BOOK CHAPTER

Bangladesh and the Indo-Pacific: Strategic Choices for a Middle Power

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ABSTRACT

This chapter analyses how Bangladesh positions itself among competing Indo-Pacific strategies, and argues that a clear economic and maritime agenda gives it more room to manoeuvre than formal alignment with any single power.

KEYWORDS

Indo-Pacific, middle power, foreign policy, strategic autonomy, Bangladesh

FULL TEXT

The Indo-Pacific has become the main frame through which major powers describe their interests in Asia. Bangladesh sits at the centre of this space but has avoided joining any single camp.

The chapter traces Bangladesh's official Indo-Pacific outlook and its practice in trade, defence and infrastructure partnerships, showing a consistent preference for diversified relationships.

It concludes that Bangladesh can strengthen its position by focusing on maritime security cooperation, connectivity and trade rules, areas where it can contribute and benefit regardless of great-power rivalry.

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