



The Quad Roundtable at the Riga Conference 2020

The Quad Group, AIWS Social Contract, and World Peace and Security

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Boston, December 19-21, 2020

Initiated by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, the Quadrilateral Initiative, informally named the Quad, brought together leaders from the United States, India, Australia, and Japan to review and assess common challenges since 2007. The group met at the annual Riga Conference 2020 to discuss the importance of upholding common interests and addressing novel issues, not only in a regional context, but also global issues, such as security, peace, and the need for a social contract in response to the growing use of artificial intelligence. These interests and the challenges received the highest-level attention from the framework nations.

The Latvian Transatlantic Organization and the Boston Global Forum co-organized the Quad Roundtable at the Riga Conference 2020. Speakers were *Chairman of the Boston Global Forum Governor Michael Dukakis, Defense State Minister of Japan Yasuhide Nakayama, Chair of the Australian Senate's Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Trade References Committee Senator Kimberley Kitching, and Chairman of the National Security Advisory Board of India Ambassador P.S. Raghavan.* The speakers reviewed these commonly shared challenges and expressed the need for common action.

The Quad and the international community recognize the challenges and opportunities – as well as the problems and perils – and the general *boni* and *mali* of artificial intelligence. **The role of the Social Contract for the AI Age** is to eliminate all negative risks, and to enhance all benefits such technological advancement could bring notably to **protect democratic values, and maintain peace and security in the world**. Many countries have announced national strategies to promote the proper use and development of artificial intelligence for scientific research and other important issues -- such as protection of culture, sustainable development, inclusive growth, skills, education, talent development, public and private sector development, fairness, transparency, accountability, ethics, values and inclusion, reliability, security and privacy, science-policy links, standards, human rights and regulations, data, and digital infrastructure.

The concept of Social Contract is not new – it has always meant something akin to social fairness and common good for all. By contrast, artificial intelligence and the technological advancements related to it are new. There is an overarching international consensus that we are moving toward an age with multiple knowns and unknowns. Technological advancement brings to the fore a type of power that in many ways is mightier than bullets. It allows for the control of understandings within society, control of knowledge, and control of individuals on a large scale. In addition, the cognition and training of machines (now endowed with roles and capabilities that were previously known only by humans and, in different ways, to animals). Such power must come with responsibility even when international entities may not share common understandings and value systems.

The Quad initiative should not be viewed as a strategic alliance. Rather, the organization should be viewed as a joint venture addressing shared interests, somewhat similar to US-Indian bilateral relations during the Obama administration'. This legacy is likely to last throughout the President-Elect Biden administration – giving priority to the rule of law, alliances, cooperation and diplomacy, and democratic values.

The Quad group would like to propose to the coming U.S. administration that leadership the following tasks be given serious consideration:

First, it is necessary to mend differences amongst the Western allies -- such as different views of interests, diversity in social perceptions, and the role of the Western alliance in U.S. priorities --, and **to reestablish US international leadership**. This role has not not, and has never been easy. The United States needs the support of its European allies as well as the Quad members. This is a crucial step for for peace and stability and for long-term prosperity. but also as well. To uphold these overarching objectives and the common good, urgent challenges such as those posed by unbridled artificial intelligence, can support the benevolent management of climate issues and pursue humanitarian security through creative cooperative diplomacy. As an example, The new U.S. administration could areestablish the nuclear agreement with Iran (the Obama's legacy) – as proof of resolving differences without insisting on domination. Such an example would gain international respect and enhance the constructive dialogue so essential to resolve common challenges.

Second, the common interest of the Quad is an open Indo-Pacific region – one that is inclusive, not exclusive. Inclusion will contribute to transparency, cooperation, and information sharing among like-minded responsible international actors. Such a situation would also facilitate containment of the pandemic from other parts of the world and from the region itself. It will also support the management of climate, humanitarian, social and security challenges for all.

In recent years, the credibility of security alliances in the Indo-Pacific region has been called into question. For this reason, the Quad emphasizes diplomacy to enhance even broader cooperation with such partners as South Korea, Philippines, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Laos, and Europe. Indo-Pacific region must be governed by rules, and by respecting democratic values.

Third, artificial intelligence is not just a novel technology but also something that can enhance the digital economy and commercial opportunities for all. It might seem that all international actors could embrace these new possibilities. The world of the Cold War is not the world of today. The surge of new challenges is too difficult and multifaceted for any one country – including the United States -- to manage singly.

Artificial intelligence could contribute to these objectives by enhancing democracy and the rule of law. Such novel technologies would support the sharing and processing of publicly available information, indispensable for future discoveries and the promotion of democratic values. Such an approach must rest on principles where physical and cyber spaces are strongly embedded. Machines can analyze large amounts of available data in all domains, but in the end, only well-trained human capital will bear the decision-making responsibility from the appraisal of data results. Such technologies can deliver significant gains to everyone.

Nevertheless, these technologies can serve authoritarian and communist regimes in undermining democratic governance and values. These novel technological advancements can be used to generate fake news (but also to eliminate such information), malign informational campaigns (but conversely to tame and contain them), and modern warfare (to support democratic values or undermine them). In the end, superiority in the realm of artificial intelligence will decide how battles will be fought – in space or in the oceans. **The Quad group could also work to bring all countries in the region to a shared view of the common good.**

Fourth, while addressing possibilities and challenges brought about by artificial intelligence, US leadership must consider the interconnectivity of different types of interests in the Indo-Pacific region. Again, the world of today is different. There are striking manifestations of Chinese influence and control. The Quad goal is to enable China to recognize the responsibilities that Beijing's power brings to it. No one seeks to confront China. **However, the Quad has the important responsibility of requesting China to respect its neighbors and to refrain from generating tensions in the Indo-Pacific region. As a matter of principle, respect for Hong Kong and its democracy is imperative.**

Fifth, the surge of 5G technologies will enhance the expansion of artificial intelligence. With such technological expansion, democratic values should dominate in the use of data. The availability of data can contribute to the elimination of the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, for example. Big data and artificial intelligence has accelerated the possibility of contentions between the China 5G and West 5G. The Quad could help ensure the responsible use of artificial intelligence by all international actors everywhere.

Supporting the norms, standards, and democratic values of the Social Contract for the AI Age is a fundamental directive for the Quad Group in its efforts to maintain world peace and security, and to undermine any threats that undermine these values.

To help shape common next steps, the Quad proposes to draw on the template for Europe after the Helsinki Accord. With technology as the foremost challenge, a similar initiative could originate in Europe, specifically in Riga. In this context, the Baltic countries could lead the debate on challenges of technological innovations and transformations. Baltic capitals as Tallinn, with its cyber center of excellence, or Riga, with its strategic communications center of excellence – can become global pioneers in capturing the full value and benefits of artificial intelligence.

Introduction to the Quad Roundtable:

Speakers and Discussants:

The Quad Roundtable is a major international initiative with the participation of distinguished leaders from the US, Japan, Australia, and India. This include decisionmakers at all levels, policymakers, legislators, distinguished thinkers, innovators, and heads of major corporations. The goal is to explore a range of solutions to current challenges, and to frame strategies for enhancing a common pathway to world peace and security.

Format and Process:

The process has been detailed and intensive, and it has allowed for sustained discussions and exchange of views.

For example, the Quad Roundtable engaged in

- Three hours of in-person meetings
- Three hours of combined online and offline meetings

Culminating in

- Two hours of the Riga Conference, 2020

In addition to these were also:

- A set of private discussions -- through emails –between distinguished thinkers, innovators, and legislators.

Outcome and Results:

The results are presented in a Final Report of major recommendations to President of the United States and the Prime Ministers of Japan, Australia, India, as well as leaders of the EU, UK, Germany, France, Canada and the Baltic States.

The concluding session called for members of World Leadership Alliance-Club de Madrid and world leaders to support, endorse, and to work for the implantation of **the Social Contract for the AI Age**.

Among the central features of the Social Contract for the AI Age are the following:

- 1) It highlights the importance of an international TCP/IP, that is, a set of norms, values and standards specifically designed as connections among governments. for enabling and supporting international relations -- including between governments, between companies, between companies and governments.
- 2) It is anchored in principles of justice and equity, recognizing that communities must have control over their own data.
- 3) Its global reach leads to a call for all governments to promote the Democratic Alliance for Digital Governance – with a Code of Ethics for AI Developers and AI Users, and the creation of a system to monitor and evaluate governments, companies, as well as individuals.

And, especially important is

- 4) Recognition of the Social Contract for the AI Age by the United Nations, international organizations, governments, companies, civil society and the international AI community.

In conclusion, it is clear that the world now requires an AI International Accord. This is the mission of Boston Global Forum for 2021.

SIGNED BY

Chairman of the Boston Global Forum,

Governor Michael Dukakis

Chairman of Latvian Transatlantic Organization, the Co-Organizer of the Riga Conference 2020

Prof. Žaneta Ozoliņa

Yasuhide Nakayama, Japanese State Minister of Defense

To: Boston Global Forum,

I am grateful to be given an opportunity to express my views on the Japan-U.S. security. I would like to share my personal opinion based upon my twenty-year career in the public service as a Diet member and my experience in such capacities as Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, State Minister of Foreign Affairs, and State Minister of Defense.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the signing of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty.

Regardless of the ongoing battle between humanity and COVID-19, the security environment of the Indo-Pacific including the East Asia which Japan-U.S. Alliance faces has been becoming increasingly severe.

China is actively and persistently attempting to change the status quo in the South China Sea, in the border area with India, and in the waters around Senkaku Islands, which are inherent part of the Japanese territories in the East China Sea. PLA has become more active than before in Taiwan Strait.

North Korea is continuing its missile and nuclear development. North Korea has conducted test-launch of more than 70 ballistic missiles in the past five years, and is developing missiles that have a range of ICBM-class missile. It has been assessed that North Korea has successfully miniaturized nuclear weapons and fitted ballistic missiles with nuclear warheads after six nuclear tests they conducted.

Japan has enacted the Peace and Security Legislation to deal with such security environment and has made it a top priority to strengthen the capabilities in the new domains such as space, cyberspace, and electro-magnetic spectrum, stand-off defense capabilities, and maneuver and deployment capabilities. The U.S. has 50,000 personnel stationed in Japan. This includes only aircraft carrier whose homeport is outside the mainland U.S. as well as the only maritime expeditionary force which is deployed forward. Japan provides such U.S. forces with bases that are necessary for their capabilities and other essential assistance for their stationing.

Japan and the U.S. are utilizing such capabilities to demonstrate presence through training with other partner countries such as India and Australia in the sea and airspace of Indian Ocean and the Pacific. The vessels and aircraft of the SDF are tasked with the mission to protect the U.S. assets operating together with SDF in the vicinity of Japan. Japan-U.S. relationship has elevated to a level where we can mutually protect each other, and Japan-U.S. Alliance has become the cornerstone for peace, freedom, and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific which is a mutual interest of the two nations, that is, a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific."

Japan and the U.S. together seek to uphold the democracy, freedom, and the rule of law, promote economic cooperation, and we are working together for the peace and stability of the international community. I, as a politician of Japan, look forward to continuing to work together shoulder-to-shoulder with the new administration of the U.S. and make utmost efforts for our mutual interests.

Ambassador P.S Raghavan, Chair of National Security Advisory Board, India

I warmly welcome the initiative of the Boston Global Forum to launch discussions between representatives of the US, India, Japan and Australia on the Quad dialogue of the four countries. The Quad Roundtable highlighted the perspectives of each of the countries on the Quad, shaped by its geography, historical experiences, economic circumstances and political aspirations. I believe that, moving forward, four major considerations would shape the course of the Quad dialogue:

1. It needs to find the highest common factor in the perspectives of its members, based on the factors mentioned above, so that it can move in the direction, and at the pace, that respects the comfort level of all its members.
2. The Quad's objectives cannot be articulated in terms of containing or confronting China, but rather as drawing China into a cooperative order in the Indo-Pacific, in which the legitimate rights and aspirations of all countries receive due recognition.
3. With the right message, the Quad can expand its membership with more like-minded countries that experience the same challenges in the Indo-Pacific region. This could include South Korea, ASEAN countries like Indonesia and Vietnam, and others.
4. It is important that the Quad sustains its coherence of purpose in the interests of peace and security in the region, despite changes of leadership in its constituent countries. The Covid pandemic and ensuing developments have highlighted the gravity of the challenges facing the region today.

The Quad Roundtable provides a platform for addressing leaders of Quad countries with the above message.

Senator Kimberley Kitching, Chair of the Australian Senate's Foreign Affairs, Defence, and Trade References Committee

I thank the Boston Global Forum for their initiative, and also for facilitating this important and timely discussion on new regional security architectures. The Quad Roundtable gave representatives from Australia, the US, India and Japan a chance to share notes and discuss this important proposal.

Australia seeks to engage constructively with all nations in the Asia-Pacific — welcoming them into the community of world trade. Australian leaders from Whitlam to Hawke to Rudd, have been prominent in these efforts, all of which were enormously beneficial to the region.

The advent of a new administration in Washington provides an excellent opportunity for us to take stock of, and assess, how we would like the Asia-Pacific to look over the next hundred years. I don't say this in any spirit of criticism of the outgoing administration. Like the US, regardless of which party is in office in Australia, the Alliance remains as true as when it was forged in the darkest days of World War II.

But our alliances should also reflect the realities of our region — a region anchored by two great democratic powers at its geographic extremes: Japan to the North-East and India to the South-West. As the Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean regions have become, in some way, the geopolitical centres of the world, displacing the Atlantic focus of the Cold War era and bypassing the deadlocked conflicts of the Middle East, the importance of these two powers has steadily increased.

Professor Nazli Choucri, MIT, Board Member of the Boston Global Forum

Quad Roundtable – Riga Conference
Date: November 12, 2020

The Quad Roundtable, held on November 12, 2020, is an initiative with potentially powerful implications, not only for the core Quad countries and the Indo-Pacific region, but for the world as a whole. It has brought to the surface, and articulated, ambient considerations and security concerns that are becoming increasingly salient.

This is an important opportunity for the Quad to reach out to other states and to anchor its message in inherent validity and strong significance – regional as well as global. It goes without saying that “nothing is easy”. At the same time, cooperation and coordination are powerful tools of international interaction – far more effective in the long run than are other alternatives.

The Quad Roundtable highlighted at least three major features of this current reality:

- (1) States with very diverse cultural and social norms can converge in support of common values and shared visions for peace and stability.
- (2) Known challenges and problems may be such that they lead to shared aversions”.
- (3) As a result, solution strategies can be built upon powerful “shared interests”

All of this augur well for the future of a Social Contract for the AI Age. It may also be invaluable for a commensurate Global Accord. There is much to look forward to in this time of stress and distress.