

# **The peaceful, or not so peaceful, rise of China and its impact on global order- the medium and long-term perspective**

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## ....some background information

- 1976: Mao's death
- 1978: Deng Xiaoping: economic reform and opening-up:
- „Keep a low profile and achieve something“ (never claim leadership).
- 1997/1998 Asian Financial and economic crisis; China: **emerging regional power**
- China is increasingly taking responsibility in global affairs (e.g. Climate Change Conference Durban 2011, G20, UN peace keeping missions, growing engagement in conflict affected states), expanding its influence to Africa, Latin America, Central Asia.....**emerging global power?**
- China is continuously reforming, modernising, upgrading its military apparatus, including cyber and space warfare.

## ....background information continued

- China's official military doctrine: 'armed forces to secure Chinese territorial integrity sovereignty' (= 'defensive')
- But: there exist many disputed territorial claims along Chinese borders .....**"therefore, the boundary between the offensive and defensive nature of China's military doctrine is very unclear and leaves space for suspicions"**
- 2009: China submits map with the 'Nine-dotted line' to the UN
- 2011/12: tensions with neighbours increase, in particular in the South China and the East China Sea
- 2011: Chinese 'White Paper' titled: China's Peaceful Development
- 2015: Silk Road Economic Belt and Maritime Silk Road Initiative

# Potential territorial conflicts and ,power play‘

## Territorial conflicts

## Power play

- **Taiwan** (*Taiwan, USA*)
- **South China Sea:** Spratly Islands, Scarborough Shoal, Paracel Islands (*Vietnam, Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia*)
- **East China Sea:** Diaoyu /Senkaku islands (*Japan*)
- **Aksai Chin and Arunachal Pradesh** (*India*)
- **USA** (new US military doctrine with focus on the Pacific; TPP)
- **Japan**
- **Russia**
- **India**
- **China’s** engagement in **Africa, (Central) Asia and Latin America**

# Disputed claims in the South China Sea



Source: D. Rosenberg/MiddleburyCollege/HarvardAsiaQuarterly/Phil gov't

# Disputed claims in the East China Sea

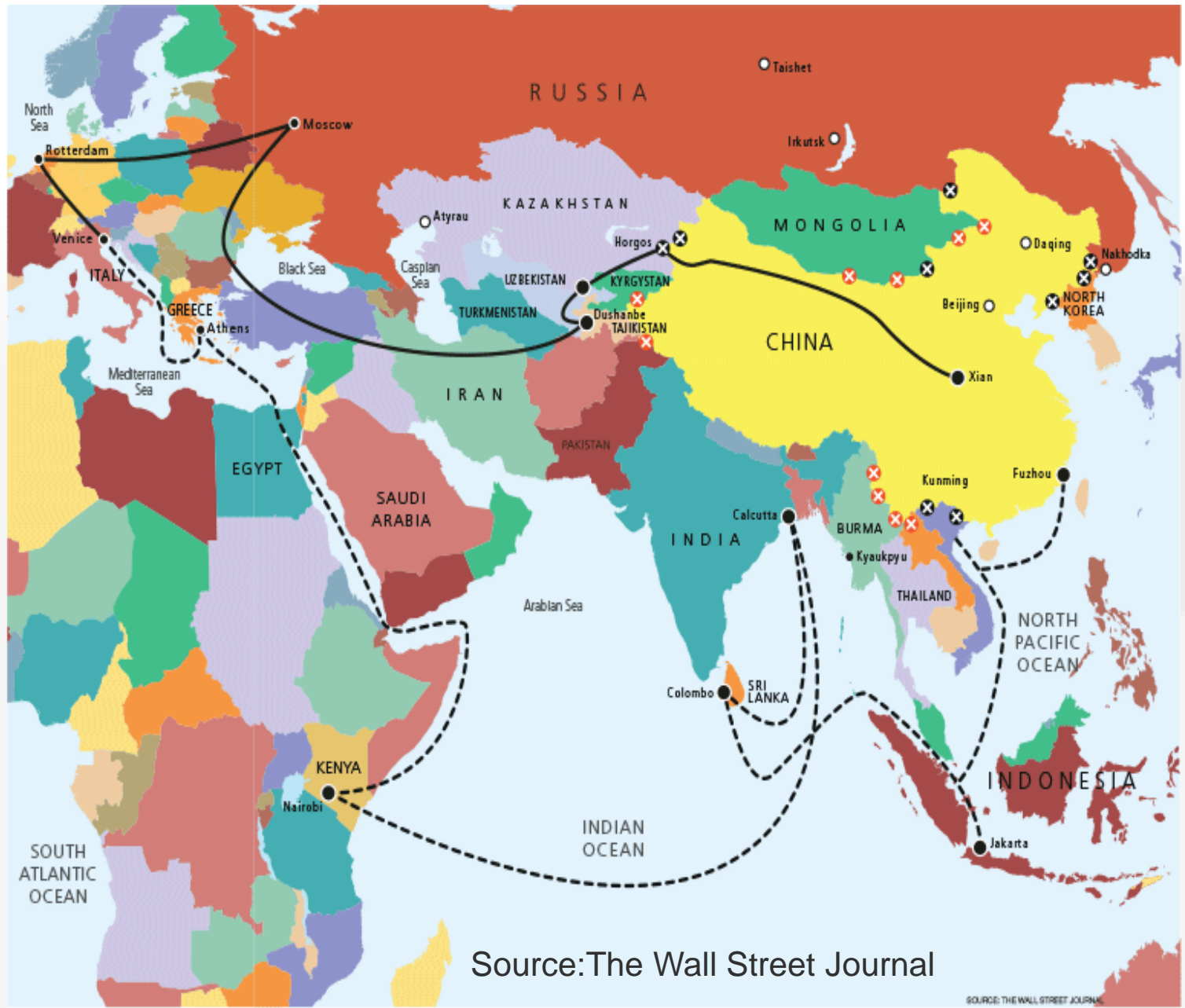


# Disputed claims between China and India



**SILK ROAD  
ECONOMIC BELT  
AND 21ST-CENTURY  
MARITIME ROAD**

China's plan is to transform the sleepy frontier crossing into an international railway, energy and logistics hub for a "Silk Road Economic Belt" unveiled by President Xi Jinping last year to establish new trade and transport links between China, Central Asia and Europe



**Proposed  
Silk Road Routes:**

- Silk Road Economic Belt
- - - 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road

**Railroad Entry Points:**

- ⊗ Existing
- ⊗ Proposed

Source: The Wall Street Journal

SOURCE: THE WALL STREET JOURNAL