

# **AUKUS**

# **Description**

#### Theme:

• In September 2021, AUKUS – a <u>trilateral security partnership</u> among Australia (AU), the United Kingdom (UK) and the United States (US) was announced.

## What is AUKUS:

- AUKUS was formed by <u>AU, UK, US</u> to support each other in security and defence interests.
  It also includes co-operation in undersea capabilities and cyber capabilities.
- The grouping announced its <u>commitment to ensuring a free and open Indo-Pacific in the long term</u>. Even though China was not mentioned directly, everyone is of the opinion that the alliance was formed to counter China's growing economic, political and military influence in the Indo-pacific region.

#### **Benefits of AUKUS:**

- AUKUS can complement Quad in countering China's increasing military presence in the Indo-Pacific region.
- Under the pact, Australia starts building nuclear-powered submarines with the help of technology provided by the US. This will result in a significant <u>improvement in Australia's</u> <u>defence capabilities</u>, which will help in countering China's push to modernize its defence capabilities.
- The technology transfer from the US can generate <u>huge opportunities for businesses in Australia</u>.
- AUKUS has the potential to create hundreds of high-skilled employment opportunities.

# **Challenges:**

- There are fears that AUKUS may overshadow Quad.
- As Australia cancelled a five-year-old contract with France to build diesel-power submarines and made a deal with the US to build nuclear-powered submarines under the AUKUS partnership, Australia and France relations have deteriorated.
- A few countries are apprehensive about the increasing military presence and arms race in the Indo-pacific region.

## Conclusion:

AUKUS is very beneficial for upholding democracy in the Indo-Pacific region. It can complement Quad in countering China's growing economic, political, and military influence in the Indo-pacific region.

### Your Turn...

What's your opinion on AUKUS? Express your thoughts through the comment section below. And subscribe to our blog to read answers to the trending GD topics.

### References:

- FRP Explains: AUKUS vs QUAD
- · Aukus: UK, US and Australia launch pact to counter China
- The unspoken risk of Quad and AUKUS: A bigger arms race in the Indo-Pacific
- AUKUS trilateral may benefit India

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