

The Geostrategic Future of the three TIG...ers

TIG...ers referring to...Taiwan, Israel and Greenland

The consequences of the US gradual & selective withdrawal
as a global policeman
during the upcoming decades...
will bring about drastic changes to...
the geostrategic equilibria in many regions...

**Many nations will face immeasurable challenges...
but three countries should be very vigilant....**

- **T**_{aiwan}
- **I**_{srael}
- **G**_{reenland}

The future of the three TIG...ers due to the American pullback

- **Aggressive and emerging superpowers like
Russia and China
will try to fill out the empty space by the US pullout**

- **Some nations that depend heavily on
American protection and they are under
the direct American security umbrella.....
.....will feel the pressure by
the upcoming superpowers
and neighboring
rising powers...**

Possible paths & solutions for the three TIG...ers

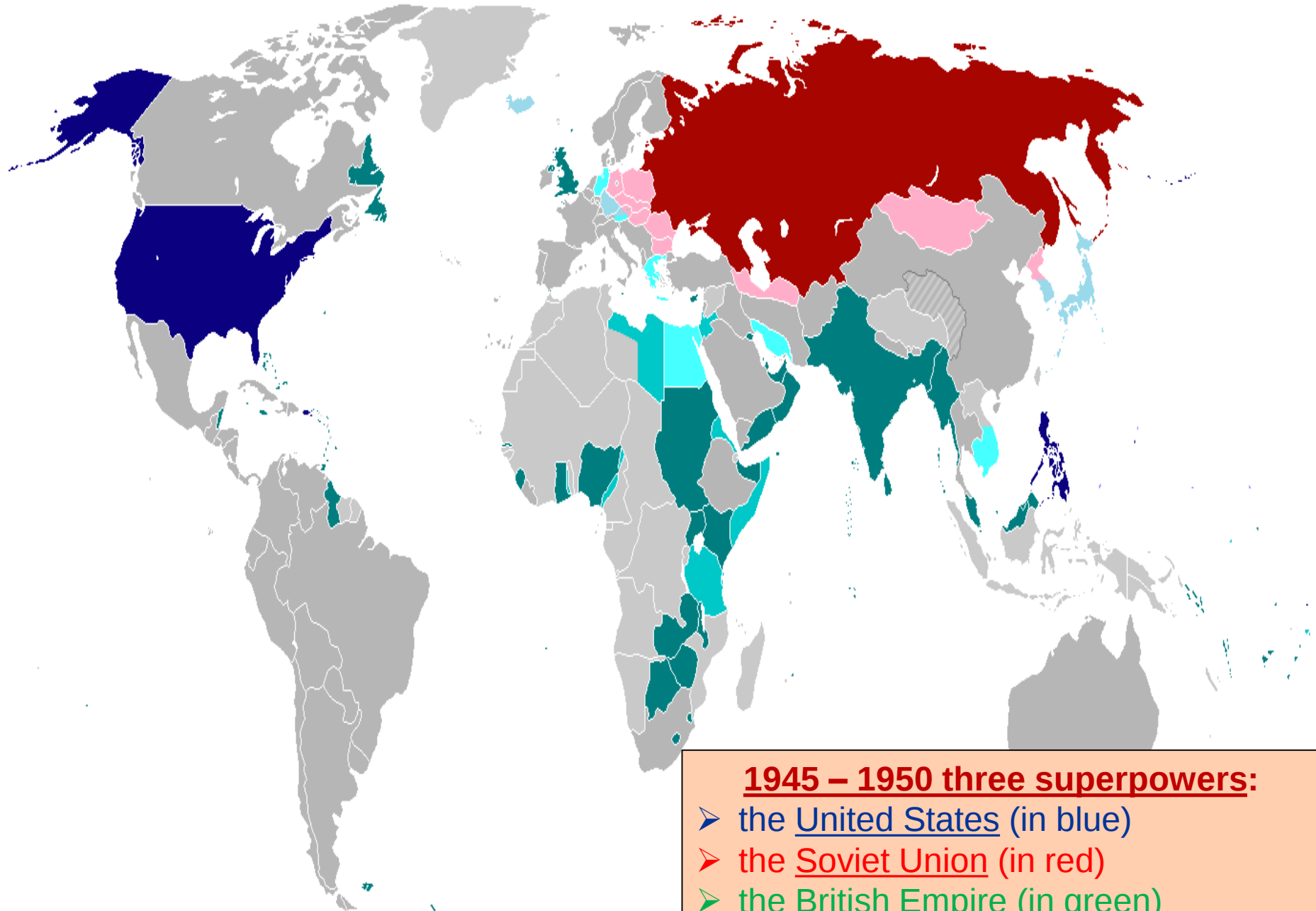
- **Taiwan** immediately and **Israel** shortly should plan to secure their survival, independence, and prosperity.
 - **Greenland** is a special case, facing different challenges and its people must make hard choices...
- **Taiwan** might cooperate and even join forces with mainland China...
 - **Israel** might cooperate strategically and collude with adjacent nations and friendly powers...
 - **Greenland** might collaborate and form an alliance with a major Artic power...

Part A

**The ebb & flow of the
American global influence and reach...
as Superpower ...**

**The American Hegemony started by
the beginning of the 20th Century...
and established by
the end of World War II (WWII)**

The American Hegemony was absolute by the end of WWII - 1945

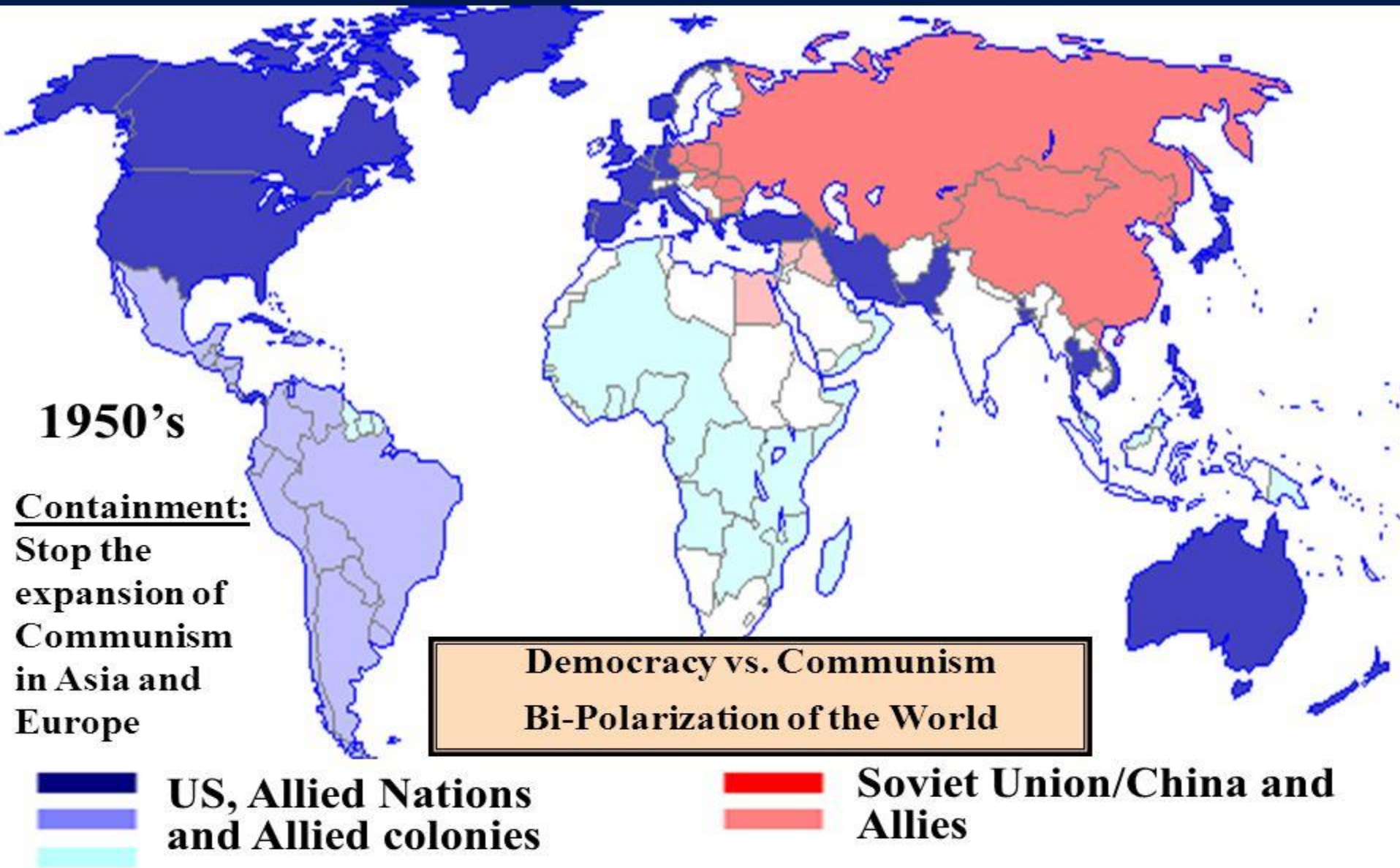


1945 – 1950 three superpowers:

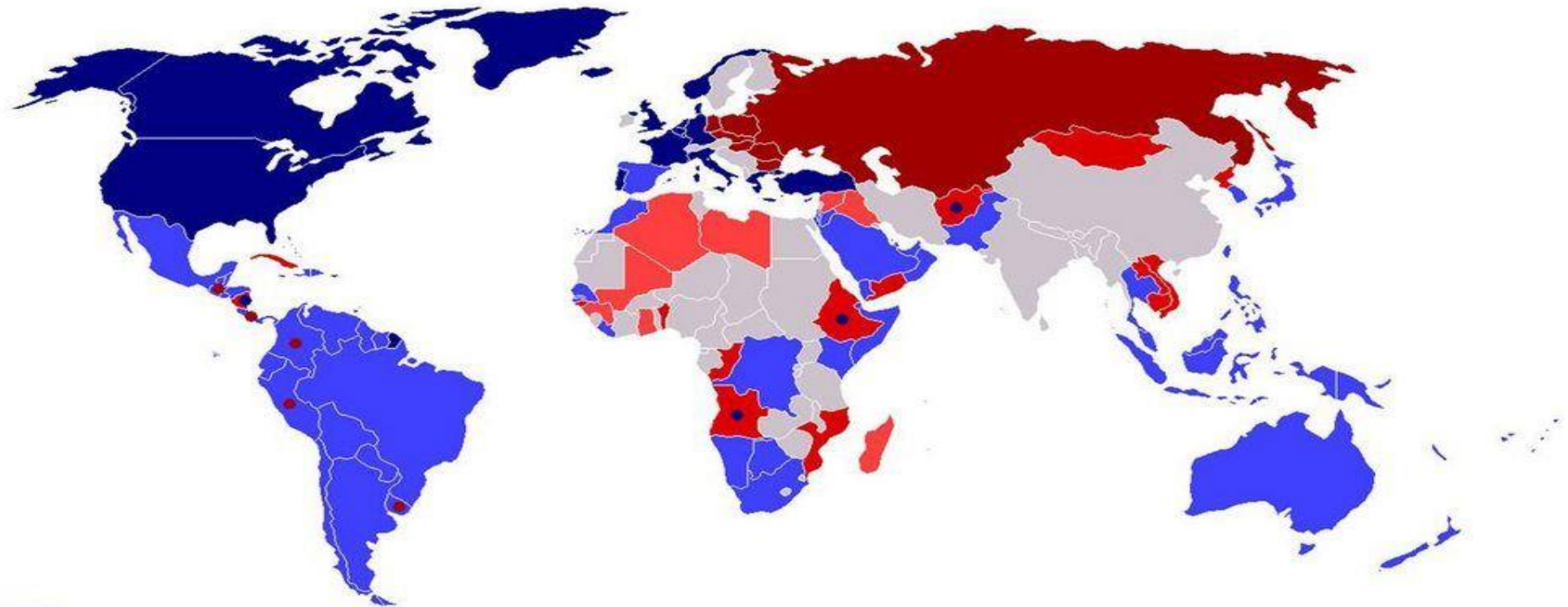
- the United States (in blue)
- the Soviet Union (in red)
- the British Empire (in green)

1950 - Cold War - US the only western superpower

CONTAINMENT POLICY



1980 - The US unique global superpower



NATO

Other allies of the United States

Warsaw Pact

Socialist countries aligned with the USSR

Other allied of the USSR

Non-aligned nations

Communist guerillas

Anti-communist guerillas

1960 – 1990 two superpowers:

□ the United States (in blue)

□ the Soviet Union (in red)

(Cold War)

Absolute Pax Americana (1990-2008)

US military bases world wide 2001-2003

In this period the United States has over 730 military installations and bases in over 50 countries.



Pax Americana and Unipolarity

The US scope and pervasiveness of its global power

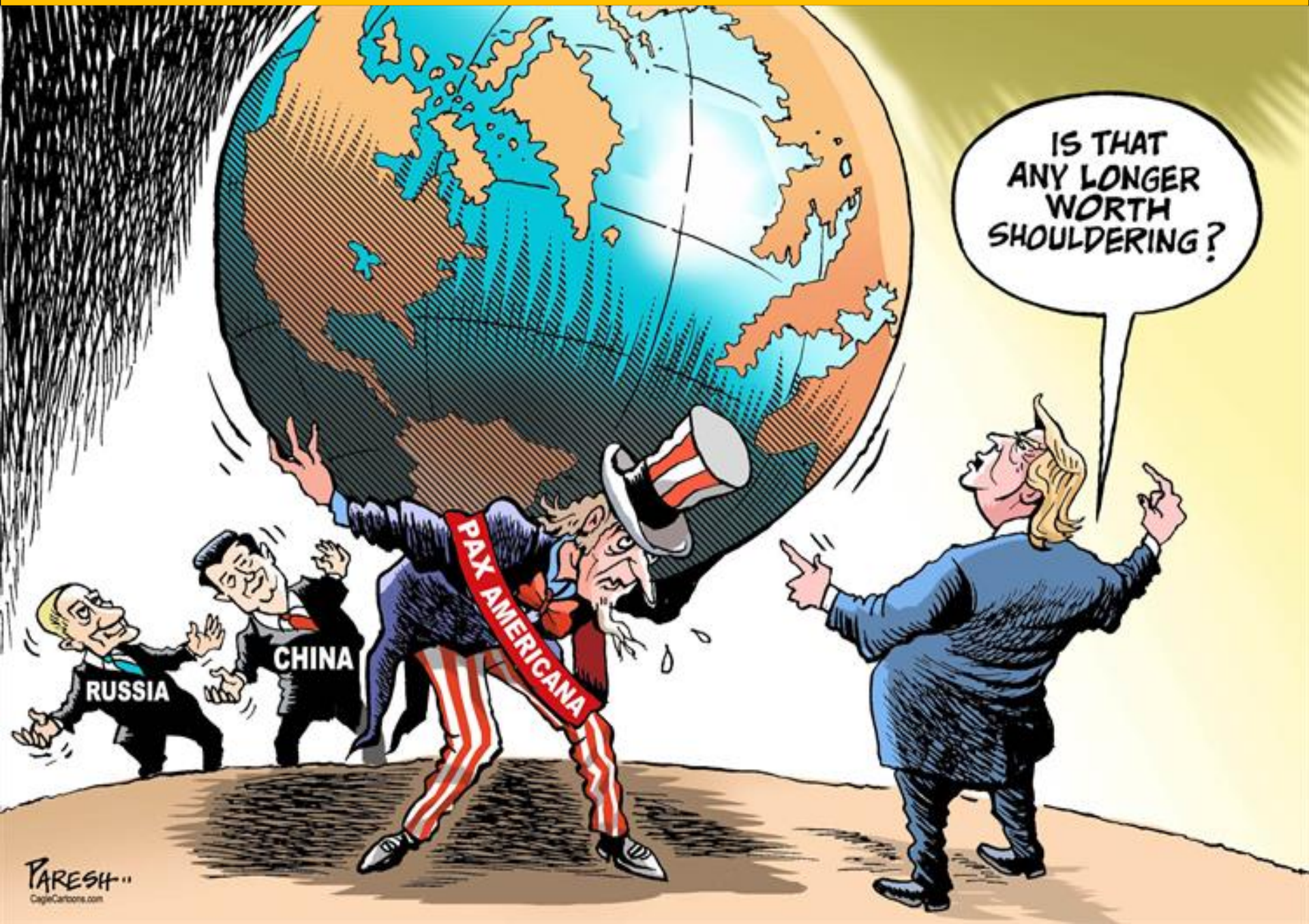
- the US military might protect Peace & Prosperity
- the US navy control all the world's oceans
- The US land and navy military bases and personnel are present across earth
- The US and allied forces are effectively encircling every adversary
- The US global supremacy is reinforced by a network of military and economic alliances and coalitions that literally web the globe



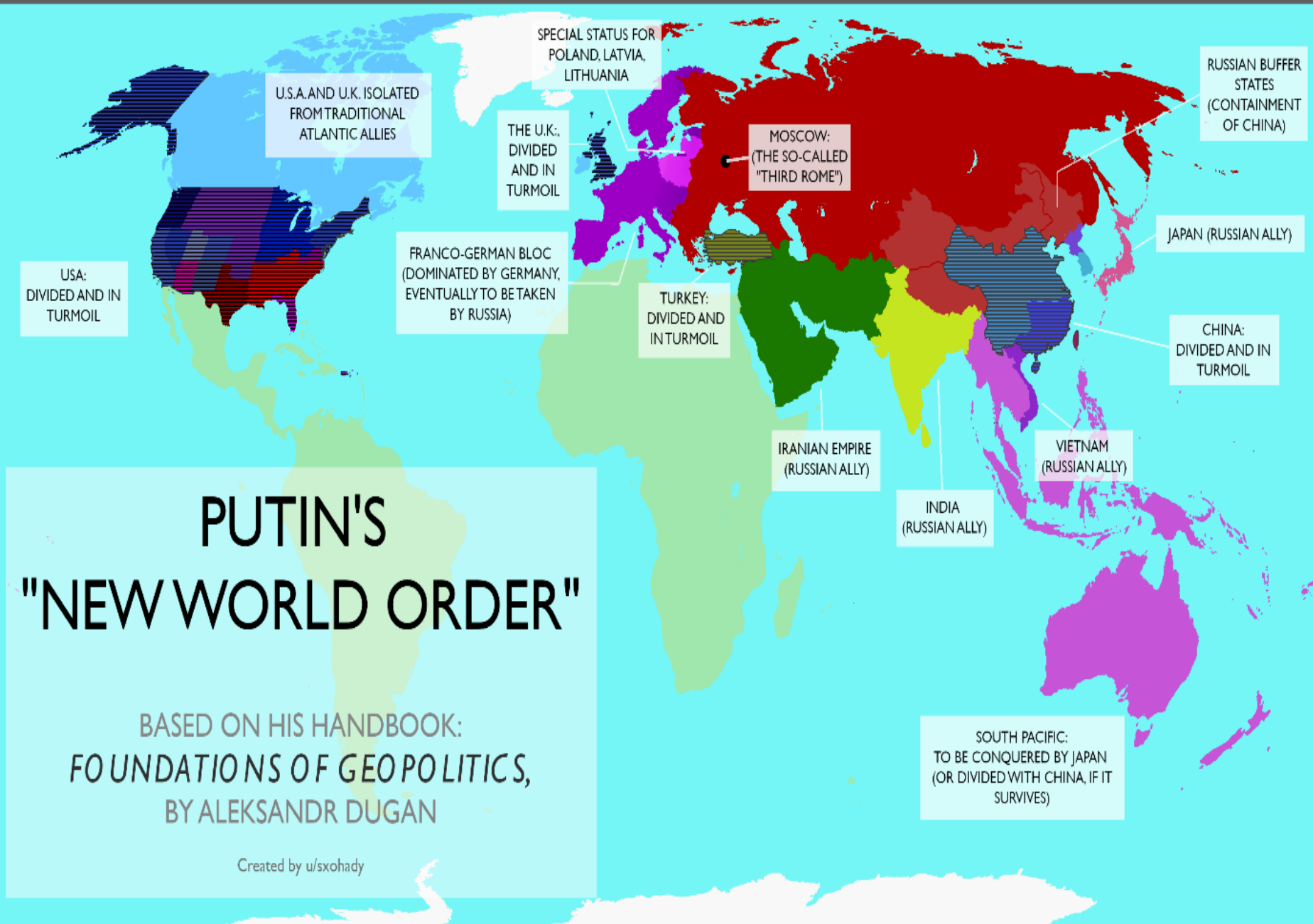
The future of Pax Americana

- The American historian-analyst, C. Kupchan, during the late 90s, perhaps prematurely, wrote about the world order "*After Pax Americana*" and "*The Life after Pax Americana*".
 - In 2003, he concluded that "*The End of the American Era*" is near.
 - But in 2012, he forecasted that: "*America's military strength will remain as central to global stability in the years ahead as it has been in the past.*"
-
- The Russian historian-analyst Leonid Grinin, during the same time, argued that for the foreseeable future "*Pax Americana will remain an effective tool for the world order*", since the US has many advantages and powers unmatched by no other power.
 - He urged that the elimination of Pax Americana will bring about critical changes and modifications of the current world order with unclear and unintended consequences

End of Pax Americana?



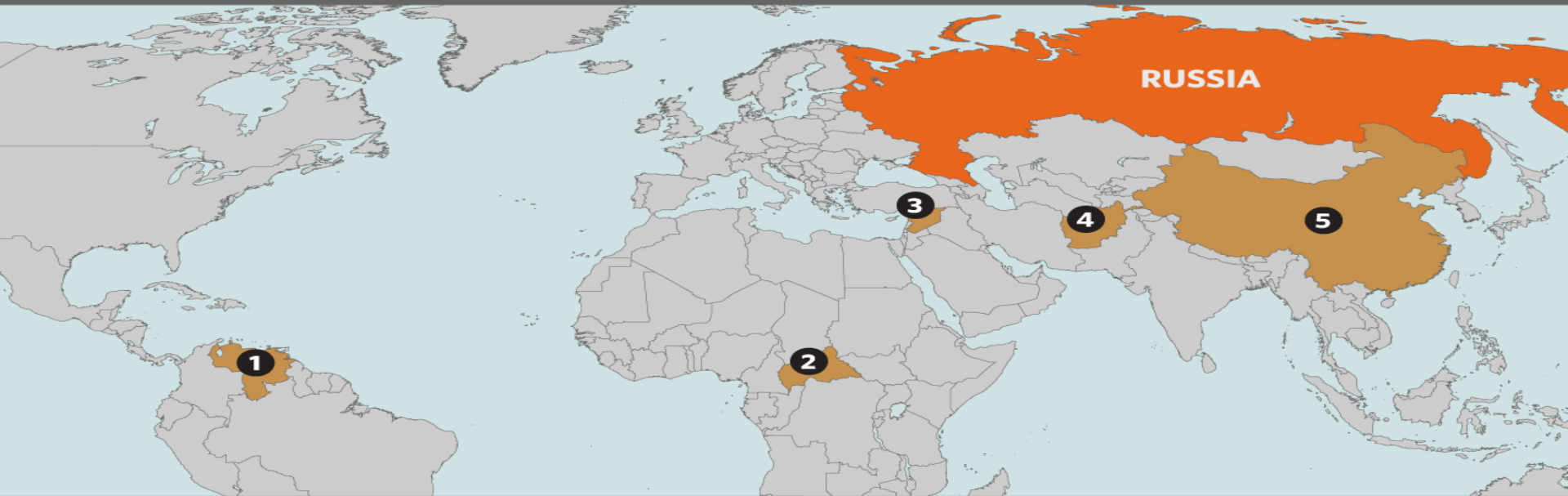
Russia challenges the Pax Americana (2010s...)



Russia regained global influence (*without the communism cover*) - (2019)

Russia's Global Strategy

Amid its prolonged standoff with the West, Russia has worked to expand its ties in Asia, Africa and South America. Below are some of the key countries where Moscow has focused its efforts and how.



1 Venezuela: Providing financial assistance, energy investments and arms exports.

2 Central African Republic: Deploying private security contractors and participating in political mediation efforts.

3 Syria: Intervening militarily to support President Bashar al Assad in 2015.

4 Afghanistan: Mediating diplomatic talks between the government and the Taliban.

5 China: Increasing trade ties, energy links and joint military exercises.

Multipolarity (多极) in Geopolitics (地缘政治) – practical view



Part B

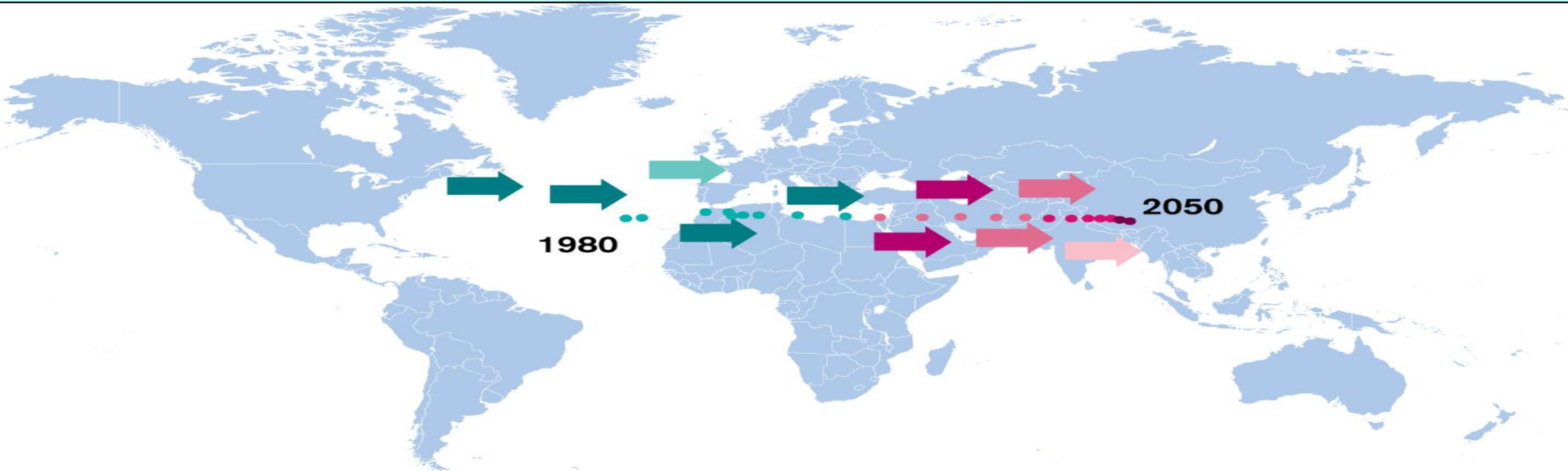
Two major shifts concurrently take place on the globe

Two contrarian moves...

1) World's economic center of gravity is shifting East...

2) US military power is shifting West...

1) World's economic center of gravity is shifting East...



The global economy's centre of gravity is moving to the East

(%GDP in world economy in the next ten years)

Source: BBVA Research and Quah 2011



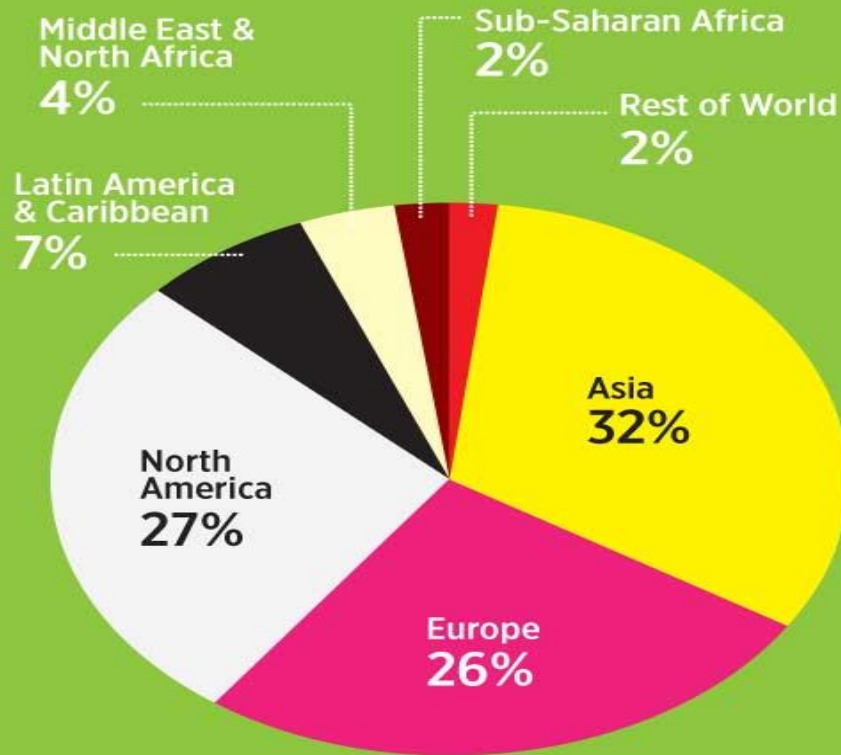
Most of the global economic activity will be Asian...

‘ASIAN CENTURY’ SCENARIO

(Global GDP composition)

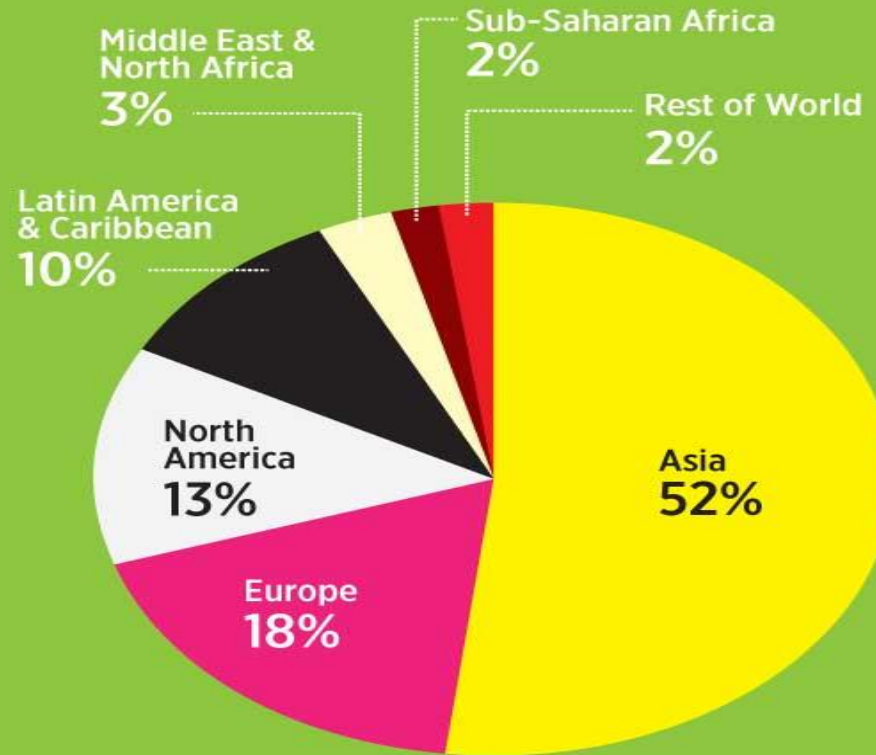
BW

**Present
(2016)**



Asia's GDP: \$24 trillion (market FX rate)
Asia's per capita GDP: \$12,000 (PPP)

**“Asian Century” Scenario
(2050)**



Asia's GDP: \$174 trillion (market FX rate)
Asia's per capita GDP: \$40,800 (PPP)

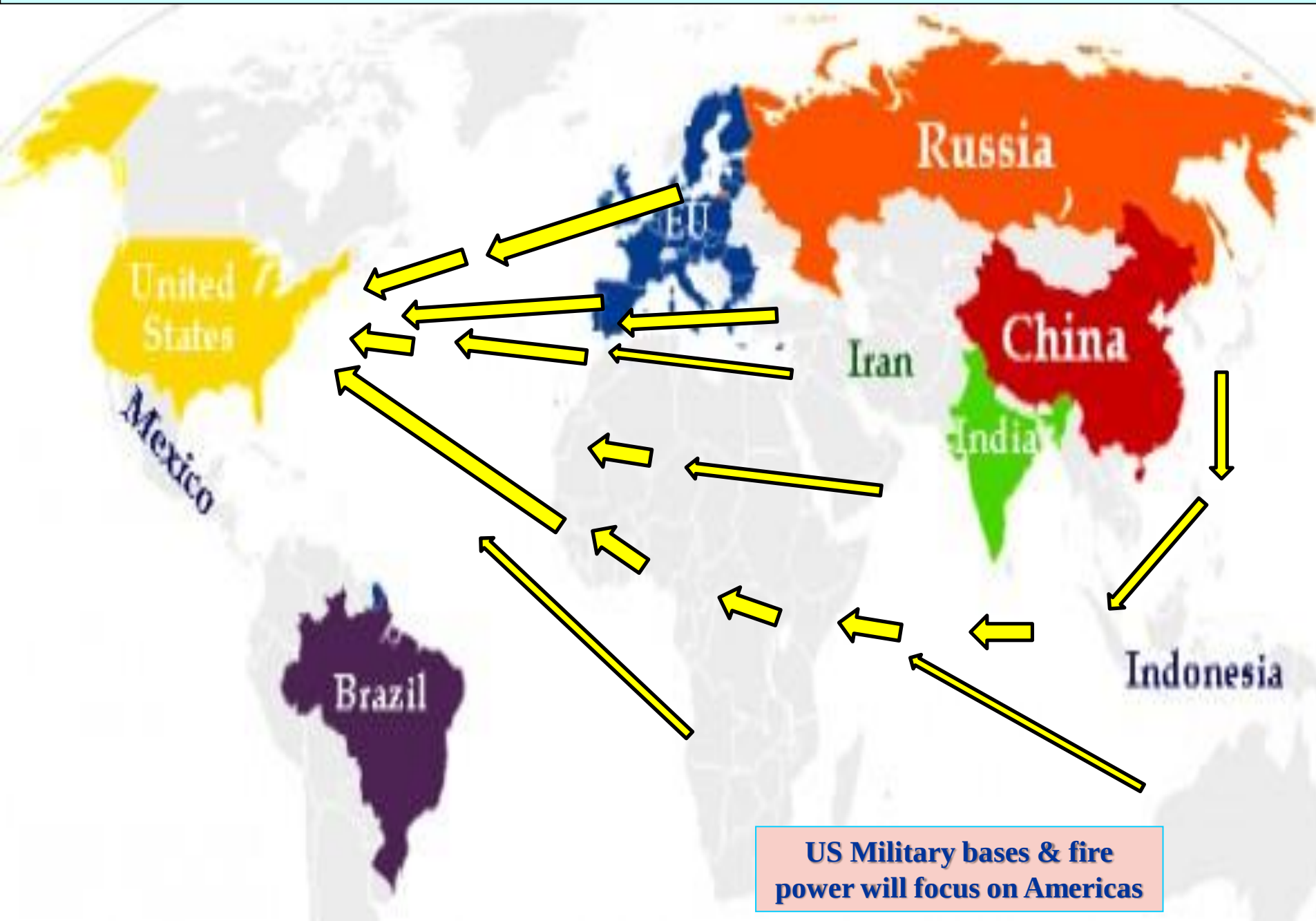
...Consequently many propose the **EURASIA** model...

GROWING TOGETHER: EUROPE AND ASIA FORM THE MOST SIGNIFICANT AXIS OF GLOBAL TRADE.

Europe and Asia are the two most significant regions in global trade, and their trade with each other comprises a greater trade volume than any other pair of regions. As infrastructural linkages and trade agreements expand, Eurasian trade is accelerating and far outstripping either region's trade with North America.



2) US military power is shifting West...



Re-emphasizing again the ...Dogma Monroe of the 19th century

- The **Monroe Doctrine** was/is a US policy of opposing the European expansion and colonialism, especially in North and South America.
- It was defined and articulated in **December 1823**.
- It warned and prohibited efforts of European powers like Britain, France, Spain, and Germany in and around the Americas.
- Any aggressive action would be interpreted as "*the manifestation of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States.*"
- The Dogma was also clearly expressed that the U.S. would not interfere with European expansion elsewhere and most importantly would not meddle in the internal affairs in the European continent.

November 2013: The US president and some officials of the Obama administration mentioned that the "era of the Monroe Doctrine is over."

February 2018: President Trump and most of his top officials praised the Monroe Doctrine as an effective and successful tool and policy to contain and curtail the Chinese trade ambitions, commercial and military expansion across the globe.

March 2019: The Trump administration formally and publicly refers to the use and implementation of the Monroe dogma to keep the "American hemisphere independent".

Dogma Monroe



Immediate Future: Multipolarity ??... After 10-20 years ??...



...Several regional powers ...



Following Economics...

Top three countries by economic dominance

% share* of global economic power

1870



1973



2010



2030
Forecast



Source: Arvind Subramanian

*Weighted by share of world GDP, trade and net capital exports

As a result ... America will pull back...



...abandoning ... some countries ..which they will face challenges...

- 1. Taiwan (SR) – in short term**
- 2. Greenland (MR) – in medium term**
- 3. Israel (LR) – in long term**

Part C

1. TAIWAN (ROC)

- **A democratic state**
- **A vibrant economy**
- **An island shield to mainland China**

TAIWAN (ROC) location



... no Major power recognizes Taiwan anymore... and ...

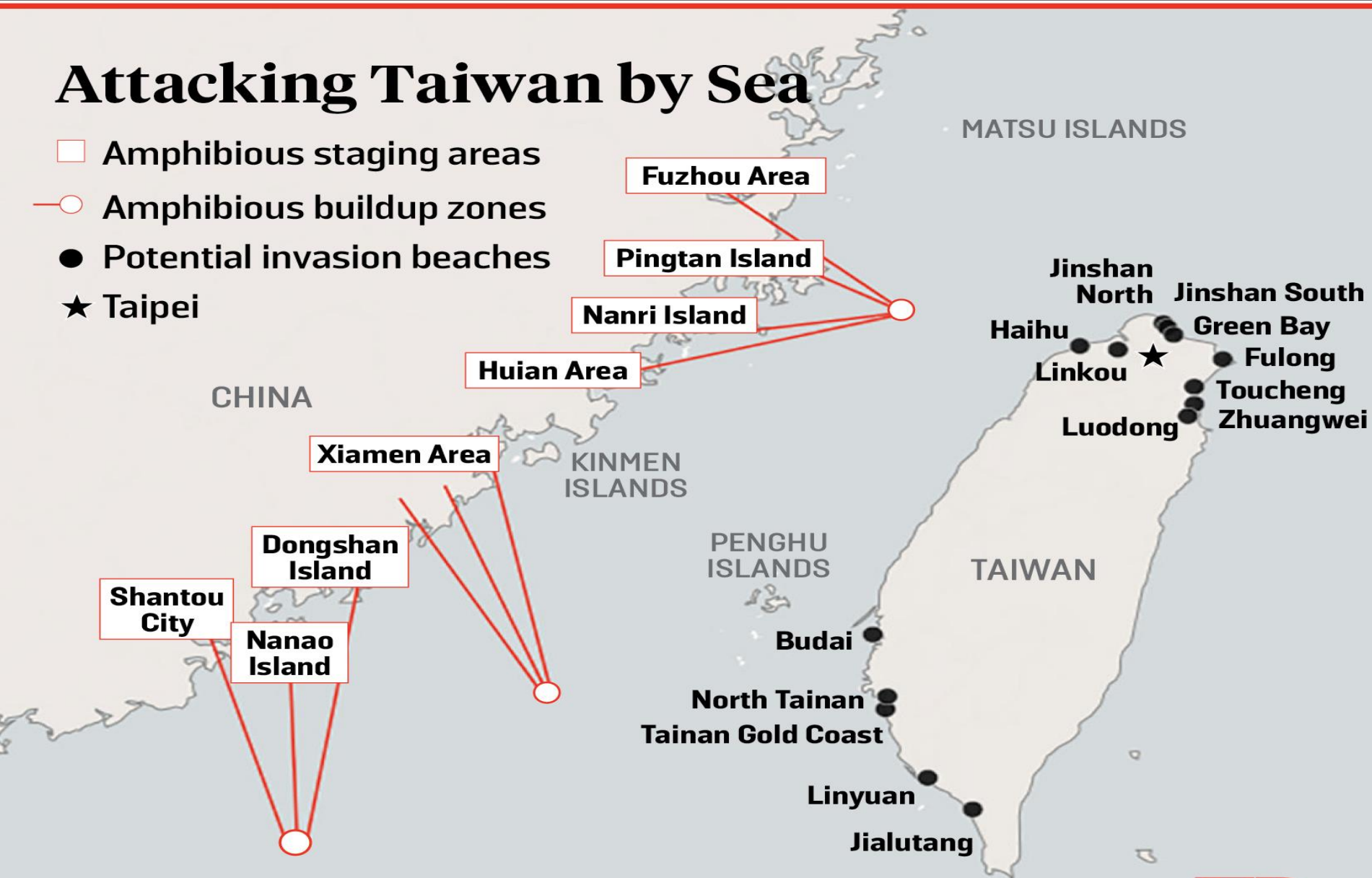
Taiwan's Dwindling Diplomatic Allies

Pressure from China means that Taiwan's stable of diplomatic ties is now down to 17 countries



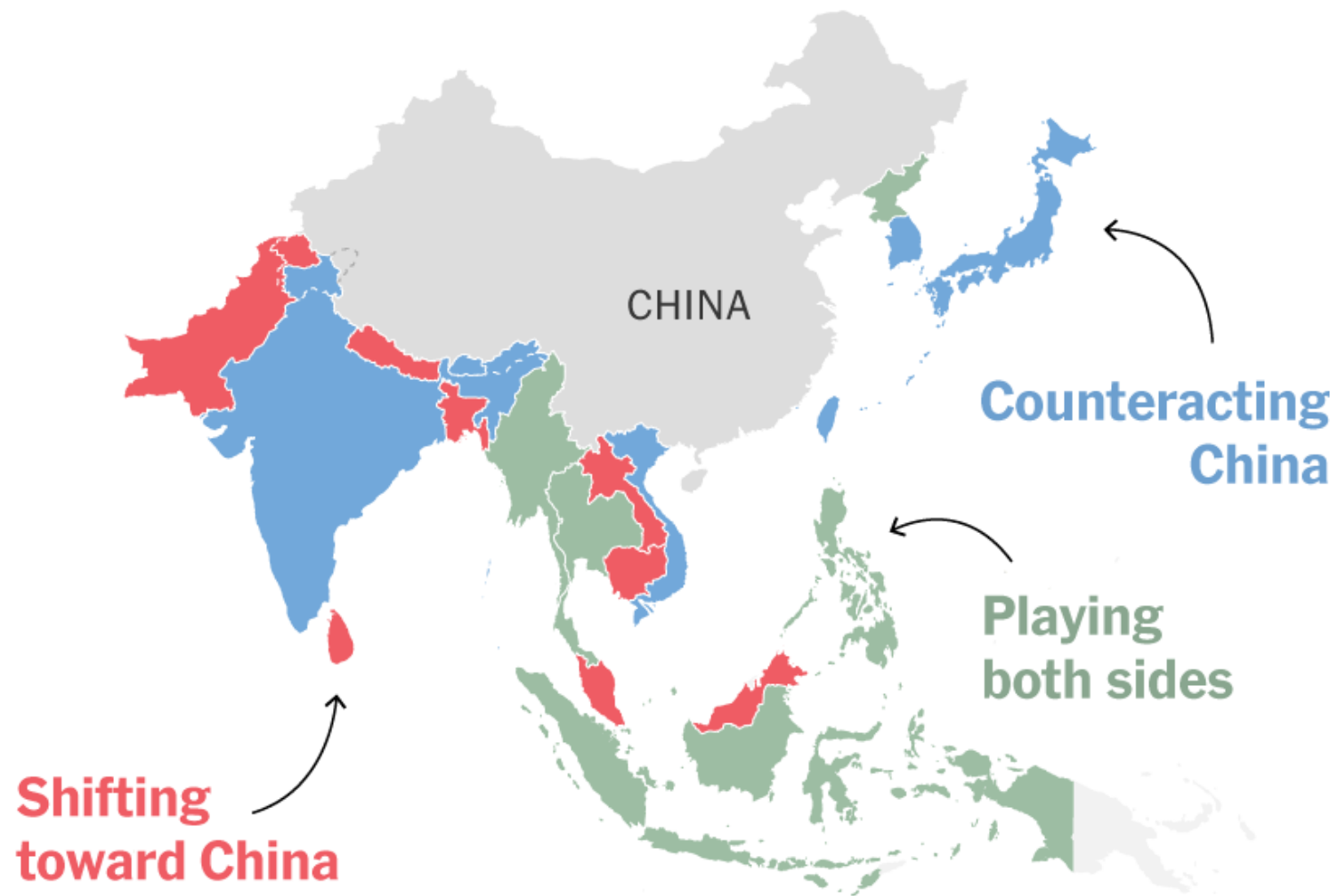
Attacking Taiwan by Sea

- Amphibious staging areas
- Amphibious buildup zones
- Potential invasion beaches
- ★ Taipei



SOURCE: THE CHINESE INVASION THREAT: TAIWAN'S DEFENSE AND AMERICAN STRATEGY IN ASIA, BY IAN EASTON WITH MAPS BY PAUL HUANG; BASEMAP: CARTO

as do....all neighbors around China... and must choose sides...



...Integrating with the Chinese economic powerhouse (day by day)...

Top ports in Taiwan (by TEU container volume)

1. Chilung (Keelung) (1,749,388)
2. Kaohsiung (9,363,289)
3. Taichung (1,383,578)

Taiwan's main export trading partners (2012 est.)

1. China 27.1%
2. Hong Kong 13.2%
3. US 10.3%
4. Japan 6.4%,
5. Singapore 4.4%

Taiwan's main import trading partners (2012 est.)

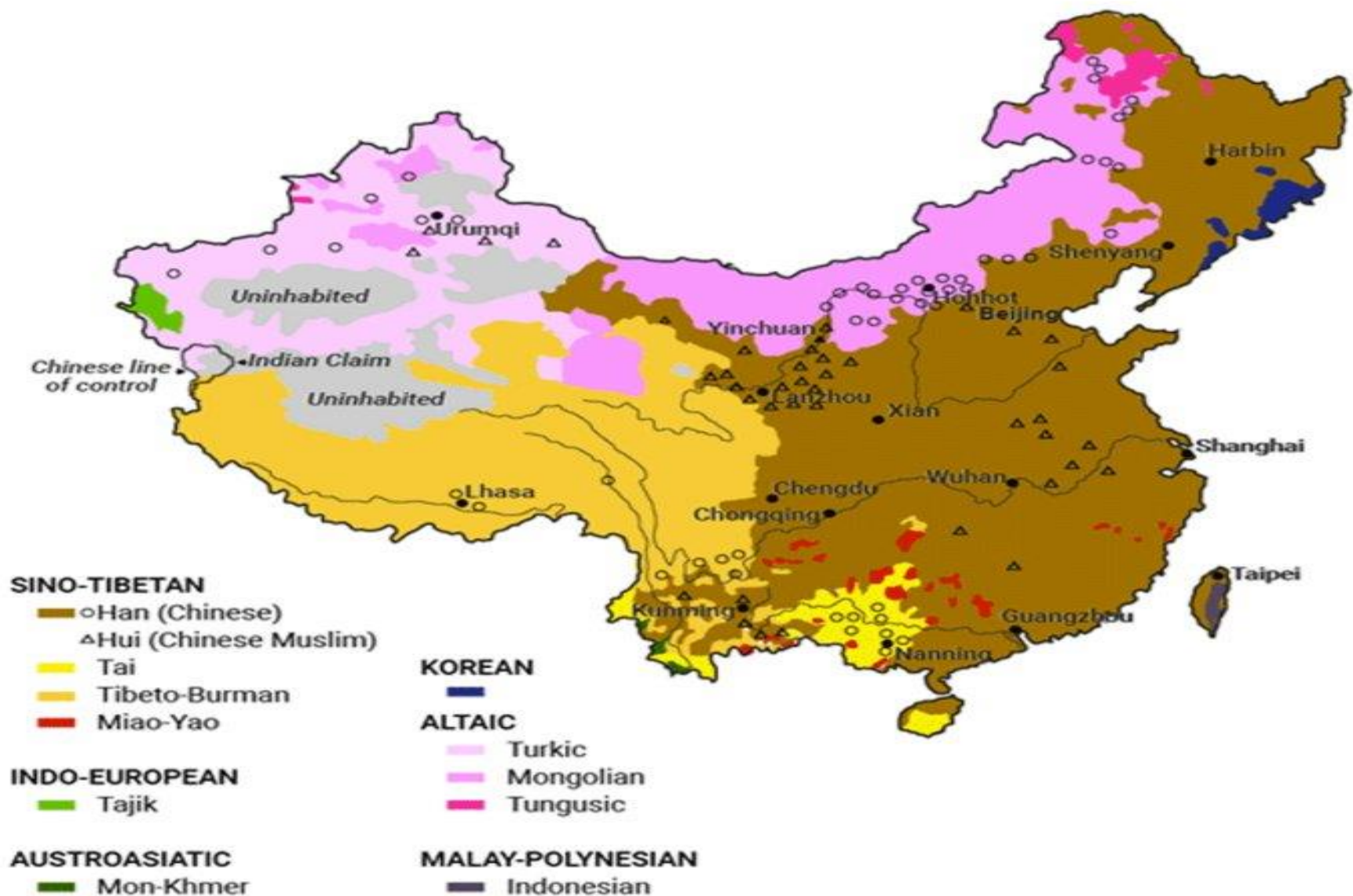
1. Japan 17.6%
2. China 16.1%
3. US 9.5%

Strait risks:

1. Environmental: Wind, fog, typhoons, wave swells
2. Increasing traffic density
3. Geopolitical: The possibility of conflict remains low in the short term but increases over the coming decade. Piracy is at an historic low, while the threat of terrorism is minimal.
4. Shipping routes: Unless the Luzon Strait is threatened in conjunction with the Taiwan Strait the impact on trade of a closure is minimal, beyond ports in the immediate strait region, due to this readily available alternate route.

Taiwan & China share cultural similarities...

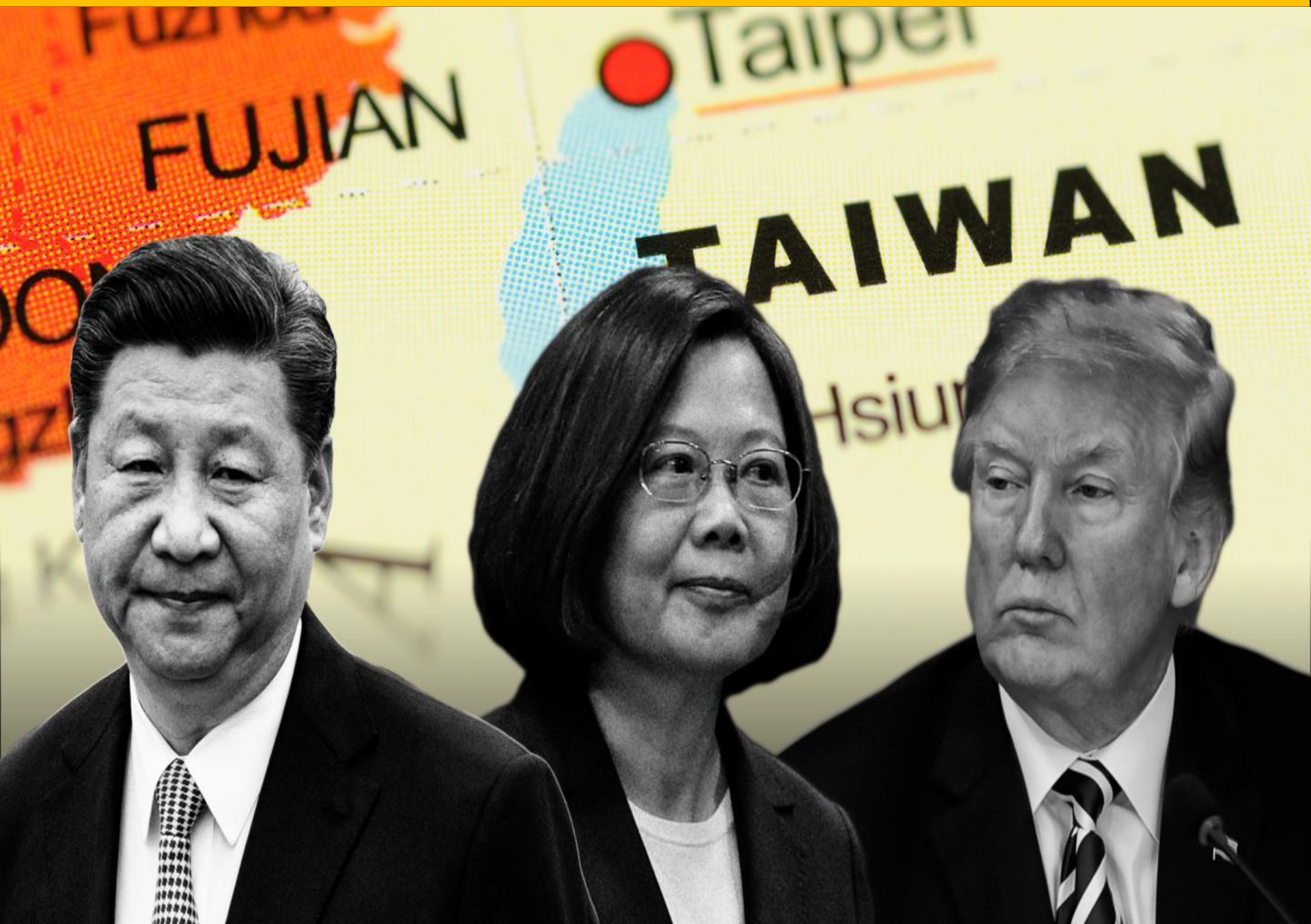
CHINA: ETHNOLINGUISTIC GROUPS



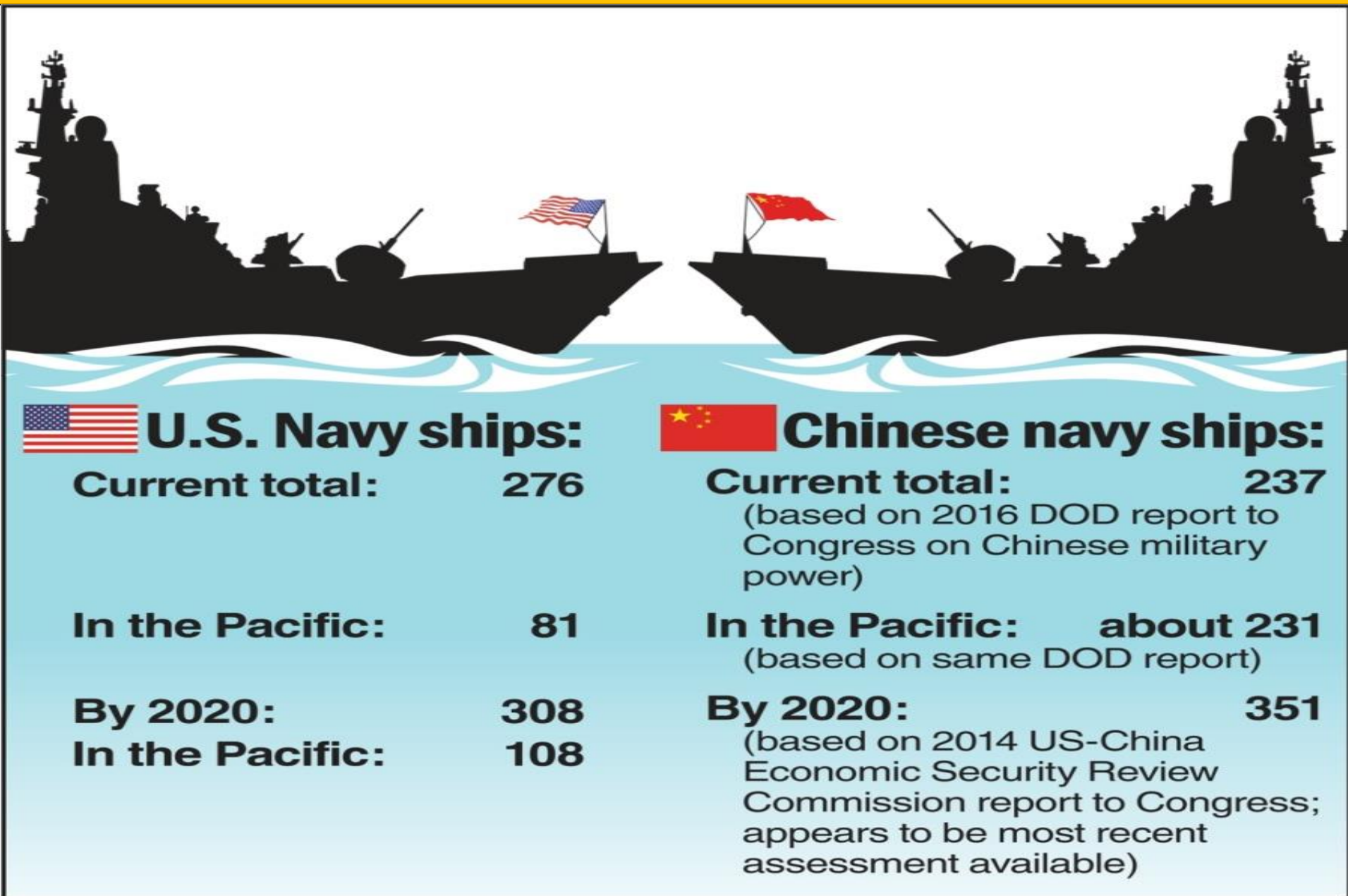
... geo-strategically... Taiwan is the shield of the mainland...



... politically ... Taiwan is between two lovers....



...that show their commitment and readiness to fight over the island...



SOURCE: Pentagon

ILLUSTRATION BY BEV SCHILLING/Stars and Stripes

USA: Tries to contain China with two sets of Chains...



US: Its first line of defense is literally east of Taiwan



US: Its second line of defense abandons Taiwan



China: Tries to encircle Taiwan ... from the south & north

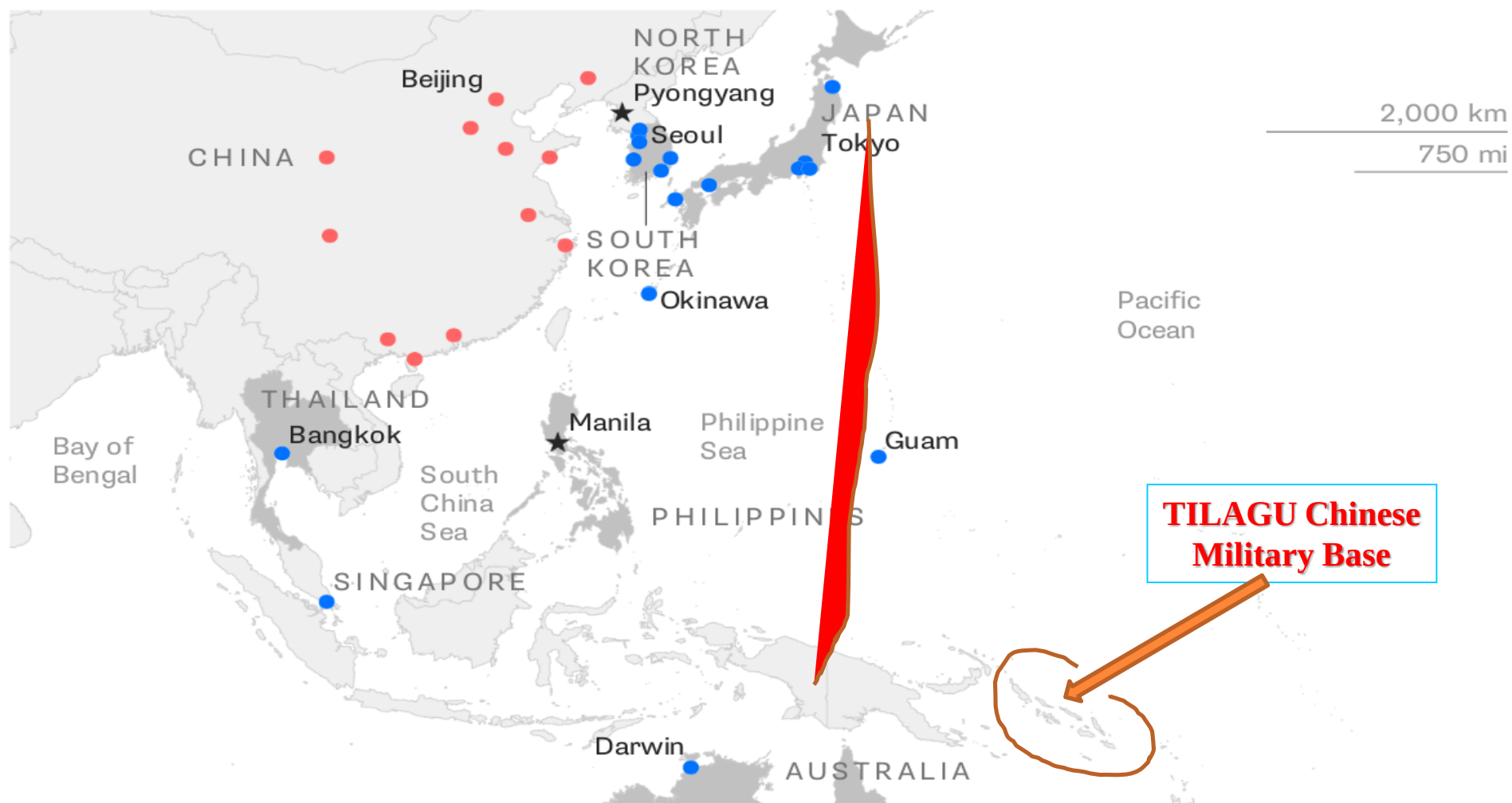


China: Moved behind the US second line of defense... (October 2019)

Where Great Powers Meet

China's military modernization effort has provided the first challenge to U.S. might in the Asia-Pacific region in decades

● U.S. bases ● Chinese military headquarters ■ U.S. collective-defense treaty allies



Sources: International Institute for Strategic Studies; U.S. Department of Defense

BloombergOpinion

So what is the future of Taiwan?

Scenario A: Remain independent?

Scenario B: Collaborate with Japan, South Korea, etc.?

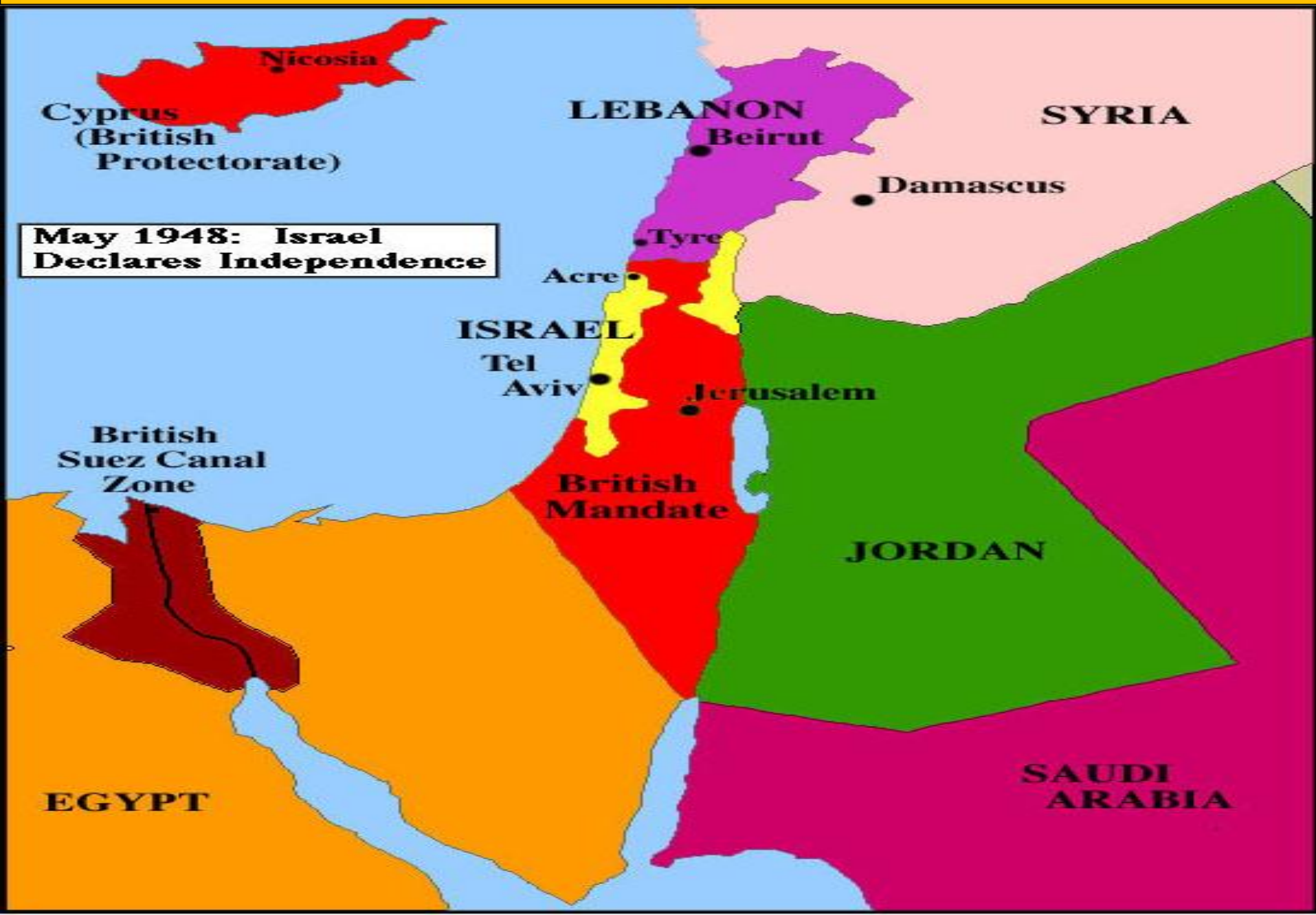
Scenario C: Merge with China?

More...

2. Israel

- **The promised land**
- **The birthplace of monotheistic religions**
- **A small island in the Dar al-Islam**

Neo-Israel starts in 1948 small



Israel today is vibrant and...



Israel

Population

Total: 9.0 million.

Location: 391,000 settlers in the West Bank (2016), 201,000 in East Jerusalem (2014), and 22,000 in the Golan Heights (2016).

Religion: Jews: 74%; Arabs: 21%; Other: 4% (2016)

Economy

Real GDP growth rate/
per capita (at PPP): 3.3%/ \$38,863

Unemployment rate: 4.0%

Population below poverty line: 22% (2014)

Inflation rate: 0.8%

Budget deficit as % of GDP: 3.0%

Public debt as % of GDP: 61.5%

Foreign exchange and gold reserves: \$115 billion

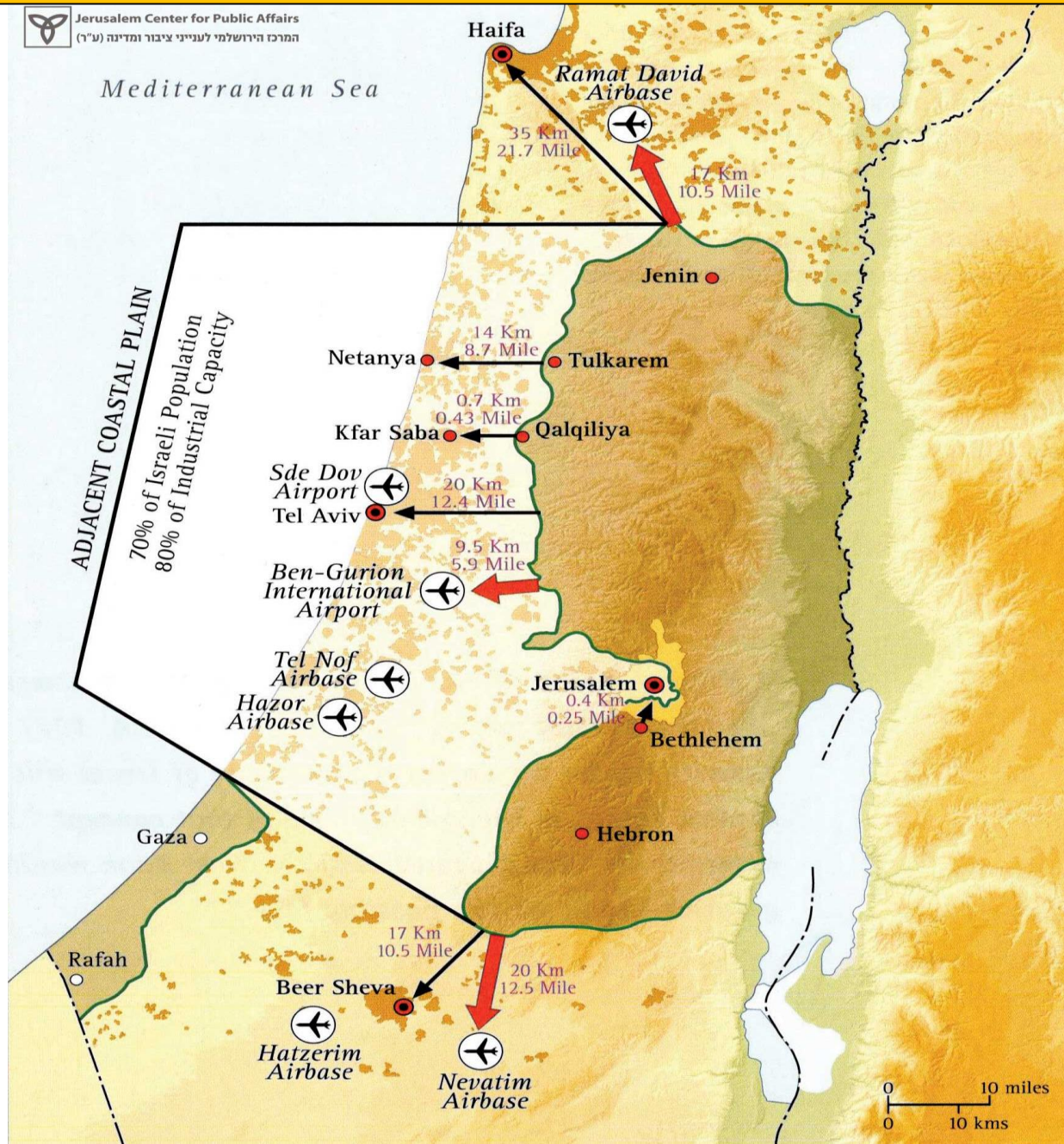
Current account surplus as % of GDP: 3.0%

Trade Partners

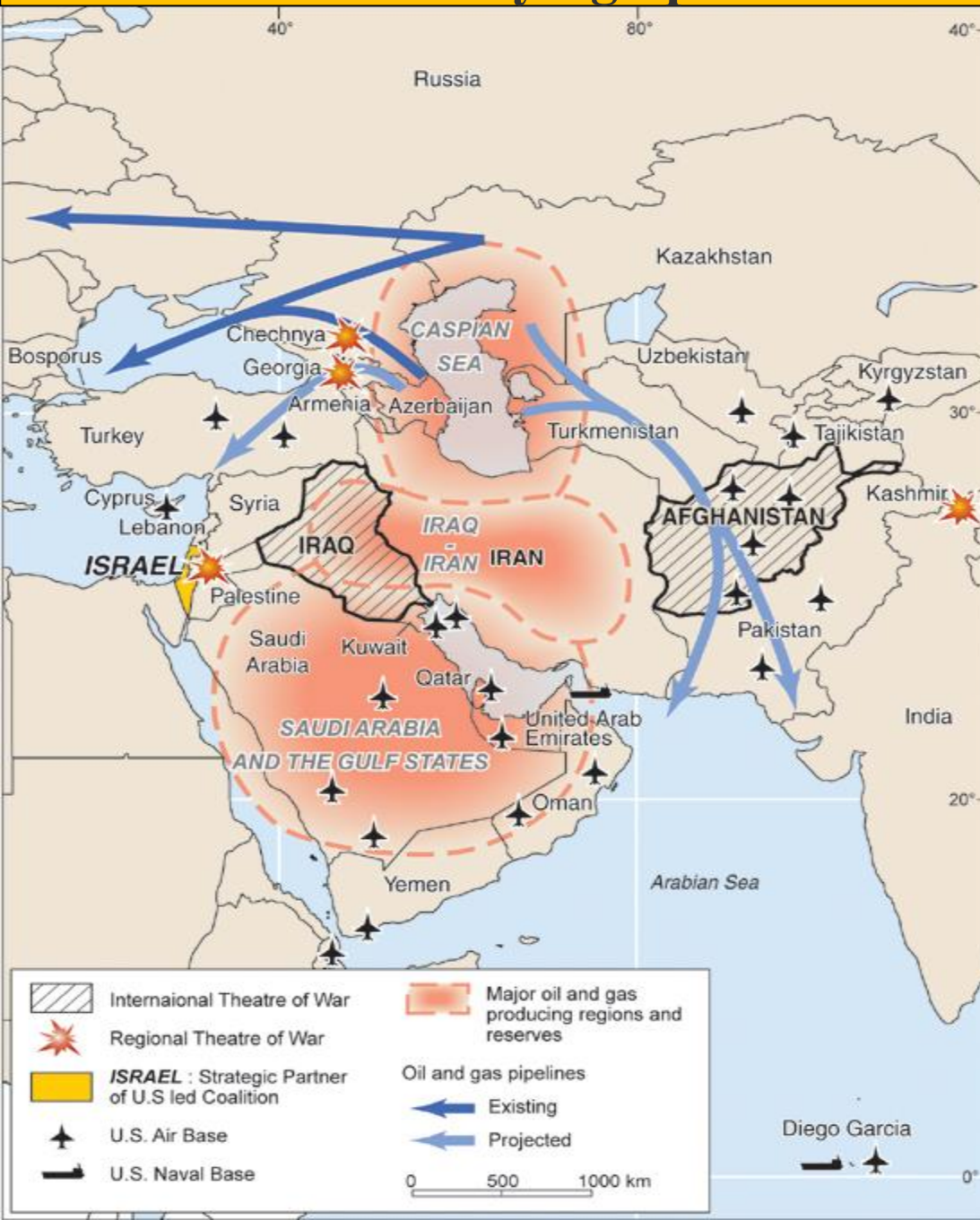
Export: U.S. 28.8%; United Kingdom 8.2%; Hong Kong 7%; China 5.4%; Belgium 4.5% (2017)

Import: U.S. 11.7%; China 9.5%; Switzerland 8%; Germany 6.8%; United Kingdom 6.2% (2017)

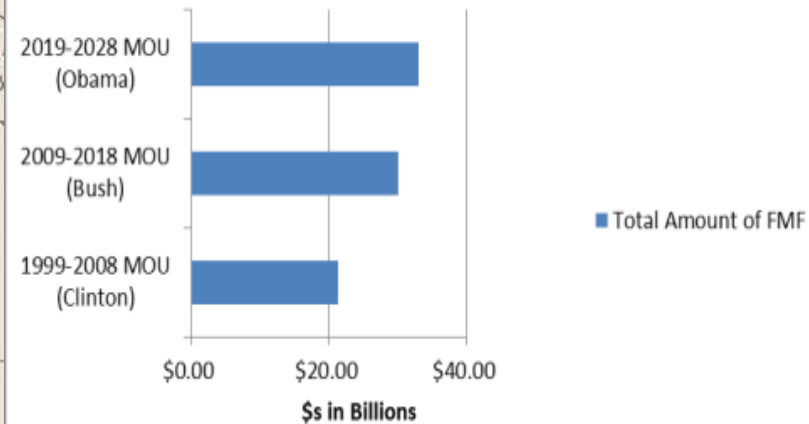
...self-sufficient and confident...and...



...relying upon the USA to protect it...

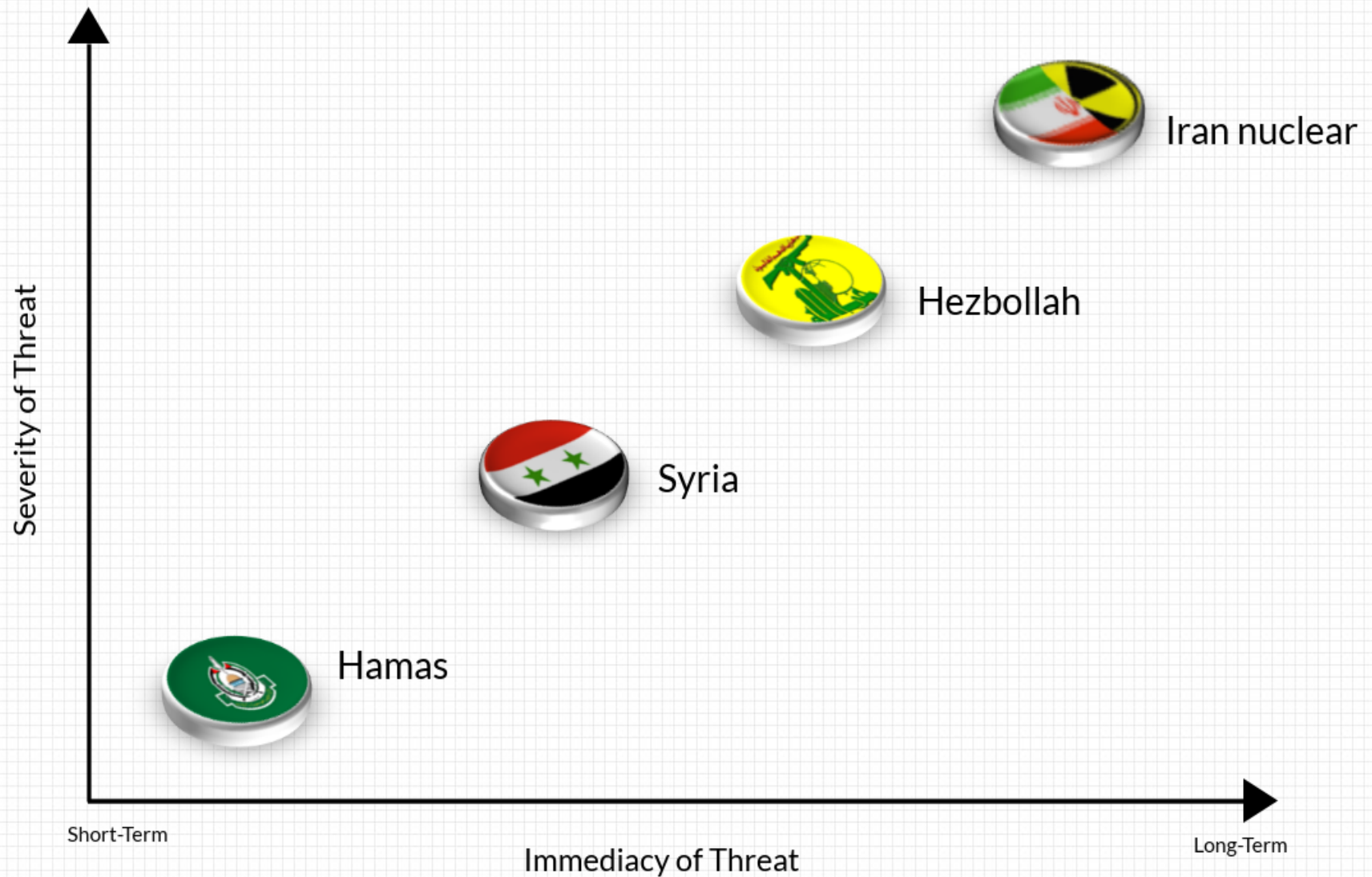


Total Amount of U.S. Military Aid Pledged to Israel in MOUs



...because faces perceived and reals threats...

Threats to Israel's National Security



...but the perceived most dangerous...is Iran...



IRAN'S BALLISTIC MISSILES

Iran possesses the largest and most diverse missile arsenal in the Middle East, with thousands of short- and medium-range ballistic and cruise missiles capable of striking as far as Israel and southeast Europe. Missiles have become a central tool of Iranian power projection and anti-access/area-denial capabilities in the face of U.S. and Gulf Cooperation Council naval and air power in the region.



SHAHAB 1 | 300km

1



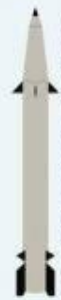
FATEH-110 | 300km

2



SHAHAB 2 | 500km

3



ZOLFAGHAR | 700km

4



QIAM-1 | 800km

5



SHAHAB 3/EMAD/GHADR | 2000km

6



SEJJIL | 2000km

7



SOUMAR (CRUISE MISSILE) | 2500km

8

18m/60ft

0m

...without disregarding others like Saudi Arabia...



...and other surrounding countries...

ISRAEL'S STRATEGIC VALUE

POST 9/11 TERROR WAR SCENARIO



A demilitarized Palestinian West Bank / Gaza State will turn Israel from a U.S. Strategic Asset and Bulwark to Middle East Terror that is able to defend itself, into a defenseless U.S. liability, inviting attack - unable even to defend itself, let alone project American military power.



1. ISRAEL as a self-defensible U.S. strategic asset: With the Golan Heights (a), the West Bank mountain range (b) and the Gaza Strip (c) under Israeli military control, Israel is immune from a short- to medium-term existential threat.

2. ISRAEL as an indefensible U.S. strategic liability, inviting attack: Without the Golan Heights, the West Bank mountain range and the Gaza Strip under Israeli control, but instead under hostile Arab control, Israel will be strategically vulnerable and exposed to a short-term existential threat. Such a conflict will be fueled by continued Arab terrorism against Israel.



3. ISRAEL: the First Domino

Without the natural mountain defenses of the Golan and West Bank mountains, and with Israel's ability to mobilize degraded, Israel would be easily destroyed and occupied by Syria and Egypt. Even a heavily militarized Palestinian State will be unable to militarily contain either the Syrians or the Egyptians. Hezbollah, the Syrians and the Egyptians will all vie for the occupation of the coveted Jerusalem.



4. JORDAN: the Second Domino

Without Israel as its strategic protector, Jordan would be easily encroached by the militarily powerful Hezbollah, Syrians, Egyptians and Shiastan/Iran. Syria currently sees Jordan as Southern Syria and will fulfill its vision of Manifest Destiny.



5. SAUDI ARABIA: the Third Domino

With the militarily powerful but oil-poor Egyptians and Syrians, and Shiastan/Iran on Saudi Arabia's northern border, Saudi Arabia will cease to exist. Without the Suez Canal under friendly occupational control, the Western powers will be unable to resupply or defend Saudi Arabia.

Indeed many analysts believe that Israel is the first line of defense for Europe...



What is the only non-Muslim country (with an army) between the 11 million Greeks that the United States is sworn to defend under NATO, and the 487 million Muslims in the pictured countries that are in various states of either being failed states, becoming failed states, or are already full Islamist states? Israel, and only Israel!

(Cyprus is a non-NATO Christian country of only about 900,000 people which is less than the combined standing armies of Turkey, and Egypt where Turkey already occupies north Cyprus.)

Top aid recipients' votes on Jerusalem

COUNTRY	2017 U.S. AID, IN MILLIONS	VOTE
Afghanistan	\$4,302	Yes
Israel	3,100	No
Egypt	1,419	Yes
Jordan	1,280	Yes
Kenya	706	Did not vote
Tanzania	547	Yes
Pakistan	525	Yes
Nigeria	515	Yes
Ethiopia	495	Yes
South Africa	471	Yes

A "yes" vote calls for any declaration altering the status of Jerusalem – such as that made by President Donald Trump indicating his intention to relocate the U.S. embassy there – to be rescinded, declaring such pronouncements have no legal effect.

SOURCES: United Nations; State Department

AP

Home > Israel News > Business

U.S. Aid to Israel Totals \$233.7b Over Six Decades

Moshe Arens: Generous assistance reflects common strategic interests and values, rather than lobbying pressure.

Ora Coren and Nadan Feldman | Mar 20, 2013 9:19 AM

Non-profit Israel lobby Ecosystem 2012-2020

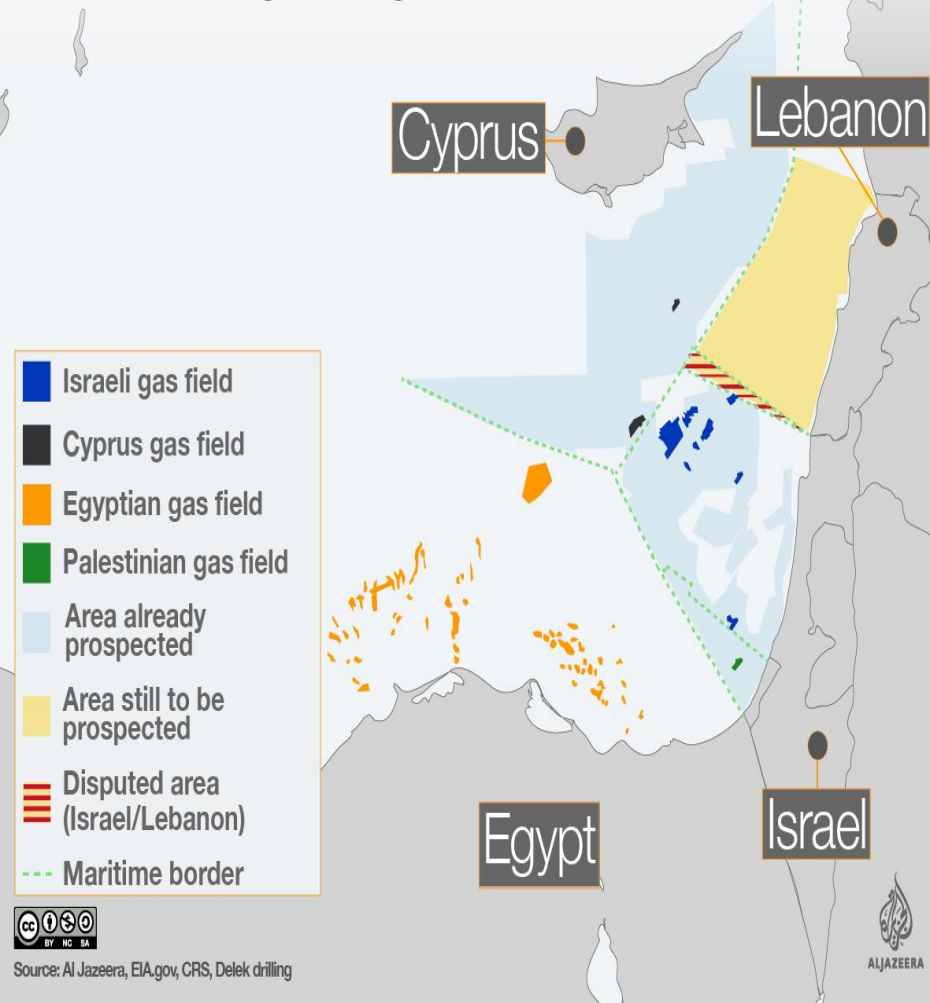
- 336 nonprofits that place the advancement of Israel as a top priority
- \$3.7 billion in revenue growing to \$6.3 by year 2020
- 14,000 employees
- 353,000 volunteers
- Estimated membership: 774,000
- Israel affinity nonprofit ecosystem provides Israel with the support that following America's own interests would not.
- American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) the main congressional lobby



Especially now it has access to Gas reserves...

Natural gas in the eastern Mediterranean

Natural gas reserves are at the centre of a maritime border dispute between Israel and Lebanon. Both countries lay claim to an area that might have gas fields.



Gas in the eastern Mediterranean

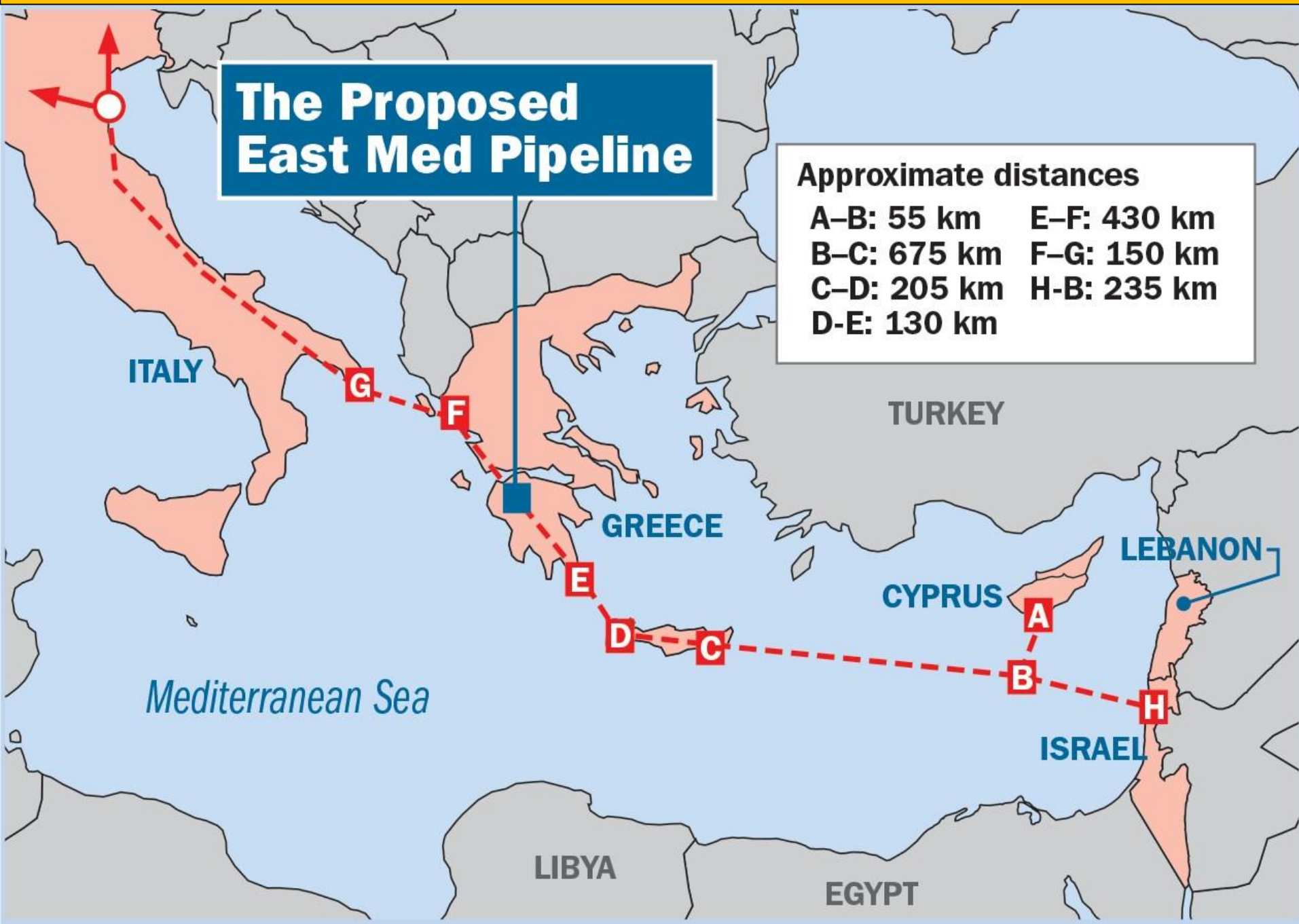


...and can transport gas to European markets...

The Proposed East Med Pipeline

Approximate distances

A-B: 55 km	E-F: 430 km
B-C: 675 km	F-G: 150 km
C-D: 205 km	H-B: 235 km
D-E: 130 km	



**So what the future holds for Israel,
when the Americans
withdraw their support and protective umbrella?**

Scenario A: Seeking peace with all Muslim-“Arabic” neighbors?

Scenario B: Collaborating with Cyprus, Greece, Malta, Italy, etc.?

Scenario C: Fighting continuous wars?

More...

3. Greenland

- **Important strategic island** (*Earth's largest*)
- **Autonomous territory within the Kingdom of Denmark**
- **Controls:**
 - *Access to the Arctic*
 - *Sea lines*
 - *Minerals*
 - *Oil & Gas*
 - *More...*

Greenland ... the first and last frontier...



Access to the Arctic



Sea Lines: Northwest & Northern Passages

3. Northwest Passage
Canada

4. Greenland
Denmark

5. Northern Passage
Russia

2. Bering straits
USA

1. Bering straits
Russia



Minerals

IRONBARK ZINC

Australian miner proposing \$500-million (U.S.) project that could become one of the world's largest zinc mines.

HUSKY ENERGY INC.

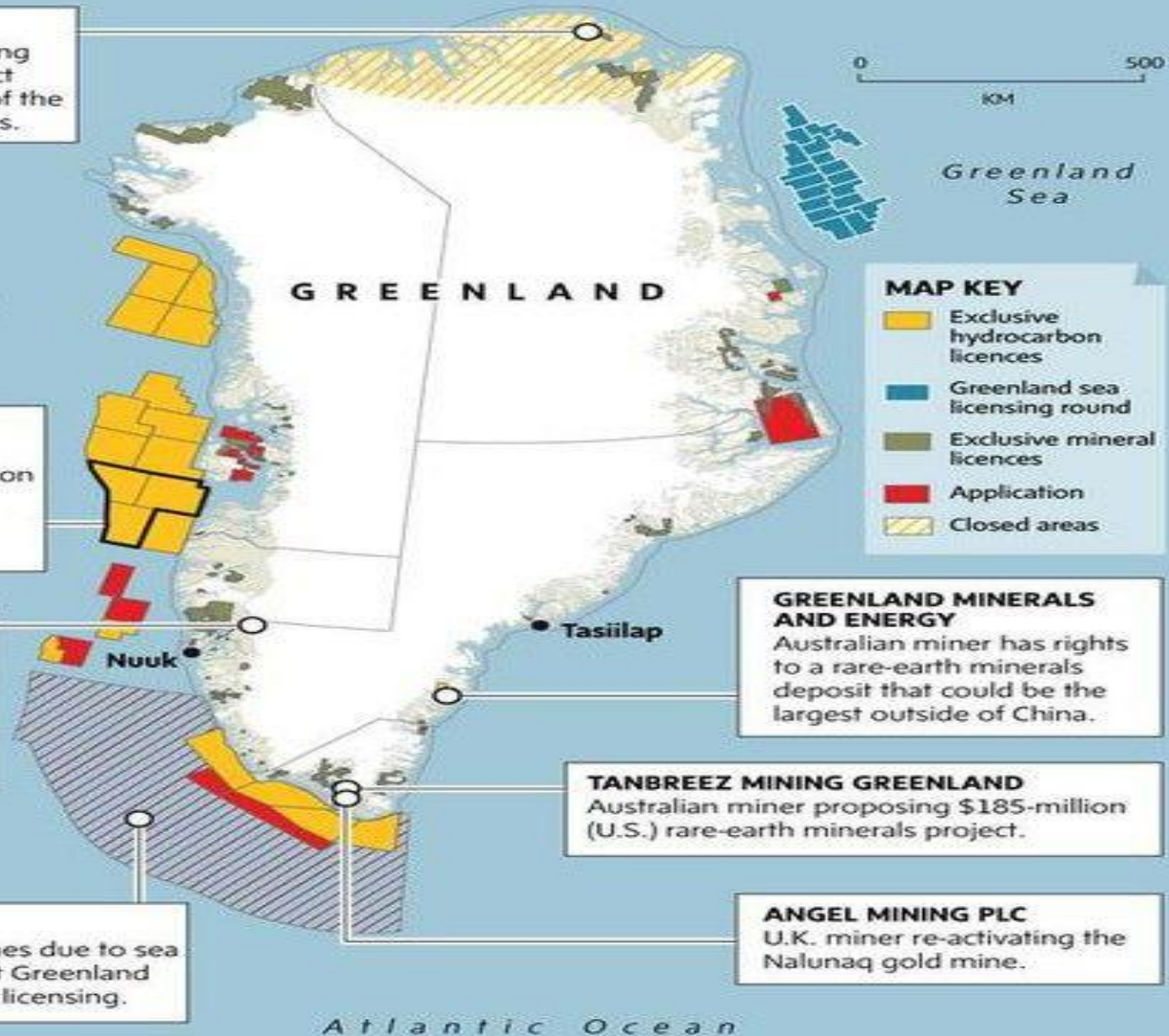
Calgary-based energy company holds exploration rights in three licences, totalling 35,000 square kilometres

LONDON MINING PLC

U.K. miner developing a \$2.3-billion (U.S.) project to supply China with 15 million tonnes of iron ore a year.

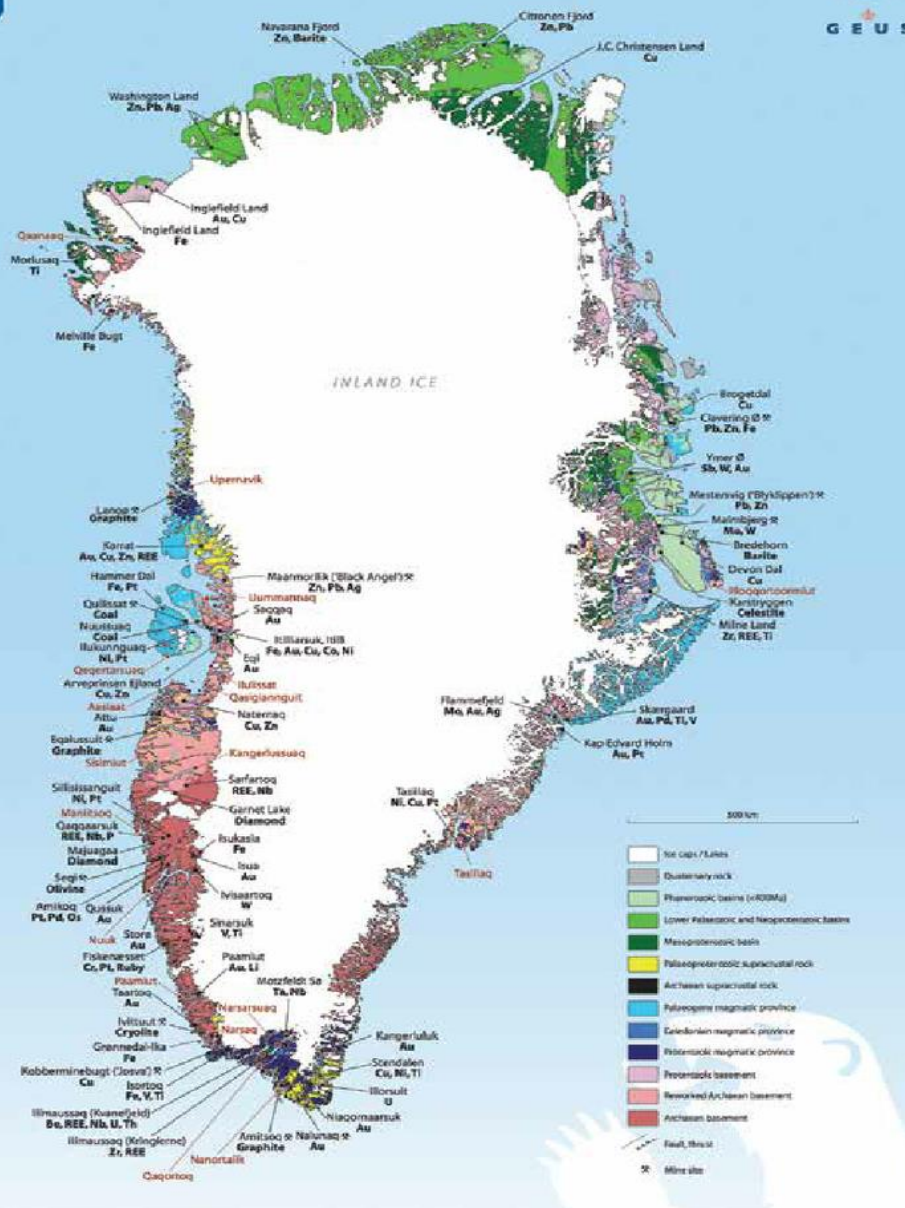
OPEN DOOR AREAS

High-exploration-risk zones due to sea depths and ice packs that Greenland has identified for flexible licensing.



Minerals

GREENLAND GEOLOGY AND SELECTED MINERAL OCCURRENCES



Largest code-compliant rare earth resource with ore reserves for initial 37-year mine life

Simple mining with 1:1 strip ratio over initial 37-year mine life

Multiple by-product revenue streams to strengthen project economics

Ideal production profile across key rare earths

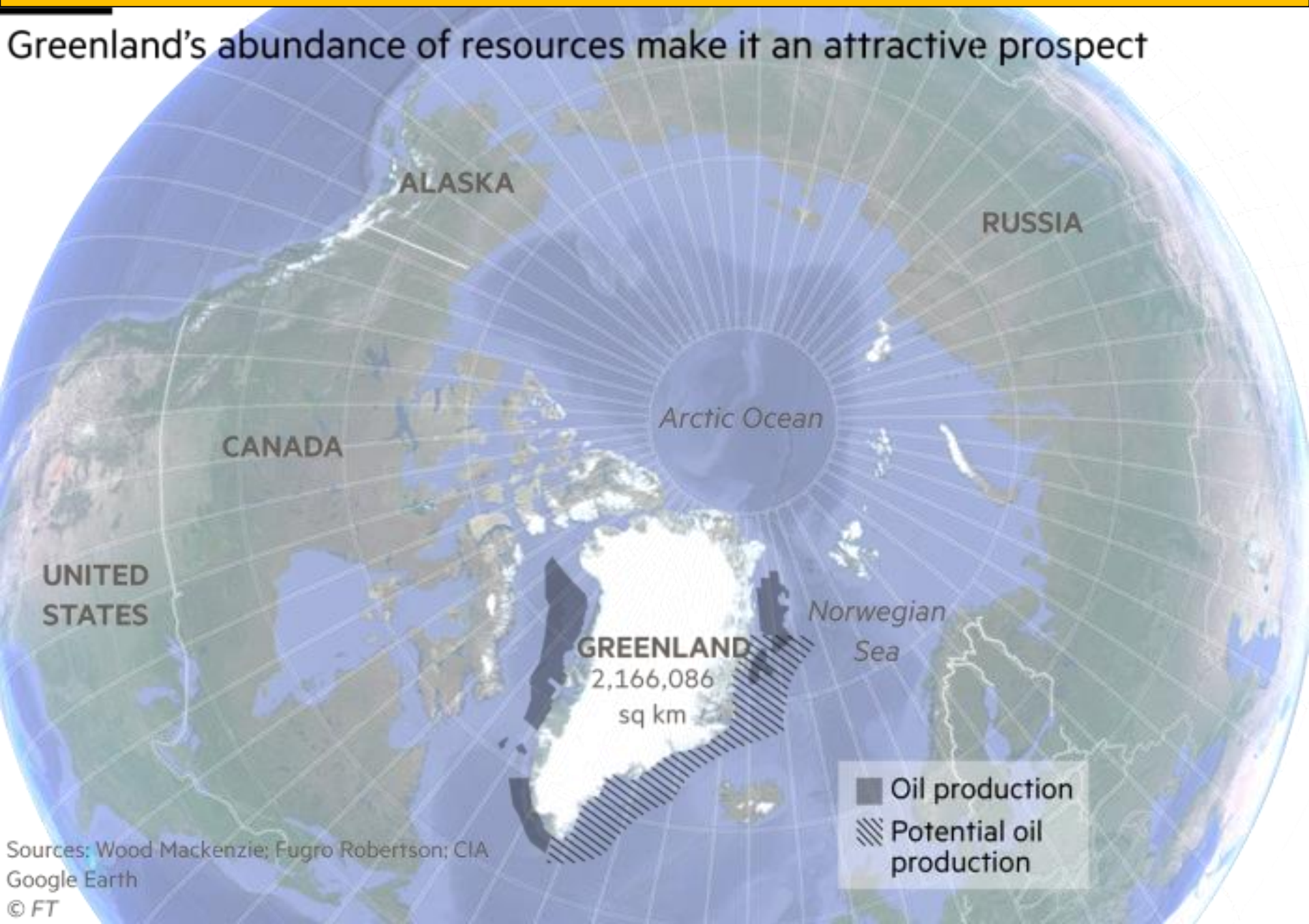
RE minerals that allow for simple processing, which will be maximised by technical optimisation underway with Shenghe

Strong economic metrics with low capital intensity and operating costs

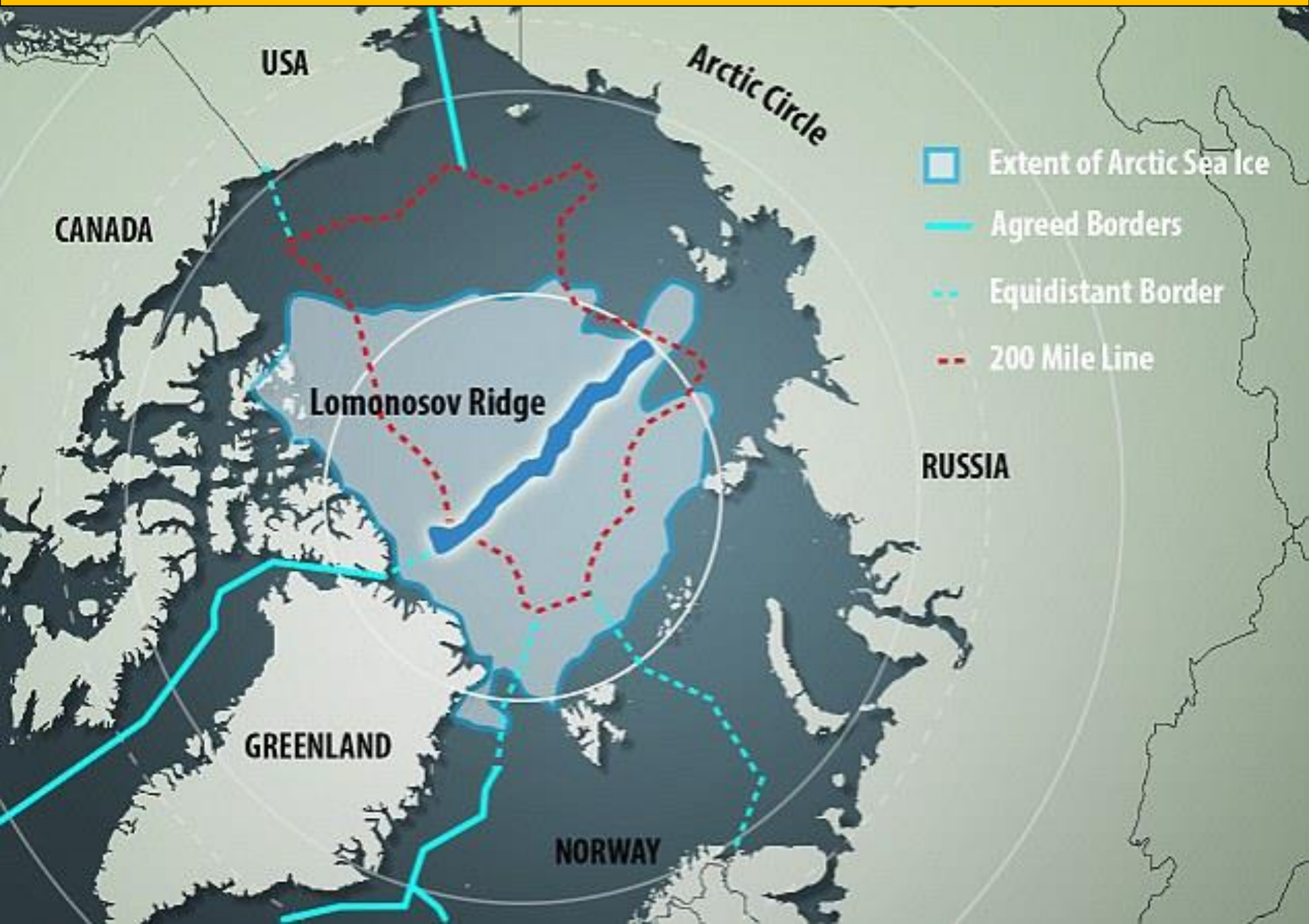
Favourable country and project location with direct shipping and international airport access

Oil & Gas reserves

Greenland's abundance of resources make it an attractive prospect

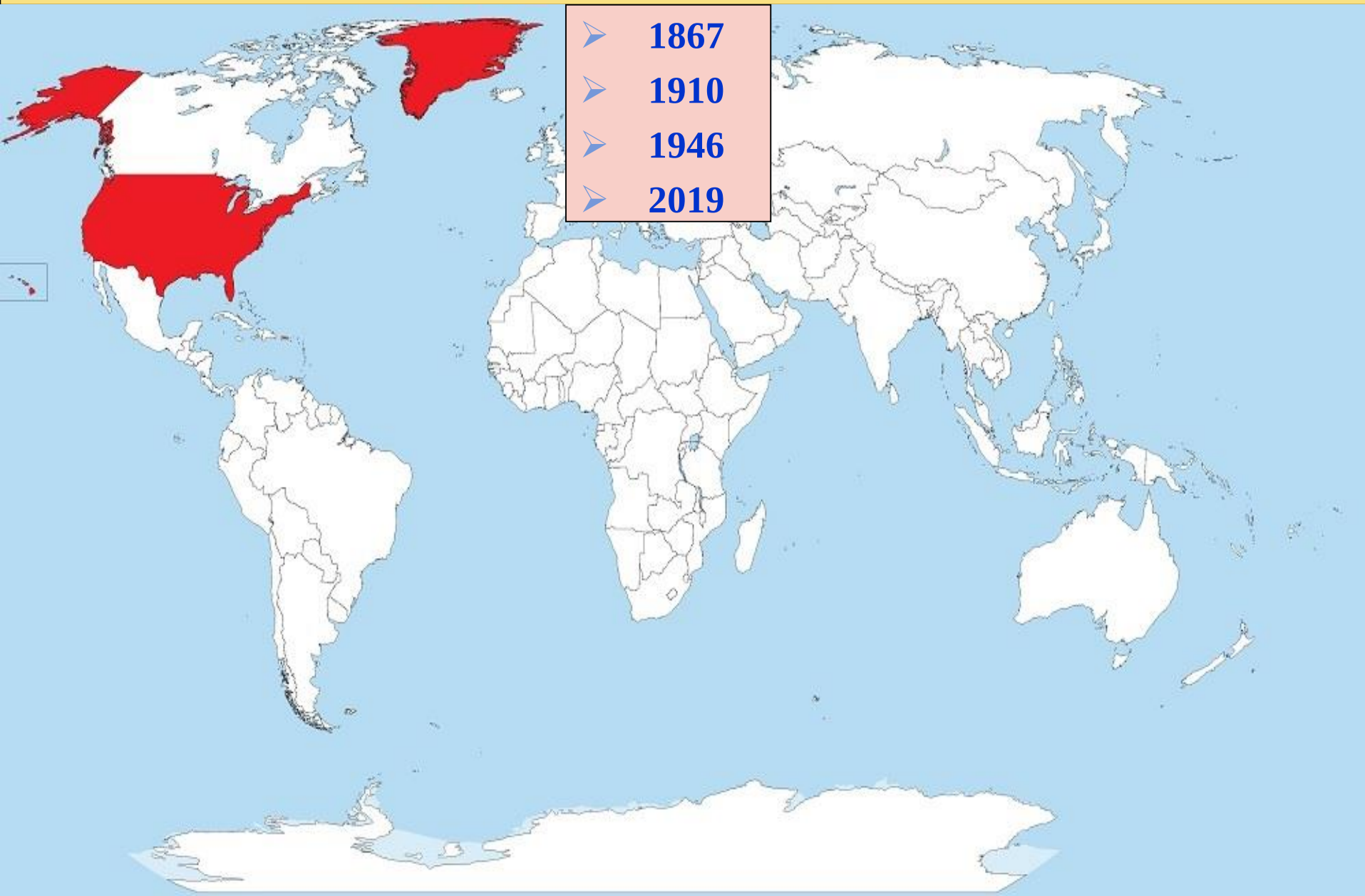


Many are interested ...and especially ...the Arctic powers...

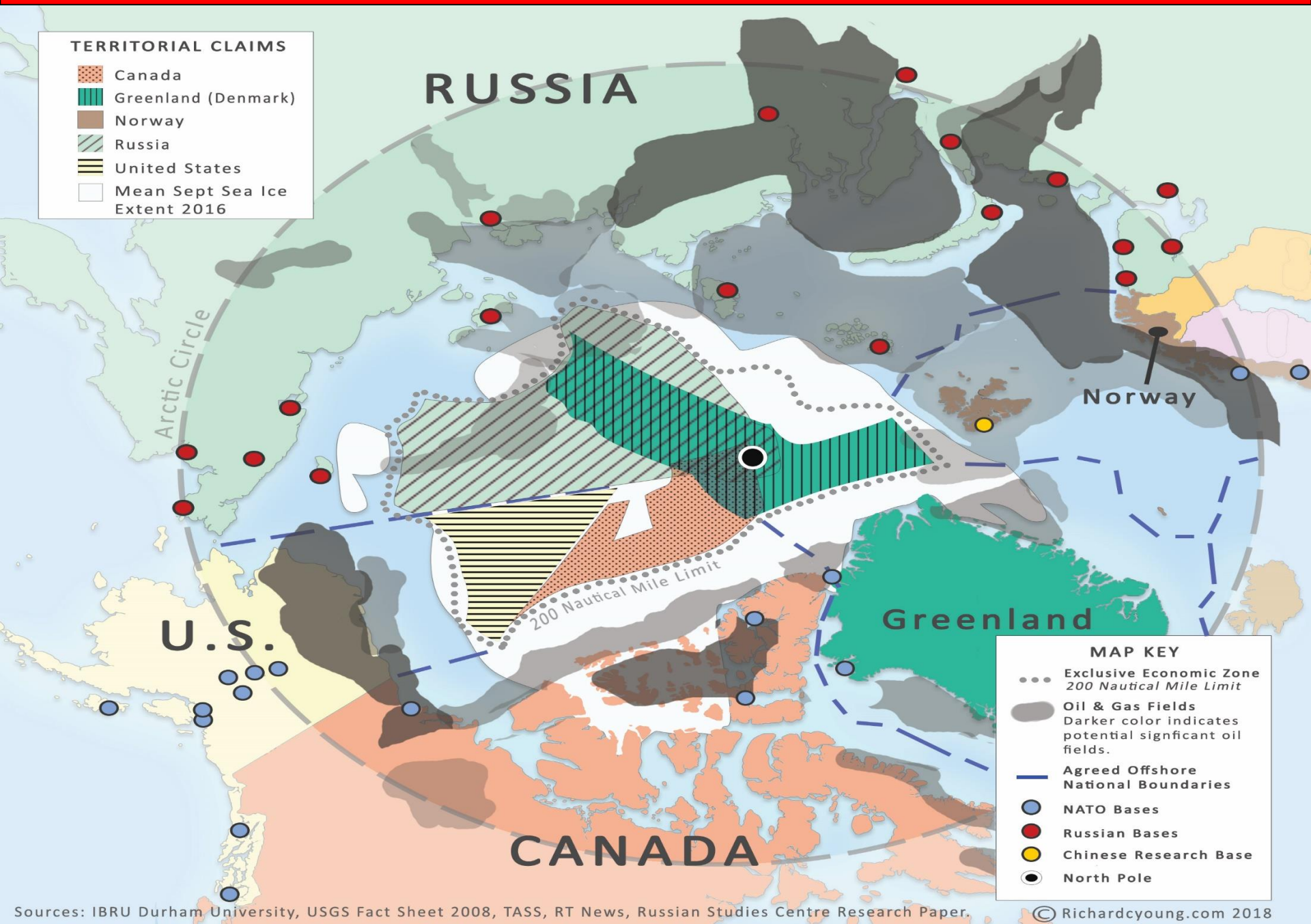


The USA's tenacious interest...for centuries

USA tried openly four times at least to buy... Greenland



Russia & Canada



Especially Canada ...

➤ Canada shares with Greenland the...

- *North west passage*
- *Baffin bay and Davis straits*
- *Access to the Arctic pole*
- *Largest Inuit population*

➤ Canada has a vested interest in.....**who controls Greenland**

➤ Is possible the Inuit (the Real) people to unite?

and... China's interest ..via the New Silk Roads

China's Arctic Interests

Greenland, one of the world's least accessible places, is looking to upgrade three airports in an effort to open itself up to affordable flights bearing tourists, repatriates and immigrants. The United States, warning that China uses its economic influence to establish a military presence, sees this as an opportunity for China to militarize much too close for comfort.

U.S. interests in Greenland:

- Keeping China out of its backyard
- Helping Greenland gain independence from Denmark

Greenland
AREA
840,000
sq miles
80 percent of Greenland is unpopulated

CHINA COMMUNICATIONS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

CCCC, one of the world's biggest companies, is bidding to construct Greenland's new airports.

In 2017, CCCC signed contracts for overseas infrastructure construction projects worth a total of \$32 billion.

Chinese interests in Greenland:

- Expand 3 airports
- Access mineral sector
- Build research base and satellite station
- Develop a "Polar Silk Road"

There are only **13** towns in Greenland with a population over 1,000, and there are no roads connecting them.

GREENLAND'S TOTAL
POPULATION
56,200

12.5% of the Kuannersuit/Kvanefjeld rare earth elements (REE) mining project in Narsaq is owned by Chinese trading, mining and REE production giant Shenghe Resources.

China owns stakes in:

U.K.'s London Heathrow Airport (9.5 percent)
France's Toulouse-Blagnac Airport (49.9 percent)
Germany's Frankfurt-Hahn Airport (82.5 percent)

China also holds controlling stakes in Albania's Tirana Airport and Slovenia's Ljubljana Airport, and is participating in the \$1 billion renovation of the U.K.'s Manchester Airport.

Land Route:
"One Belt"

Arctic Route:
"Polar Silk Road"

Sea Route:
"One Road"

5 to 15 percent of China's trade value could traverse the Arctic by 2020

China's efforts to be involved...

- Chinese firms have invested in several Greenland projects, such as
 - *a mine for rare earth elements*
 - *a mine for uranium*
 - *an iron mine*
- In 2016, the CCCC (China Communications Construction Company) offered to buy a former U.S. military base
 - *buying price \$560 million*
 - *the Danish government blocked the deal*
- Chinese investments make China a major investor and influencer in Greenland....

- **Most likely the Chinese (and other powers...)
would like Greenland to be
an independent democracy-country soon.**

Forecasting-Extrapolating-Imaging...Possible Scenarios ...

- So what the future holds for Greenland when the Americans, the Russians and the Chinese battle in front and over the beauty of Greenland?

- **Greenland**

- *Could stay with Denmark*
- *Could be Independent*
- *Could pursue a Pan-Inuit Arctic state*
- *Could be bought by a superpower (USA or Russia or China)*
- *Could seek a confederation solution*
- *Could become an international protected area*
- *More...*