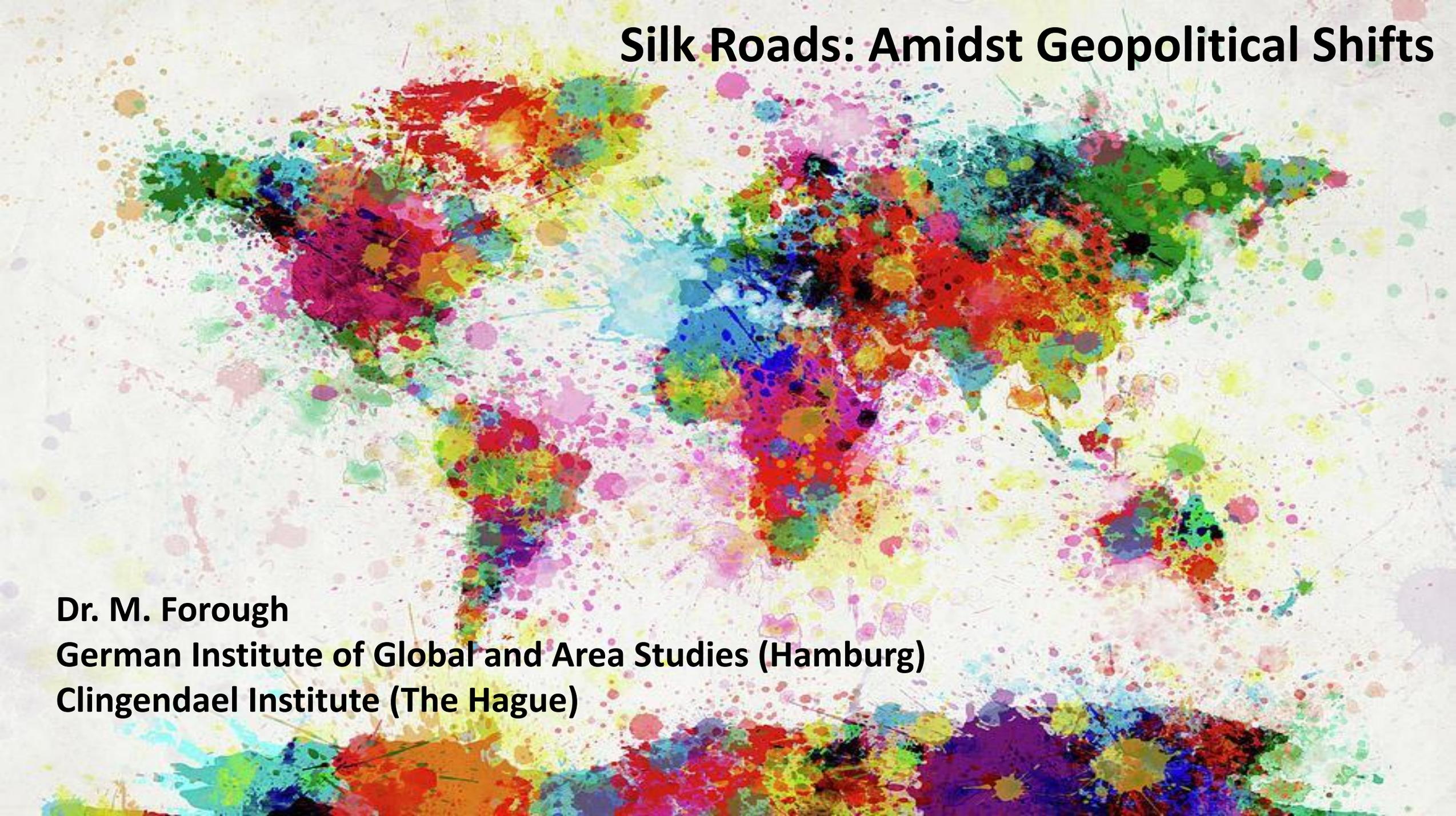


Silk Roads: Amidst Geopolitical Shifts

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Plan

- 1. Global Background** (5 mins)
- 2. Connectivity & Geoeconomic** (10 mins)
- 3. Forecasts** (5 mins)

Part 1

Global Background

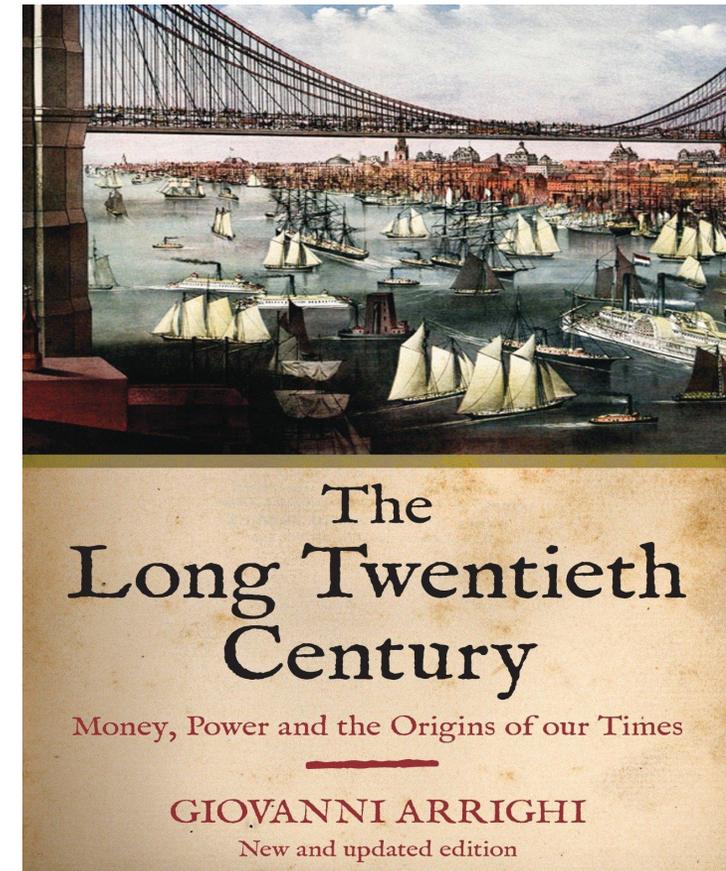
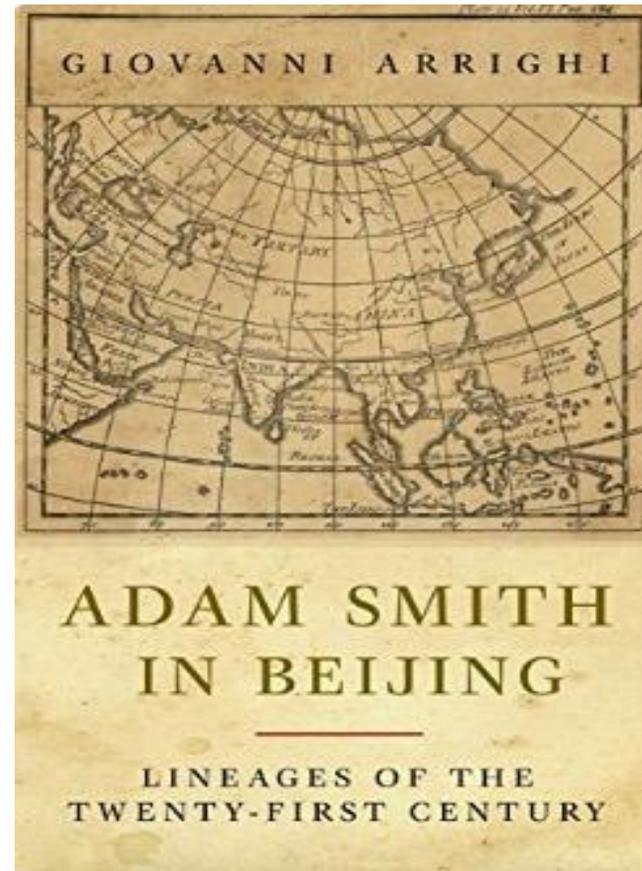
Background: Global Bifurcation

Bifurcation

Western (mainly US-driven) **geopolitics** vs. Afro-EurAsian **geoeconomics**

US-China “**decoupling**” (2018)

“**Autonomy**”



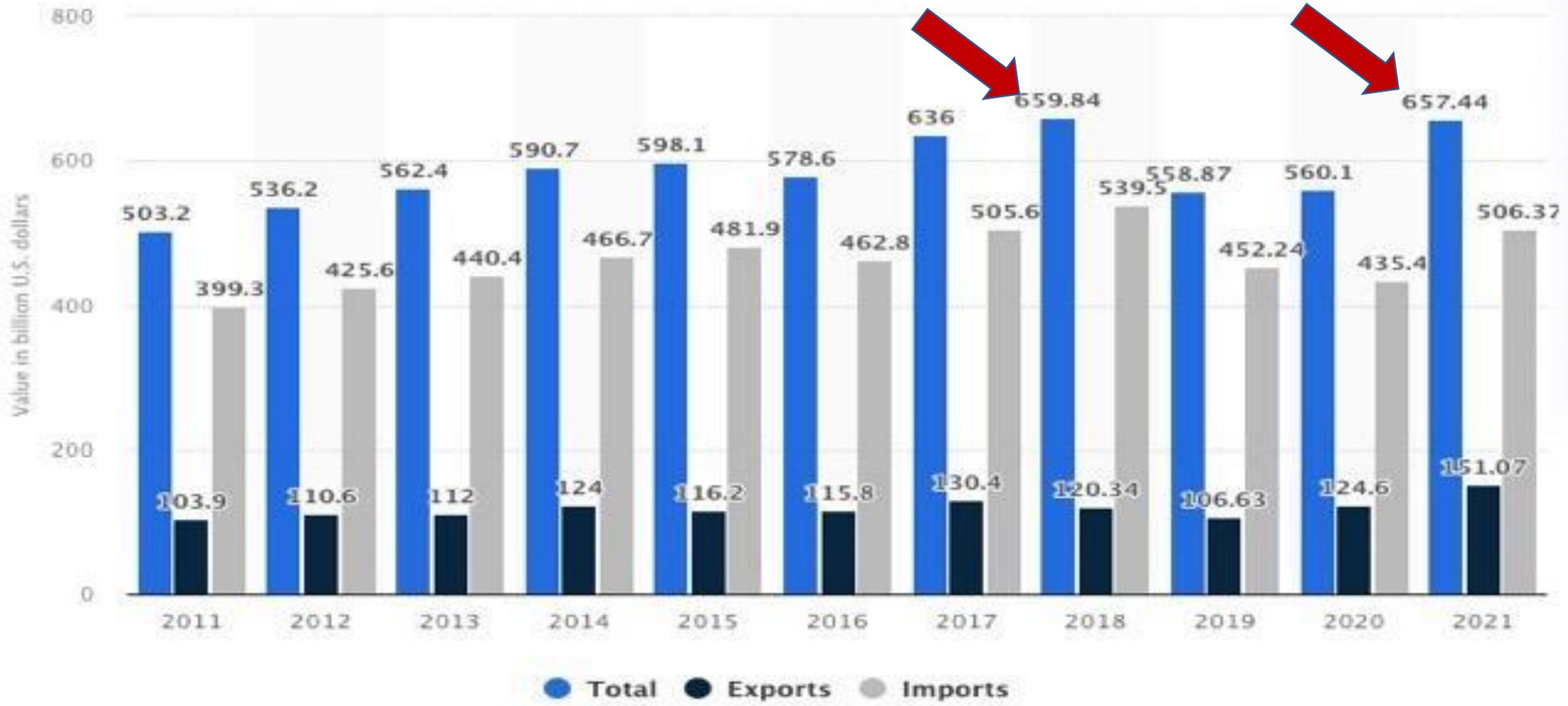


Countries for which China is the largest trade partner

124

Countries for which America is the largest trade partner

56

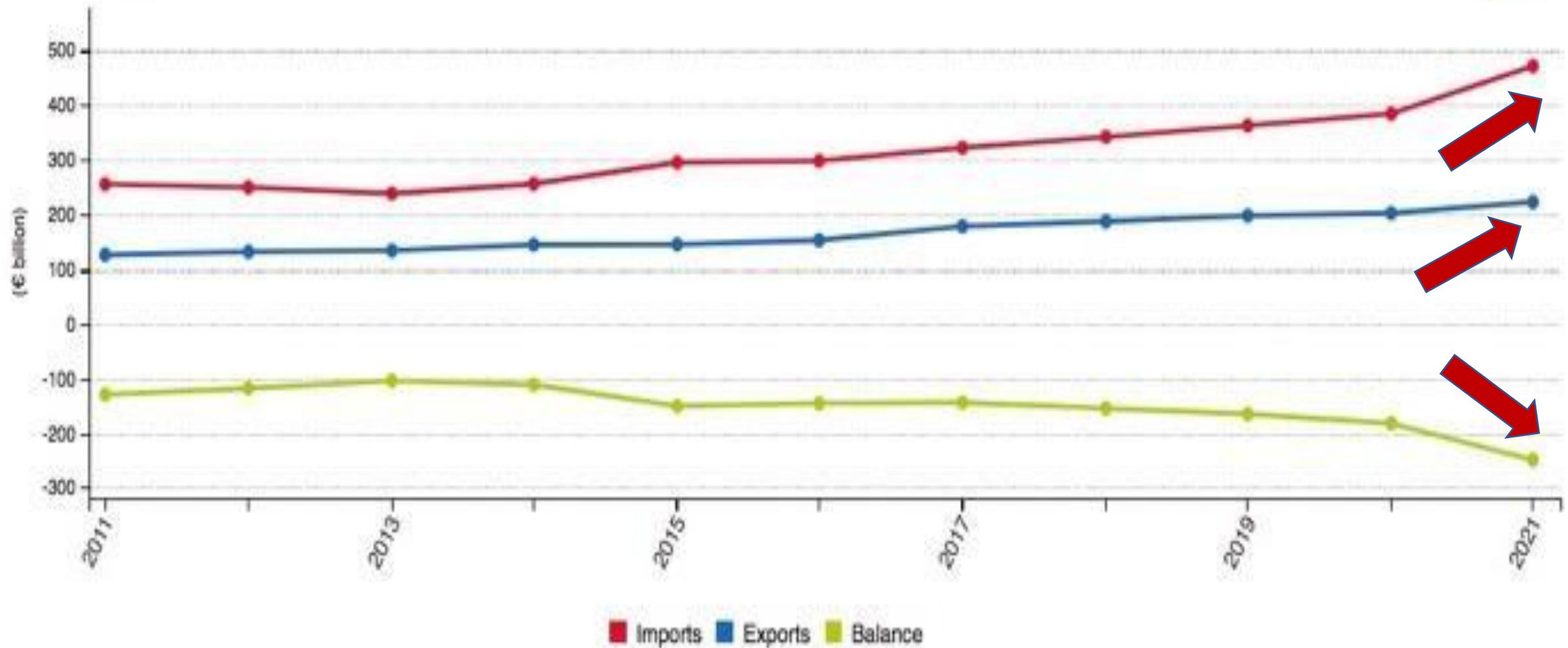


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Total value of U.S. trade in goods (export and import) with China from 2011 to 2021 (in billion U.S. dollars)

EU trade in goods with China, 2011-2021



Source: Eurostat (ext_st_eu27_2020sitc) and Comext DS-018995

India's imports from China surge to record high in first nine months of year

India imported \$89.66 billion worth of goods from China in the first nine months of 2022, the highest on record for three quarters in any year. Two-way trade has crossed \$100 billion

October 26, 2022 07:53 pm | Updated 09:18 pm IST - Beijing



ANANTH KRISHNAN

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TRADE

China passes US as top Japanese export buyer, topping 20%

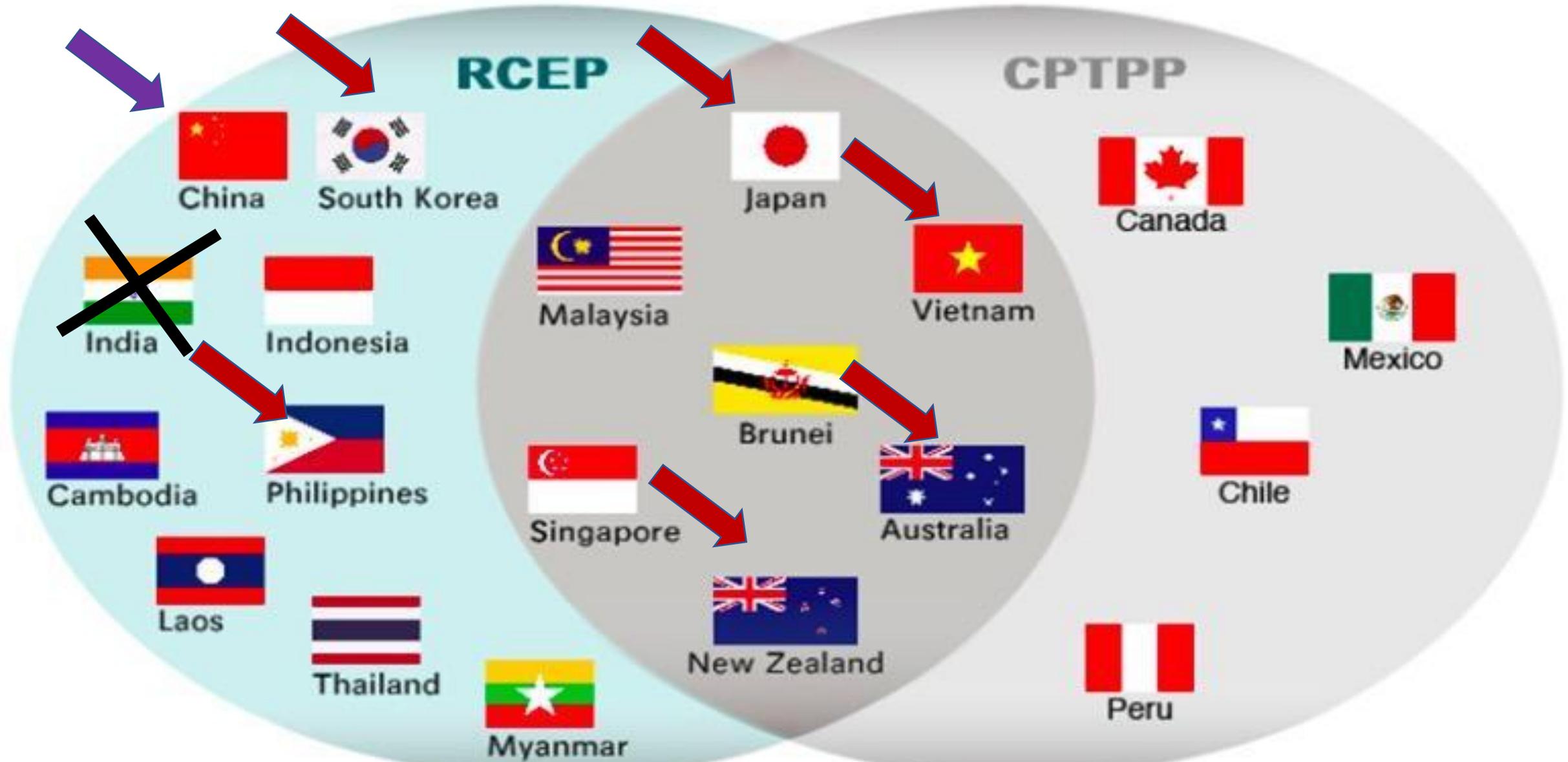
Cars and cardboard drive gains, even as some companies warn on overreliance



A container ship sits at a port in Shenzhen. Last year, China replaced the U.S. as Japan's largest trading partner. © Reuters

Nikkei staff writers

Asia-Pacific Regional Trade Groups



US absent in all of this, doing more geopolitics. TPP & TTIP both failed.

Part 2

Geoeconomics & Connectivity

ate Exemplifies Tangled Myanmar

Far From Home: The Afghans Aiding Afghanistan

Turkmenistan Takes Policing Women's Bodies to the Next Level

Australia's Elections: The China Narrative

FEATURES | ECONOMY

What Will Russia's Invasion of Ukraine Mean for China's Belt and Road?

Exploring the geoeconomic implications for the BRI and other Eurasian economic and infrastructure initiatives.

By **Mohammadbagher Forough**
March 18, 2022



While primarily a geopolitical event, the Russian invasion of Ukraine will profoundly reconfigure global geoeconomics. "Geoeconomics" is defined here simply as the intersection of economy and geography. Examples include infrastructure-based connectivity initiatives such as China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the European Union's Global Gateway, the U.S.-led Blue Dot Network (BDN), the G-7's Build Back Better World (B3W), Japan's Quality Infrastructure Investment (QII), Russia's Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), and the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) driven by Russia, Iran, and India.



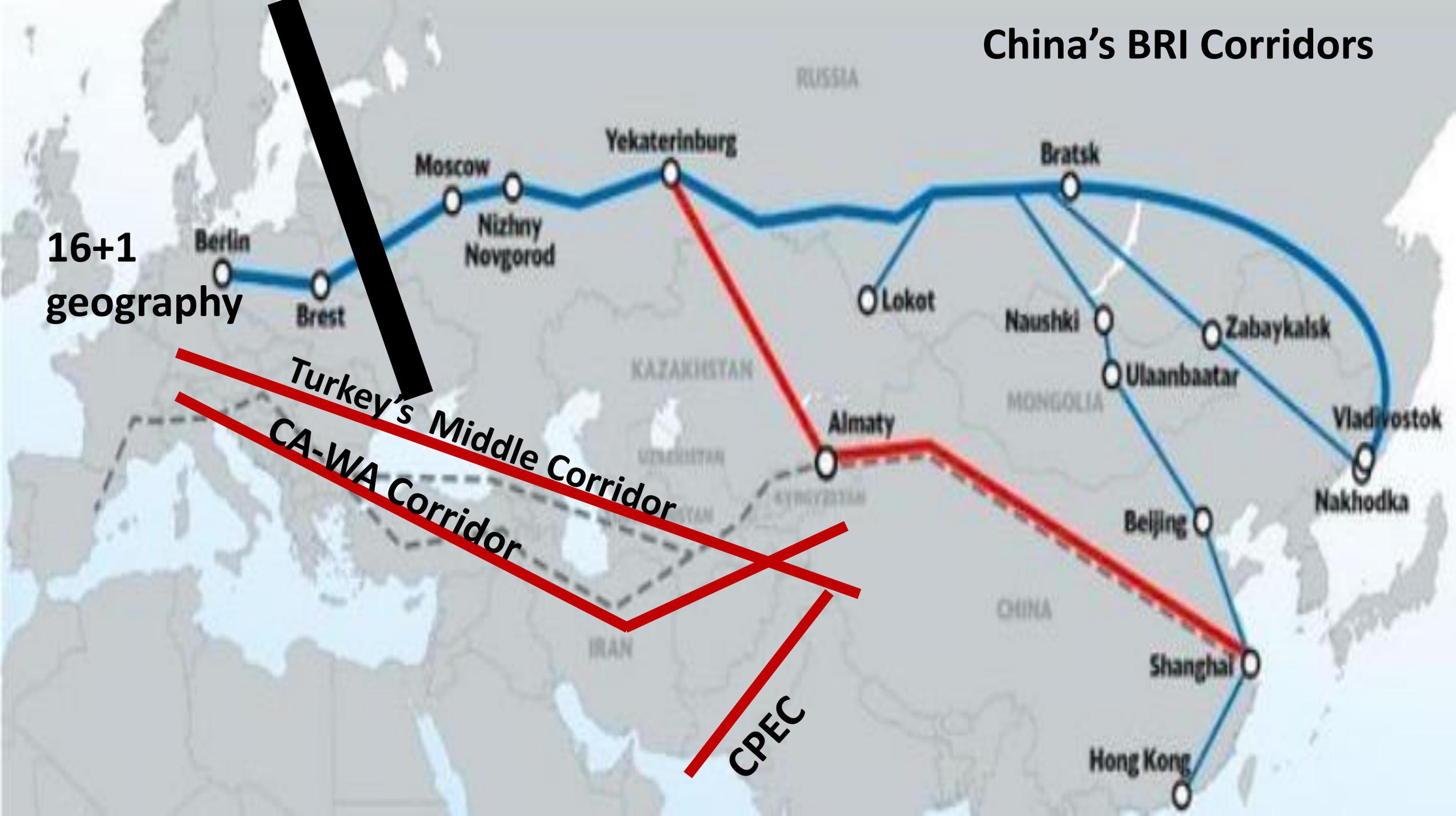
Russian armored vehicles are loaded onto railway platforms at a railway station in region not far from

China's BRI Corridors

16+1
geography

Turkey's Middle Corridor
CA-WA Corridor

CPEC



EAEU



International North – South Transport Corridor & Other Routes



- Legend**
- Route 1 - Suez Canal Route
 - Route 2 - INSTC Route
 - Route 3 - Railway Project (Bandar Abbas - Moscow)
 - Route 4 - North West Route (Iran - Turkmenistan - Kazakhstan)
 - Route 5 - North East Route (Bandar Abbas - Almaty)
 - Route 6 - Chahbahar - Afghanistan - Uzbekistan
 - Route 7 - India - China (Shanghai) - Central Asia (Almaty)
 - Route 8 - India - China - Dushanbe
 - Route 9 - Bandar Abbas - Turkey
 - Route 10 - Central Asia Persian Gulf Corridor
 - Route 11 - TAPS
 - Route 12 - China - Kazakhstan Railway Line

FTPrime

Moscow, Tehran to raise volume of Russian goods to India via INSTC

By Dipanjan Roy Chaudhury, ET Bureau • Last Updated: Nov 28, 2022, 07:09 AM IST

Synopsis

The decision to boost INSTC trade was taken during a recent visit of senior Iranian officials to Moscow, ET has learnt. During Jaishankar's visit to Moscow and the Iranian deputy foreign minister's visit to New Delhi, boosting trade via INSTC was a key discussion item on the agenda.



Reuters

Close on the heels of Foreign Minister [S Jaishankar's Moscow visit](#), Russia and Iran have agreed on the transit of 12 million tons of Russian goods via [Tehran](#) along the International North-South Transport Corridor ([INSTC](#)), with both Moscow and Delhi seeking to increase trade volumes through the multi-modal transport corridor that

has been a game-changer in Indo-Russian economic partnership since the start of the Ukraine war.

Growing trade between Russia and India opens a new era for Silk Road

IANS • Economy News • 2022-11-02 13:45





Competitive Connectivity

- **PGII:** US-led
- **Global Gateway (EU)**
- **B3W:** G-7 (US-led)
- **QII:** Japan
- **3SI:** CEE (3 Seas Initiative)
- **IPEF** (US-Indo-Pacific)

VS

- BRI:** China, 140 countries
- MPAC:** 10 ASEAN countries
- EAEU:** Russia, Iran, et al.
- INSTC:** Iran-Russia-India-Azerb-Oman
- AA:** Iran - Central Asia
- Middle Corridor:** Turkey

Part 3

Forecasts

Geopolitical Forecasts

- **Assumption:** No revolutionary/systemic change
- **Bifurcation:** Part and parcel of economic and trade decision-making
- **New Cold War:** not possible to win, even to wage
- **‘Strategic autonomy’:** EU, GCC, ASEAN, Africa, India
- Potentially **frozen** conflict (or **Cold Peace**) in Ukraine
- **“Indo-Pacific”** geopolitics getting hotter (AUKUS/QUAD)
- Western **decoupling** with Russia
- Russia: **Not as lonely** as we (in the West) think
- **Decoupling:**
 - **Technologically:** a partial reality (in AI, semi-conductors, etc.)
 - **Geopolitically:** a buzzword
 - **Geo-economically:** mostly false, i.e., record interdependence happening

Geoeconomic Forecasts

- **Silk Roads:** Slowly becoming geoeconomic frameworks
- **China** absorbing Russia ('s geography, economy, resources, military)
- **Green econ** becoming more real, geopoliticized, & geoeconomized
- Emergence of **new markets & econ dynamics** in Afro-EurAsia
- **ASEAN:** more prominent geoeconomically
- **Africa:** Becoming increasingly central to global economy
- **Middle East:** becoming more geo-economized
- **Techno-geopolitics:** more prominent
- **China-Russia-Iran:** getting geoeconomically closer
- **SCO, BRICS, AIIB, CICA:** bigger global role
- **BRI, INSTC, EAEU, MC, AA,:** will be synergized in Afro-EurAsia
- **Afro-EurAsia:** More connectivity between Africa, Europe, and Asia

Thanks for your attention!