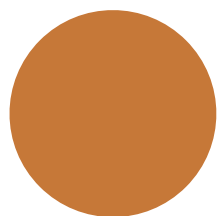


Política Internacional e Geopolítica

a reconfiguração do mundo no século XXI

**INSTITUTO CULTURAL
D. ANTÓNIO FERREIRA GOMES
José Pedro Teixeira Fernandes
SESSÃO Nº 30**

1/06/2022



PARTE I – TEMA PRINCIPAL

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (1) [FONTE: Nature, 12/04/2022]

The war in Ukraine is exposing gaps in the world's food-systems research

Russia's invasion is the latest threat to the stability of world food supplies. Researchers must act now to halt the cycle of repeated food crises.

12 April 2022

Russia's invasion is the latest threat to the stability of world food supplies. Researchers must act now to halt the cycle of repeated food crises.



Ukraine is a major exporter of wheat, but the Russian invasion is threatening this year's crop. Credit: Vincent

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (2) [FONTE: Nature, 12/04/2022]

An invasion. A war. A pandemic. A financial crisis. All have conspired to put unprecedented stress on global food systems. Ukraine and Russia produce a combined total of 14% of the world's wheat and 30% of the world's wheat exports, as well as 60% of the world's sunflower oil. These supplies are under threat, with Russia suspending food and fertilizer exports, and Ukraine's farmers under extreme stress, fighting an invading army while tending to this year's crop.

And Russia is not alone in limiting its exports. According to Rob Vos at the International Food Policy Research Institute, based in Washington DC, by 12 April, a total of 16 countries had banned or restricted food exports. This marked reduction in supply is fuelling inflation. Taken together, the impacts could be catastrophic for some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people. At least 26 countries, including Somalia, Senegal and Egypt, rely on one or both of Russia and Ukraine for between 50% and 100% of their wheat. If the war continues, many countries already saddled with pandemic debt could be forced to borrow more to subsidize staple foods, creating more hardship.

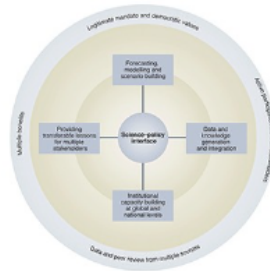
Clearly, action must be taken now. Priorities must include preventing and rolling back export bans, and funding the World Food Programme's emergency-relief efforts. The agency said last month that, because of inflation, it needs to find an extra US\$60 million to \$75 million a month.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (3) [FONTE: Nature, 12/04/2022]

Schools of thought

The diagnosis might be clear, but there's less consensus on what needs to be done in the medium-to-long term to increase nations' resilience to the hunger that follows pandemics, wars and extreme weather. Food-systems science is complex, with many perspectives, and there are gaps in the research. There is also no intergovernmental mechanism through which governments, having been informed by research advice, are bound to act on food systems.

According to one school of thought, every policy lever must be applied to reduce countries' dependence on food imports — even if that means choosing options that might not be the most environmentally sound. It could mean, for example, felling forests so that more cereal and oil crops can be grown closer to home markets.



[Enhancing science-policy interfaces for food systems transformation](#)

A second school of thought argues that the crisis presents a chance to speed up moves towards a more environmentally conscious future. Intensive agriculture is the leading cause of biodiversity loss and, globally, farming contributes 30% of all greenhouse-gas emissions. At least four policies could minimize these impacts, while at the same time securing food supplies, say proponents.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (4)

[FONTE: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), 13/04/2022]

From bad to worse: How Russia-Ukraine war-related export restrictions exacerbate global food insecurity

April 13, 2022

Global turmoil and supply shocks can increase a country's vulnerability to food shortages. In the past, countries have often resorted to restrictive trade policies to address food supply disruptions. The Ukraine-Russia crisis is no exception; a number of countries have imposed export restrictions in various forms.

With [food prices](#) already high due to COVID-related supply chain disruptions and drought-reduced yields last year, Russia's invasion came at a bad time for global food markets. Russia and Ukraine alone account for [12% of total calories traded](#). As the war continues, there is a growing likelihood that food shortages, particularly of grains and vegetable oils, will become acute, leading more countries to turn to restrictions on trade.

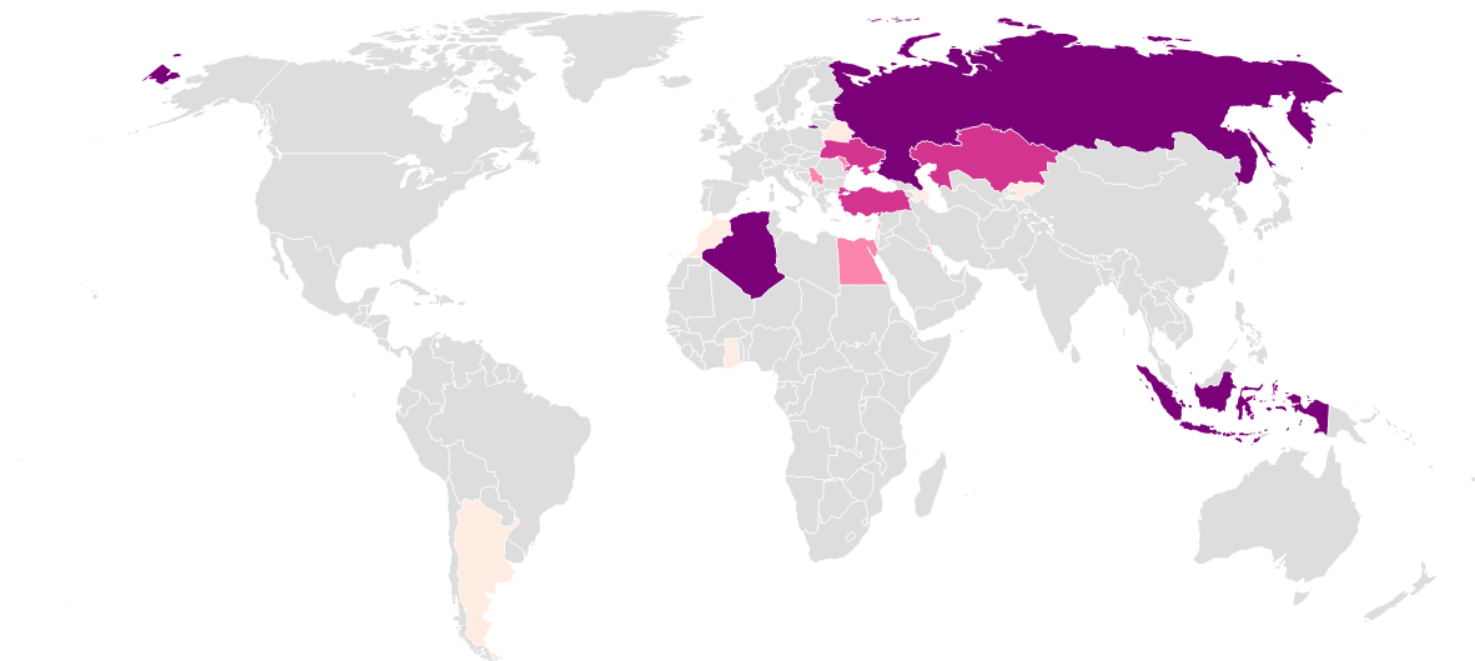
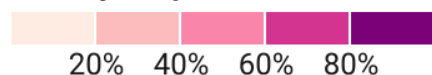
Thus this is a dangerous moment. Such measures benefit those in domestic markets, but at the expense of net food importing countries. Past experience suggests that these trade measures will put additional pressure on available food stocks, push prices up and [potentially threaten food security](#) for the poor.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (5)

[FONTE: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), 13/04/2022]

Countries implementing food export restrictions

Share of restrictions in
country's export



Data extracted from the Export restriction tracker on April 12th 2022.

Map: David Laborde • Source: IFPRI

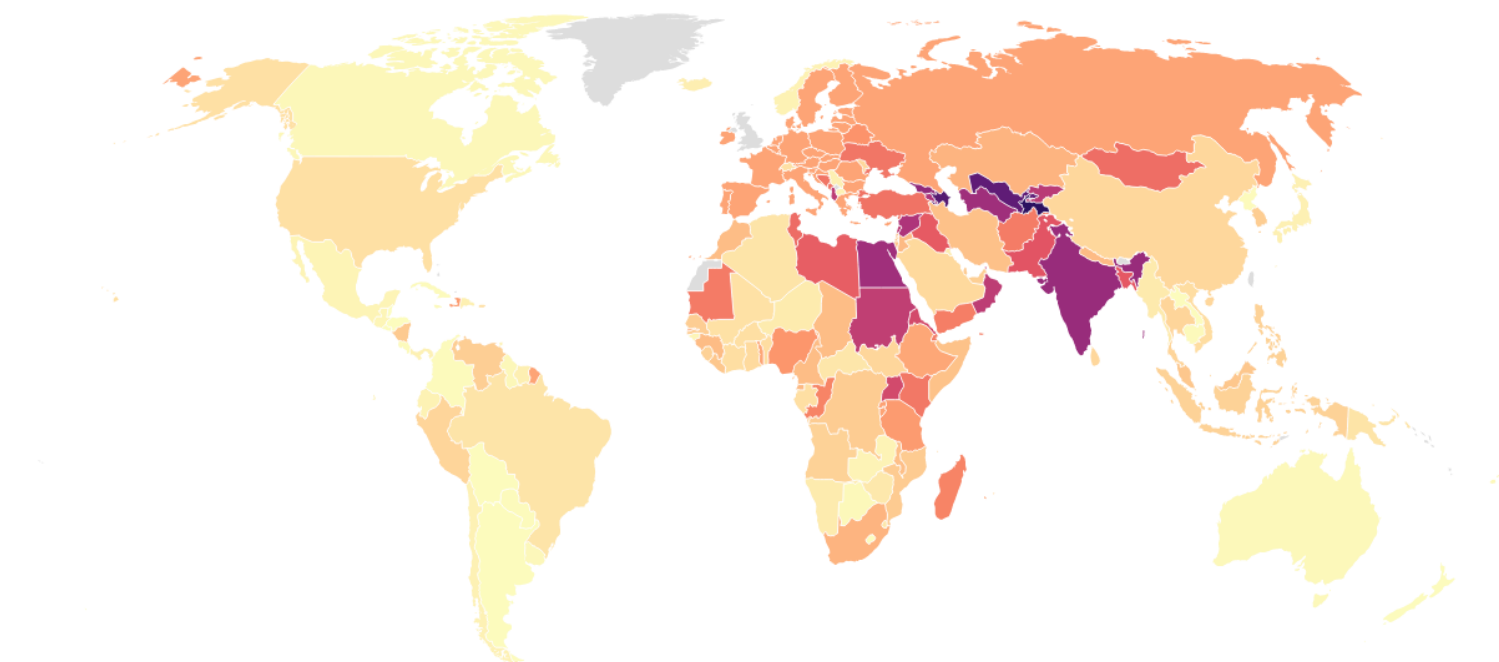
A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (6)

[FONTE: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), 13/04/2022]

Impact of restrictions on importers

Cumulated effects since early 2022

Share of restrictions in
imported calories



Data extracted from the Export restriction tracker on April 12th 2022.

Map: David Laborde • Source: IFPRI

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (7)

[FONTE: Weil, P. and G. Zachmann (2022) 'The impact of the war in Ukraine on food security', Bruegel Blog, 21 March]

The impact of the war in Ukraine on food security

By: [Pauline Weil](#) and [Georg Zachmann](#)

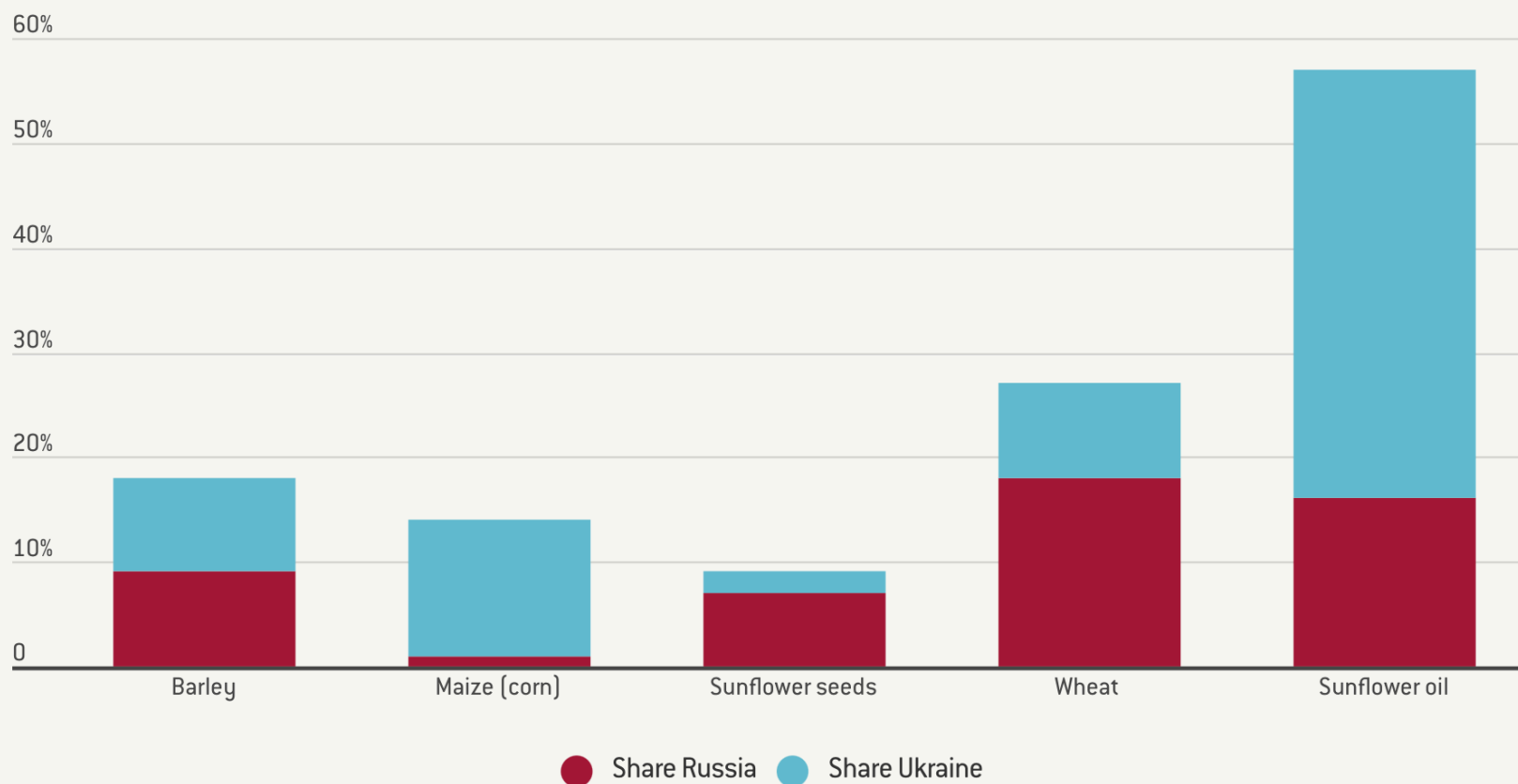
Lower food supply and higher prices will persist in the coming months. Global inflation will surge with the combined historic rise in energy and food prices. As the prices of staples surge, humanitarian needs and political risks will increase. The last time food prices reached current highs (Figure 1), they set the stage for the Arab Spring uprisings. A number of countries are already applying export restrictions to secure their own supplies while exacerbating the problems for most vulnerable countries.

The full impact will not be felt until next autumn's crop season. Anticipating future shortfalls could significantly [help soften the blow](#) and limit the humanitarian impacts of food supply shocks. Major producers including the EU, the United States and Australia can prepare. These economies have very efficient agro-industries and could boost production on fallow land. The EU especially, with its proximity to the most vulnerable markets, needs to enable its farmers to drastically step-up grain production. Crops for food consumption should be prioritised where possible over fodder and biofuels (which are in high demand in developed countries because of spiking energy prices). The EU currently produces energy crops on about 15% of its arable land. In addition, given the magnitude of the current shock, a requirement for EU farmers to leave [5% of arable land as 'ecological focus areas'](#) – uncultivated and without fertiliser use – should be lifted for the current planting season. The flexibility for the current planting season for grains, which typically runs until late March, is likely very limited, but for the next season it will be crucial to ensure that food stocks are replenished.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (8)

[FONTE: Weil, P. and G. Zachmann (2022) 'The impact of the war in Ukraine on food security', Bruegel Blog, 21 March]

Figure 2: Ukraine and Russia, share of global markets by volume, 2018-2020



Source: Bruegel based on UN Comtrade.

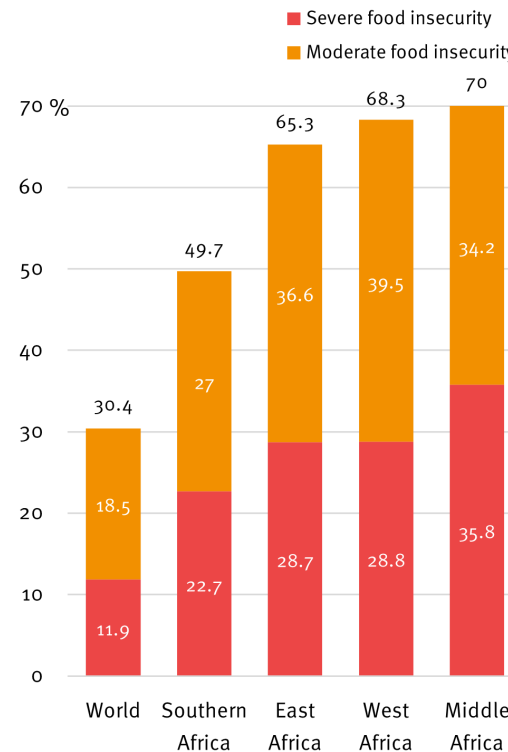
A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (9) [FONTE: HRW, 21/03/2022]

Ukraine/Russia: As War Continues, Africa Food Crisis Looms

Provide Aid, Expand Social Protection to Prevent Hunger

March 21, 2022

Share of food insecure populations in East, West, Middle, and Southern Africa in 2020



Human Rights Watch analysis of FAO data.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (10) [FONTE: HRW, 21/03/2022]

"Many countries in Africa were already in a food crisis," said [Lena Simet](#), senior researcher on poverty and inequality at Human Rights Watch. "Rising prices are compounding the plight of millions of people thrown into poverty by the Covid-19 pandemic, requiring urgent action by governments and the international community."

Under global and [African human rights law](#) everyone has the right to sufficient and adequate food. To protect this right, governments are obligated to enact policies and initiate programs to ensure that everyone can afford safe and nutritious food. [Social protection systems](#) that implement the right to social security for all can be key instruments for [realizing](#) the right to food.

Before the war in Ukraine, countries in East, West, Middle, and Southern Africa, including Angola, Cameroon, Kenya, and Nigeria, were already grappling with soaring [food prices](#) due to extreme climate and [weather events](#) such as floods, landslides, and [droughts](#), and the [Covid-19 pandemic](#), which disrupted production efforts and global supply chains. Since [Russia's invasion](#), global food prices have reached new heights. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) [Food Price Index](#), a measure of the monthly change in international prices of a basket of food commodities, increased 12.6 percent from February to March. The March index is the highest it has been since the measure was created in the 1990s.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (11) [FONTE: Farm Policy News Illinois / US, 25/05/2022]

Russia Chokes Off Ukraine's Exports, Seen as "Deliberate Attack" on Global Food Chain, Black Sea Escorting Warships Considered

[Keith Good](#) May 25, 2022

[Shane Harris](#) reported on the front page of today's Washington Post that, "Newly declassified U.S. intelligence shows that a **Russian naval blockade** has **halted** maritime trade at **Ukrainian ports**, in what world leaders call a **deliberate attack on the global food supply chain** that has raised fears of political instability and shortages unless grain and other essential agricultural products are allowed to flow freely from Ukraine.

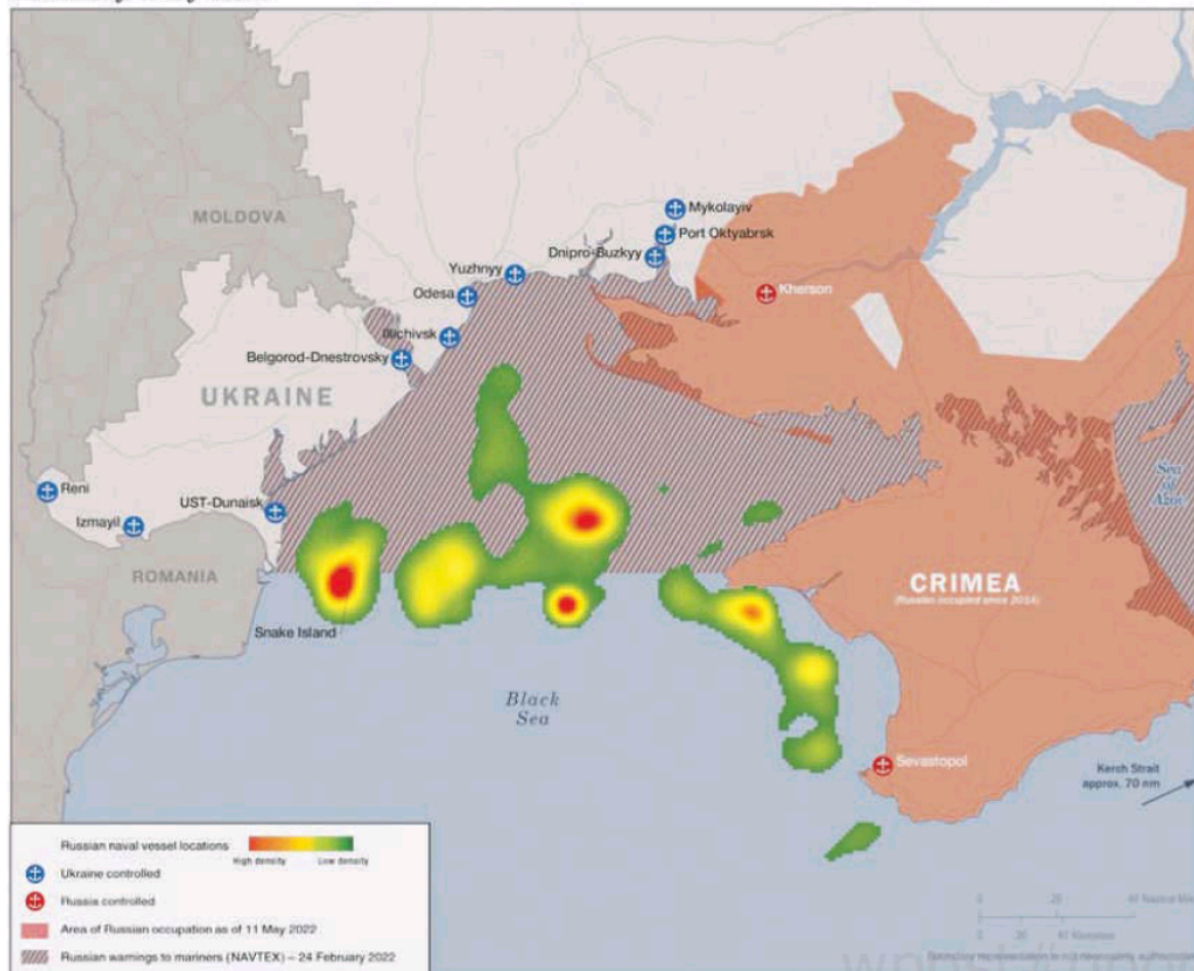
"Russia's navy now effectively controls **all traffic in the northern third of the Black Sea**, making it unsafe for commercial shipping, according to a U.S. government document obtained by The Washington Post."

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (12)

[FONTE: Washington Post / Farm Policy News Illinois, 25/05/2022]

Russia-Ukraine: Russian Naval Operations Demonstrate Intent to Control Access in Northwestern Black Sea, February–May 2022

19 May 2022

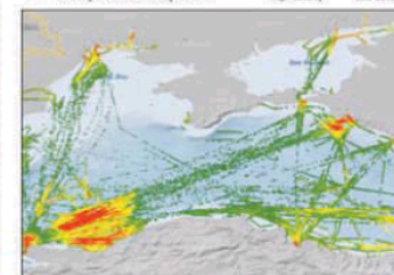


Black Sea: Russian Naval Vessel

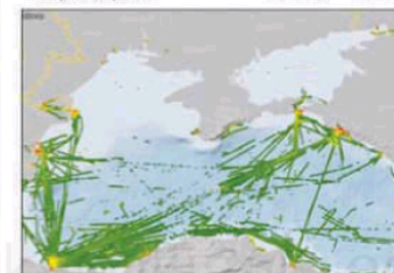
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Pre-Invasion Civil Maritime Traffic
14 February–15 February 2022



Post-Invasion Civil Maritime Traffic
17 May–18 May 2022



OBTAINED BY THE WASHINGTON POST

A map based on declassified intelligence and released by the U.S. government shows Russian naval operations in the Black Sea this year.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (13)

[FONTE: Washington Post / Farm Policy News Illinois, 25/05/2022]

“World leaders called on Tuesday for **international action to deliver 20 million tons of grain now trapped in Ukraine**, predicting that the alternative could be hunger in some countries and political unrest in others, in what could be the gravest global repercussion yet of Russia’s assault on its neighbor. At the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, where worries about the war’s consequences have eclipsed almost every other issue, speakers reached for apocalyptic language to describe the threat.

‘It’s a perfect storm within a perfect storm,’ said David Beasley, the executive director of the World Food Program, a United Nations agency. Calling the situation ‘absolutely critical,’ he warned, ‘We will have famines around the world.’

Today’s article stated that, “Ukraine’s agriculture ministry says that the Black Sea blockade has prevented **14 million tons of corn, 7 million tons of wheat and 3 million tons of sunflower seeds** from reaching world markets. Ukrainian officials have accused Moscow of **stealing Ukraine’s produce and then selling it abroad as Russian.**”

The Times’ writers added that, “Western officials are circulating proposals for getting grain out of Ukraine, **such as having multiple countries send warships to escort cargo ships from Ukrainian ports and run the blockade**, but that runs the danger of a shooting confrontation with Russian vessels. Sending ships from NATO countries is considered particularly risky — like the rejected idea of having NATO members enforce a no-fly zone to keep Russian warplanes away from Ukraine — so much of the talk has been about countries outside the alliance taking part.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (14) [FONTE: FT, 20/05/202]

Military briefing: Ukraine seeks way to break Russia's Black Sea blockade

Russian navy has been able to seal off other shipping traffic and all but halt Ukrainian grain exports

May 20 2022

Russia's navy has had a more successful conflict than Vladimir Putin's land forces, which failed in their initial aim to seize control of Ukraine's biggest cities. By contrast Russia's navy moved quickly to close off the Sea of Azov and establish control of the Black Sea, sealing off other shipping traffic and giving it a platform from which to launch hundreds of strikes on Ukraine.

This has allowed Moscow to exert a naval blockade that has all but halted Ukrainian grain exports, suffocating its main export industry and driving global food prices to record highs. Military strategists call this "sea blindness" — the inability to see the crucial role that naval power plays in a country's security and economy.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (15) [FONTE: FT, 20/05/202]

An estimated 20m tonnes of grain are stuck inside Ukraine, which could ease pressure on global markets if it was released. Ukraine president Volodymyr Zelensky has described the situation as “frightening” while the UN World Food Programme’s David Beasley has been more explicit. “Millions of people will die because these ports are blocked,” he warned last month.

“The blockade is something of a ticking time bomb for the world,” said Sidharth Kaushal, a research fellow at the Royal United Services Institute think-tank in London. “And because the rest of the war on land is in stalemate, time is on the blockaders’ side.”

Over 90 per cent of Ukraine’s grain and oilseed exports left by ship before Russia’s full-blown invasion in February, at a rate of up to 6m tonnes per month. Now about 80 of the world’s merchant ships are stuck in Ukrainian ports while at least 10 have been hit or attacked since Russia launched its assault, according to the International Maritime Organization.

The cost of marine [insurance](#) in the Black Sea has soared as a result. Mines that Ukraine placed in the waters near Odesa and other ports are another problem, as removing them could allow Russia to launch amphibious attacks. Other mines have come adrift from seabed cables. Russia has also laid mines.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (16) [FONTE: FT, 20/05/202]



Workers assist the loading of corn on to a ship at Pier 80 in the Black Sea port of Constanta, Romania on May 3 2022 © Daniel Mihailescu/AFP/Getty Images

Ukrainian officials and their western counterparts are now casting around for a solution — not least as Russia's blockade gives Moscow a powerful bargaining chip against western sanctions.

Rail is an alternative, with the EU setting out a plan to help Ukraine export 20m tonnes of grain over the next three months. But there are severe bottlenecks at the borders, as Ukraine's EU neighbours use different rail gauges. Road freight is hampered by shortages of trucks, drivers, fuel and customs officials.

Escorted naval convoys are another possibility, but Ukraine's navy is tiny and cannot do the job itself.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (17) [FONTE: FT, 20/05/202]

Ukraine lost most of its fleet when Moscow secured its naval base at Sevastopol in 2014 with the annexation of Crimea, and its sole frigate and flagship was scuttled in February to prevent Russian capture.

By contrast, Russia has four submarines in the Black Sea armed with Kalibr cruise missiles. It also has two modern frigates, several smaller warships and multiple missile boats and landing ships, according to HI Sutton, a naval expert who runs the maritime open-source intelligence outlet [Covert Shores](#).



A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (18) [FONTE: FT, 20/05/202]

But Black Sea convoys would face greater problems, analysts say. For one the Montreux convention, which regulates shipping through the Turkish straits, limits warships from non-littoral states to being in the Black Sea to no more than 21 days

"To maintain a functional convoy system, you'd have to have a huge western fleet stationed in the Mediterranean to rotate through the Black Sea," said Kaushal.

Even if that worked, there is the risk of escalatory confrontation with Russian warships, a debate that recalls many of the arguments about whether Nato allies should establish "no-fly zones" over Ukraine.

"How many countries would want to risk their ships going cheek by jowl with the Russian navy?" Kaushal added.

Meanwhile, the food problem is likely to get worse. One western official said "there are discussions, hopefully UN supported... about who could enable those convoys". But another warned that enabling access to Ukrainian ports, while a theoretical option, was "not a practical one for the next six months".

That may be too late as Ukraine's storage facilities are too full to take in its summer harvest. Dmytro Kuleba, Ukraine's foreign minister, called it a "super problem", while also insisting there was "a military solution to this: defeat Russia".

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (19) [FONTE: Encyclopædia Britannica]



A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (20) [FONTE: Encyclopædia Britannica]



A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (21)

[FONTE: IARI / Turkey and the Geopolitics of The Straits, 8/04/2021]



A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (22)

[FONTE: Governo da Turquia / Ministério dos Negócios Estrangeiros]

Implementation of the Montreux Convention / Rep. of Turkey Ministry of Foreign Affairs

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREUX CONVENTION

The Montreux Convention, which is an essential element in the context of Black Sea security and stability, has been properly and impartially implemented by Turkey for more than seven decades. In this regard, the successful implementation of the Montreux Convention since 1936 is a testimony of the balance carefully established by the Convention.

According to the Montreux Convention, merchant vessels enjoy freedom of passage through the Turkish Straits (Turkish Straits Vessel Traffic Services Centre regulates the passages according to the Maritime Traffic Regulations for the Turkish Straits dated 1998), while passages of vessels of war are subject to some restrictions which vary depending on whether these vessels belong to Black Sea riparian States or not.

Besides some general restrictions applicable to all, vessels of war belonging to non-riparian States are subject to specific restrictions such as those regarding maximum aggregate tonnage and duration of stay in the Black Sea.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (23)

[FONTE: Governo da Turquia / Ministério dos Negócios Estrangeiros]

- Aircraft carriers whether belonging to riparian states or not, can in no way pass through the Turkish Straits.
- Only submarines belonging to riparian states can pass through the Turkish Straits, for the purpose of rejoining their base in the Black Sea for the first time after their construction or purchase, or for the purpose of repair in dockyards outside the Black Sea.
- The total number and the maximum aggregate tonnage of all foreign naval forces which may be in course of passage through the Turkish Straits are limited to 9 and 15.000 tons respectively.
- The maximum aggregate tonnage which non-riparian States may have in the Black Sea is 45.000 tons.
- In this regard, the maximum aggregate tonnage of the vessels of war that one non-riparian State may have in the Black Sea is 30.000 tons.
- Vessels of war belonging to non-riparian states cannot stay more than 21 days in the Black Sea.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (24)

[FONTE: Convenção sobre o regimes dos Estreitos, Montreux, 1936]

1936 CONVENTION REGARDING THE REGIME OF THE STRAITS

Adopted in Montreux, Switzerland on 20 July 1936

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ARTICLE 13

The transit of vessels of war through the Straits shall be preceded by a notification given to the Turkish Government through the diplomatic channel. The normal period of notice shall be eight days; but it is desirable that in the case of non-Black Sea Powers this period should be increased to fifteen days. The notification shall specify the destination, name, type and number of the vessels, as also the date of entry for the outward passage and, if necessary, for the return journey. Any change of date shall be subject to three days' notice.

Entry into the Straits for the outward passage shall take place within a period of five days from the date given in the original notification. After the expiry of this period, a new notification shall be given under the same conditions as for the original notification.

When effecting transit, the commander of the naval force shall, without being under any obligation to stop, communicate to a signal station at the entrance to the Dardanelles or the Bosphorus the exact composition of the force under his orders.

ARTICLE 14

The maximum aggregate tonnage of all foreign naval forces which may be in course of transit through the Straits shall not exceed 15,000 tons, except in the cases provided for in Article 11 and in Annex III to the present Convention.

The forces specified in the preceding paragraph shall not, however, comprise more than nine vessels.

Vessels whether belonging to Black Sea or non-Black Sea Powers, paying visits to a port in the Straits, in accordance with the provisions of Article 17, shall not be included in this tonnage.

Neither shall vessels of war which have suffered damage during their- passage through the Straits be included in this tonnage; such vessels, while undergoing repair, shall be subject to any special provisions relating to security laid down by Turkey.

ARTICLE 15

Vessels of war in transit through the Straits shall in no circumstances make use of any aircraft which they may be carrying.

ARTICLE 16

Vessels of war in transit through the Straits shall not, except in the event of damage or peril of the sea, remain therein longer than is necessary for them to effect the passage.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (25)

[FONTE: Convenção sobre o regimes dos Estreitos, Montreux, 1936]

ARTICLE 17

Nothing in the provisions of the preceding Articles shall prevent a naval force of any tonnage or composition from paying a courtesy visit of limited duration to a port in the Straits, at the invitation of the Turkish Government. Any such force must leave the Straits by the same route as that by which it entered, unless it fulfils the conditions required for passage in transit through the Straits as laid down by Articles 10, 14 and 18.

ARTICLE 18

- (1) The aggregate tonnage which non-Black Sea Powers may have in that sea in time of peace shall be limited as follows:
 - (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) below, the aggregate tonnage of the said Powers shall not exceed 30,000 tons;
 - (b) If at any time the tonnage of the strongest fleet in the Black Sea shall exceed by at least 10,000 tons the tonnage of the strongest fleet in that sea at the date of the signature of the present Convention, the aggregate tonnage of 30,000 tons mentioned in paragraph (a) shall be increased by the same amount, up to a maximum of 45,000 tons. For this purpose, each Black Sea Power shall, in conformity with Annex IV to the present Convention, inform the Turkish Government, on the 1st January and the 1st July of each year, of the total tonnage of its fleet in the Black Sea; and the Turkish Government shall transmit this information to the other High Contracting Parties and to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations;
 - (c) The tonnage which any one non-Black Sea Power may have in the Black Sea shall be limited to two-thirds of the aggregate tonnage provided for in paragraphs (a) and (b) above;

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (26)

[FONTE: Convenção sobre o regimes dos Estreitos, Montreux, 1936]

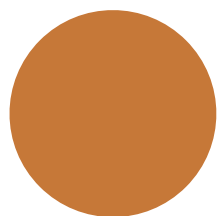
(d) In the event, however, of one or more non-Black Sea Powers desiring to send naval forces into the Black Sea, for a humanitarian purpose, the said forces, which shall in no case exceed 8,000 tons altogether, shall be allowed to enter the Black Sea without having to give the notification provided for in Article 13 of the present Convention, provided an authorisation is obtained from the Turkish Government in the following circumstances: if the figure of the aggregate tonnage specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) above has not been reached and will not be exceeded by the despatch of the forces which it is desired to send, the Turkish Government shall grant the said authorisation within the shortest possible time after receiving the request which has been addressed to it × if the said figure has already been reached or if the despatch of the forces which it is desired to send will cause it to be exceeded, the Turkish Government will immediately inform the other Black Sea Powers of the request for authorisation, and if the said Powers make no objection within twenty-four hours of having received this information, the Turkish Government shall, within forty-eight hours at the latest, inform the interested Powers of the reply which it has decided to make to their request.

Any further entry into the Black Sea of naval forces of non-Black Sea Powers shall only be effected within the available limits of the aggregate tonnage provided for in paragraphs (a) and (b) above.

(2) Vessels of war belonging to non-Black Sea Powers shall not remain in the Black Sea more than twenty-one days, whatever be the object of their presence there.

A guerra Rússia-Ucrânia vai provocar uma crise alimentar mundial? (27) [FONTE: Naji Benaji, 2022]





PARTE II – NOTAS BREVES

A China e a Parceria Económica Abrangente Regional - RECEP (1) [FONTE: SCMP, 15/11/2020]

China / Diplomacy

China, 14 Asian partners sign world's biggest trade pact

- Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, which covers about 30 per cent of global GDP, signed on sidelines of virtual Asean summit
- Agreement 'solidifies China's broader regional geopolitical ambitions around the Belt and Road Initiative', trade expert says



Agence France-Presse

Published: 2:38pm, 15 Nov, 2020

Why you can trust SCMP



A China e a Parceria Económica Abrangente Regional - RECEP (2) [FONTE: China Daily, 15/11/2020]

RCEP free trade deal signed among 15 participating countries

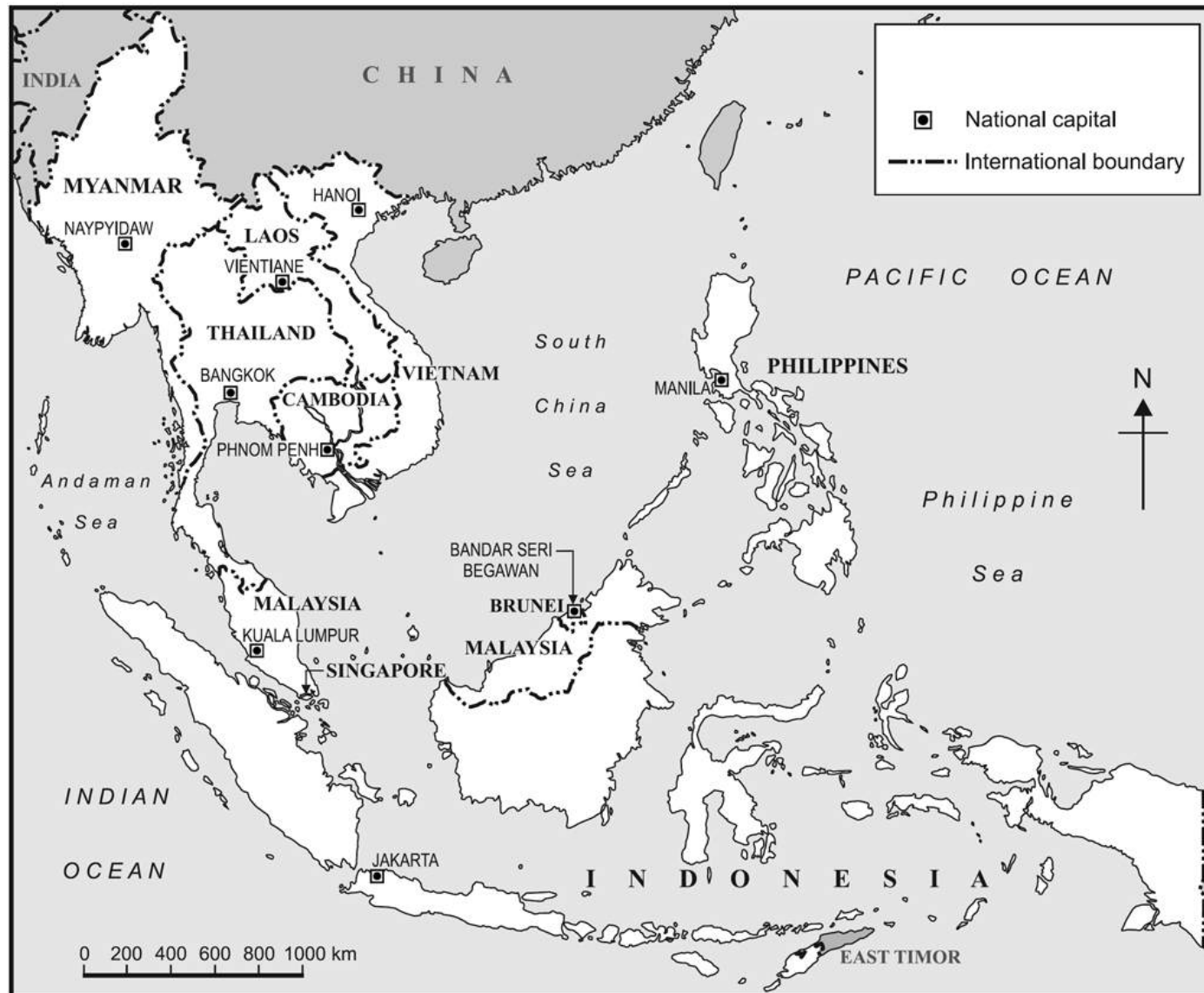


HANOI - The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement was signed among its 15 participating countries Sunday, launching the world's biggest free trade bloc.

Participating countries include the 10 member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand.

The signing of the RCEP is "a victory of multilateralism and free trade," Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said Sunday.

A China e a Parceria Económica Abrangente Regional (RECEP) (3) [FONTE: Países da ASEAN]



A China e a Parceria Económica Abrangente Regional - RECEP (4) [FONTE: Governo da Austrália]



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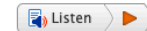
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Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership

About The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)

RCEP is a regional free trade agreement that will complement and build upon Australia's existing free trade agreements with 14 other Indo-Pacific countries. It is a modern and comprehensive free trade agreement covering trade in goods, trade in services, investment, economic and technical cooperation, and new rules for electronic commerce, intellectual property, government procurement, competition, and small and medium sized enterprises.

RCEP market snapshot

- **GDP:** US\$26.3 trillion
- **Population:** 2.3 billion
- **Trade with Australia:** \$532.6 billion (2019)

CONTACT US

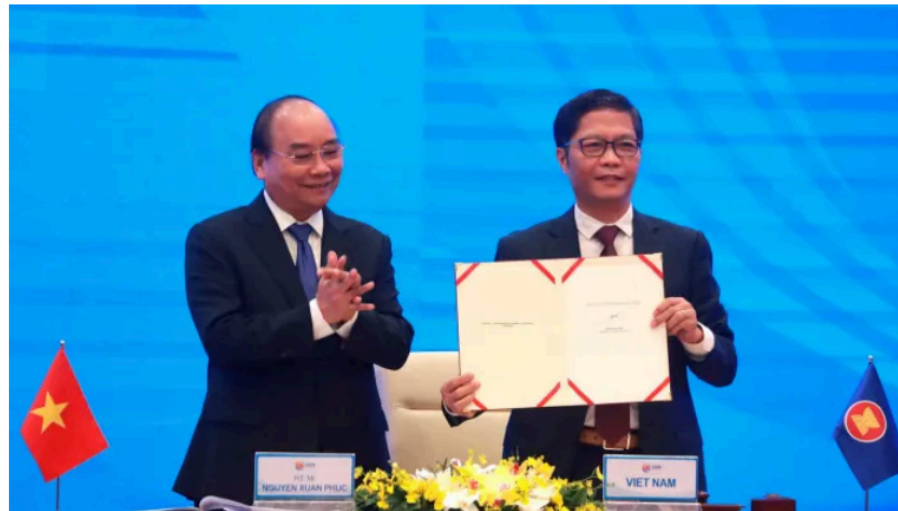
Email: rcep@dfat.gov.au

A Parceria Económica Abrangente Regional - RECEP (5) [FONTE: FT, 15/11/2020]

Asia-Pacific countries sign one of the largest free trade deals in history

Pan-Asia trade pact covers a third of the world's population and economic output

7 hours ago



Vietnamese prime minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc, left, and trade minister Tran Tuan Anh at the virtual signing of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership © AP

Leaders from 15 Asia-Pacific nations on Sunday sealed one of the biggest trade deals in history, seeking to reduce barriers in an area covering a third of the world's population and economic output.

A Parceria Económica Abrangente Regional

- RECEP (6) [FONTE: FT, 15/11/2020]

The [RCEP](#) takes most of the existing agreements signed by the 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations — Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam — and combines them into a single multilateral pact with Australia, China, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea.

By combining a mishmash of separate arrangements into a single deal, RCEP brings Asia a step closer to becoming a coherent trading zone like the EU or North America, even if it is not expected to lead to large overall tariff reductions.

China's premier Li Keqiang described the agreement as "a victory of multilateralism and free trade", according to a report from the official Xinhua news agency.

Japan and South Korea are expected to be among the biggest winners from the deal, but the benefit of cheaper goods will spread as far as Europe and the US.

"We signed [RCEP] today, after a tough slog of eight years," said Lee Hsien Loong, Singapore's prime minister, on Sunday. "This is a major step forward for our region. At a time when multilateralism is losing ground, and global growth is slowing, the RCEP shows Asian countries' support for open and connected supply chains, freer trade and closer interdependence."

Analysts said the deal is likely to further diminish US influence in the region after President Donald Trump withdrew from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, another large regional trading pact.

A Parceria Económica Abrangente Regional

- RECEP (7) [FONTE: FT, 15/11/2020]

The deal would have been even larger but [India withdrew](#) from the talks in 2019 and has so far refused to come back, heightening concerns among some signatories that China will dominate the pact.

Indian businesses had feared a deluge of cheap Chinese imports, and complained the deal would have done little to advance trade in services, an area where India has an advantage.

"By some measures, this is the largest free trade agreement in history," said Peter Petri, professor of international finance at Brandeis University. "About 30 per cent of the world's people are covered."

According to [estimates by Prof Petri and Michael Plummer](#), a professor of international economics at Johns Hopkins University, RCEP will add \$186bn to the size of the global economy and 0.2 per cent to the gross domestic product of its members.

"From a global perspective, the RCEP agreement, even if a littler shallower than other 'megadeals', signals that Asia keeps pushing ahead with trade liberalisation even as other regions have become more sceptical," said Fred Neumann, co-head of Asian economic research at HSBC.

A Parceria Económica Abrangente Regional - RECEP (8) [FONTE: Global Times, 15/11/2020]

RCEP will end US hegemony in West Pacific

By Wang Jiangyu

China and 14 other Asia-Pacific nations, including 10 ASEAN member countries and Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand, are set to sign the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement on Sunday. The signatories of the pact, however, do not include the US which has been traditionally regarded as a dominate player in the Asia-Pacific region.

The conclusion of the RCEP indicates that the majority of Asian countries endorse an Asia-wide regional free trade framework that works to benefit all Asian economies and see it as a landmark step toward achieving closer economic integration in East and Southeast Asia.

The RCEP sends out the message that Asian countries do not want to choose sides between the US and China.

More significantly, they are not willing to blindly follow the US and exclude China, the biggest and most vibrant Asian economy, from the region's integration process. A sound and healthy economic community in Asia cannot be achieved without China's participation. Of course, the concept of open regionalism embraced by China also welcomes America's participation in this cause.



A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (1) [FONTE: US Department of State, 11/02/2022]



A Casa Branca

11 de fevereiro de 2022

"Imaginamos um Indo-Pacífico aberto, conectado, próspero, resiliente e seguro – e estamos prontos para trabalhar com cada um de vocês para alcançar este objetivo."

Presidente Joe Biden

Cúpula do Leste Asiático

27 de outubro de 2021

O governo Biden-Harris fez avanços históricos para restaurar a liderança americana no Indo-Pacífico e adaptar seu papel para o século XXI. No ano passado, os Estados Unidos modernizaram suas alianças de longa data, fortaleceram parcerias emergentes e estabeleceram vínculos inovadores entre elas para enfrentar desafios urgentes, desde a competição com a China até as mudanças climáticas e a pandemia. Tudo foi feito num momento em que aliados e parceiros em todo o mundo estão aumentando cada vez mais seus próprios envolvimento no Indo-Pacífico; e quando há um amplo acordo bipartidário no Congresso americano estipulando que os Estados Unidos também devem aumentar seu envolvimento. Essa convergência no compromisso com a região, além dos oceanos e das linhas político-partidárias, reflete uma realidade inegável: o Indo-Pacífico é a região mais dinâmica do mundo e seu futuro afeta pessoas em todos os lugares.

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (2) [FONTE: US Department of State, 11/02/2022]

Essa realidade é a base da Estratégia dos Estados Unidos para o Indo-Pacífico. Essa estratégia descreve a visão do presidente Biden de ancorar mais firmemente os Estados Unidos no Indo-Pacífico e fortalecer a região no processo. Seu foco central é a colaboração sustentada e criativa com aliados, parceiros e instituições, dentro e fora da região.

Os Estados Unidos visionam um Indo-Pacífico que seja:

1. LIVRE E ABERTO

Nossos interesses vitais e os de nossos parceiros mais próximos exigem um Indo-Pacífico livre e aberto, e um Indo-Pacífico livre e aberto exige que os governos possam fazer suas próprias escolhas e que os domínios compartilhados sejam governados legalmente. Nossa estratégia começa com o fortalecimento da resiliência, tanto em países individuais, como fizemos nos Estados Unidos, quanto entre eles. Vamos nos esforçar para alcançar uma região livre e aberta, incluindo:

- ♦ *Investir em instituições democráticas, imprensa livre e uma sociedade civil vibrante*
- ♦ *Melhorar a transparência fiscal no Indo-Pacífico para expor a corrupção e impulsionar a reforma*
- ♦ *Garantir que os mares e céus da região sejam regidos e usados de acordo com o direito internacional*
- ♦ *Avançar abordagens compartilhadas para tecnologias críticas e emergentes, internet e espaço cibernético*

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (3) [FONTE: US Department of State, 11/02/2022]

CONECTADO

Um Indo-Pacífico livre e aberto só pode ser alcançado se construirmos capacidade coletiva para uma nova era. As alianças, organizações e regras que os Estados Unidos e seus parceiros ajudaram a construir devem ser adaptadas. Construiremos capacidade coletiva dentro e fora da região, incluindo:

- ♦ *Aprofundar nossas cinco alianças de tratados regionais com Austrália, Japão, República da Coreia (ROK), Filipinas e Tailândia*
- ♦ Fortalecer as relações com os principais parceiros regionais, incluindo Índia, Indonésia, Malásia, Mongólia, Nova Zelândia, Cingapura, Taiwan, Vietnã e Ilhas do Pacífico
- ♦ Contribuir para uma ASEAN empoderada e unificada
- ♦ Fortalecer a parceria Quad e cumprir seus compromissos
- ♦ Apoiar a ascensão contínua e a liderança regional da Índia
- ♦ Fazer parceria para construir resiliência nas Ilhas do Pacífico
- ♦ Forjar conexões entre o Indo-Pacífico e o Euro-Atlântico
- ♦ Expandir a presença diplomática dos EUA no Indo-Pacífico, particularmente no Sudeste Asiático e nas Ilhas do Pacífico

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (4) [FONTE: US Department of State, 11/02/2022]

3. PRÓSPERO

A prosperidade dos americanos comuns está ligada ao Indo-Pacífico. Esse fato exige investimentos para incentivar a inovação, fortalecer a competitividade econômica, produzir empregos bem remunerados, reconstruir cadeias de suprimentos e expandir as oportunidades econômicas para famílias de classe média: 1,5 bilhão de pessoas no Indo-Pacífico se juntarão à classe média global nesta década. Impulsionaremos a prosperidade do Indo-Pacífico, incluindo:

- ♦ Propor um quadro económico Indo-Pacífico, através do qual iremos:
 - ♦ Desenvolver novas abordagens para o comércio que atendam aos altos padrões trabalhistas e ambientais
 - ♦ Governar nossas economias digitais e fluxos de dados transfronteiriços de acordo com princípios abertos, inclusive através de uma nova estrutura de economia digital
 - ♦ Avançar em cadeias de suprimentos resilientes e seguras que sejam diversas, abertas e previsíveis
 - ♦ Fazer investimentos compartilhados em descarbonização e energia limpa
- ♦ Promover o comércio e o investimento livres, justos e abertos através da Cooperação Económica Ásia-Pacífico (APEC), inclusive em nosso ano-sede de 2023
- ♦ Fechar a lacuna de infraestrutura da região através do Build Back Better World (Reconstrua Um Mundo Melhor) com parceiros do G7

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (5) [FONTE: US Department of State, 11/02/2022]

4. SEGURANÇA

Por 75 anos, os Estados Unidos mantiveram uma presença de defesa forte e consistente, necessária para apoiar a paz, a segurança, a estabilidade e a prosperidade regional. Estamos ampliando e modernizando esse papel e aprimorando nossas capacidades para defender nossos interesses e impedir a agressão contra o território dos EUA e contra nossos aliados e parceiros. Reforçaremos a segurança do Indo-Pacífico, recorrendo a todos os instrumentos de poder para deter a agressão e combater a coerção, incluindo

- ♦ Avançar a dissuasão integrada
- ♦ Aprofundar a cooperação e melhorar a interoperabilidade com aliados e parceiros
- ♦ Manter a paz e a estabilidade em todo o Estreito de Taiwan
- ♦ Inovar para operar em ambientes de ameaças em rápida evolução, incluindo espaço, ciberespaço e áreas de tecnologia crítica e emergente
- ♦ Fortalecer a dissuasão e a coordenação estendidas com nossos aliados da ROK e japoneses e buscando a desnuclearização completa da Península Coreana
- ♦ Continuar obtendo resultados com o AUKUS
- ♦ Expandir a presença e cooperação da Guarda Costeira dos EUA contra outras ameaças transnacionais
- ♦ Trabalhar com o Congresso para financiar a Iniciativa de Dissuasão do Pacífico e a Iniciativa de Segurança Marítima

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (6) [FONTE: US Department of State, 11/02/2022]

5. RESILIÊNCIA

O Indo-Pacífico enfrenta grandes desafios transnacionais. As mudanças climáticas estão se tornando cada vez mais severas à medida que as geleiras do sul da Ásia derretem e as ilhas do Pacífico lutam contra os aumentos ameaçadores do nível do mar. A pandemia de COVID-19 continua a infligir um doloroso custo humano e económico em toda a região. E os governos do Indo-Pacífico lidam com desastres naturais, escassez de recursos, conflitos internos e desafios de governança. Se não forem controladas, essas forças ameaçam desestabilizar a região. Construiremos a resiliência regional às ameaças transnacionais do século XXI, incluindo:

- ♦ Trabalhar com aliados e parceiros para desenvolver metas, estratégias, planos e políticas para 2030 e 2050 consistentes com a limitação do aumento da temperatura global a 1,5 graus Celsius
- ♦ Reduzir a vulnerabilidade regional aos impactos das mudanças climáticas e degradação ambiental
- ♦ Acabar com a pandemia de COVID-19 e reforçar a segurança sanitária global

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (7) [FONTE: CNN Portugal / Lusa, 23/05/2022]

Joe Biden diz que projeto de cooperação vai beneficiar povos do Indo-Pacífico



O Presidente dos Estados Unidos prometeu esta segunda-feira que o novo projeto de cooperação Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (IPEF, na sigla em inglês) vai trazer “benefícios concretos” para os povos da região.

Durante o primeiro dia de uma visita ao Japão, numa reunião com o primeiro-ministro japonês, Fumio Kishida, Joe Biden disse que o IPEF vai também aumentar a cooperação dos EUA com outras nações da região.

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (8) [FONTE: CNN Portugal / Lusa, 23/05/2022]

Biden, que está no meio de uma visita de cinco dias à Coreia do Sul e ao Japão, chamou a aliança entre os EUA e Japão de “pedra angular da paz e prosperidade no Indo-Pacífico”.

“Vamos enfrentar os desafios presentes e futuros juntos”, acrescentou o líder norte-americano, que descreveu Tóquio como “uma potência global chave”.

Biden agradeceu ainda a Tóquio pela “forte liderança” na imposição de sanções contra a Rússia.

Fumio Kishida criticou a Rússia pela invasão da Ucrânia, dizendo que isso “mina os fundamentos da ordem global”.

A visita de Biden ao Japão “demonstra que, seja qual for a situação, os Estados Unidos continuarão a fortalecer o seu compromisso na região”, disse o primeiro-ministro japonês.

Biden e Kishida vão ainda participar na reunião do grupo Quad, que junta EUA, Japão, Índia e a Austrália, que terá lugar na terça-feira em Tóquio.

Além da reunião entre os quatro países, Joe Biden irá ter encontros bilaterais com o primeiro-ministro indiano, Narendra Modi, e o primeiro-ministro da Austrália, Anthony Albanese, que deverá viajar para o Japão na terça-feira, logo a seguir a ter hoje tomado posse.

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (9) [FONTE: NYT, 23/05/2022]

Biden to Begin New Asia-Pacific Economic Bloc With a Dozen Allies

The goal is a resurgence in U.S. influence in the region, especially vis-à-vis China, after Trump's withdrawal from the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

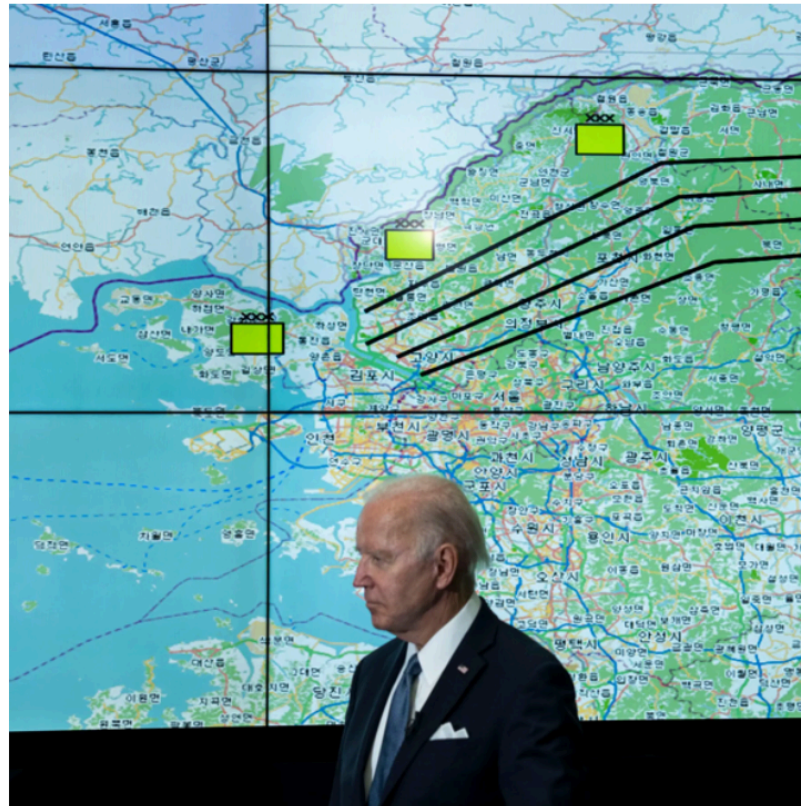
May 23, 2022

TOKYO — President Biden has enlisted a dozen Asia-Pacific nations to join a new loosely defined economic bloc meant to counter China's dominance and reassert American influence in the region five years after his predecessor withdrew the United States from a sweeping trade accord that it had negotiated itself.

The alliance will bring the United States together with such regional powerhouses as Japan, South Korea and India to establish new rules of commerce in the fastest-growing part of the world and offer an alternative to Beijing's leadership. But wary of liberal opposition at home, Mr. Biden's new partnership will avoid the market access provisions of traditional trade deals, raising questions about how meaningful it will be.

"We're writing the new rules for the 21st-century economy," Mr. Biden said on Monday in Tokyo during the launch for what he has termed the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework. "We're going to help all of our country's economies grow faster and fairer."

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (10) [FONTE: NYT, 23/05/2022]



A map of the Korean border behind Mr. Biden at Osan Air Base in Pyeongtaek, South Korea, on Sunday. Doug Mills/The New York Times

Amid uncertainty and skepticism in the region about what the new framework would actually mean, American officials scrambled in recent weeks to line up enough major countries to commit in hopes of making a big impression with a splashy kickoff. Privately, they said all of the nations they had been seriously targeting agreed to join, but some analysts wondered whether any assurances or trade-offs proffered to entice participation would diminish the scope of the new bloc.

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (11) [FONTE: Taipei Times / Reuters, AFP, 25/05/2022]

TAIPEI  TIMES

Quad opposes any 'change by force'

SUBTLE? While Biden said the US policy of 'strategic ambiguity' on Taiwan had not changed, the group targeted China and Russia without naming them

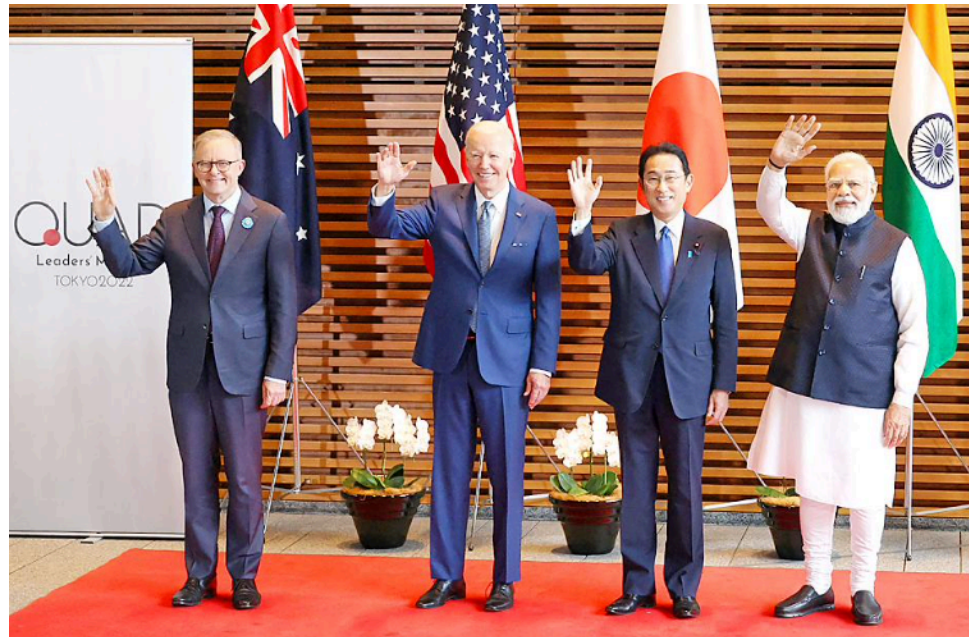
Reuters and AFP, TOKYO

Leaders of Australia, India, Japan and the US yesterday warned against attempts to "change the status quo by force," as concerns grow about whether China could invade Taiwan.

The issue of Taiwan loomed over a leadership meeting in Tokyo of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) nations — the US, Japan, Australia and India — who stressed their determination to ensure a free and open Indo-Pacific region in the face of an increasingly assertive China, although Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said the group was not targeting any one country.

The four leaders said in a joint statement issued after their talks that they "discussed their respective responses to the conflict in Ukraine and the ongoing tragic humanitarian crisis."

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (12) [FONTE: Taipei Times / Reuters, AFP, 25/05/2022]



However, US President Joe Biden's comments on Taiwan, which was not even on the official agenda at the Quad meeting, were the focus of much of the attention of the delegations and media.

Biden said that there was no change to a US policy of "strategic ambiguity" on Taiwan, a day after he angered China by saying he would be willing to use force to defend the democratic nation.

While Washington is required by law to provide Taiwan with the means to defend itself, it has long followed a policy of "strategic ambiguity" on whether it would intervene militarily to protect it in the event of a Chinese attack — a convention Biden appeared to break on Monday.

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (13) [FONTE: SCMP / Adriel Kasonta, 24/05/2022]

On Asean and the Indo-Pacific, the US must remember that 'Asians live by trade'

Despite much talk of economic engagement and assurances that the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework is 'not about China', the US approach in Southeast Asia seems to be largely about the politicisation of trade and technology issues. Asean wants tangible trade benefits, not more pressure to choose a side.



A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (14) [FONTE: SCMP / Adriel Kasonta, 24/05/2022]

For that reason, it is hard to disagree with Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin, who considered the US engagement with Asean an attempt to “set up barriers to undermine international rules and sever the global market”.

The fact is that the politicisation of trade and technology issues brings no tangible trade benefits for Asean countries. And this is what they are really after – not more pressure to [“choose sides”](#) between the US and China.

According to [a survey](#) conducted by the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute in February, 76.7 per cent of respondents perceive China as the most influential economic power in Southeast Asia; only 9.8 per cent said the US.

No wonder, given that in November 2021, Beijing [pledged US\\$1.5 billion](#) in development assistance to Asean countries over three years to fight Covid-19 and fuel economic recovery. Washington could only come up with a “modest” sum of [US\\$150 million](#), where US\$15 million is to be spent on pandemic-related aid, US\$40 million on infrastructure investment, and US\$60 million on maritime security to counter China.

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (15) [FONTE: SCMP / Adriel Kasonta, 24/05/2022]



Equipment stands at a raw material storage yard at a JFE Steel plant in Chiba, Japan, on March 13, 2018. In February this year, the US agreed to roll back tariffs on Japanese steel imports. Photo: Bloomberg

As far as the region is concerned, the US has for too long emphasised bolstering security ties over economic engagement. But, to quote Gregory Poling of Washington's Centre for Strategic and International Studies, the US "cannot effectively compete with China if it only brings guns and diplomacy to the table".

With Vice-President Kamala Harris proclaiming that the US would remain in Southeast Asia for "generations", the Biden administration would be well advised to reconsider its single-focus approach to the region. It might also remember that, as Singaporean ambassador-at-large Tommy Koh told the American Club in Singapore late last month, "Asians live by trade".

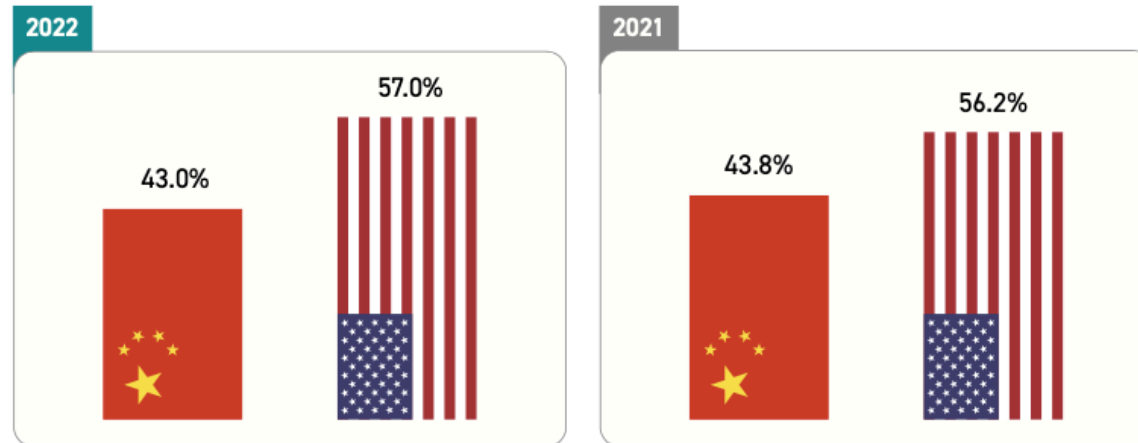
A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (16) [FONTE: The State of South East Asia, 2022 Survey Report / ASEAN]

Q23 ASEAN is caught in the crossfire as Beijing and Washington compete for influence and leadership in Southeast Asia. How should ASEAN best respond?

Country	ASEAN has to seek out "third parties" to broaden its strategic space and options		ASEAN should enhance its resilience and unity to fend off pressure from the two major powers		ASEAN should continue its position of not siding with China or the US		ASEAN has to choose between one of the two major powers as remaining neutral is impractical	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
ASEAN	12.9%	16.2%	53.1%	46.1%	30.6%	26.6%	3.4%	11.1%
Brunei	18.2%	17.0%	42.4%	50.9%	39.4%	28.3%	0.0%	3.8%
Cambodia	7.7%	11.1%	69.2%	44.4%	23.1%	30.9%	0.0%	13.6%
Indonesia	8.5%	18.3%	60.5%	52.7%	27.9%	22.1%	3.1%	6.9%
Laos	17.5%	13.6%	35.0%	50.0%	42.5%	27.3%	5.0%	9.1%
Malaysia	4.3%	15.6%	51.3%	35.6%	35.9%	36.3%	8.5%	12.6%
Myanmar	18.6%	16.6%	36.5%	25.1%	36.5%	27.7%	8.3%	30.6%
Philippines	17.9%	13.3%	62.7%	63.5%	17.9%	17.8%	1.5%	5.5%
Singapore	14.6%	18.0%	51.9%	38.3%	31.6%	36.9%	1.9%	6.8%
Thailand	13.7%	17.1%	49.6%	49.6%	32.1%	20.5%	4.6%	12.8%
Vietnam	8.0%	21.5%	71.4%	50.7%	19.4%	18.1%	1.1%	9.7%

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (17)

[FONTE: The State of South East Asia, 2022 Survey Report / ASEAN]



Q24 If ASEAN was forced to align itself with one of the two strategic rivals, which should it choose?

Country	China		The United States	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
ASEAN	43.8%	43.0%	56.2%	57.0%
Brunei	69.7%	64.2%	30.3%	35.8%
Cambodia	46.2%	81.5%	53.8%	18.5%
Indonesia	35.7%	44.3%	64.3%	55.7%
Laos	80.0%	81.8%	20.0%	18.2%
Malaysia	47.0%	43.0%	53.0%	57.0%
Myanmar	51.9%	8.0%	48.1%	92.0%
Philippines	13.4%	16.5%	86.6%	83.5%
Singapore	34.2%	22.1%	65.8%	77.9%
Thailand	43.5%	42.7%	56.5%	57.3%
Vietnam	16.0%	26.4%	84.0%	73.6%

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (18) [FONTE: Global Times, 25/05/2022]

The Quad plays insidious tricks: Global Times editorial

By Global Times



Illustration: Liu Rui/GT

A key part of US President Joe Biden's Asia tour is the so-called Quad leaders' summit in Tokyo on Tuesday. The informal forum comprising the US, Japan, India and Australia is widely seen as an "effort to contain China." If people want to put a big question mark on the "Indo-Pacific Economic Framework" that Biden just launched, then they will describe the Quad which has been in operation for years with an exclamation mark. When Quad held its first summit in Washington last September, Global Times called it a "sinister gang of Indo-Pacific to contain China." More than half a year has passed. The Tokyo summit of Quad has seen some obvious changes at the tactical level, but the international community's impression, judgment and definition of the group remain unchanged.

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (19) [FONTE: Global Times, 25/05/2022]

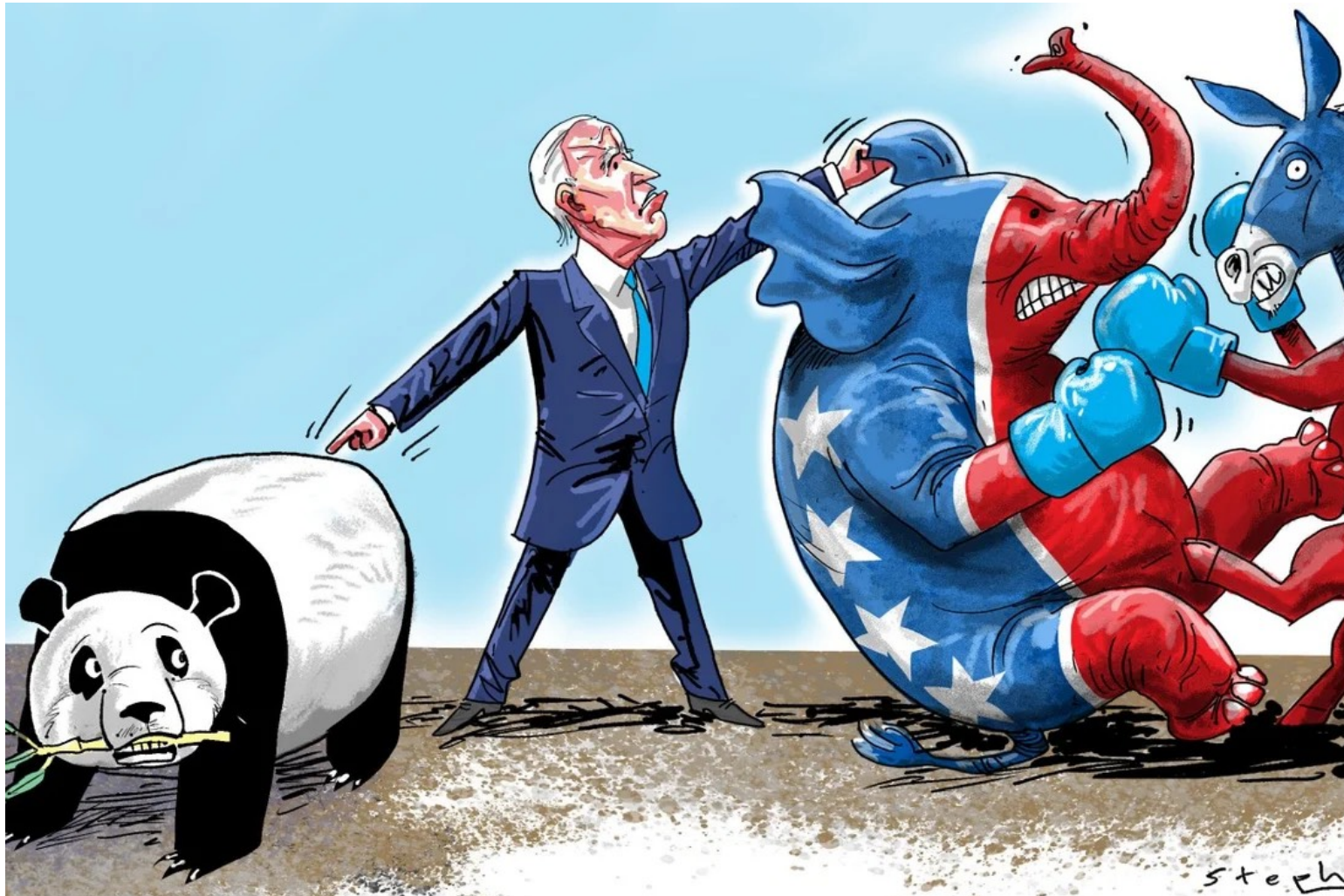
Compared with the Washington summit in September, there seems to be nothing out-of-line in this summit's joint statement except for issuing some specific measures. It didn't talk about the Taiwan Straits issue as the outside world expected, but focused on topics such as infrastructure construction, climate change, the pandemic fight and supply chains. Some comments even said that Quad seems to have shifted from a security architecture to an economic one, no longer engaging in building the so-called "small Asian NATO."

But this is just a smokescreen. The joint statement released after the summit said that "We strongly oppose any coercive, provocative or unilateral actions that seek to change the status quo and increase tensions in the area." The actions include "the militarization of disputed features, the dangerous use of coast guard vessels and maritime militia, and efforts to disrupt other countries' offshore resource exploitation activities." All these are accusations that Washington has spared no effort to make on China.

In addition to these tactical "jargon," the Tokyo summit also came up with "sinister tricks." For instance, the summit launched a so-called Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness, claiming to focus on combating illegal fishing. Coincidentally, countries such as the US and Japan have repeatedly fabricated China's "illegal fishing" in distant seas. At the just-concluded US-ASEAN special summit, Washington's largest investment in the ASEAN region also went to "illegal fishing." Using a confusing "public opinion war" to provoke relations between China and Asia-Pacific countries is indeed insidious.

A resposta dos EUA: O Quadro Económico Indo-Pacífico (20)

[FONTE: Cartoon de Craig Stephens / SCMP, 2021]



Sugestões de leitura

