trump, Seeking to Ward Off Harsh Policies](#) | WSJ
 - [Xi wanted to teach India about the imbalance of power. We should take a budgetary lesson from it](#) | The Print
 - [Remove the words 'secularism' & 'socialism' from Bangladesh Statute](#) | The Times of India
 - [Ab ki baar, a more friendly US sarkar?](#) | Khabar Standard
 - [Donald Trump is recruiting a team of China hawks. So why is Beijing relieved?](#) | WSJ
 - [Far-right gains traction in EU assembly](#) | Financial Times
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The Washington Consensus has collapsed and it won't be mourned

The US won the Cold War when the Soviet Union fell in 1991. The history of ideological conflict also ended, according to the American political scientist Francis Fukuyama. Electoral democracy had vanquished authoritarianism as the better way to govern a country, and free-market capitalism had defeated socialism as a better model for the economy. (paywall)



- [Chinese satellite company to challenge Elon Musk's Starlink in Brazil](#) | Financial Times
 - [5.6 lakh Indians migrated to rich OECD countries in 2022](#) | The Times of India
 - [OpenAI to present plans for U.S. AI strategy and an alliance to compete with China](#) | CNBC
 - [TSMC Stops Advanced Chip Shipments to Chinese Customer](#) | NY Times
 - [MAGA meltdown over Indians stealing jobs as racial abuse mounts](#) | The Times of India
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A new catalyst in the chemistry

When Prime Minister Narendra Modi proclaimed 'Ab ki baar, Trump Sarkar' at the Howdy Modi event in 2019, he foreshadowed a future where India and the US, under Trump's leadership, would drive forward a robust, dual-powered partnership. Now, with Trump's return to the White House, that prediction stands to usher in a new chapter in India-US relations.



- [Kemi Badenoch Becomes First Black Woman to Lead Britain's Conservative Party](#) | NY Times
 - [Germany government collapse: pressure mounts on Scholz to trigger election soon](#) | Reuters
 - [Business Failure Rates Soar to COVID Levels, Food and Beverage Worst Hit](#) | The Epoch Times
 - [Europe must double defense spending after Trump's election](#) | News Ukraine
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