
World on edge of New Silent War Is current Geo-Political dynamics leading towards Global Conflict

By: Amit
M.A. (Final Year)
UGC Net (June2024/Dec2024) Qualified
Dept. of Defense & Strategic Studies
Maharishi Dayanand University
Rohtak (HR)

Abstract

The concept of warfare has grown up. New disputes are characterized by indirect engagements rather than open military confrontations. This paper addresses the question: Are current geopolitical tensions indicative of a broader trajectory toward global conflict? Key developments in cyber warfare, economic sanctions, and the role of great-power competition are analyzed.

The current geopolitical dynamics raise pressing questions: Are we on the brink of a global conflict? How do the strategies employed in this silent war differ from historical patterns?

As global powers vie for dominance, the balance of power is being reshaped, with nations from West to East from all continents engaging in high-stakes competition that extends into cyberspace, trade, and influence over international institutions.

Simultaneously, regional conflicts and the rise of non-state actors have exacerbated global instability, creating a volatile environment ripe for miscalculations.

Our planet is again on the pinpoint of new Silent war because by analyzing the current Geo-Political dynamics among nations the features of silent war has been fulfilled. Ongoing conflicts, armament trades, and the emergence of new technology are leading the globe towards the new global war. Current dynamics and tensions fueled up Conflicts up to the extent that a large-scale war is just one step away.

This paper gives the view about the new emerged tension, changing in geo-politics, role of state and not state actors, threats from innovations and somehow the leadership issues. It examines the emerging power bloc, characteristics of cold war, role of New Delhi by scanning the current geodynamics and relations. This study explores whether these tensions open the gate for new global conflict.

Introduction

In the modern times, the nature, the scope, the dynamics, the politics in between nations has evolved from traditional warfare. The broad scale battles and direct military engagement still exist, a new complex power struggle setup a platform to new silent war.

Today warfare has evolved and war is not just fought by tanks but through cyber espionage economic coercion. Mis-information campaigns & geopolitical maneuvering.

As nations compete for dominance in technology, trade & influence, tensions are rising in ways that are difficult to measure yet deeply impactful

As global tensions rise. key players such as the US, China, Russia & the European Union are locked in strategic battles that shape international relations. Cyber attacks disrupt critical infrastructure, economic sanctions cripple economies mainly in Europe.

This research paper explores the various dimensions of the emerging silent war. It examines the Origin of cold war, different theories based on situations, key events, characteristics of silent war, emergence of new power block, possible theaters of major war and role of New Delhi.

This explores the contours of this silent war, examining the key players, strategies and implications for global stability. From cyber warfare between major powers to economic sanctions that reshape alliances, the world is witnessing a battle waged in shadows.

What is the Silent War

The fragile relationship between the communist and the capitalist till the collapse of the U.S.S.R is known as the Cold War.

The term 'Cold War' was first used by Bernard Baruch.

This term becomes popular through the journalist Walter Lippman.

In other words, The Cold War was an ideological war or a propaganda war or a diplomatic war.

It was neither a condition of war nor a condition of peace.

Origin

1. **Mistrust:** Potsdam Conference held on 17 July 1945 between U.S. & USSR just one day after the trinity test. U.S. successfully test the 1st time nuclear/atomic energy as a weapon under Manhattan Project. Ever after the alliances/cooperation b/w US & USSR, Truman did not disclose about the trinity test at the conference and instead he explained it as a new weapon.
2. **Lack of Clarity:** Both U.S. & USSR agreed to launch attack on Japan on 8th Aug 1945. But U.S. nukes Japan on 6th Aug & 9th Aug which leads Japan to surrender. So that there was a lack of clarity over agreements b/w the two.
3. **Kuril Island dispute:** Aftermath of surrender of Japan, USSR wants to take over the Kuril Islands, but Truman denies about such an agreement. And these small acts establish the base for the cold war.

Theories of the Cold War

Classical perception: It is often supposed that USSR expansionist mindset leads the world

towards cold war.

Radical perception: It stated that the ignorance of USSR's security concerns & containment strategy of U.S. were the reasons of cold war.

Conformist view: The devise of global dominance/power leads the countries actions by both U.S. & USSR for each other's actions or plans

Key Events

- Yalta Conference 4-11 Feb. 1945
- Potsdam Conference 17 July-2 Aug 1945
- Iron Curtain Speech 1946
- Truman Doctrine 1947
- Marshall Plan 1948
- Berlin Blockade 1948-49
- NATO 1949
- USSR Nuclear Test 1949
- Korean War 1950-53
- Warsaw Pact 1955
- Cuban Missile Crisis 1962
- Vietnam War 1955-1975
- Détente 1970
- Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan 1979
- Unification of Berlin 1989
- Disintegration of the Soviet into small nation states 1991

Characteristics of the Cold War

- Proxy Wars
- Ideological Conflict
- Military Alliances
- Arms Race
- Intelligence Operations
- Propaganda and Media Influence
- Economic Competition
- Bipolar World Order
- Nuclear Proliferation
- Détente and Tension Cycles
- Global Influence

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- Human Rights Issues
 - Export of arms

Is Silent War Started?

We already discussed the characteristics of Cold war This question ‘Has silent war started’ came in everyone’s mind by analyzing the current Geopolitical dynamics worldwide Because globe is facing such situations nowadays which are characteristic of cold war like new power blocs, proxy war, export of arms, intelligence operations, cyberattacks, economic competition, power struggle etc.

Is it a Proxy War?

A proxy war occurs when opposing state nations or parties support belligerents that serve their own interests instead of direct engagement with each other. Relevance in present time: In current conflict of Israel and Iran, US & Russia came in support indirectly Russian govt. is providing arms aid to Iran and US is always on the back of Israel. By providing different types of aid US also supporting Ukraine in Russia Ukraine conflict and challenging Russia indirectly again.

Arms Aid

US Department of State To date, we have provided more than \$61.3 billion in military assistance since Russia launched its premeditated, unprovoked, and brutal full-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24,2022.

The Russian Federation is also the chief supplier of arms and weaponry to Iran Recently, Russian arms are used by Iran backed militant groups against Israel.

Impact of ongoing conflict on world

- Arms Race
- New world Order
- Modern warfare
- Trade
- Emergence of China as major power
- Environmental chaos
- Disrupt of Gas supply to Europe
- Unstable environment in Arabian Sea
- Human Cost and rights
- Destruction of infrastructure
- Psychological impact

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- Social and cultural impact
 - Emergence of new rebel groups
 - Nuclear concerns
 - Impact on international relations
 - Economic sanctions
 - Regional tensions
 - Shifting of power
 - International peace and security threat

New Power Blocs

The emergence of a new power bloc involving Russia, China, and North Korea represents a significant geopolitical shift. This alliance reflects their shared interests in countering U.S. influence and promoting a multipolar world.

- **Economic Cooperation:**

Enhanced trade agreements and infrastructure projects, such as China's Belt and Road Initiative, could solidify economic ties.

- **Political Alliances:**

They may coordinate their stances in international organizations, promoting narratives that challenge Western dominance.

- **Regional Stability:**

This bloc could lead to increased tensions in East Asia, especially regarding North Korea's nuclear program and territorial disputes in the South China Sea

- **Military Collaboration:**

Joint military exercises and arms agreements may strengthen their defense capabilities against perceived threats.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un signed a mutual security agreement and committed to strengthening military ties during a June summit in Pyongyang.

Globe on edge of major war

With rising tightness around globe, fears of World War 3 loom. The Doomsday Clock is closest to midnight in history. Capitalist and Communist rivalry, Ukraine conflict, Indo-Pacific tensions, Israel-Hamas war, Korean Peninsula, and African chaos point to a potential global

catastrophe. Here are key points regarding the current global situation and concerns about a potential World War III:

- Geopolitical Tensions
- Military Alliances
- Nuclear Capabilities
- Economic Sanctions
- Cyber Warfare
- Resource Scarcity
- Propaganda and Misinformation
- Diplomatic Efforts failure
- Public Sentiment
- Potential Flashpoints

Possible Theatres

The world has not seen such a dangerous environment among nations after 1961 where global conflict was just one step away. The current ongoing conflict shapes the new dimensions of international relations

1.Moscow &Kyiv:

No other conflict disturbed the world order as Moscow Kyiv has done. The effects & impacts of this conflict can be seen globally. It's been more than three years when this Conflict started but till date all the peace talks have failed. The intervention of west in this conflict had redirect this situation toward the major war due to the supplies/support to Ukraine Recently the permission over use of long ranges missiles by US can trigger the retaliation by Moscow at large scale There are heavy chances that in coming time the intensity of this conflict will be increased.

2.Jerusalem & Tehran:

The current rent situation is dramatically changed after the ceasefire between Lebanon and Israel. But the exchange of modern tech., Drones & missiles between Moscow & Tehran can change the

scenario of this conflict and there are heavy chances in up gradation of intensity of this Conflict because east and west are facing each other indirectly again.

3.Beijing & Taipei City:

The root causes of this conflict are matching with Russia Ukraine at some level like

- Both are one nation before integration
- Interference of US

This issue seemed to be unsolved, and the relations are all times low. The chances of involvement of other nations are also high because of the emergence of a new power bloc

4.North Korea & South Korea:

In recent time the tension in Korean Peninsula were ever time high. Successful test of ICBMS and other arsenal by Kim Jong Un give a clear notice to West to not interfere in this conflict. There are high chances that world will see the power of nukes if the war starts in Korean Peninsula The recent agreement between N Korea & Russia also came into force and N Korea will get direct support from Russia which will increase the intensity of war.

5.Syria:

Civil war in Syria has been started again and this situation invites the direct intervention of US. Russia and Middle East. They all intervene to fulfill their national interest so that this civil war provides a stage to stand against each other.

Recent advancements

1. Change in nuclear doctrine by Russia
2. US allowed Ukraine to use long range ballistic missiles in Russian territory
3. Deployment of 10000 North Korean troops in Kursk Oblast, Russia
4. Russia warns west to go nuclear if further attacked by LRBMs
5. Russia fired ICBM on Ukraine
6. German intelligence chief says Russia's hybrid war could prompt NATO allies to invoke the mutual defense Article 5.
7. President election in west and new
8. administration can back step from European conflict
9. West hold the supplies and aid for Ukraine and demanding minerals in exchange of their assistance.
10. Meeting of West and Ukraine
11. EU and West's stand on Ukraine

Role of New Delhi

In current scenario India's approach is guided by its strategic interests, aiming to balance its

relationships India seeks to navigate its foreign policy interests while promoting peace and stability in the region.

Key Aspects

- Neutral Stance
- National Interest
- Humanitarian Aid
- Energy Cooperation
- International Forums
- Strategic Partnerships
- Diplomatic Relations
- Regional Stability

Conclusion

The current Geo-Political dynamics reflects many characteristics reminiscent of a Cold War era, marked by heightened geopolitical tensions, military rivalries, and ideological divides.

The resurgence of great power competition, particularly between the U.S., Russia, and China, poses significant challenges to global stability. While the potential for direct conflict remains low, proxy wars, economic sanctions, and cyber warfare intensify the risk of escalation.

By learning from the past, we can navigate this complex landscape and work towards a more peaceful and stable international order. As global citizens, it is vital to stay informed and advocate for peace, emphasizing the importance of resolution over conflict in securing a stable future for all nations.

The silent war unfolding in the 21st century marks a profound transformation in the way global power is contested. Unlike the kinetic warfare of the past, today's conflicts are driven by technological disruption, economic leverage, and psychological manipulation. While the world appears to enjoy a period of relative peace, beneath the surface lies a volatile struggle characterized by cyber intrusions, covert intelligence battles, trade wars, disinformation campaigns, and competition for influence in key geopolitical regions.

This research has highlighted how states now pursue dominance through more indirect and strategic means. Cyberattacks target national infrastructure, electoral systems, and defense networks, often with deniable attribution. Economic tools—such as sanctions, tariffs, and strategic investments—are weaponized to pressure adversaries and sway allies. Meanwhile, information is used as both a shield and a sword, with propaganda, fake news, and algorithmic manipulation shaping public opinion and disrupting social cohesion. These methods are not only cheaper and less politically risky than military engagement but also harder to detect, trace, or counter effectively.

Moreover, this silent war is not limited to a few great powers. Middle powers, rogue states, and even non-state actors now have the capacity to inflict harm or exert influence through digital means. The growing militarization of cyberspace, the race for technological supremacy—especially in AI, quantum computing, and surveillance—and the manipulation of global supply chains have created an environment of perpetual strategic tension. The lack of clear rules or international frameworks to govern these new domains adds to the uncertainty, raising the risk of miscalculation or unintended escalation.

If left unchecked, this shadow conflict could erode the norms of international cooperation, fragment the global order, and push the world toward a new era of distrust and division. The consequences may not be immediately visible, but they are cumulative and corrosive, affecting everything from international development to democratic resilience and global peace.

Moving forward, it is imperative that the international community recognizes the severity of this new kind of warfare. Diplomatic frameworks must evolve to include cybersecurity accords, economic transparency mechanisms, and shared ethical standards for emerging technologies. States must also invest in resilience—strengthening critical infrastructure, protecting information ecosystems, and building public awareness about these hidden threats.

The world stands at a crossroads. We can either continue down the path of silent confrontation, hoping that ambiguity will prevent catastrophe, or we can confront the realities of this emerging conflict head-on and forge new systems of accountability and cooperation. The choice we make today will determine whether the silent war remains in the shadows—or whether it becomes the next great global crisis.

As this research has shown, the world is no longer facing conflict in the traditional sense, but rather entering an era defined by subtle, persistent, and complex forms of confrontation—a new silent war. This global struggle unfolds through covert cyber operations, economic coercion, digital propaganda, and technological rivalry. Unlike conventional wars, this silent conflict is fought without formal declarations or clear battlegrounds, making it harder to identify, confront, and resolve.

Major powers are increasingly relying on these indirect strategies to assert influence, undermine rivals, and protect their national interests. At the same time, non-state actors and smaller nations have found new ways to participate in this struggle, leveling the playing field in some respects while adding layers of unpredictability. The absence of open warfare may offer the illusion of peace, but the long-term consequences of this tension are profound: erosion of international trust, destabilization of alliances, weakening of democratic institutions, and the ever-present risk of escalation into open conflict.

To address this growing threat, there is an urgent need for global awareness, updated international norms, and proactive diplomacy. Nations must invest not only in defense and technology but also in dialogue, transparency, and cooperation. The silent war may not dominate headlines like traditional wars once did, but its impact on global security and order could be just as significant—if not more. The challenge now lies in recognizing these emerging dangers and taking collective action before this silent war turns into something far louder.

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