

Full Length Research

Creating Consensus: Priorities of the G20 Leadership

Dr. Gedam. Kamalakar

Post-Doctoral Fellow, ICSSR, Department of Political Science, Dr. BR Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad, India. 500033. E-mail: kamalakarou@gmail.com

Accepted 22 April 2024

The Group of Twenty (G20) has emerged as a pivotal forum for international cooperation, bringing together leaders from the world's major economies to address pressing global challenges. In this paper, we analyse the priorities of G20 leadership in fostering consensus and advancing collective action on key issues facing the global community. Drawing upon recent declarations, communiqués, and policy statements, we identify and examine the core areas of focus for G20 members, exploring both common ground and divergent perspectives. Our analysis reveals several recurring themes that underscore the G20's commitment to promoting economic stability, sustainable development, and inclusive growth. Addressing climate change and environmental sustainability emerges as a top priority, reflecting growing recognition of the urgent need for concerted action to mitigate the impacts of climate change and transition to a low-carbon economy. Additionally, enhancing global health resilience and strengthening pandemic preparedness feature prominently on the agenda, as demonstrated by recent efforts to coordinate responses to the COVID-19 crisis and bolster health systems worldwide. Furthermore, the G20 remains committed to advancing trade and investment liberalization, promoting financial regulatory reform, and fostering innovation and digital transformation to drive economic recovery and prosperity. However, divergent views on issues such as trade imbalances, protectionism, and technology governance persist, posing challenges to consensus-building and cooperation among member states.

Keywords: G20, Agenda, Presidency, Global Family, GDP, EU

Cite this article as: Kamalakar, G. (2024). Creating Consensus: Priorities of the G20 Leadership. *Int. J. Polit. Sci. Develop.* 12(1):48-54

INTRODUCTION

In an era marked by interconnectedness and interdependence, the need for collaborative efforts towards global harmony has never been more apparent. The Group of Twenty (G20) stands at the forefront of this endeavour, serving as a vital platform for the world's major economies to address pressing global challenges and promote sustainable development. As the rotating

presidency of the G20, each member nation assumes a crucial role in steering the collective agenda towards fostering cooperation, stability, and prosperity on a global scale.

The upcoming G20 presidency holds immense significance, offering an opportunity to champion initiatives that transcend geopolitical boundaries and advance the common good. Against a backdrop of multifaceted challenges ranging from climate change and

economic inequality to health crises and geopolitical tensions, the need for concerted action has never been more urgent. With the power to shape policies and mobilize resources, the G20 presidency carries the responsibility to harness the collective strength of its diverse membership towards achieving tangible outcomes that benefit all nations and peoples.

This paper aims to explore the agenda of the G20 presidency through the lens of championing global harmony. It will delve into key priorities, strategies, and potential obstacles facing the presidency in its quest to promote cooperation, solidarity, and inclusivity on the world stage. By examining past successes, current challenges, and future opportunities, this analysis seeks to provide insights into how the G20 presidency can effectively navigate complex geopolitical dynamics and foster a more harmonious and resilient global community.

As the world grapples with unprecedented disruptions and uncertainties, the importance of international cooperation and dialogue cannot be overstated. The G20 presidency holds the potential to serve as a beacon of hope and inspiration, demonstrating the transformative power of collective action in addressing shared challenges and building a more peaceful and prosperous world for generations to come. Through proactive leadership, innovative solutions, and a commitment to inclusivity, the G20 presidency can pave the way towards a future where global harmony is not just an aspiration but a reality that benefits all humanity.

India is often described as a country of diversity, with a rich and vibrant cultural heritage that has evolved over thousands of years. Focused on India, this essay delves into the multifaceted tapestry of Indian culture and highlights the incredible diversity that characterizes the subcontinent.

Cultural diversity

India is home to many languages, religions and ethnic groups. From the snow-capped peaks of the Himalayas to the tropical shores of the Indian Ocean, each region of the country has a unique culture and tradition. The coexistence of Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Sikhism, Buddhism and other religions within India's borders is a testimony to the mosaic nature of Indian culture.

Historical heritage

Indian history is a collection of empires, dynasties and movements. From the ancient civilizations of the Indus Valley to the Mughal Empire and from British India to modern India, this subcontinent has witnessed numerous transformations that have left an indelible mark on its culture and identity.

Cultural expression

Indian culture is expressed in various art forms such as classical dance, music and architecture. Complex dance styles like Bharatanatyam, Kathak and Odissi and classical music forms like Hindustani and Carnatic show the creativity and artistic sensitivity of the people. Architectural wonders like Taj Mahal and Khajuraho Temples embody the fusion of aesthetics and spirituality.

Cooking and festivals

Indian cuisine is famous in the world for its variety of flavours and ingredients. Every region of India has its own unique cuisine, making India a food paradise. The celebration of festivals like Diwali, Holi, Eid, Christmas and Pongal reflects the cultural pluralism of the country, where people from different religions come together to participate in joyous celebrations.

Challenges and opportunities

While India's cultural diversity is a source of strength and pride, it also poses unique challenges. Cultural conflicts and tensions may occasionally arise, but are often resolved through dialogue and mutual understanding. Through the G20, India aims to promote sustainable and inclusive development that respects the Earth's ecological boundaries. One Family: The concept of a "global family" is a powerful reminder that, despite our diversity in terms of cultures, languages, and traditions, we are all interconnected. The G20 Presidency seeks to foster a sense of solidarity among nations, promoting inclusive growth, poverty reduction, and social justice. It acknowledges that the well-being of one nation is linked to the well-being of all, emphasizing the importance of collaboration and empathy. One Future: This aspect embodies the shared aspirations for a better world. It recognizes that the actions taken today will shape the future for generations to come. The G20 aims to work collectively to address common challenges, from economic stability and public health to education and technological advancement. It envisions a future where prosperity, peace, and progress are attainable for all, leaving no one behind.

G20 Presidency

As it takes the G20 Presidency, India is on a mission to bring about a shared global future for all through the AmritKaal initiative with a focus on the Life movement which aims to promote environmentally-conscious practices and a sustainable way of living. With a clear plan and a development-oriented approach, India aims to

promote a rules-based order, peace and just growth for all. The 200+ events planned in the run up to the 2023 Summit will strengthen India's agenda and the six thematic priorities of India's G20 presidency. The G20 group of 19 countries and the EU was established in 1999 as a platform for Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors to discuss international economic and financial issues. Together, the G20 countries account for almost two-thirds of the global population, 75% of global trade, and 85% of the world's GDP. In the wake of the global financial and economic crisis of 2007, the G20 was elevated to the level of Heads of State/Government and was named the "premier forum for international economic cooperation."

METHODOLOGY

Championing Global Harmony as part of the G20 Presidency's agenda requires a comprehensive methodology that addresses both the complexities of international relations and the diverse needs and perspectives of member countries. Here's a structured approach to outline the methodology:

Research and Analysis

- Conduct thorough research on the current state of global affairs, including geopolitical tensions, economic disparities, environmental challenges, and social issues.
- Analyze past G20 initiatives and their impact on promoting global harmony.
- Identify key areas of contention and cooperation among G20 member countries.

Stakeholder Engagement

- Engage with representatives from G20 member countries, international organizations, civil society, and other stakeholders to understand their perspectives and priorities.
- Foster dialogue and collaboration among diverse stakeholders to build consensus on strategies for promoting global harmony.
- Consider the voices and concerns of marginalized groups and vulnerable populations in the policymaking process.

Setting Clear Objectives

- Define clear and achievable objectives for promoting global harmony during the G20 Presidency.
- Prioritize areas where the G20 can make the most significant impact, such as climate change mitigation, economic development, conflict

resolution, and humanitarian assistance.

- Ensure alignment with the broader goals of sustainable development and peacebuilding.

Multilateral Diplomacy

- Utilize multilateral diplomacy to facilitate dialogue and negotiations among G20 member countries.
- Build coalitions and partnerships with like-minded nations and international organizations to advance shared goals.
- Leverage diplomatic channels to address areas of disagreement and seek common ground.

Policy Formulation and Implementation

- Develop evidence-based policies and initiatives that promote global harmony and address the root causes of conflict and instability.
- Ensure inclusivity and transparency in the policymaking process, involving all relevant stakeholders in decision-making.
- Establish mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of implemented policies and making adjustments as needed.

Promotion of Dialogue and Understanding

- Promote cultural exchange, mutual understanding, and dialogue among people from different backgrounds and nations.
- Support initiatives that foster intercultural communication, tolerance, and respect for diversity.
- Encourage educational and public awareness campaigns to promote global citizenship and solidarity.

Capacity Building and Support:

- Provide technical assistance and capacity-building support to countries facing challenges related to conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and sustainable development.
- Invest in infrastructure, education, healthcare, and other essential services to improve the well-being of populations worldwide.
- Foster innovation and technology transfer to address global challenges more effectively.

Accountability and Reporting

- Establish mechanisms for accountability and transparency in the implementation of G20 initiatives related to global harmony.
- Regularly report on progress made towards achieving set objectives and address any

setbacks or challenges encountered.

- Solicit feedback from stakeholders and incorporate lessons learned into future policymaking efforts.

By following this methodology, the G20 Presidency can effectively champion global harmony and contribute to a more peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable world.

The G20 has two main tracks of engagement: The Finance Track for finance ministers and central bank governors and the Sherpa Track. The G20's proceedings are led by the Sherpa's, who are appointed as personal envoys of the leaders of member nations. These Sherpa's are responsible for overseeing the negotiations that occur throughout the year, deliberating on the agenda for the summit and coordinating the substantive work of the G20. Both tracks have working groups to address specific themes with representatives from relevant parties. Working groups this year will focus on global priority areas such as green development, climate finance, inclusive growth, digital economy, public infrastructure, technology transformation, and reforms for women empowerment for socio-economic progress. All these steps are taken to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and secure a better future for the generations to come.

India's G20 Presidency

India will convene the G20 Leaders' Summit for the first time in 2023, as 43 Heads of Delegations- the largest ever in the G20-will participate in the final New Delhi Summit in September later this year. As a nation committed to democracy and multilateralism, India's presidency will be a significant milestone as it seeks to find practical global solutions for the benefit of all and embody the idea of "VasudhaivaKutumbakam," or "the world is one family."The G20 Summit is held annually with a rotating presidency, and in 2023, India will hold the presidency. The group does not have a permanent secretariat and is supported by the previous, current, and future holders of the presidency, known as the troika. In 2023, the troika consists of Indonesia, Brazil, and India.

This summit will conclude a series of meetings throughout the year, with potential host cities for meetings from December 2022 to February 2023 including Bengaluru, Chandigarh, Chennai, Guwahati, Indore, Jodhpur, Khajuraho, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Pune, Rann of Kutch, Surat, Thiruvananthapuram, and Udaipur. VasudhaivaKutumbakam, which translates to "One Earth, One Family, One Future," is the theme of India's G20 presidency. It is inspired from the Maha Upanishad, an old Sanskrit scripture. The theme fundamentally highlights the importance of all life human, animal, plant, and microorganism as well as their

interdependence on Earth and across the universe. The theme also exemplifies Life (Lifestyle for Environment), which highlights the importance of environmentally sustainable and responsible lifestyle choices, both at the individual and national level, in creating a cleaner, greener, and bluer future. An Indo-Centric view of the G20 would focus on India's role and interests within the Group of Twenty (G20), which is an international forum of major economies. India has been a member of the G20 since its inception, and its participation in the G20 is essential in shaping global economic policies.

From an Indo-Centric perspective, articles and discussions might cover various topics, including

1. India's Economic Priorities: Papers may discuss India's economic challenges such as trade policy, infrastructure development and reforms in relation to the G20 discussions.
2. Climate change and sustainable development: Given India's commitment to sustainable development and efforts to combat climate change, this article examines how India's position aligns with other G20 members; Or you can discover something different.
3. Geopolitical and security issues: India-centric articles may also cover geopolitical issues and security concerns that affect India in the context of the G20.
4. Bilateral relations: India's relations with other G20 members, including major economies such as the US, China and the European Union, are important topics of discussion from an India-centric perspective.
5. Global Health and Pandemics: Given India's role in the Covid-19 pandemic and vaccine development, this article explores how India's contributions and concerns are being addressed at the G20.

To find specific articles on these topics and recent developments, we recommend checking reputable news sources, academic journals, and think tank publications focused on international relations and economics. You can use search engines and databases like Google Scholar to find up-to-date information. Chairmanship of the Group of 20 is also the beginning of 25 years of "Amritkar" for India, starting from the 75th anniversary of independence on August 15, 2022 and ending with the 100th anniversary of independence.

India's Group of 20 priorities:

Green development, climate finance and livelihoods

India is focused on climate change, with a special focus on climate finance and technology, as well as ensuring equitable energy transition for developing countries. Introducing the Living Movement, which draws inspiration

from India's sustainable traditions and promotes eco-friendly practices.

Accelerated, comprehensive and flexible growth

We will focus on areas with the potential to create structural change, such as supporting small and medium-sized enterprises in global trade, promoting workers' rights and well-being, addressing global skills gaps, and creating inclusive agriculture.

Accelerating progress on the SDGs

Proposals to achieve the goals set in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with a special focus on addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Technological change and digital public infrastructure

Encourage a technology-based approach and increase knowledge sharing in areas such as digital public infrastructure, financial inclusion and technological advancements in sectors such as agriculture and education.

Multilateral organizations for the 21st century

Efforts to reform multilateralism and create a more accountable, inclusive and representative international system to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Development led by women

Focus on inclusive growth and development with a focus on women's empowerment and representation to enhance socio-economic development and achieve the SDGs.

The G20 Summit was held in New Delhi on September 9 and 10, hosted by India as the President of the G20 and attended by the Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. KISHIDA Fumio. The peak overview is as follows. Under the theme "One Earth, One Family, One Future", the G20 summit discussed key issues such as food security, climate and energy, development, health and digitalisation. Prime Minister Kishida spoke at Session 1 (One Earth) and Session 3 (One Future). The G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration was issued as a summary of the discussions. Prime Minister Kishida held a brief interview with the leaders of more than 29 countries about this event.

Session 1 One Earth

In this session, participants discussed issues such as the global economy, food security, climate and energy, and the environment. Regarding Russia's aggression against

Ukraine, most G20 members, including Japan, stressed the importance of adhering to the UN Charter and achieving a just and lasting peace in Ukraine. It also stressed that the G20 must respond to the negative impact of growing aggression on the global economy.

Session 2 "One Family"

In this session, participants discussed inclusive development, early childhood education, health and other issues. G20 members reaffirmed the importance of reducing poverty and inequality, accelerating efforts to achieve the SDGs and pandemic preparedness.

Session 3 "Future"

In this session, leaders discussed multilateral reforms, digital and other issues. Prime Minister Kishida reaffirmed Japan's support for African Union (AU) membership, given the increasing role of African countries in the international community in recent years.

G20 New Delhi Summit

Session 1 One Earth

Session 2 "One Family"

Sunday, September 10th

Session 3 "A Future"

The country participates with international organizations

A: G20 member countries

Japan, India (Presidency), Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, European Union

B: The country is invited

Bangladesh, Comoros (chairman of the African Union (AU)), Egypt, Mauritius, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Singapore, Spain, United Arab Emirates

C. International organizations

Asian Development Bank (ADB), Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), Financial Stability Board (FSB), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Solar Alliance (ISA), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), United Nations (UN), World Bank, World Health Organization (WHO), World Trade Organization (WTO)

Green Growth Pact: The announcement provides "a green growth pact for a sustainable future, which supports lifestyles for sustainable development, voluntary hydrogen principles, Chennai principles for a sustainable green economy and Deccan principles for food security

and nutrition among others. Action Plan for the Sustainable Development Goals: The New Delhi Declaration aims to promote robust, balanced and inclusive growth and seeks to accelerate progress on the SDGs.

High Level Principles Against Corruption: World leaders affirm zero tolerance for corruption.

Support for Digital Public Infrastructure: G20 Leaders agreed to give special attention to technologies related to digital public infrastructure during India's G20 presidency. **Multilateral Development Bank:** In the G20 declaration adopted on the first day of the G20 summit, member states endorsed the G20 roadmap to implement the recommendations of the G20 independent review of the IMF's capital adequacy frameworks and called for this ambitious implementation in the IMF. governance framework while maintaining long-term financial stability, safe credit ratings and preferred lender status.

Support for digital public infrastructure: The G20 leaders agreed to place a strong emphasis on technologies related to digital public infrastructure during India's G20 presidency. **Multilateral Development Banks:** In the G20 statement adopted on the first day of the G20 summit, member states endorsed the G20 roadmap for the implementation of the recommendations of the G20 independent review of the MDBs capital regulatory framework and called for its ambitious implementation. Establish a governance framework while protecting long-term financial stability, strong credit ratings and preferred lender status.

African Union Participation: In his opening remarks at the 18th G20 Summit on Saturday, Prime Minister Modi invited the African Union on behalf of Osmani to sit at the G20 leaders' table as a permanent member. In its G20 presidency, India is committed to strengthening the sense of unity and shared responsibility among nations and beyond geographical and ideological boundaries. It promotes a future in which the global community works together in harmony to protect the planet, support each other as one human family, and create a brighter and more just future for all. Through collaboration, dialogue and cooperation, the G20 strives to translate this abstract issue into concrete actions that benefit both people and the planet. This conclusion will emphasize the importance of international cooperation and the role of the Group of 20 in addressing and promoting important global issues. The conclusion of an article discussing the G-20 statement usually summarizes the key points and implications of the statement, as well as important implications and future actions. Summarizing the main points: First, we summarize the main points and goals mentioned in the G-20 statement. Highlight key topics and issues covered. Highlights of Achievements: Discuss important achievements and agreements reached during the G-20 Summit.

CONCLUSION

India's influence in the G20 has grown significantly over the years. As an emerging economic power with a focus on growth, sustainability and trade, India's India-centric perspective plays an important part in shaping the future of this international forum. Its role within the G20 reflects not only its own interests but also the interests of many developing nations around the world. In the coming years, India's active participation and leadership in the G20 will be a crucial factor in tackling global challenges and promoting international cooperation. India's cultural richness is a lasting testament to its history, geography and people. In this Indo-centric exploration, we have only scratched the surface of what India has to offer. The culture of the subcontinent is an ever-evolving tapestry, reflecting the complex interplay of tradition and modernity, unity and diversity. Adopting an India-centric perspective allows us to appreciate the remarkable complexity and beauty of India's cultural landscape. These may include economic policies, environmental commitments or global cooperation efforts. **Addressed Challenges:** Acknowledge any challenges or unresolved issues mentioned in the declaration. Explain why these challenges are important and may require more attention. **Implications:** Discuss the implications of the declaration at the global, regional or national level. How will the decisions taken at the G-20 summit affect economies, societies and the environment? **Future Actions:** Outline any proposed future actions or initiatives mentioned in the Declaration. This may involve follow-up meetings, policy changes or international cooperation efforts. **Broader Significance:** Consider the wider significance of the New Delhi Declaration in the context of the G-20 Summit and global governance. How does it fit into the larger picture of international relations and cooperation? **Call to Action:** Conclude your article by emphasizing the importance of the G-20 Declaration and its potential to shape the future. Encourage readers to stay informed and engaged in discussions around global governance and policy.

REFERENCES

1. Chinoy, S. R. (2022, November 17). G20 presidency: An opportunity for India to assume leadership of the global south. The Indian Express. Retrieved December 21, 2022, from <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/g20-presidency-opportunity-for-india-to-assume-leadership-of-global-south-8271768/>
2. Chinoy, S. R. (2022, November 9). SujanChinoy writes: During its G20 presidency, India can be a voice for developing world. The Indian Express. Retrieved December 21, 2022,

- from <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/during-its-g20-presidency-india-can-be-a-voice-for-developing-world-8256876/>
3. DWG talks under India's G20 presidency conclude. The Indian Express. (2022, December 15). Retrieved December 21, 2022, from <https://indianexpress.com/article/business/dwg-talks-under-indias-g20-presidency-conclude-8327174/>
 4. FATF Report- Countering Ransomware Financing Report (March 2023) xlii. Targeted Update on the Implementation of the FATF Standards for Virtual Assets (June 2023)
 5. FATF Report on Guidance on Beneficial Ownership Transparency for Legal Persons (March 2023)
 6. FSB Consultation Report on addressing liquidity mismatch in open-ended funds Revisions to the FSB 2017 policy recommendations.
 7. FSB Consultative document on Enhancing Third-Party Risk Management and Oversight: A toolkit for financial institutions and financial authorities.
 8. FSB Roadmap for Addressing Financial Risks from Climate Change: 2023 Progress Report.
 9. G20 Trade & Investment Ministers' Meeting Outcome Document and Chairs' Summary (25 August 2023, Jaipur).
 10. High Level Principles on Digitalization of Trade Documents.
 11. IMF-FSB Synthesis Paper: Policies for Crypto-Assets.
 12. India's G20 presidency: Delhi's opportunity. The Indian Express. (2022, December 2). Retrieved December 21, 2022, from <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/editorials/indias-g20-presidency-delhis-opportunity-8301285/>
 13. Jaipur Call for Action for enhancing MSMEs' Access to Information July 2023, Mumbai)
 14. Regulatory Toolkit for Enhanced Digital Financial Inclusion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)
 15. Revised G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance.