

QPR - #28, 2025

Progress Report: January to March 2025

This Quarterly Progress Report (QPR) captures the progress of CUTS International Global Affairs, and provides an overview of activities (research and outreach) that have been undertaken. This Report covers the January-March, 2025 (Q28) period.

Your comments/inputs are welcome!

RESEARCH

- 1. **Monthly Brief**: Each month, the Center disseminates a monthly brief, which is a collation of global news stories and opinions with respect to its focus work areas: Trade, Strategic Issues, Energy and Climate, Geo-Politics and Geo-Economics, in the context of Indo-U.S. relations, Indo-Pacific and QUAD with an 'Editor's Note' on a trending and critical issue of the month. (https://bit.ly/32gl0sF)
- 2. **Occasional News Wrap:** A synopsis of news stories and opinions on specific yet trending issues of geo-economic, geo-political and geo-strategic importance has been introduced as ONW. (https://bit.ly/2Xld9oS)

During this quarter, five ONWs were prepared and disseminated.

- a) <u>G20 Foreign Ministers' Summit in Johannesburg: Navigating Global Challenges on African Soil</u>
- b) Enhancing Strategic Partnerships: PM Modi's Visits to France and the U.S.
- c) Trump's Second Act
- d) Margins to the Main Stage: The African Union's Journey to G20 Membership

- e) A New Dawn for Syria?
- 3. **Discussion Paper:** The below first paper delves into how MSMEs can drive innovation, enhance supply chain resilience, and contribute to regional security while also outlining key policy recommendations for strengthening this collaboration. The second paper analyses the indispensable role of CSOs in addressing climate change, maritime security, sustainable trade among others. It highlights how CSOs foster multilateral cooperation, drive social learning, and enhance regional resilience amid economic and political transformations.
 - Forging a Secure Indo-Pacific: The Strategic Imperative of Australia-India MSMEs Collaboration in Defence
 - The Essentialness of Civil Society Organisations in the Indo-Pacific Region
- 4. **E-Booklet:** This e-booklet is based on the event "The Future of G20 and Africa," organised by CUTS International in Delhi on December 17, 2024. The keynote address was delivered by Amb. Anil Sooklal, South African High Commissioner to India. The discussion featured Amb. Rajiv Bhatia, Distinguished Fellow in the Foreign Studies Programme, Gateway House, and Amb. Harsh Vardhan Shringla, former Foreign Secretary of India and Chief Coordinator for the G20 during India's presidency.
 - The Future of G20 and Africa

OUTREACH

- 1. **Website**: The Center's website is being regularly updated (https://cuts-global.org/index.htm)
- 2. **Email Forum**: 5317 Members and counting....
- 3. **Social Media:** 578 Followers on <u>Twitter</u>, 745 Followers on <u>LinkedIn</u> and 364 Likes on <u>Facebook Page</u>.
- 4. **CUTS Adda:** 171 subscribers. Interview conducted with Dr. Ashley Tellis, Senior Fellow, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace on "<u>Trump's Second Term: A Game Changer for U.S.-India Relations?</u>"
 - (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdRDpd4XauhweL_h0GSCLsg)

EVENTS

- 1. CUTS International Breakfast Roundtable Discussion March 19, 2025
- 2. Trump and the Indo-Pacific: *Are we going to peel onions with our naked eyes?* March 06, 2025
- 3. Roundtable Discussion on Australia-India Bilateral Trade, Investment, and Growth February 27, 2025

- 4. From Connectivity to Security: EU's Vision for the Indo-Pacific February 25, 2025
- 5. Trilateral Approaches to Indo-Pacific Stability January 16, 2025

IN MEDIA

1. Turn tariff threats into opportunities – Financial Express, March 27, 2025

MISCELLANEOUS

- 1. A list of **International Advisory Board** members can be accessed at (http://bit.ly/2CAJ25H)
- 2. A list of Management Board members can be accessed at (https://bit.ly/2MU2u2j)
- 3. The **past Quarterly Progress Reports** can be downloaded from this link (https://tinyurl.com/45e32xyd)