

**Reimagining the Geopolitical Landscape: Halfway House
between Post-Pandemic Perestroika and Conformity
from India's Perspective**

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Abstract

The COVID-19 Pandemic has accentuated pre-existing Geopolitical fissures and Geostrategic dissonance while signalling a seismic shift in the security architecture of the de facto Post-1945 Liberal International Order, while eroding the normative attributive elements of the present global order that is predicated on national sovereignty, rule-based multilateralism and economic liberalism. In a dystopian atmosphere of trust deficit, pyrrhic rise of ultranationalist xenophobia, polarized pluralism, authoritarian and protectionist policymaking behaviour embedded in an autarkic nostalgia, the political imagination is being restricted to the monopolized ontological domination of the nation-state that catalyzes the retreat of “Hyper-Globalization” while crystallizing the language of securitization and militarization. As a perverse revenge of nature against the gross anthropocentric abuses made by mankind, the global leadership footprints and constellation of powers are witnessing a tectonic shift, among a vast array of cyclical transformations that are re-shaping the global landscape. In the context of a virulently debilitating pandemic, heightened economic and technological decoupling between USA and China and plagued with multidimensional security predicaments in its own neighbourhood that has germinated an existential crisis for the architectonic systems of collaboration and diplomacy, India needs to navigate its way forward and maintain strategic equilibrium and regional stability. The fundamental objective of this paper is to comprehensively highlight and assess the ongoing Geopolitical trends, transformations and challenges, offer a kaleidoscopic insight into the future of the Post-Pandemic global order vis-à-vis a series of broad-based normative speculations on multiple empirical observations, deconstruct the global power equations, suggest policy prescriptions, alternate measures of international governance, as a prophylactic against the radical alteration of the status quo. An additional emphasis has been placed on India and its South Asian neighbourhood, while reasserting the importance of strategic coherence and regional integration as its *Raison d'être*.

Keywords: re-balancing, geopolitics, regional stability, world order, multilateral cooperation.