



ROUNDTABLE ON

ADVANCING THE QUAD FOR ECONOMIC AND SECURITY COOPERATION IN THE INDO-PACIFIC

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Background

The global strategic landscape is undergoing profound transformation, compelling multilateral and unilateral groupings to recalibrate their roles, priorities, and operational mechanisms. Among these, the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) has emerged as a key platform shaping the strategic and economic future of the Indo-Pacific. However, as geopolitical competition intensifies and economic vulnerabilities deepen, the Quad finds itself at a critical phase of transition, requiring renewed clarity of purpose and stronger institutional momentum.

Recent developments in the Indo-Pacific underscore the urgency of strengthening Quad cooperation. China's growing economic outreach, combined with its assertive behaviour in the South and East China Seas plus the Taiwan Strait, has intensified strategic competition. At the same time, the United States faces expanding global commitments, from Europe to West Asia, raising questions about the consistency of its strategic focus on the Indo-Pacific. These evolving dynamics highlight the need for like-minded partners to deepen cooperation across both economic resilience and security domains.

In this context, Quad initiatives such as cooperation on critical minerals, logistics interoperability, maritime security, and connectivity infrastructure are gaining increasing relevance. The growing recognition that economic security and traditional security are deeply intertwined has placed



supply chain resilience, technological cooperation, and maritime infrastructure at the centre of Quad engagement. The proposed Quad Ports of the Future Partnership and the Indo-Pacific logistics network exercises further indicate that the Quad is gradually evolving into a more operational and capability-driven platform.

India's expanding maritime role, its long coastline, and its broader Indo-Pacific vision offer opportunities to align national priorities with Quad objectives. At the same time, ensuring synergy among Quad members and sustaining policy coherence will remain essential for preventing strategic drift and maintaining credibility.

Against this backdrop, the Chintan Research Foundation (CRF) proposes to convene a high-level roundtable bringing together stakeholders from the diplomatic, academic, industry and the broader strategic community to deliberate on advancing the Quad's economic and security agenda. The roundtable aims to generate actionable recommendations and policy pathways to strengthen the Quad's effectiveness in responding to emerging Indo-Pacific challenges.

Objectives of the Roundtable

The CRF Roundtable aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. Assess the strategic trajectory of the Quad amid the evolving geopolitical dynamics of the Indo-Pacific.
2. Evaluate the impact of shifting US strategic priorities and China's regional engagements.
3. Discuss the ways and means to strengthen economic cooperation within the Quad and exploring pathways for mobilizing private sector participation and investment in Quad-led initiatives.
4. Deliberate on cooperation to enhance maritime security and interoperability among Quad members.

Expected Outcomes

The CRF Roundtable aims to produce a set of actionable recommendations to strengthen the Quad's economic resilience and security cooperation. The deliberations will contribute to advancing a more operational, coordinated, and outcome-driven Quad, capable of responding to evolving geopolitical realities and supporting a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific.

By convening diverse stakeholders, the roundtable will seek to bridge policy, strategic, and industry perspectives, while reinforcing the Quad's role as a stabilising and forward-looking framework for regional cooperation.

