AUKUS and it's geopolitical and military impacts in the Indo-Pacific.

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The focus of this study was on the formation and impacts of AUKUS specifically in the Indo-Pacific region, analyzing how its recent movements in the region have impacted on the global balance of power. In addition, the issue of technological impacts in the military field was also studied due to the investments made between the countries present in AUKUS, thus understanding new forms and techno-military processes in the given region and how it impacts the countries involved. Furthermore, it is also important to remember that there will be a historical retrospective of the formation of the alliance and how the negotiations ended up taking place in the year 2021, since AUKUS is extremely important for understanding the current geopolitical situation due to the rise of Chinese economics and how Western countries will respond to this threat. It is concluded that the main focus of this article is the study and analysis of the importance of AUKUS in the current political and military scenario and how the alliance is a response to China's influence in the Indo-Pacific region, using heavy investments in technological and military fields and how they impact the issue of wars and the evolution of equipment used in combat and espionage.

Keywords: Security, geopolitics of the Indo-Pacific region, military-industrial complex, defence technology, cybersecurity, economic influence, globalization, nuclear submarine, political leader, alliance, diplomacy, conflict, tension, leadersh

1. Introduction

It is known that AUKUS was a secret agreement between the United States, Australia and the United Kingdom that was formalized and officially confirmed to the public in 2021, with the intention of containing the Chinese advance in the region, which came as a great shock to everyone present because it was the first major alliance between these three countries since the Second World War.

What is not known, however, are the intentions of the United States and the United Kingdom in seeking proximity to Australia, a country in Oceania that is also close to Asia and specifically to the Indo-Pacific region, which is a region of importance for both Western and Eastern powers.

Through the analysis of academics and policymakers in the region, questions will be asked about the American interest in the alliance, what behavior China will adopt after this alliance is made, and finally, what is Australia's role in this geopolitical issue involving the United States and China?

Finally, with a mixture of my perspective from the global south and from countries in the Indo-Pacific region, it will be possible to reach new conclusions about the future and the impact of AUKUS on the geopolitics of the region.

2. Research Methods

The purpose of this article is to analyze data presented in relation to military and technological investments within the trilateral alliance between the United States, Australia and the United Kingdom, known as AUKUS.

In addition, by analyzing data, reading academic articles and studying the case of AUKUS, it will also be possible to reach conclusions aimed at better understanding the geopolitical impacts in the Indo-Pacific region, a region in which AUKUS currently operates in an attempt to stop the advance of influence and prioritize the security of other countries over China.

Some of the texts analyzed in relation to AUKUS were of an academic nature and from professionals

who are part of the countries that are being impacted by this whole situation involving the Western alliance and China in the region, thus making it possible to have an internal perspective of the region to better understand how regional leaders and policymakers interpret the impact of this alliance, considering that AUKUS could actually have objectives beyond containing Chinese influence, but rather expanding Australia's military power and influence in the Indo-Pacific region, as stated by Laksmana (2021) [1], a political scientist who studies Southeast Asian regional security.

It is also important to mention that official state reports have been taken into account in the analysis of the AUKUS case study and the Indo-Pacific region, pronouncements from the United States, United Kingdom and Australia have been taken into account in the analysis to understand how such a large alliance was formed, since it is the first time since the Second World War that an announcement has been made in the field of international defense between three countries that are very important to the global political chessboard.

Finally, another aspect that was attempted to be investigated was the question of which other countries on the Asian continent could be added to AUKUS in the near future, as in the case of Japan and South Korea because they are close to China and because they are close to certain countries in the West, such as the United States.

However, now with the issue of tariffs being raised by the United States, there has been a greater rapprochement between Japan, China and South Korea, due to an attempt to respond to the tariffs made by the Americans, this whole economic issue could also be a breach of trust by the Japanese and Koreans towards the West and could also impact on the possible non-addition of these countries to AUKUS, since China is also opposing the American tariffs.

With regard to the problems and challenges during the methodological process of the article, it was more difficult to find certain documents on the impacts of AUKUS because it is a recent alliance, and it is therefore difficult to have various conclusions from international researchers and policymakers in relation to this case.

However, it was very interesting to analyze academic articles from different parts of the world, especially in the region where the AUKUS case is taking place, and although there are not many, they are very important for a better understanding of the research and the perspective of those who are affected by this whole situation.

3. Results and Discussion

Firstly, it can be noted that the analysis of the results of this article aims to better understand the definitions of policymakers and academics in the field in terms of understanding the possible future impacts of AUKUS on the global power game.

In addition, with the analyzed readings of documents and scientific articles, an academic consensus can be perceived about this alliance and what its true intentions are within the Indo-Pacific region.

Initially, it is possible to observe in several sources a certain astonishment at the alliance, as the negotiation was made secretly and its revelation during Joe Biden's administration came as a surprise to several researchers and academics in the field.

Thus, during the start of the alliance in 2021, it was possible to observe an attempt to better understand what the main function of AUKUS would be and the role it should fulfill.

In addition, Australia's role within this alliance was also questioned in various ways, after all, it would be an extremely important geographical hub due to its proximity to China and the Indo-Pacific region.

It is also important to mention that AUKUS was the result of a diplomatic crisis between the Australians and the French, as both already had agreements regarding nuclear submarines that were canceled due to the American and British onslaught to make the trilateral alliance a reality [2], in other words, AUKUS affected more countries than imagined.

The American move into the region to obtain an extremely important ally was not just a matter of course. In recent times there has been a Chinese military expansion of some bases in the Indo-Pacific region, and there is also the economic expansion that ends up influencing the whole world.

Another factor that should be analyzed is the issue of Taiwan, and since the United States has as one of its main pillars of international geopolitics the protection of Taiwan as a territory with greater proximity to Western countries, this Chinese expansion could present a threat, since Taiwan is central to discussions between the United States and China. [3]

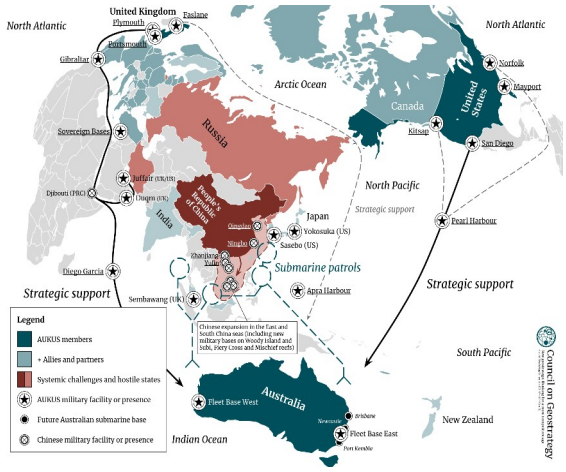

Fig. 1 – AUKUS Map.

As a result of this whole process of analysis, it can be seen that AUKUS does have an important impact on the region, since it affects several other countries, such as the example of Taiwan that has already been mentioned, and factors not only political but also increases tensions between states, since the Chinese embassy has made it clear that this type of alliance nowadays is configured as a "Cold War mentality and ideological prejudice" on the part of the United States.

Furthermore, with President Donald Trump's support for the military alliance, the intention made clear is that Australia is a key ally in the region for the Americans and the British, and that it will have the necessary investment in submarines despite the tariffs that impact the nuclear submarine's negotiation.

In relation to the topics of discussion related to AUKUS and the results obtained, it can certainly be concluded that the formation of this alliance, although recent, reshapes the regional geopolitical scenario and aggravates tensions between the United States and China.

In addition to the above, several countries are related to the military and technological impacts that AUKUS has had on the world, as in the aforementioned case of Chinese military activities in the Taiwan region and even Russia's position in this American rapprochement in Asia.

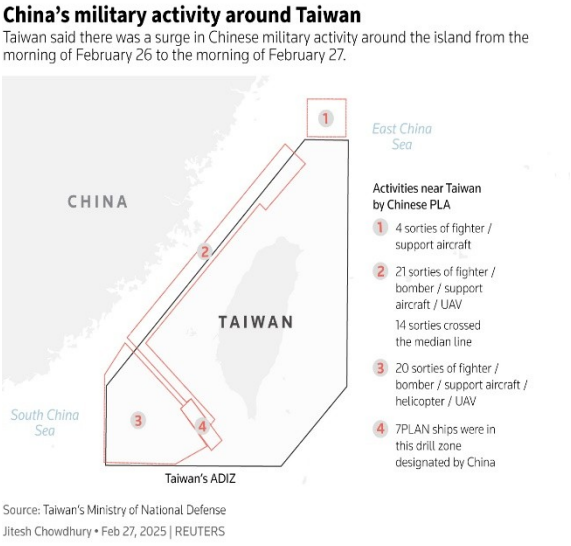

Fig. 2 – Chinese military activities in Taiwan in February 2025.

Another factor that should be mentioned when discussing AUKUS is how it involves a new type of technological and military cooperation, focusing on the case of the nuclear submarines developed by the United States but which are being negotiated with Australia.

Furthermore, there are the cooperation in others spheres of interest like in the use of artificial intelligence and cybersecurity in possible new conflicts in the future.

However, there is a new factor on the global political and economic chessboard that could affect AUKUS, namely the tariffs imposed by President Donald Trump.

At the moment, it is not possible to draw any conclusions because it is an extremely recent event, but it is already known and has already been mentioned in the article that possible countries such as Japan and South Korea that could join the alliance have recently come closer to China due to the economic tariffs applied by the Americans.

In addition to affecting these countries, the tariffs also affect the australians in their attempt to acquire nuclear submarines from the americans, this is due, as already mentioned, to the tariff policy adopted by Donald Trump's government.

In addition, there are controversies regarding the nuclear submarines aimed at both the American and Australian governments because there is a common fear that this move could damage the policy of deterrence in the Indo-Pacific region and further affect China's relationship with the United States. [4]

It will therefore be necessary to spend some more time analyzing how this new global phenomenon will impact on the policies and cooperation desired by the three countries belonging to AUKUS, and whether or not, due to this breach of trust involving the South Koreans and the Japanese, negotiations for entry into the alliance will be able to take place. [5]

4. Conclusion

It can therefore be concluded that over the last few years that AUKUS has been formed, the intentions and objectives of both the alliance and the United States in seeking a relevant ally in the Indo-Pacific region to contain the Chinese threat can be better observed.

Due to China's expansion in recent years, especially when it comes to carrying out military maneuvers in the Taiwan region, every day that passes makes an ally like Australia, politically inserted in the region in this way, extremely important for the United States, since, as previously mentioned, American tariff policies are being viewed negatively even by allies like Japan and South Korea, thus somewhat undermining the attempt to bring in new allies, not only in AUKUS, but also in maintaining power in the region to contain the Chinese advance.

It can thus be seen that AUKUS represents a new rearrangement in the region, it also represents a milestone in a new era of technological and military investment in the field of world geopolitics.

The idea of having a strong ally that it is inserted in the Indo-Pacific region seems promising in the eyes of the United States and the United Kingdom, but China still has a lot of relevance in the region and will demand too much from the Western powers to contain this advance and expansion of influence, even more, surprising everyone and signing free trade agreements with countries like Japan and South Korea, which have extremely close relations with the West, especially the United States.

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