

INDO-PACIFIC

Europe pushes back against Beijing with shows of Indo-Pacific muscle

UK and France join exercises with US and partners on doorstep of South China Sea



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The Observation



What's happening in SCS?



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China

German warship heads for South China Sea amid tension with Beijing

What's happening in SCS?



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UK warship ignores Beijing warnings and enters the South China Sea

WION Web Team

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What's happening in SCS?

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France sends warships to South China Sea, ahead of maritime exercise with US



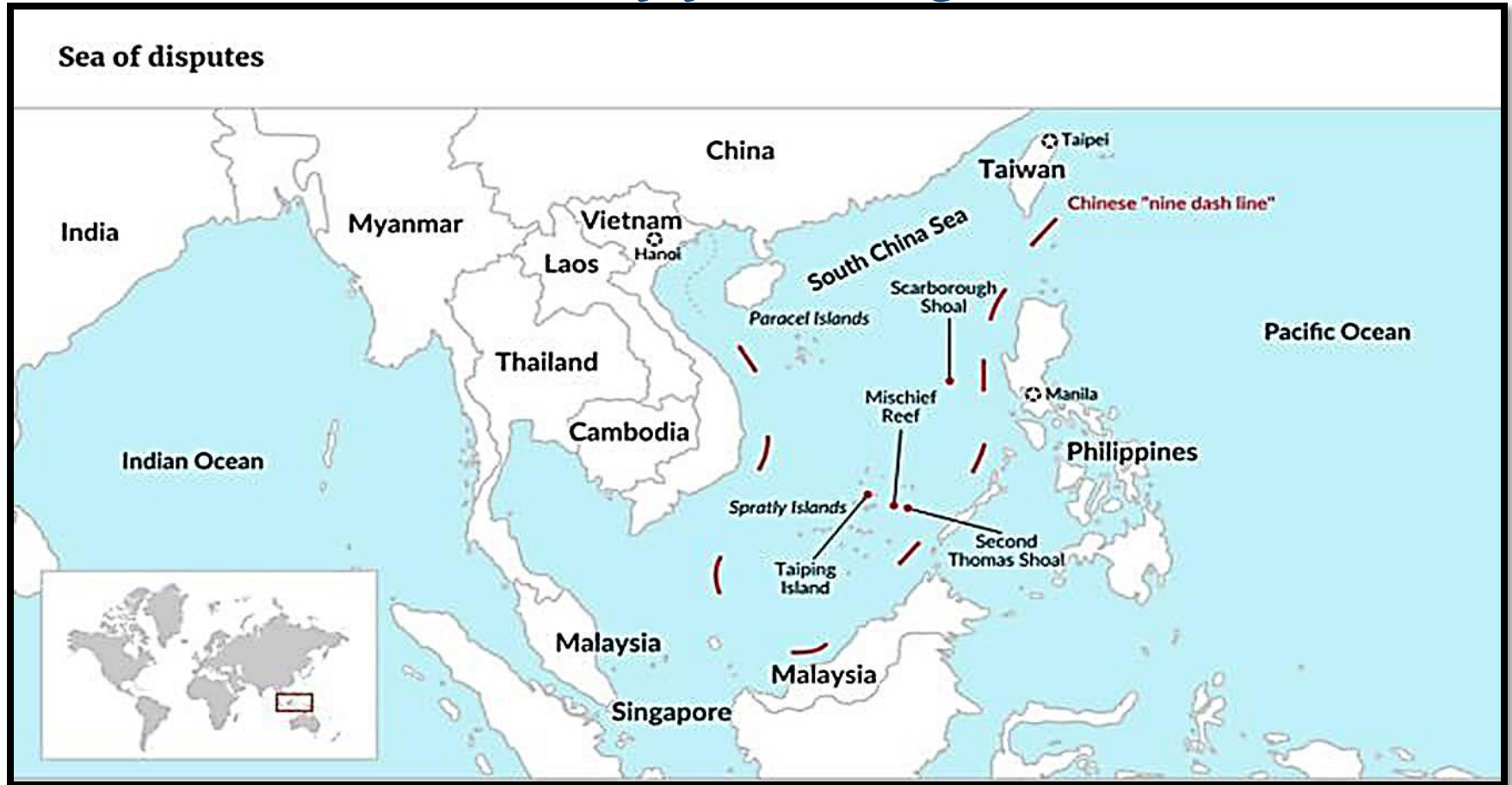
A file photo of French navy's aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle. Last week, France deployed a nuclear attack submarine in the South China Sea, in line with US President Joe Biden's call to mount a multilateral challenge to China. (AFP)

2 min read . Updated: 21 Feb 2021, 12:55 PM IST

What's happening in SCS?

- U.K.'s largest aircraft carrier and its strike group joined the U.S., Japan, Australia and New Zealand, along with fellow European power France, in exercises close to the South China Sea.
- The U.K. and France have joined the U.S. and Japan in contending that Chinese claims and activities in the South China Sea violate the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- Even, Germany sent a warship to south china sea.

What's happening in SCS?



Can Europe play a big role?

Europe is not exactly a military force to be reckoned with in Asia..!!

However, symbolically the deepening engagement by the U.K. and France in a distant part of the world in which they have little direct stake **reflects a sense that a country's international clout is tied to its presence in fast-growing Asia. It also shows that liberal nations tend to stand against the aggressive policies of China.**

Note:

Its true that London and Paris have only limited forces in Asia but **their status as permanent members of the U.N. Security Council can strengthen their diplomatic position with regard to Beijing** and provide a card to play in economic negotiations in future. British and French move to ruffle China's feathers.

What is the response?

South China Morning Post

China / Diplomacy

Germany's South China Sea adventure exposes divisions in Berlin

- Warship's proposed friendly stop-off in Shanghai scuppered by surprise move from Beijing seeking clarification
- What began as a 'classic German foreign policy fudge' has given Angela Merkel a headache in her last days in office

What is the response?

- Southeast Asian countries' views on the situation are mixed.
 - For instance, Indonesian sources suggest that the warship deployments is "a response that shows China that the South China Sea does not belong to it."
 - But Indonesia advises, "the U.S. and Europe should refrain from actions that would excessively provoke China."
 - South East Asian nations are relying on building stronger economic ties with China and are counting on it for coronavirus vaccines.

What is the response?

CHINA / MILITARY

PLA holds large drills amid military threats

Huge exclusion zone draws comparison with missile training in 2020

By Liu Xuanzun

Published: Aug 05, 2021 09:43 PM

