

QUAD-PLUS Dialogue



Vision Statement of the Quadrilateral Group

- Inspired by the shared values of democracy and rule of law,
- Encouraged by the common desire of Australia, India, Japan and the U.S. to see a rules-based, free and open order in the Indo-Pacific region,
- Taking note of our common goals and shared challenges in the Indo-Pacific region,
- Recognizing that the Indian and Pacific Ocean regions are increasingly interconnected and developments in this dynamic maritime space have a direct bearing on global peace, prosperity, and stability,
- Emphasizing the importance of freedom of navigation and over flight in accordance with the international law,
- Stressing the urgency of cooperation to counter the threats of terrorism and WMD proliferation,
- To promote consultations and cooperation on matters of peace, security, prosperity, and the rules-based order in the Indo Pacific region, in November 2017 official representatives from our four countries reconstituted a Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QSD) that last assembled in 2007.
- The Quadrilateral Group comprised of representatives from the above referenced four think tanks (QG) strongly endorses the reconstitution of the QSD and encourages the four governments to hold regular meetings of the QSD, at least twice per year.
- The QG further recommends that QSD meetings eventually be held at the level of foreign minister/ secretary of state and ultimately include defense ministers/secretaries of state.
- The QG further recommends that Australia be incorporated into the trilateral India-Japan-U.S. Malabar naval exercises beginning in 2019, potentially as a permanent participant moving forward.
- The QG further recommends that future meetings of the QSD advance the four countries' shared vision for a rules-based order and a Free and Open Indo-Pacific, and works to create practical mechanisms to advance regional connectivity initiatives in accord with the principles of responsible debt financing, high technical standards, transparency, and respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity,
- To facilitate further cooperation among the four Indo-Pacific democracies and a positive agenda of cooperation at the QSD, the Quadrilateral Group will generate policy proposals designed to advance new cooperative mechanisms and a strategic agenda to complement the QSD.