

PSIR & GS-2 Daily Brief

About this initiative : Briefs, scans the best academic platforms, national newspapers & leading think tanks to pick the most relevant articles & research. It converts them into crisp, high-impact points you can directly use in your mains answers.

PSIR
Optional by
Amit Pratap
Singh
| ForumIAS |



Article - 1

A new order for the Gulf :
Foreign Affairs

Article - 2

Reviving India-Africa
relations in a fragmented
world: ORF

Article - 3

The root of today's global
imbalances : Project
Syndicate

Article - 1 : A new order for the Gulf

CURRENT ISSUE [SUBSCRIBE](#)

FOREIGN
AFFAIRS

LOG IN MENU

A New Order for the Gulf

The Region Must Build Its Own Security, Not Buy It

DAVID B. ROBERTS

May 18, 2026



Bahrainian King Sheikh Hamad bin Isa al-Khalifa and Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in Iddah, Saudi Arabia. April 2026

DAVID B. ROBERTS is Reader in Middle East Security Studies at King's College London, Head of the King's Institute for Applied Security Studies, and the author of *Security Politics of the Gulf Monarchies*.

[More by David B. Roberts →](#)

Context Gulf states can no longer depend on the U.S. for protection and build their own regional security order with Iran through diplomacy, deterrence & gradual U.S. military withdrawal.

Facts

■ Five year phased U.S. withdrawal - core of a regional settlement.

■ Gulf states - shift from outsourced security to self built military and diplomatic capability.

■ Gulf cooperation : maritime security, early warning, refinery defence, drone interception & mine clearance.

Analytical Crux

Gulf insecurity is not caused by Iran; it is also produced by the very U.S. military presence that is meant to protect the region. The Gulf states should stop behaving like protected clients and start acting like regional principals. The proposed bargain is not U.S. retreat, but a controlled security reset where Iran gets incentives and the Gulf gets verifiable limits on Iranian power.

Verbatim Quotes

“A phased U.S. withdrawal would remove a structural cause of Gulf insecurity. The systemic reset of intra-Gulf relations would mark the start of a new regional order—the Gulf’s Westphalian moment.”

— David B. Roberts

Article - 2 : Reviving India-Africa relations in a fragmented world



Context The return of the India-Africa Forum Summit after an 11-year gap is a chance for India to make its Africa policy practical, inclusive and future-oriented.

Facts

India-Africa trade reached \$100 billion in 2024-25.

India's defence equipment exports - Mauritius, Seychelles and Mozambique.

Four pillars of future India-Africa ties : Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), AfCFTA, security cooperation & new institutions.

Analytical Crux

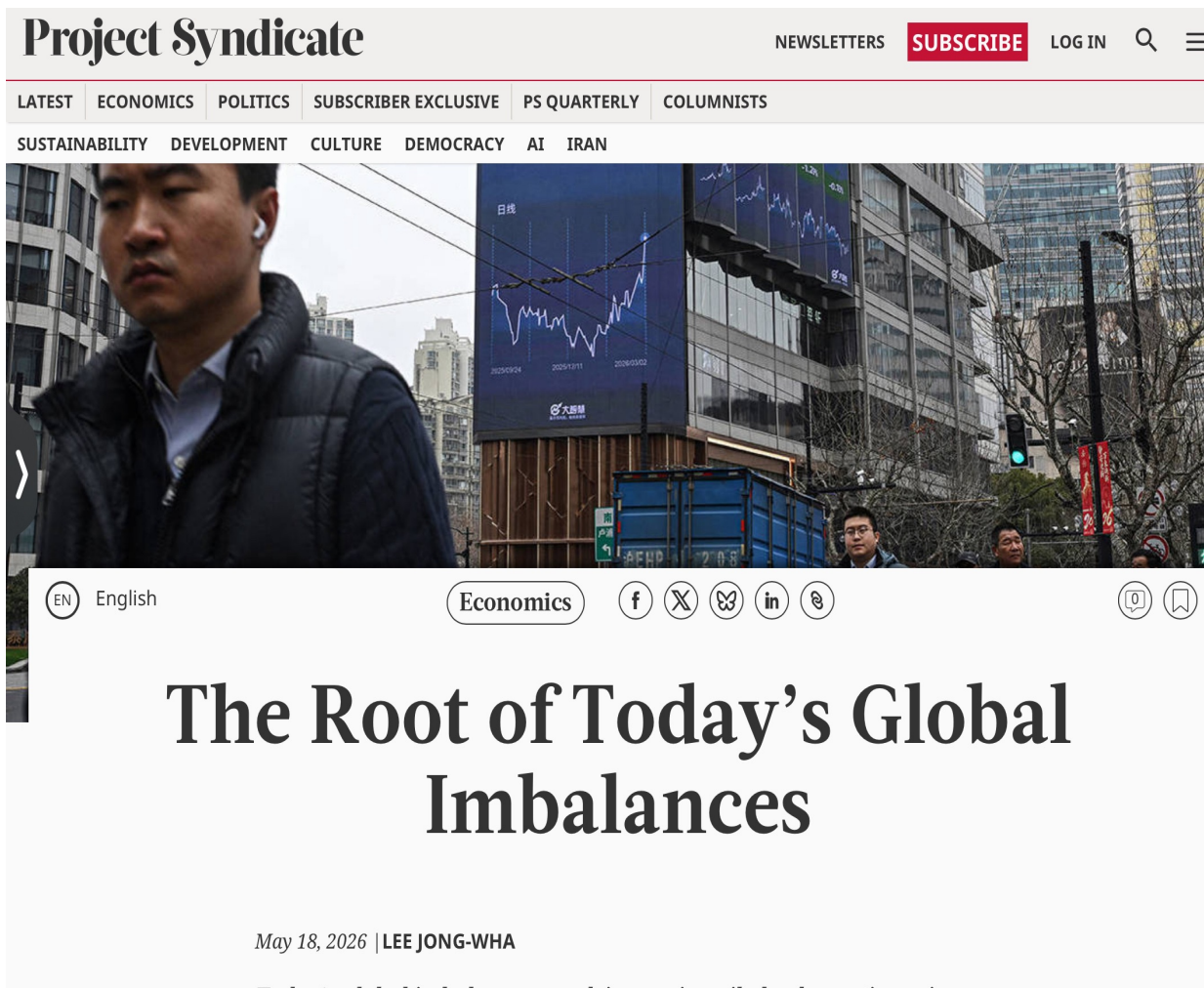
India - Africa relations cannot run on historical goodwill and summit diplomacy. Africa today is a strategic space for digital governance, trade integration, security cooperation and Global South leadership. India's advantage is that it can offer partnership without the old colonial or hierarchical tone. India must move from State-centric South-South language to practical, need-based and institution backed cooperation.

Verbatim Quotes

"India's approach to Africa must focus on expanding defence dialogues, joint exercises, technology transfers, strategic autonomy and collective resilience in a multipolar world."

- Samir Bhattacharya

Article - 3 : The root of today's global imbalances



Context Today's global economic imbalances are not about trade deficits and tariffs, but about saving - investment gaps, capital flows, geopolitical rivalry and weak domestic reforms.

Facts

■ IMF, BIS & FSB should strengthen surveillance of capital flows, leverage and liquidity mismatches.

■ "China Shock 2.0"- concentrated in EVs, batteries, solar panels, semiconductors & robotics.

Analytical Crux

Trade was treat only the surface of the problem. The real imbalance lies inside national economies : the U.S. saves little and borrows too much, while China produces much and consumes too little. Tariffs may create political noise, but they cannot correct structural gaps.

Verbatim Quotes

“Large and persistent imbalances often end badly, whether in abrupt capital-flow reversals, exchange-rate volatility, geopolitical conflict or as in 2008, financial crisis.”

- Lee Jong Wha

“Debt-financed consumption and rising external liabilities are no more reliable a long-term growth strategy than dependence on external demand.”

- Lee Jong Wha

1. **GS-II 2025:** “India-Africa digital partnership is achieving mutual respect, co-development and long-term institutional partnerships. Elaborate.”
2. **GS-III 2025:** “What are the challenges before the Indian economy when the world is moving away from free trade and multilateralism to protectionism and bilateralism? How can these challenges be met?”
3. **PSIR Paper-II 2025:** “Discuss some of the key drivers of India’s new interests in Africa which might help in developing long-term comparative advantage over China.”
4. **PSIR Paper-II 2024:** “The return of trade barriers and economic sanctions has diminished the spirit of GATT. In this context, discuss the factors contributing to the decline of WTO in recent times.”
5. **PSIR Paper-II 2023:** “What are the challenges and limitations in India–Iran relations?”
6. **PSIR Paper-II 2023:** “Discuss the major drivers of India’s interests in Africa.”

PSIR & GS2 Daily Brief

The Programme in Political Science and International Relations emphasize research, critical thinking, and enhances interdisciplinary understanding. It provides comprehensive coverage in structured key way for strategic advantage in upsc.

PSIR OPTIONAL FOUNDATION

The program focuses on Comprehensive coverage of the topic mentioned in PSIR Syllabus supplemented with regular handouts.

Upcoming Batch: 6th July, 2026

OGP (OPTIONAL GUIDANCE PROGRAM)

Focus will be on conceptual clarity and building the ability of the candidates to interlink static portion with current developments.

Upcoming Batch: 9th June, 2026

PSIR DYNAMICS

The program focuses on Current-Relevant dedicated classes cover national and international developments, integrated with PSIR syllabus.

Upcoming Batch: 22nd June, 2026

ATS (AUGMENTED TEST SERIES)

ATS sharpens structure, presentation, and depth converting effort into higher score.

Upcoming Batch: 26th April, 2026

O-AWFG (ANSWER WRITING FOCUS GROUP)

The answer writing program creates discipline and enhances skills. It helps students develop structure, articulation, coherence, and approach.

Upcoming Batch: 20th April, 2026

O-AWFG PRIME

The test series program enhances speed, flow and dynamic understanding of the subject.

Upcoming Batch : 20th April, 2026

PYQ Mastery Series

The series focuses on PYQ practice anchored in conceptual clarity and contemporary relevance.

Upcoming Batch: 22 June, 2026

Contact for Mentorship - 9311704432

Telegram: @ | Website: <https://academy.forumias.com/>

Note: Edit program names/offerings as per the latest ForumIAS schedule.