

# MARITIME SECURITY & GEOPOLITICS

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# KEY POINTS

- I. The despair and hope in the South China Sea**
- II. A sharp contrast and different portrait**
- III. Geopolitics, geo-economics, and beyond...**
- IV. Multi-faces of maritime security**

# I. THE DESPAIR & HOPE IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

- The disputes in the South China Sea epitomizes the collision of historical conflicts, recent confrontations, and a trial of strength among major powers.



- It spotlights a world of anarchy.
- Problems and issues intertwined in the SCS would never be easily resolved.
- The South China Sea is a flashpoint and even a powder keg of Asia.



- A calm moment before the storm in the SCS.
- Circumspect and practical considerations and actions adopted by claimants and extra-regional powers show there is still a hope of peace that could be worked on at least for now.



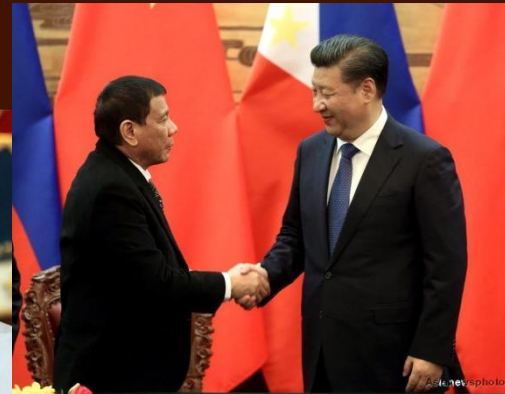


- Pursuant to the full and effective implementation of the DOC, COC, and CUES in the SCS, we should stress the importance of undertaking CSBM and other preventive measures to enhance trust and confidence among all parties.

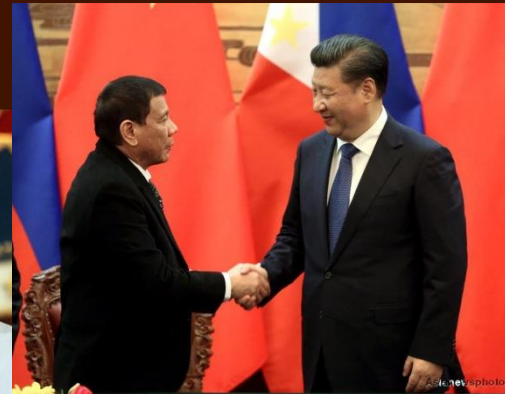


## II. A SHARP CONTRAST AND DIFFERENT PORTRAIT

- the Philippines has fought and won a legal battle in PCA.
- Although China did not accept and participate, China has still put significant efforts in defending its rights and interests

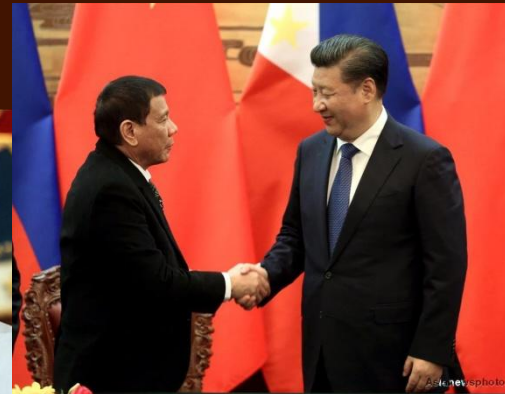


➤ While we usually see “might makes right,” the current “cozy” relations between the two countries have also shown us “wisdom makes might” based on that mutual benefits create cooperation.

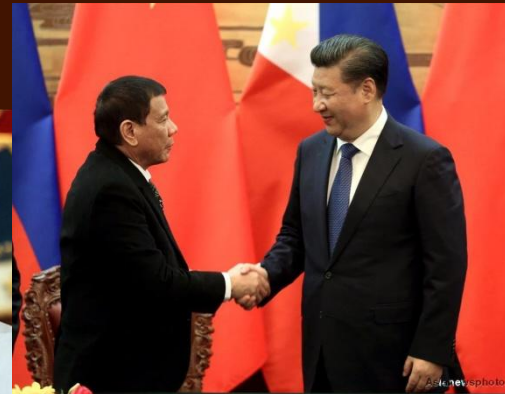




- Different perceptions about the efficacy of international law.
- China, like all great powers, has ignored the international legal verdict.
- China has confined her own behavior after the arbitral award.



- What Beijing has learned from the process of arbitration would have profound influences, for better or for worse, on its future strategic planning and policy in the international arena.
- Further and careful research analyses will help in solving the puzzle.



# III. GEOPOLITICS, GEO-ECONOMICS, AND BEYOND...

- Geography is an indispensable backdrop to the human drama of ideas, will and chance.... Those who forget geography can never defeat it.

--Robert D. Kaplan



- Some might have favored sea power over land power and vice versa; but, they still depicted world history in terms of the eternal clash of the two.
- The Thucydides Trap/the Kindleberger Trap
- War is never inevitable. But, how could we overcome security dilemma?



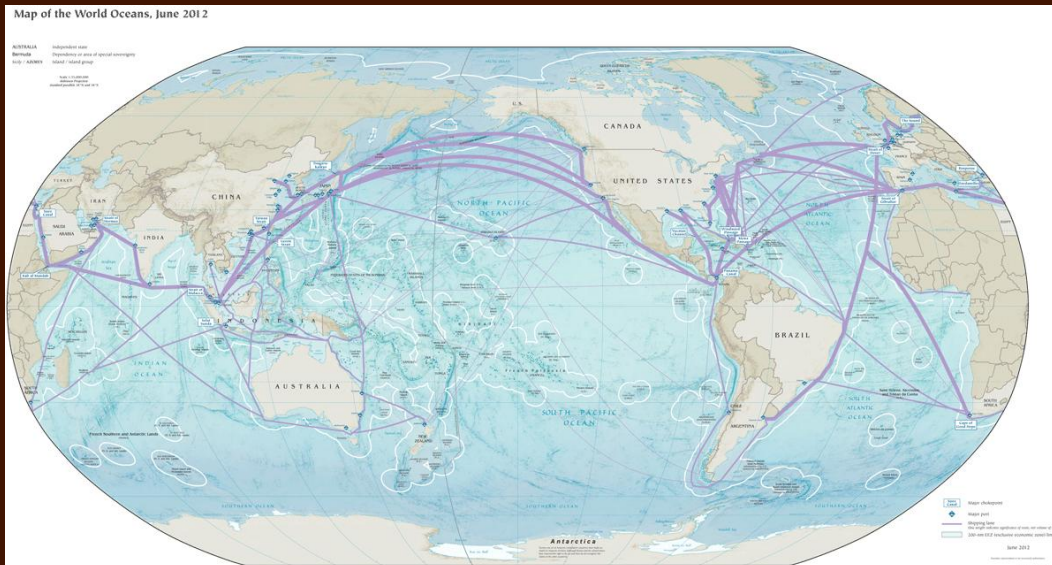


- Hedging is no doubt a popular strategy conducted by many states in this region.
- They simultaneously rely primarily on China for economic prosperity and the U.S. for security.
- Most states are tending to jump on the bandwagon of hedging.



# IV. MULTI-FACES OF MARITIME SECURITY

- 71% of the surface area of the Earth is covered by the seas & oceans.
- Blue Power is the keel of economic globalization and facilitates economic growth.



- [illegible]





➤ To safeguard and promote sovereignty and interest, national security policies have to dovetail into the UNCLOS and other international laws and manage accordingly as early as possible.







**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR ATTENTIONS !**