

I2U2 Grouping

India, Israel, US and UAE have formed a new grouping called I2U2. The newly formed group aim to re-energise and revitalise American partnerships across the world. The group will hold its first virtual summit in July 2022. Such groupings and summits are very important for the IAS Exam, for both prelims and mains stage of the exam.

The topic is covered under Mains GS-II “Bilateral, Regional and Global Groupings and Agreements involving India and/or affecting India’s interest,” section of the UPSC Syllabus. Candidates should go through the syllabus of the Civil Service Exam in detail before starting the preparation for the exam.

What is I2U2?

I2U2 is a new alliance created by four countries: India, Israel, the United Arab Emirates and the United States. The countries share a number of global challenges, including the food security crisis and defence, which will be a focus of the four-nation summit.

Background:

- The grouping of the four nations- India, Israel, United Arab Emirates and the United States met for the first time under a new framework in October 2021. The four-nation coalition was known at the time as the ‘International Forum for Economic Cooperation’ or as the ‘West Asian Quad’.
- The organisation addressed marine security, infrastructure, digital infrastructure, and transportation challenges.

Objectives of the I2U2

- I2U2 aims to re-energise and revitalise American partnerships across the world.
- The grouping aims to strengthen the ties and discuss food security, maritime and other areas of cooperation among these four nations.
- Deepening trade and economic ties between Israel and the UAE along with working on biotechnology is one of the objectives.
- India, Israel and the UAE are technological hubs and there are many areas where these countries can work together such as technology, trade, climate, COVID-19 and security as well.
- I2U2 tries to explore security cooperation among the four nations within the framework of the new grouping.

The four countries in the new grouping will hold their first virtual summit in July 2022 for discussions on the food security crisis and other areas of cooperation. The virtual summit between these countries will be the first of its kind and will be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, US President Joe Biden, Israeli PM Neftali Bennet and UAE President Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

The group is being dubbed the ‘New Quad’ or the ‘Middle-Eastern Quad’ along the lines of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QSD).

Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QSD)

- The QSD often called the '**Quad**' is a strategic dialogue between the United States, India, Japan and Australia.
- The dialogue was started in 2007 in response to increasing Chinese aggression in the South China Sea and was accompanied by one of the largest joint military exercises of the modern era, the Malabar Exercise.

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