

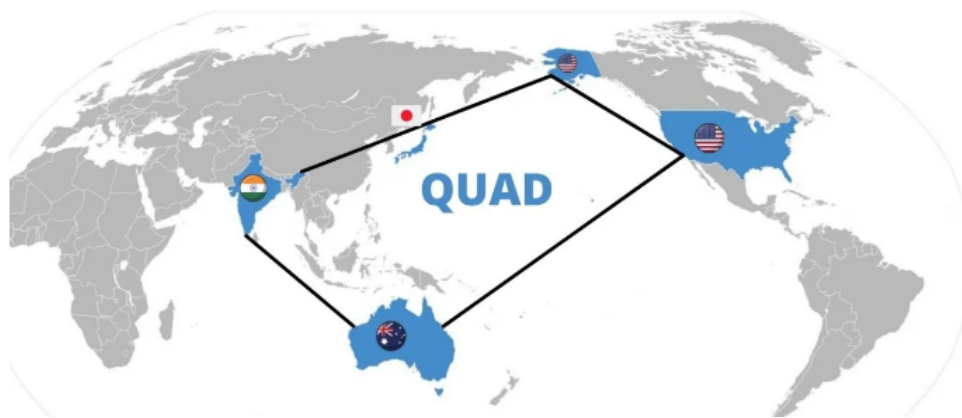
## QUAD Foreign Minister's Meet 2024

### Why in news

Recently, the Quad Foreign Ministers met in Tokyo to reaffirm their commitment to the international order and enhance stability and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific.

### What is QUAD?

- **QUAD-** Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, is an *informal strategic forum of security*.
- **Establishment-** It was established **in 2007**, which was first proposed by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.
- The group met for the first time in 2007 on the sidelines of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).
- **Objectives-** To keep *Indo-Pacific Sea routes free* from military or political influence and counter Chinese dominance.
- To promote a rules-based global order, freedom of navigation, and work for a free, open, prosperous and inclusive Indo-Pacific region.
- **Members-** USA, India, Australia, and Japan.



### What are key affirmations in the meeting?

- **UN Charter-** It reviewed progress from previous Quad meetings, reaffirming commitment to the UN Charter, *a free and open Indo-Pacific, and sustainable development goals*.
- **Women participation** - They affirmed the important role of women and girls in the *prevention and resolution of conflicts* and in peacebuilding.
- **Health Security** - As part of commitment under the **Quad Health Security Partnership**, the Quad efforts in 2024 include training for public health specialists

from Southeast Asia to build capability to respond to regional health emergencies.

- **Information environment** - They reaffirmed to protect the information environment by *supporting media freedom* as well as addressing foreign information manipulation and interference.
- **Emerging technologies**- It also focused on *critical and emerging* technologies (CET), and cyber security.
- They welcome the establishment of the ***Quad Cyber Ambassadors Meeting*** and intend to accelerate their capacity building projects such as
  - The conference on cyber capacity building in the Philippines
  - The forthcoming ***Quad Cyber Bootcamp in India***.
- **Space technologies** - They recognized the essential *contribution of space-related applications* and technologies in the Indo-Pacific.
- We call upon all States to contribute to the safe, peaceful, responsible, and *sustainable use of outer space*.
- **Climate crisis** - They recognized the urgent need to address the climate crisis and recall their commitment to the Quad Statement of Principles on *Clean Energy Supply Chains* in the Indo-Pacific, and the Clean Energy Supply Chains initiative.

*Under the Quad Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Package (Q-CHAMP), QUAD nations continue to work together with Indo-Pacific partners to enhance climate and clean energy cooperation as well as promote adaptation and resilience to climate impact.*

- **SDG** - They affirmed in their *commitment to the full implementation* of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in a comprehensive manner that is balanced across 3 dimensions - economic, social and environmental.
- **Gaza ceasefire** - They **welcomed UNSC Resolution S/RES/2735** (2024), and strongly urge all parties concerned to work immediately and steadily toward the release of all hostages and an immediate ceasefire.
- **Supporting ASEAN's role** - They reaffirmed their strong support for ASEAN leadership in seeking a resolution to the Myanmar crisis, including through the implementation of
  - The *Five-Point Consensus*
  - The constructive efforts of the ASEAN Chair and ASEAN Special Envoy to Myanmar
- **Humanitarian assistance** - It was identified as a critical area for collaboration, reaffirming the *importance of ASEAN centrality* in regional affairs.
- **Maritime conflicts**- It covered *East and South China Sea maritime conflicts* and planned a *Quad maritime legal dialogue*.
- **Connectivity** - They reaffirmed their commitment to improving the region's connectivity through the development of resilient infrastructure like ***Quad Partnership for Cable Connectivity and Resilience***, including the establishment of the
  - Cable Connectivity and Resilience Centre in Australia
  - Training of over 1,000 telecom officials and executives in the region under the

United States CABLES program

- They also applaud the expansion of ***Quad Infrastructure Fellowships*** to more than 2,200 for project developers and managers in the Indo-Pacific.

### What are the concerns expressed in the summit?

<b>Ukraine Crisis</b>	It demands a just peace in Ukraine, condemns force, <i>and stresses humanitarian aid</i> and international law.
<b>North Korea</b>	It condemns North Korea's missile and nuclear activities, <i>urging adherence to UN Security Council denuclearization</i> resolutions.
<b>Myanmar Situation</b>	It urges an <i>end to violence in Myanmar</i> , backing ASEAN's peace efforts and addressing regional issues like cybercrime and human trafficking.
<b>Middle East Peace</b>	It condemns Middle East terrorism, <i>supports Gaza humanitarian aid</i> , and advocates for a two-state solution for Israel and Palestine.
<b>Red Sea Security</b>	It condemns attacks by Houthis on vessels in the Red Sea, emphasizing the importance of <i>navigational rights and safety</i> .

*The United States will host the next Quad Foreign Ministers' meeting in 2025.*

### What lies ahead?

- Evolve partnership that delivers outcomes and offers solutions to *regional and international challenges*.
- Continue to focus on reinforcing regional collaboration and exploring new avenues for cooperation for extending benefits beyond the Quad nations to the broader *international community*.

*India to host QUAD Summit 2024 and thus it is exploring new agenda items such as disaster resilience, digital and critical emerging technologies, and physical connectivity.*

### References

1. [The Print | Quad foreign ministers meeting](#)
2. [Business standard | Quad](#)
3. [Ministry of External Affairs | Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting](#)