**The rise of China as a factor of India-US relations**

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**Abstract.**

Today the rise of China is in fact one of the two arguments drawn in support of the idea of Indian-American alliance. Since the end of the noughties both Western and Asian commentators sometimes find it possible to speak of the folding of an anti-China coalition led by the United States and including India. Grounds for such talks are given by the steps of the United States to expand its military presence in Asia, as well as statements by the American political establishment over the past few years.

Another argument, which is drawn is that both the US and India are democracies in contrasts to undemocratic China. Though the idea appeared primarily among American liberals, today one can find examples of its support by Indian experts. In recent months there has been increased attention and support on the part of the United States to the trilateral cooperation of Japan, India and the United States.

The present article assess the validity of arguments in favor of an emerging anti-Chinese coalition involving India and the United States from the perspective of neorealism , which focuses on the security dimensions of the US-India relationship and which predicts that the pursuit of regional hegemony will be a priority goal for rising powers such as India. The rise of China has indeed become one of the incentives for the rapprochement between India and America and this process gained momentum under the Bush presidency. However, China is not the only, nor in most cases even the most dominant, factor shaping the two countries’ security relations. Talk about an anti-China coalition or anti-China alliance are unfounded as the rapprochement has reached a certain limit due to the two country’s divergent security interests at the regional level, particularly their differences over how to best deal with the non-security threats posed by Pakistan and US resistance to India’s maritime ambitions in the Indian Ocean.