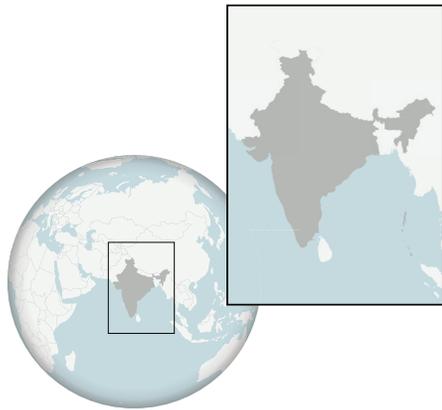


India's Future Strategic Choices

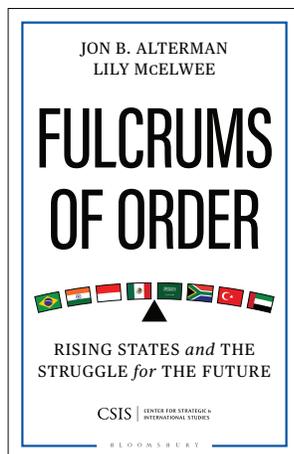
Complications of Mass



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OVERVIEW

India balances its ambitions for leadership of the Global South with a durable commitment to strategic autonomy.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- India's exclusion from postwar power structures underpins its reformist orientation.
- India has sought a leadership role in the postcolonial world since independence in 1947.

FOREIGN POLICY VISION

- India prioritizes expanded representation in global institutions.
- Its multi-alignment approach is intended to preserve autonomy while engaging all major powers.
- Its regional initiatives are designed to counter China's influence and clear the way for India's rise as a major global power.

ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE

- India's economic scale and potential promise make it an increasingly interesting development prospect.
- Its small-scale development assistance widens its global reach.
- Its digital public goods model offers an alternative to debt-heavy financing.

DOMESTIC CONTEXT

- Public confidence in India's global role is growing.
- Coalition politics and an overwhelmingly inward focus complicate the country's foreign policy strategy.

STRATEGIC COMPETITION: CHINA

- Border and maritime disputes drive Indian assertiveness.
- China's partnership with Pakistan heightens Indian concerns.
- Minilateral cooperation is central to India's response.

GLOBAL AMBITIONS

- India seeks institutional reform while protecting strategic autonomy.