

BRICS in the 21st Century: Bridging East and West in a Multi-polar World

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The BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) group, a dynamic convergence of developing economies that straddle the split between East and West, has become a significant factor in global geopolitics in the twenty-first century. This essay examines how BRICS has shaped a multi-polar global order, emphasizing the group's initiatives to heal the ideological and historical divide between the Global South and the Western powers. The BRICS countries are now reclaiming their influence in international organizations, opposing the current Western-dominated global governance frameworks, and advancing alternative narratives on economic growth, development, and security due to the shifting balance of power in the world. The influence of BRICS's economic, political, and strategic initiatives—such as the Contingent Reserve Arrangement and the New Development Bank—on international commerce, investment, and financial systems is examined in this article. The study concludes that BRICS's role in fostering a more inclusive and multi-polar world is essential to guarantee a more balanced and equitable global order after examining the group's ability to overcome geographical and ideological barriers.

Keywords: BRICS, multi-polar world, global governance, emerging economies, global trade, economic development, international institutions, geopolitical influence, New Development Bank, Contingent Reserve Arrangement.

Introduction

The rise of BRICS in the complicated and quickly changing realm of geopolitics is evidence of the power dynamics changing from a Western-dominated unipolar world to a more multi-polar order. In addition to changing the face of international relations, this group of countries—which account for more than 40% of the world's population and a sizeable portion of its economic



output—has given the conventional Western-centric global governance frameworks a different voice.

The Birth of BRICS: A New Alliance Emerges

The term "BRICS" was first used by economist Jim O'Neill in the early 2000s to refer to the developing markets of China, India, Russia, and Brazil as possible 21st-century growth engines. With South Africa's 2010 accession, the organization became BRICS, formalizing a global platform to bring together sizable, rapidly expanding countries from the Global South and the East. Recognizing that the post-Cold War international order, primarily shaped by Western powers, especially the United States and the European Union, was becoming less and less capable of meeting the needs and ambitions of the emerging economies, these nations came together to form BRICS. These countries, particularly China and India, were undergoing tremendous economic expansion at its founding, and their quick industrialization was changing the dynamics of international trade.

However, BRICS was more than just a business partnership. Additionally, it was a political reaction against the unipolarity of the world system dominated by the United States (U.S.). As significant new actors in world politics, the BRICS countries felt compelled to oppose the supremacy of the Bretton Woods organizations, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which they claimed had disproportionately benefited Western interests since they were established. The 2008 global financial crisis revealed the weaknesses in the Western financial system and gave the BRICS nations more impetus to demand changes to global governance frameworks. The group is supported by the political will of its member nations and has an informal structure without a charter, secretariat, or headquarters. The main drivers for the formation of BRICS were the need for more participation of emerging economies in global governance, economic growth, and global power dynamics. The primary reasons for the creation of BRICS are listed below:

- **Economic Growth and Global Trade Shifts** - The BRICS nations, especially China and India, had seen tremendous economic growth by the early 2000s, and their growing



economies were changing the nature of international trade. With their growing sway over international supply chains, markets, and investments, these nations—along with Brazil and Russia—became vital participants in the world economy. In order to capitalize on this economic momentum and foster reciprocal growth via increased trade, investment, and economic collaboration, BRICS was established.

- **Challenge to Western-Dominated Global Institutions** - Because they believed that Western powers controlled the United Nations, World Bank, and International Monetary Fund (IMF), the BRICS countries were all frustrated with these established international organizations. The BRICS nations contended that these organizations no longer adequately represented the reality of a world economy that was changing quickly. They aimed to establish a substitute structure to provide the Global South with more equitable representation and decision-making authority.
- **Desire for Reform of Global Governance** - Reforming the global governance structure to reflect better the Global South's developing economies was a primary driving force. In order to give developing nations more clout, the BRICS bloc called for reforms in the IMF and World Bank as well as changes to the UN Security Council, including adding more permanent members from the Global South.
- **Multi-polarity and Geopolitical Balance** - The United States was leading a unipolar system, while the globe was shifting to a more multi-polar one. By eschewing the West-centric system and promoting a global environment where power is shared among numerous centers of influence, including those in Asia, Latin America, and Africa, the BRICS countries saw an opportunity to advance a more equitable distribution of global power.
- **Regional Cooperation and Security** - Although economics was BRICS's main focus, the organization acknowledged the value of regional cooperation. The member nations were concerned about regional security, especially in Asia, Eastern Europe, and the



Middle East. They sought to portray a united front on geopolitical matters and use their combined influence to address shared security difficulties.

- **Crisis Response and Global Economic Stability** - The vulnerabilities of the Western-dominated financial system were highlighted by the global financial crisis 2008. In order to lessen their reliance on Western financial institutions, the BRICS nations took advantage of the crisis to demand more financial reforms and the establishment of alternative organizations like the New Development Bank (NDB), which could aid in the development and infrastructure of emerging economies.
- **Political and Ideological Commonality** - The support of sovereignty, economic growth, and non-interference in domestic matters were among the political and ideological objectives the BRICS nations had in common, notwithstanding their differences. This area of agreement strengthened the group's resolve to oppose liberal democratic standards imposed by the West and advance a different idea of world administration. In summary, the formation of BRICS was motivated by these rising economies' shared goals of opposing the current global order, encouraging increased economic cooperation, and advancing a more just and inclusive global system considering the reality of a multi-polar world.

The Concept of a Multi-polar World: Shifting Away from a Western-Centric Global Order

Following the Cold War and the United States' subsequent rise to prominence as the only superpower, there was a distinct unipolar order in the world's politics and economy, led by Washington. A more multi-polar world, where power, influence, and decision-making are dispersed among several centers, has gradually replaced this monolithic domination as we enter the twenty-first century. The growth of this multi-polarity marks a significant departure from the previously Western-centric global order, primarily influenced by institutions, attitudes, and practices from Europe and North America. This revolution is more than simply an abstract shift in power; it is a practical change in how nations interact, global policies are developed, and power institutions are reorganized to reflect the growing influence of new, non-Western powers.



The end of the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union in the late 1980s and early 1990s saw the Soviet Union fall and disintegrate into 15 new independent republics, establishing the United States as the undisputed global superpower. For over two decades after the fall of the Berlin Wall, the world was governed by a unipolar system in which U.S. political, military, and economic power dominated global affairs. Key global institutions such as the United Nations (UN), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the World Bank were considered vehicles for advancing U.S. and Western allies' interests. Economically, the Washington Consensus defined global financial institutions, while NATO and other Western-led alliances provided the dominant security structure.

However, the multi-polar world began to emerge as the global economic and political equilibrium shifted. This transformation is most evident in the development of rising nations, particularly from the Global South, who have challenged Western countries' long-standing monopoly on creating the global order.

The Rise of Emerging Economies

The rise of emerging economies, a collective term commonly used to characterize countries with rapid economic growth and geopolitical significance, is one of the most significant causes of multi-polarity. China, India, Brazil, and Russia have taken the lead among these growing powers. These countries have changed global power dynamics away from traditional Western powers, most notably the United States and the European Union. China's rise in recent decades has been nothing short of extraordinary. China has grown from an isolated, rural civilization to a worldwide manufacturing powerhouse, becoming the world's second-largest economy and a key actor in international geopolitics. Its expanding political influence is seen in initiatives such as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which aims to create infrastructure and strengthen economic linkages throughout Asia, Africa, and Europe. China's assertiveness in global governance forums and its ambitions to influence the global economic order highlights the country's transition from a regional power to a global powerhouse.



India, too, has emerged as a major player in the global economic and political landscape. As the world's largest democracy and a burgeoning technical and service powerhouse, India's impact will only rise in the following decades. India's economic growth, combined with its strategic location in Asia, has enabled it to play an important role in international forums such as the G20 and the United Nations. India's demand for reforms in global organizations such as the United Nations Security Council and global recognition by Western and other leaders indicate its expanding power. On the other side of the world, nations such as Brazil and Russia have played key roles in regional geopolitics and are increasingly seeking to broaden their alliances. Brazil, Latin America's largest economy, has used its position to promote South-South cooperation and counter Western narratives on trade and climate change. Russia, despite its more complex trajectory, has reasserted itself as a geopolitical player through its involvement in conflicts such as Syria and Ukraine, its energy dominance in Europe, and membership in key international organizations such as BRICS, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU).

The growth of these new powers heralds the establishment of a multi-polar global order in which no single country or area controls all elements of international life. Instead, authority is divided across several poles, each with economic, political, and military might. These poles include established Western powers like the United States and the European Union and fast-rising economies in Asia, Latin America, and Africa. Regional power centers are becoming more prominent in today's multi-polar globe. The Asia-Pacific area, in particular, has become a focus point, with China and India establishing themselves as important powers in defining regional security, commerce, and diplomacy. Similarly, Africa, with its growing population and resources, is increasingly regarded as an important component of the global geopolitical scene, attracting the attention of both Western and emerging countries such as China and India.

Global Governance: A Call for Reform

The current Western-dominated global governance systems must be reformed in light of a multi-polar world. Following World War II, organizations like the World Bank, the United Nations, and the International Monetary Fund were created to represent the power structures of



the time, which were dominated by the United States and its European allies. These frameworks no longer accurately reflect the political and economic realities of the twenty-first century when emerging economies have become more significant. BRICS is becoming a prominent voice for changing international organizations to represent the multi-polar world better. The organization has campaigned for a more balanced approach to global economic governance, including increased influence for developing economies in the IMF and World Bank, and has lobbied for changes in the UN Security Council to include more permanent members from the Global South. Alternative organizations like the New Development Bank (NDB), which opposes the Western-dominated World Bank and provides funding for development projects, especially in emerging economies and poor nations, have also heard these appeals.

Another important factor in developing a multi-polar world is the discussion around the reform of international trade procedures. In order to guarantee more equitable representation of their interests, rising economies are working to change international trade regulations as their influence increases. Multilateral trade agreements that consider the objectives of the Global South and lessen the disproportionate benefits that have historically favored the West have become more popular as a result.

Multi-polarity has drawbacks, while it presents chances for a more inclusive international order. Geopolitical rivalry frequently results from the emergence of several centers of power. One of the best examples of how multi-polarity can cause tensions is the growing rivalry between the U.S. and China, seen in trade conflicts, technology competition, and the South China Sea military posture. Furthermore, regional conflicts—like those involving Brazil and the U.S., Russia and the West, or China and India—can make it more challenging to accomplish international collaboration. In addition, the concept of a multi-polar world itself begs the question of how the different nations will cooperate. New types of collaboration beyond traditional diplomacy, such as adjustments to how international law, security, and trade are governed, will probably be necessary given the growing prominence of non-Western nations in global governance.



The future of a multi-polar world will depend on how well-developed nations can balance their diverse interests and their relationships with the West. The concept of multi-polarity holds that no single state, whether the U.S., China, or another, will have sole authority over global events. Instead, a cooperative framework based on regional leadership, compromise, and negotiation will form the new global order. The rise of the Global South and the trend towards multi-polarity challenge the Western-dominated narrative of globalization. As they rise, these emerging powers will likely continue to advocate for a more representative and equal world where the voices of underdeveloped nations are respected and considered in global discussions. The shift to a multi-polar world has ended a period of Western hegemony and given rise to a more complex, diverse, and interconnected global system. The political, economic, and social systems will exhibit a balance of power that better reflects the diverse interests of the world in the twenty-first century when the East, South, and West all significantly influence global governance.

BRICS and Multi-polarity: Geopolitical Impact

BRICS's geopolitical significance increased in parallel with its economic goals. As the global political order changed, BRICS emerged as a major force in advancing a multi-polar world. Instead of being concentrated in a single powerhouse, power is shared by several governments in a multi-polar world. The goal of the BRICS nations was to balance the influence of the U.S., Europe, and, more and more, regional superpowers like Japan in this regard. In contrast to the conventional geopolitical frameworks dominated by the West, BRICS offered an alternative vision. Instead of adhering to the liberal economic and democratic ideals of the West, BRICS took a more practical approach to collaboration. The bloc has managed to present a united front in pushing for reform in international institutions and opposing what it perceives as the overreach of Western powers despite political and ideological differences among its member states, which range from China's authoritarianism to India's thriving democracy, Russia's more authoritarian regime, and Brazil's volatile political environment.

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) overhaul was one of BRICS' most important geopolitical initiatives. The member nations have repeatedly demanded that emerging



economies, especially Brazil and India, be given a permanent seat on the UNSC, claiming that the current arrangement does not adequately represent the evolving global order. BRICS's increasing geopolitical significance in forming a new, more inclusive global order is demonstrated by its diplomatic activism inside the UN, WTO, and G20.

Diplomatic Relations: A Bridge between East and West

The world's geopolitical landscape has changed dramatically with the rise of the BRICS nations, particularly compared to established Western powers like the U.S. and the EU. These five countries are part of an expanding alliance of developing economies motivated to change the political and economic landscape of the world. However, their relations with the U.S., the EU, and other superpowers are intricate and varied, influenced by rivalry and collaboration. These dynamic interactions are explored in the following narration.

BRICS and the United States: Competing Superpowers in a Multi-polar World

Both cooperation and contention have characterized the relationship between BRICS and the United States. On the one hand, these countries share common ground on issues like trade and counterterrorism; on the other hand, there are deep-seated disagreements over global governance, economic Policy, and regional security. With the advent of new financial institutions like the New Development Bank (NDB), which BRICS founded as a rival to Western-dominated organizations like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the U.S. has frequently seen the rise of BRICS as a threat to its economic hegemony. Concerned that these organizations might threaten the international order that Washington has mainly constructed since World War II, the U.S. has voiced its concerns about them. In order to gain more representation, the BRICS nations push for changes in international organizations like the IMF and the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). The United States, on the other hand, has been more opposed to these reforms. Tensions have arisen over topics like Taiwan, the South China Sea, and trade imbalances as a result of China, in particular, using its economic power to challenge American hegemony, particularly in Asia.



Notwithstanding these conflicts, the United States and the BRICS nations have cooperated pragmatically on matters of shared interest. In order to counter China's rise in the Indo-Pacific area, for example, the United States and China have maintained strong economic connections. At the same time, the United States and India have strengthened their defense and trade ties.

BRICS and the European Union: Collaboration with Underlying Differences

Regarding multilateralism, diplomacy, and international economic cooperation, the European Union and the BRICS share similar principles. Nonetheless, there are similarities and distinctions in how the EU and BRICS approach international governance. Trade has increased significantly between the EU and the BRICS nations, especially in manufacturing, agriculture, and energy industries. For example, Russia provides Europe with oil and natural gas, and China and the EU are important commercial partners. However, tensions can occasionally arise due to disagreements about market access, trade imbalances, and regulatory frameworks, particularly in light of China's prominence in the world economy. In international politics, the EU has typically supported democratic governance and human rights, but the BRICS nations—especially China and Russia—have regularly rejected Western critiques in these areas. The BRICS' more state-centric, sovereignty-focused approach and the EU's emphasis on human rights can collide, frequently leading to disagreements on democracy, freedom of speech, and foreign interventions. Climate change is one area in which the EU and BRICS collaborate. Both sides have cooperated to solve environmental challenges under the Paris Climate Agreement, with the EU pushing the BRICS nations to do more to cut carbon emissions. However, conflict can arise from different agendas, such as environmental sustainability vs. economic growth.

The world has become more multi-polar as the twenty-first century goes on, and BRICS is crucial to changing global geopolitics. Even if BRICS' relationship with the major world powers—the U.S., the EU, and others—remains complex, there is a growing understanding that collaboration is necessary to confront common global issues like economic injustice, pandemics, and climate change. However, by calling for changes in international organizations and



advancing a more inclusive and diverse global order, BRICS is still pushing for more control over global decision-making. It remains to be seen if these nations can overcome their internal divisions and forge closer ties with other nations. However, there is no denying that their increasing power is changing the face of international relations.

The Future of BRICS: Prospects and Challenges

The geopolitical implications of an expanded BRICS and its role in a multi-polar world:

A larger drive for inclusivity and a more representative global governance structure is shown in the recent BRICS expansion following the 2024 summit. It added Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, the United Arab Emirates, and Indonesia as its newest members, with many more potential candidates in the works. Despite their strength, the original BRICS group only accounts for a small percentage of the world's population and income. An expanding BRICS would drastically change international economics and diplomacy by gaining an even more significant portion of the world's resources, GDP, and political clout.

With the addition of new members from Africa, Asia, and Latin America, BRICS has expanded its global reach and is now able to represent the Global South, which has historically had little representation in organizations such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the UN Security Council. With this broadened basis, BRICS might assert a broader mandate to influence international policies, especially those that impact developing nations. More members from the Gulf and Africa would give BRICS access to additional resources, markets, and investment opportunities. Creating alternative financial institutions like the New Development Bank (NDB) and possibly increasing their importance in international commerce could counterbalance Western-dominated trade networks. The group's expansion, for example, might result in closer economic links among its members and less reliance on established Western powers.

The combined voice of BRICS would be stronger at the global forum. Together, they might oppose Western nations' policies and actions, especially those deemed unilateral or imperialist. This expansion will help BRICS at the time of negotiating economic deals and



treaties and settling geopolitical disputes; BRICS would have more negotiating leverage as a single, cohesive group. As BRICS grows, it directly threatens the current Western-dominated global order, in which the United States and its allies significantly influence organizations like the World Bank, IMF, and UN Security Council. To give emerging economies more clout, BRICS has repeatedly demanded changes to these organizations. With a larger membership, BRICS may advocate for a more varied approach to international governance and equitable participation in international organizations.

The disparity in national interests, especially about security issues, is one of the difficulties facing a larger BRICS alliance. India, Brazil, and South Africa often have stronger democratic traditions, but nations like China and Russia tend to be more autocratic. However, despite these disagreements, BRICS has maintained a common position on important matters like climate change, nuclear non-proliferation, and counterterrorism. The group will have to manage internal conflicts as they grow while continuing to be a powerful force in tackling issues related to international security. Countries from the Global South, whose concerns have sometimes been disregarded in talks of international Policy, will have a stronger voice thanks to the expanded BRICS. This change will probably impact global standards about environmental sustainability, human rights, and development. For instance, BRICS has continuously advocated for more egalitarian and inclusive approaches to trade, development, and climate change, which may test wealthier Western countries' policies. New alliances with regional institutions such as the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the African Union (AU) may result from the Global South's increasing unity. Just five founding members have effectively and quickly challenged the U.S.-led Western monopoly over the current World Order. When taken as a whole, they created waves around the world that paved the way for the emergence of a multi-polar world. Just think of the magnitude of the impact of BRICS if more nations join.

A significant change in world geopolitics is reflected in the growth of BRICS. As its membership and influence increase, the group will become increasingly significant in determining the course of the multi-polar globe. By advocating for reforms in important international organizations and attending to the concerns of the Global South, BRICS will



continue to challenge the historical dominance of Western countries and advance a more inclusive and equitable global governance system. The group's combined strength provides a potent platform for tackling global issues and guaranteeing that rising economies have a voice in the future of global politics, economics, and security, notwithstanding the potential difficulties posed by internal disagreements. As the world moves away from unipolarity, BRICS' expanding role will be central to constructing a more balanced and just international order.

Internal Reform and Institutional Strengthening

The institutional architecture of the BRICS group has to change as its political and economic importance grows to promote more productive collaboration. Even while BRICS has already achieved significant progress in areas like supporting alternative financial systems and providing development funding through the New Development Bank (NDB), the organization still confronts internal and external obstacles that need a stronger institutional framework. In addition to assisting the organization in overcoming these obstacles, strengthening its institutional framework would also strengthen its position in a world that is becoming more multi-polar. To secure future success, BRICS should concentrate on strengthening its institutional framework in the following crucial areas:

- **Formalizing Decision-Making:** Because its members have different interests, BRICS now uses a consensus-based approach, which has occasionally slowed development. More formalized decision-making procedures, including more transparent voting procedures for particular problems or a rotating leadership structure that aids in power balance among the member nations, might be established by BRICS to improve this. This would prevent disagreement-related stagnation and expedite decisions on important matters.
- **Expanding Secretariat Functions:** Cooperation has been facilitated via the BRICS Business Council, New Development Bank (NDB), and Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA), although the BRICS Secretariat might better handle member-state coordination of activities. The effectiveness of the group's operations would be increased



by bolstering the secretariat's capabilities, broadening its scope, and allocating additional funds for project management, communication, and research.

- **Inclusive Governance Structure:** BRICS's governance framework has to change to become more inclusive and representative of its growing membership. This could entail adjusting the current voting and leadership structure to balance the dominance of the more significant economies, such as China and India, while allowing new members to participate in the decision-making process. A weighted voting mechanism that balances geographic variety and economic size can guarantee equitable representation.
- **Dialogue Mechanisms with Non-Members:** Additionally, strengthening ties with other emerging economies that are not members—particularly those in Africa, Latin America, and Southeast Asia—would be necessary to expand BRICS. In order to increase its impact outside of its core membership, BRICS could establish forums for discussion with non-member nations, enabling them to participate in certain areas of research or policy formulation.
- **Enhancing the New Development Bank (NDB):** An important turning point in BRICS' efforts to give developing nations financial support was the establishment of the New Development Bank in 2014. The NDB could build regional offices, boost its lending capacity, and broaden its emphasis to encompass additional industries, including sustainable development, healthcare, and education, to grow its influence. The BRICS nations must also provide more cash to guarantee the bank's viability.
- **Promoting Local Currencies in Trade:** Reducing reliance on the U.S. dollar and encouraging the use of local currencies in commerce between member states are two of BRICS' objectives. In order to facilitate trade among member states that do not rely on the dollar, BRICS should endeavor to establish a more integrated financial system that includes financing channels and currency swaps. It might also be investigated to create a BRICS single currency or payment system, but this would necessitate strong member agreement. One of the key items on the agenda before the 2024 summit is the members' ongoing discussion about doing away with the dollar and using local currencies in their transactions.



- **Establishing a BRICS Security Forum:** Member nations would be better able to debate security issues if BRICS established a formal security forum akin to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) or the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). This platform might concentrate on nuclear non-proliferation, cyber-security, regional conflicts, and counterterrorism. BRICS may create shared security strategies while upholding member states' sovereignty by offering a forum for discussion.
- **Strengthening Conflict Resolution Mechanisms:** Formal procedures for averting confrontations and resolving disagreements among members or within areas where BRICS could establish its perceived impact. These instruments strongly emphasize communication, diplomacy, and peace-building by leveraging the BRICS' shared political stability and advancement goal.

Expanding Influence: The Future of BRICS

With South Africa's 2010 accession, the addition of Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the United Arab Emirates, as well as numerous other prospective members like Argentina, Turkey, Bolivia, and Algeria, who have expressed interest and formally applied to join the bloc, BRICS has continued to develop as the twenty-first century goes on. However, the question remains: Can BRICS keep growing without becoming less cohesive? New members' varied political and economic backgrounds could present fresh obstacles to cohesion. How BRICS responds to emerging issues like climate change, global health problems, and technology rivalry will also determine its place in world geopolitics in the future. BRICS have the chance to take the lead in bolstering global health infrastructure, exchanging vaccinations, and tackling global healthcare disparities as the globe struggles with the aftermath of the COVID-19 epidemic. Similarly, BRICS countries will have to deal with challenges like data governance, cyber-security, and the creation of new technologies as the digital revolution transforms economies and societies.

At the same time, BRICS must balance its dedication to economic growth and the need to address urgent environmental problems. Many of the BRICS nations, particularly China and



India, are significant contributors to global emissions as developing economies. The bloc's capacity to take the lead on international issues without jeopardizing its economic growth will be primarily determined by how it handles environmental sustainability. BRICS needs to invest in order to fortify its institutional structure if it hopes to play a more significant and longer-lasting role in global governance. BRICS can become a more cohesive, powerful, and effective force in a multi-polar world by strengthening decision-making procedures, fostering economic cooperation, implementing official political and security cooperation mechanisms, and tackling the social and environmental issues of the twenty-first century. In the end, BRICS's future influence on international geopolitics, trade, security, and sustainable development will depend on its capacity to advance in these areas.

The transformation of BRICS from a collection of developing economies into a potent geopolitical and economic bloc illustrates the changing balance of power in the world. In the framework of world geopolitics, BRICS is significant because it can provide a voice to the Global South and challenge the established Western-dominated global governance systems. By supporting multi-polarity, balancing disparate national interests, and pushing for reform, BRICS is helping to build a more just and inclusive international order. BRICS will play a key role in determining the international order of the twenty-first century as the globe continues to move towards multi-polarity. Its ability to act as a bridge between the East and the West and create a new global geopolitics that accurately reflects the balance of power in international relations will depend on how it handles internal issues grows its membership and responds to new threats.



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