

Challenging the Liberal Order: A Neo-Realist Analysis of China's Belt & Road Initiative and U.S. Strategic Counter-Initiatives

DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.63878/cjssr.v3i2.1574>

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ABSTRACT

In this chapter, the discussion of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), has extraordinarily influenced US global hegemony. By putting resources into framework projects and advancing networks between countries, China desires to build its financial and international power through the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The objective of this chapter is to analyze how China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is presenting serious difficulties to the customary international and financial aims of the US global hegemony. In any case, the US and its partners have eyes on China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and its influences on the world economy cautiously. While certain countries see the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) as an opportunity to acquire a better network and add to China's monetary extension, others have voiced stresses over China's aspirations and the conceivable political influence that could accompany its monetary responsibilities. The US has moved toward the BRI, coordinated effort and rivalry. From one viewpoint, the US recognizes the worth of foundation spending in encouraging turn of events and financial development. They also perceive the likely benefits of improved trade and availability that the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) can give part countries. Accordingly, the US has tried to cooperate with China and participate in BRI (Kim, 2019). In addition, the US has done whatever

it takes to protect its own monetary advantages and public security considering China's extending influence. They have passionately inspected the BRI tasks' terms and conditions, focusing on the worth of receptiveness, maintainability, and fair rivalry. The US has worked to foster elective systems and principles that help great foundations venture and dare steady with their standards through programs like the Blue Dot Network. In this chapter, Neo-Realism theory and a subjective information approach in this part. Utilizing the Neo-Realism theory to offer clarifications, this approach empowers us to look at and decipher qualitative data like reports and observations. The US has presented the Form Act and the Infrastructure Transaction and Assistance Network (ITAN) to back foundation projects in the Indo-Pacific region. This part will inspect and discuss how US approaches toward China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) consolidate wariness, participation, and intensity. While recognizing the potential benefits of expanded network and framework speculation, the US likewise attempts to shield its interests and goals while being careful about China's aims. As the BRI pushes ahead and China's influence in the worldwide field develops, so too will the influence of this venture on US plans.

Keywords: BRI project, neo-realism, monetary development, rivalry, strategies.

INTRODUCTION

China's economy has been growing quickly since Deng Xiaoping's "change and opening-up" approach. As the world's second-biggest economy in the last part of the 1970s, China's GDP (gross domestic product) as a portion of worldwide gross domestic product has consistently expanded throughout the past many years. A significant element of China's monetary ascent is that China's exchange surplus with the remainder of the world, particularly with the US, expanded decisively after China's association with the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2001. While this has incorporated China into the world, China was scrutinized for being a neo-trade country that controlled its currency. Advancing commodities in the 21st century Numerous American legislators and intellectuals have made the allegation. (Wang and Zeng, 2020)

China has focused on framework advancement in its worldwide commitment, generally because of its critical development blast lately. This has prompted the development of broad transportation networks associating urban areas through inter-states, rapid trains, and air terminals. The quick development demonstrates China's endeavors to extend its foundation. China's financial extension has brought about the collection of the world's biggest public reserve funds, prompting its conspicuous job in worldwide foundation improvement. With abundant reserves accessible, putting resources into international framework projects has become famous. Conversely, the US does not have a similar interest in unfamiliar framework tasks and misses the mark on a comparable degree of money to contribute abroad.

Moreover, China has trouble successfully allotting its significant reserve funds, as even US depository securities cannot retain the overabundance. Although the Biden organization's way of dealing with China was reprimanded as a huge slip-up, while recognizing the mounting strains, the organization's methodology to rival China's assets, especially through foundation improvement drives may not be the most reasonable strategy. The dissimilarity sought after for overseas undertakings and capital accessibility between China and the US further convolutes the situation. (French, 2021)

BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE (BRI)

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a Chinese system aimed toward interfacing six arranged hallways. As per the Asian Development Bank (2017), about US\$26 trillion is required for foundation investment in Asia and China is ready to assume a significant role in this turn of events. The BRI is viewed as a way for China to extend its financial and exchange markets with various nations, as well as to build its political influence in these locales. The point of this worldwide venture is to incorporate the world through different roads and sea associations, which eventually add to the social, monetary, and political turn of events. The BRI was first sent off in 2013, fully intent on associating around 50 to 60 nations in Asia, Europe, and Africa, and has since developed to around 140. "Belt" alludes to the land courses that will associate part states, while "roads" alludes to the maritime Silk Route, which includes sea and water routes. The Belt incorporates the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean as significant ocean paths. President Xi Jinping dispatched the BRI, which mirrors his desire to construct an immense framework organization to work with exchange and monetary movement. BRI incorporates land-based "Silk Road Economic Belt" and ocean-based "21st Century Maritime Silk Energy" projects, which incorporate energy, transportation, data innovation, and unique financial zones. (Butt, Latif and Haider, 2023).

BLUE DOT NETWORK (BDN)

Contrary to the growing number of obligation traps and economic frameworks that improve quantitative and misty qualities, the BDN looks to lay out a "standard of greatness." Communicated astonishingly, the BDN expects to propel an open and reasonable-capable foundation as a determined counterattack against Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative. The essential quality of BDN is that it has a venture-based speculation methodology instead of BRI's nation-based cooperation, which has supported obligation traps. The US's International Development Finance Corporation has raised USD 60 -13824 for the task up until this point, facing allegations. (Panda, 2020) While the BDN's drawn-out essential objectives stay muddled, it is sensible to accept that supporting US influence in the Indo-Pacific will be the principal need. India stands to benefit significantly from the initiative. In any event, Beijing cannot protest private interests in the area. (Panda, 2020)

BUILD BACK BETTER WORLD (B3W)

The initiative centers on how wealthy democracies ought to work with developing nations to help their endeavors in making a framework to lessen the USD 40+ trillion foundation hole that exists in agricultural countries. B3W is viewed as a critical, vital instrument planned to impede the BRI joint effort. Four essential subjects are the focal point of the initiative i.e. orientation value and fairness, computerized innovation, well-being security, and environmental change. (Zhao, 2021)The B3W will traverse the entire world, from

AFRICA TO THE INDO-PACIFIC TO LATIN

America and the Caribbean, as per a new declaration from the White House. The US set up six core values to recognize BRI and B3W collaboration, including values-driven participation, utilizing private assets through improvement finance, helping the influence of multilateral public funding, and drawing in confidential speculation through advancement finance. (Kinn, 2019)

INFRASTRUCTURE TRANSACTION AND ASSISTANCE NETWORK (ITAN)

The Form Act's October 2018 production of the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation and the Infrastructure Transaction and Assistance Network (ITAN) as the monetary

foundations of American contribution to the Indo-Pacific. This is progressive since it shows that the US recognizes that advancement should be the focal point of the Indo-Pacific undertaking. The accentuation on association, foundation, and the computerized economy is uplifting news for the Indo-Pacific area's emerging countries. They want to remember their business sectors for the Indo-Pacific area and the worldwide economy by opening them up. They likewise loathe the idea of a security-centered Indo-Pacific. ITAN will empower ventures from the confidential area nearby. ITAN's Transaction Advisory Fund will offer lawful assistance for the examination of maintainability, proposition assessment, and discussion. The Blue Dot Network will act as a center point for associations, states, and common society engaged with a foundation to ensure a straightforward, monetarily suitable, and ecologically capable framework and network initiative. (Nagy, 2019)

ONE: CHANIA'S BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE INFLUENCES THE GLOBAL STRATEGIC POLICIES OF THE US

BRI'S GEOPOLITICAL INFLUENCE

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which was hailed as China's international victory, is seen as a disappointment, particularly by the US, which is frustrated that the initiative offers no genuine advantages. Yet this view depends on a traditionalist methodology. In light of the BRI, the EU-Japanese "Partnership on Sustainable Connectivity and Quality Infrastructure" (PSCQI), the US-dispatched "Blue Dot Network" (BDN), and later "Build Back a Better World" (B3W) were made (Meeks, 2021; Schulze, 2019; Walden, 2019). Contrasting their multi-partner designs and Chinese state-claimed undertaking strength in the BRI, they focus their endeavors on tantamount geographic regions. The BRI's conceivable financial influence and obligation trap stands, as a distinct difference from the US is a solid, elevated, and supportable standards-based improvement approach. Largely, Weiss (2019) contends, that "China and its endeavors to make the world more secure for Beijing" are misjudged by others and are seen as a guarded and homegrown response. Nonetheless, this probably will not be something horrible all by itself. The opposition between the US, the prevailing power, and China, a rising power, is inescapable. Eventually, Mações (2018) battles, but it will not make any difference as much whether another worldwide request arises or the state of affairs kept up with, as it will matter whether a quiet reached or whether China and America are destined for struggle. (Mações, 2018: 7-8) Accordingly, it very well may be profitable for the world overall and quiet enough to permit them to contend in the foundation. This is not a tactical crash, in any event. Generally, the recently built framework might reinforce associations that are beneficial to the world economy. It is significantly better compared to the current exchange war, which leans toward the group that will experience the most uncertainty, the triumphant group.

COUNTEERRINGUS REGIONAL VISION

At the point when the US started advancing its financial plan for the area, the BRI declared. The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and its "turn" or "re-balance" to Asia's local security strategy. From that point forward, numerous people in Beijing view the Trump Administration's Free and

Open Indo-Pacific Methodology as a true control strategy coordinated against China. The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) was described by a few Chinese authorities as a clear endeavor to "offset" these US initiatives and further Beijing's China-centric regional agenda. (Smith, 2018) The Trump administration has advanced the foundation of an improved financial framework with the express purpose of relieving the unfriendly effects of the BRI and the financial tension from China. (Smith, 2018) Rex Tillerson's son, the secretary of state, uncovered that the US had begun "a tranquil discussion" with its partners on the most proficient method to foster substitute sources of financial support that would give a decision to countries ready to contribute yet worried about the circumstances and limitations related to BRI projects. (Smith, 2018)

CHINA'S GRAND STRATEGY

China urges it to participate in "essential supporting," which boosts its ability to oversee potential dangers from the hegemony of the global request without falling back on clear-headed activity. As a rule, the objective of the Belt and Road is to "make a climate that upholds Beijing's political, social and financial turn of events." The venture comes from the US key worldview that stresses "force on force" by achieving this. (Cavanna, 2019) Its geo-financial matters push, omnidirectional commitment, and crossover seashore direction, which are expected to escape U.S. military predominance, are suggestive of extremely old methodologies like "thwarting unfriendly alliances... looking for relative benefit instead of high-risk conflicts and defeating the hard and solid with the delicate and gentle." (Cavanna, 2019) Heilmann and Melton (2013, 581–583): Call attention to the fact that China's arranging framework created a couple with the country's monetary change and is as yet fundamental for essentially every region of the country's political organizations and public strategy making, which supported China's fast financial extension and steadiness. China has figured out how to save the essentials of state improvement planning as an endeavor by the public authority to organize vital strategies, activate assets, and keep up with macroeconomic control. (Beeson, 2018)

GLOBAL HEGEMONY

The US considers these moves to be China's endeavors to grow its influence and control around the world, to the detriment of US authority. The US government and numerous experts have expressed concerns that the BRI is an essential device for China to project its power and effect on the world stage. BRI permits China to acquire huge influence and command over different nations, especially more modest and less fortunate nations, by funding and building framework projects. Furthermore, the AIIB, a significant monetary organization started by China, is viewed as a test of the strength of US-drove establishments and the US like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Furthermore, the US has gone against China's Made in China 2025 drive, which expects to make China a world forerunner in cutting-edge enterprises like mechanical technology, aviation, and fabricated reasoning. The US government considers this transition to be a danger to its innovative and monetary predominance and has done whatever it takes to keep Chinese organizations from progressing in US innovation. Moreover, the US is effectively countering China's moves that undermine its worldwide authority as it looks to keep up with its situation as the world's driving financial and military power. (Kim, 2019)

INTRICATE DEPENDENCY

China's activities in various circumstances, especially in the BRI's development, demonstrate that its administration knows about the significance of primary power in an arrangement of significant reliance across the globe. Plans to embrace countless US-laid-out arrangements to progress underlying power. This is exhibited by its endeavors to supply reserves, characterize and establish a framework expected to advance common development, and perhaps give the organizations, rules, and strategies important to make such a framework simpler to direct and work within. Since the BRI project produces gains and advantages that these entertainers will be attracted to, worldwide and territorial entertainers should think about it. Normally, these sorts of primary power frameworks will likewise assist China with reinforcing its situation against the US's underlying power-based authority in Asia as well as throughout a large portion of the world. China's territorial and global standing extraordinarily improve should the BRI initiative, even to some extent, succeed. Largely, the BRI will reinforce the impetus for countries and organizations to participate. Success makes more possibilities, in any event, for various state-run administrations and organizations that are important for the US worldwide request. Because of the people and strength of a liberal and open world, China can lead such an undertaking to foster primary power and attract a great many states. Indeed, even nations with solid connections to the US, similar to Japan and maybe Israel, will presumably be convinced to join the BRI to profit from it. (Lairson, 2018)

TWO: THE DYNAMICS OF THE BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE (BRI) POSE A THREAT TO THE ESTABLISHED ECONOMIC AND GEOPOLITICAL STRATEGIES OF THE US WORLD ORDER:

THE CHANGING DYNAMICS OF GLOBAL GEOPOLITICS

The elements of worldwide international relations might move for everybody, assuming significant powers vie for comprehensive monetary associations and participate in encouraging a more prominent network as opposed to arms races, effective reaches, and elite political or military coalitions. This would bring about a more evenhanded and adjusted global situation liberated from major power control and strength. It makes sense, to some degree, why numerous US states with personal stakes in the global framework after the Cold War have been progressively worried about China's Belt and Road Initiative and have counter-proposed their procedures for provincial collaboration. The US, with help from Japan, Australia, and a few different countries, proposed the "Indo Pacific Initiative" in July 2018, while the European Union likewise delivered another Asia network system with a normal beginning asset of 60 billion euros, named the EU variant of the Belt and Road and generally seen as an offset to China's BRI. Overall, these initiatives zeroed in on monetary collaboration ought to be upheld because they add to territorial combination and advancement and ease monetary tension in China to lead the development of a framework in Asia alone. It will be more favorable for all gatherings if China, the US, the EU, and other significant countries can come to a settlement on their particular jobs and responsibilities to forestall waste and struggle among themselves. These activities are expected to contain China's developing international influence through the Belt and Road Initiative. They will have little influence since, above all else, neither the US nor the EU has similar state-upheld monetary assets as China to make long-haul interests in building foundations. All through Asia, yet more significantly, because they will elevate international strains among China and the US and lead to more prominent

shakiness in provincial legislative issues and the economy, which will bring about misfortunes in the economy and unforeseen security challenges for all gatherings including. (Zhang, 2018)

US GEOPOLITICAL INTEREST

The BRI is most likely going to hurt US international interests genuinely. The US key stance in Asia, specifically, is going to confront a serious contest from the BRI to keep up with Pax Yankee folklore. It guessed that the BRI may "change the worldwide scene, decreasing the meaning of U.S. maritime incomparability and moving the focal point of technique and trade to the Eurasian body of land from the encompassing waters and that "US interest will be minimized by a Sinocentric Eurasian request." Subsequently, it ought to shock no one that Washington has had an entirely horrible mentality toward the BRI. Rex Tillerson, the previous secretary of state, denounced Beijing for taking part in "hazy agreements, ruthless loaning rehearses and degenerate arrangements that smother countries' power, cover them in the red and keep them from encountering long-haul, self-supporting development. The US Public Safety "Dislodge the US in the Indo-Pacific area, extend the scopes of its state-driven monetary model and reorder the district in support of its," as per Procedure, was what China expected to achieve with the BRI. In an October 2018 discourse at the Hudson Foundation, VP Mike Pence said that a port developed by Chinese organizations "may before long turn into a forward army installation for China's developing. Blue-water naval force and that to "advance our vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific," Washington would brace collusions all through the Indo-Pacific district, spreading over from India to Samoa. The US is very worried about "China's capability to change over the impractical obligation weights of beneficiary nations or sub-public gatherings into vital and military access," as indicated by the US Branch of the Guard's Indo-Pacific procedure appraisal. To counter China's funding for the Belt and Road Initiative, Washington has allegedly begun to carry out its monetary courses of action in a joint effort with partners and accomplices. Of late, the US-India Business Gathering and US Office of Trade energized private-area organizations in India, Japan, and the US to take part in the provincial framework and network. The Japan Business Board laid out the Indo-Pacific Foundation Three-Sided Discussion. The Better Use of Speculation Prompting Improvement (BUILD) Act, which passed in 2018, is, in many cases, a notice initiative by American legislators and senior authorities as a procedure to challenge China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in the Indo-Pacific locale. The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is supposed to remain a vital issue between the US and China as Washington's stresses over China's capability to surpass the US as the world's prevailing power intensifies. (Li, 2020) Given the comments and deeds of the US and others referenced above, it was perhaps inescapable that other enormous powers would survey the BRI from an international perspective. These large players stressed over Beijing's expected international additions from the Belt and Road Initiative. Assuming China carries out a significant number of the ongoing security and vital proposals made by its strategy in local areas. It appears intelligent that these powers will send off an undeniably stronger key counterattack.

THE STRATEGIC CHALLENGE

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is frequently described in menacing strategic terms or addressed with a great deal of skepticism in the United States and Europe. Admiral Philip Davidson, the commander of America's Indo-Pacific Command, believes that Beijing is now attempting to "shape a world aligned with its own" through the BRI. Authoritarian paradigm while challenging global standards like unrestricted trade and intellectual exchange. Although there is widespread

worry about the BRI's global expansion, concerned capitals have not yet done a sufficient job of defining and articulating the unique issues that the initiative presents as well as the factors that present the biggest obstacles. China appears to be giving money, materials, and expertise for infrastructure to nations that genuinely need and desire it—in some cases, having no other option for workable substitutes. (Smith, 2018)

THE CHANGING GEOPOLITICAL AND GEO-ECONOMICS LANDSCAPE

The BRI's international and geo-financial power comes from China's monetary may, the initiative's huge broadness, the quantity of taking part nation, ns, and the gross domestic product and populace share that it straightforwardly or by implication influences around the world. Honestly, there is no doubt about the BRI's critical financial significance for China. Since it fills in as the country's monetary lifesaver, a method for extending China's modern limit, a method for restoring the market, and a likely course out of chapter for an enormous number of practically bankrupt state-possessed organizations. However appears to be clear that the initiative will likewise influence the international state of affairs in the districts it crosses. On the off chance that it is fruitful, it could steer the results for an undeniable change in political and financial power from the US-led model addressed by the Washington agreement to one that depends on the standards of the Beijing consensus. (Cau, 2018)

THEORETICAL CHALLENGES

Deciding the degree and the numerous manners by which a unipolar conveyance of force influences state conduct and makes examples of contention and collaboration is one of the major theoretical challenges in the investigation of worldwide relations. In this chapter, neo-realism, taken overall, manages the manners by which a unipolar global request works uniquely in contrast to a bipolar or multipolar request. Even more, we are keen on the ramifications of the change from the bipolar arrangement of the viral combat to the ongoing unipolar framework focused on the US for state direct and the idea of worldwide rule of peace and law. (Ikenberry, Mastanduno, & Wohlforth, 2009)

Neo-realism is a significant theoretical framework for investigating the elements of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and its effect on the laid-out world request, especially concerning the US. Neo-realism, otherwise called structural realism, contends that the worldwide framework is portrayed by disorder, where states are the essential entertainers and they seek after their own security and personal circumstances in a climate where there could be no more significant position to implement collaboration and request.

About China's BRI, neo-realism gives an understanding of how China's rising power and quest for its advantages make the current world request overwhelmed by the US. As per neo-realism, extraordinary powers try to amplify their security and influence, prompting rivalry and struggle as they compete for control and influence in the global framework. China's BRI should be visible as a sign of China's endeavors to extend its financial and vital influence, testing the predominance of the US-Initiatives world request and possibly disturbing the overall influence in the global framework.

From a neo-realist viewpoint, the US reaction to China's BRI is probably driven by its security concerns and public interests. The US might see China's extending influence through the BRI as a danger to its security and influence, prompting endeavors to counter or contain China's approach.

This could bring about expanded contests and pressures between the two powers, as each looks to attest to its predominance and safeguard its inclinations in the global framework.

Generally, neo-realism gives an important structure to understanding the power elements and rivalry between China and the US concerning China's BRI, revealing insight into the possible difficulties and clashes that might emerge as China's approach and the BRI keep on reshaping the worldwide requ

FINDINGS

The changing elements of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the US procedure are a subject of interest because of their likely effect on economic and geopolitical relations. Key discoveries in this space recommendation change in Worldwide Influence: The BRI has been instrumental in extending China's financial and international influence, provoking the US to reconsider its situation and foster new systems to protect its inclinations. Change Financial Effects: BRI projects have exhibited the possibility to drive economic improvement in participating nations, introducing amazing open doors for US organizations while in addition raising worries about obligation reliance and market access. Geostrategic Rivalry: The BRI has brought up issues about its drawn-out suggestions for US vital interests, remembering likely moves for provincial partnerships and security elements. Recognizing common ground: Both the BRI and the US techniques emphasize framework venture, yet with varying methodologies, introducing open doors for joint effort and contest in framework advancement. Maintainability and Administration: Difficulties connected with administration, obligation manageability, and ecological effects have arisen about BRI projects, inciting conversations about accepted procedures and administrative systems. The developing elements of the BRI and the US technique are reshaping worldwide economic connections and international arrangements, with suggestions for a scope of partners.

RECOMMENDATION

Positively, here are a few suggestions for the changing elements of BRI and US procedure.

Improved collaboration: There ought to be more exertion towards participation and coordination between the BRI and US system, especially in areas of shared revenue like framework advancement, exchange, and ventures.

Tending to worries: The two players need to address concerns and complaints that have emerged from the BRI projects, like obligation maintainability, natural effect, and straightforwardness. Clear rules and principles should laid out.

Take part in exchange: It's fundamental to take part in open discourse and discussion to determine clashes and contrasts. The two players should be available to understand and oblige each other's interests.

Recognize shared conviction: Distinguish areas of likely coordinated effort and common advantage where the BRI and US system adjust, for example, framework interest in creating economies or joint advancement projects.

Think about outsider intercession: Whenever required, the two players can consider outsider intervention to address any debates or conflicts, which can help in arriving at a commonly palatable goal.

CONCLUSION

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a significant human undertaking to strengthen the worldwide network and further develop communication and collaboration among countries, especially considering the approach of protectionism and unilateralism in the US and a few other significant nations. Since numerous parts of the BRI are as yet hazy, making it a disagreeable point for banter among numerous Chinese spectators even five years after its send-off, it is significantly more basic that China addresses the normal confusions and worries of the worldwide local area regarding the BRI to collect more noteworthy comprehension and backing for this memorable worldwide project. Despite various transient challenges, the BRI seems to show China's earnestness and make plans to propel this tremendous venture, which is planned to make new agreeable components that would at last help the total populace as opposed to overturning political contemplations.

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