



India's Response To The "India Out" Campaign In Maldives: Strategic Silence Or Diplomatic Outreach?

Saini (Ph.D. Scholar)
S. D. P. G College
Department of political science
CCSU MEERUT, UP

Prof. Jai Kumar Saroha
S. D. P. G College
Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh
CSU MEERUT, UP

Abstract

This research paper examines India's diplomatic response to the politically charged "India Out" campaign in the Maldives, which emerged as a significant challenge to bilateral relations between 2020 and 2024. Through an analysis of diplomatic strategies, economic interventions, and soft power initiatives, this study evaluates whether India's approach constituted strategic silence or proactive diplomatic outreach. The paper concludes that India employed a sophisticated combination of restraint, economic leverage, and soft diplomacy that ultimately transformed a diplomatic crisis into renewed strategic partnership, culminating in the landmark July 2025 state visit by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The analysis reveals that India's multifaceted approach, combining initial restraint with sustained engagement, economic leverage with soft power projection, and strategic patience with decisive action, represents a new paradigm in neighborhood diplomacy that effectively countered geopolitical challenges while strengthening bilateral cooperation.

Keywords: India Out campaign, Diplomatic response, Strategic silence, Bilateral, Neighborhood diplomacy, Geopolitical challenges, Narendra Modi state visit

1. Introduction

The "India Out" campaign in the Maldives represents one of the most significant diplomatic challenges to India's "Neighborhood First" policy in the contemporary era, testing the resilience of bilateral relations that have historically been characterized by close cooperation and mutual understanding (Press Information Bureau, 2018). This politically charged movement, which emerged as a formidable force in Maldivian domestic politics around 2020, fundamentally questioned India's growing influence in Maldivian affairs and called for a dramatic reduction in Indian military presence, challenging the very foundations of strategic cooperation between the two nations (High Commission of India, Malé, 2024). The campaign's emergence marked a critical juncture in India-Maldives relations, forcing New Delhi to recalibrate its diplomatic approach and develop sophisticated strategies to address both immediate political challenges and long-term strategic interests in the Indian Ocean region.

The significance of this diplomatic crisis extends far beyond bilateral relations, representing a microcosm of the broader geopolitical competition in the Indian Ocean region, where traditional partnerships face unprecedented challenges from both domestic political dynamics and external influences. The "India Out" campaign emerged at a time when global power dynamics were shifting, with China's Belt and Road Initiative expanding its footprint in South Asia and creating alternative partnership models for smaller nations seeking to diversify their international relationships (Yameen, 2023). This context makes India's response particularly noteworthy, as it demonstrated the country's ability to navigate complex diplomatic waters while maintaining its strategic interests and ultimately strengthening its position as the preferred partner for Maldivian development and security cooperation.

This research examines the period from 2020 to 2025, covering the emergence of the campaign, its evolution through various phases of political and diplomatic tension, its peak during the contentious 2023 presidential elections, and the subsequent comprehensive diplomatic reset that culminated in Prime Minister Modi's historic state visit to the Maldives in July 2025 (Ministry of External Affairs, 2022). The analysis reveals how India's response evolved from initial strategic restraint to proactive diplomatic outreach, ultimately transforming what could have been a permanent rupture in bilateral relations into a strengthened partnership that serves as a model for effective neighborhood diplomacy in an era of complex geopolitical competition.

2. Background and Genesis of the "India Out" Campaign

The "India Out" campaign emerged from a complex interplay of domestic political rivalries, historical grievances, and evolving geopolitical alignments in the Indian Ocean region, reflecting deeper tensions about sovereignty, independence, and the appropriate balance between international cooperation and national autonomy in small island states (Embassy of India, Malé, 2023). The movement found its primary political expression through the Progressive Party of Maldives (PPM) and the People's National Congress (PNC), both opposition parties that had historically maintained more distant relationships with India compared to the ruling Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP), which had consistently pursued closer ties with New Delhi since coming to power under President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih in 2018 (Al Jazeera, 2023).

The ideological foundation of the campaign was laid by former President Abdulla Yameen Abdul Gayoom, whose previous tenure from 2013 to 2018 had been marked by a deliberate pivot toward China and a corresponding cooling of relations with India, setting the stage for the anti-India sentiment that would later crystallize into the organized campaign (Yameen, 2023). Yameen's administration had embraced Chinese investment and development assistance while simultaneously expressing skepticism about Indian intentions and questioning the transparency of various bilateral agreements, particularly those related to defense cooperation and the presence of Indian military technical personnel in the Maldives (Observer Research Foundation, 2020).

The formal launch of the campaign in October 2020 represented the culmination of years of simmering resentment and political opportunism, as opposition parties sought to capitalize on genuine public concerns about sovereignty and foreign influence while simultaneously undermining the pro-India policies of the Solih administration (Observer Research Foundation, 2020). The campaign's organizers skillfully leveraged existing suspicions and populist sentiments regarding the perceived loss of sovereignty and lack of transparency in international agreements, framing their movement as a patriotic defense of national independence against what they characterized as creeping Indian dominance over Maldivian affairs.

The campaign's activities encompassed a wide range of political and social mobilization tactics, beginning with street protests and rapidly expanding to include sophisticated social media operations centered around the hashtag "#IndiaOut," which proliferated across various platforms and garnered significant domestic and international attention (Ministry of External Affairs, 2024). The movement's organizers demonstrated considerable political acumen in their ability to sustain public interest and maintain momentum over several years, utilizing opposition-affiliated media outlets such as Dhiyares and Maldives Journal to

amplify their message and provide continuous coverage of their activities and grievances against Indian presence and influence.

The stated objectives of the campaign reflected a combination of genuine sovereignty concerns and calculated political opportunism, with organizers focusing their criticism on what they portrayed as an increasing presence of Indian military personnel and the allegedly opaque nature of defense cooperation agreements between the two countries (High Commission of India, Malé, 2024). Campaign leaders argued that the Maldivian government had compromised national sovereignty by agreeing to arrangements that lacked transparency and democratic oversight, creating a narrative that resonated with segments of the population concerned about the country's independence and autonomy in international affairs.

3. India's Strategic Response: A Comprehensive Analysis

India's response to the "India Out" campaign represents a masterclass in diplomatic crisis management, demonstrating how a major regional power can effectively navigate complex political challenges while maintaining strategic interests and ultimately emerging with strengthened bilateral relationships (The Diplomat, 2024). The response evolved through three distinct phases, each characterized by different tactical approaches but unified by a consistent strategic vision that prioritized long-term partnership over short-term political gains, economic cooperation over confrontation, and soft power projection over coercive diplomacy.

The initial phase of India's response from 2020 to 2022 was characterized by what can best be described as strategic restraint combined with proactive clarification and public engagement. Rather than responding to provocations with counter-rhetoric or diplomatic protests, Indian officials chose to maintain a dignified silence on political attacks while simultaneously increasing their efforts to communicate directly with the Maldivian public about India's actual role and contributions to the country's development and security. This approach reflected a sophisticated understanding of Maldivian domestic politics and the recognition that direct confrontation with opposition parties would likely backfire by providing them with additional ammunition for their anti-India narrative.

During this period, Indian diplomats and officials worked tirelessly to provide detailed explanations about the humanitarian and non-combat roles of Indian personnel stationed in the Maldives, emphasizing their contributions to medical evacuation services, disaster relief operations, and other civilian-oriented activities that directly benefited the Maldivian population. This transparency initiative was complemented by increased public outreach efforts that highlighted India's extensive developmental contributions, including infrastructure projects, educational assistance, healthcare support, and disaster relief capabilities that had repeatedly proven crucial during natural disasters and emergencies affecting the island nation (Polish Institute of International Affairs, 2023).

The strategy during this phase also emphasized the continuation of economic assistance and infrastructure projects despite political tensions, demonstrating India's commitment to the Maldivian people regardless of temporary political disagreements with opposition parties. This approach served multiple strategic purposes: it maintained the momentum of bilateral cooperation, provided tangible benefits to ordinary Maldivians, and created a stark contrast between India's constructive engagement and the opposition's purely critical rhetoric that offered no alternative vision for the country's development or security.

The second phase of India's response, covering the period from 2023 to early 2024, represented the most challenging period in bilateral relations as political tensions escalated following the victory of Mohamed Muizzu in the 2023 presidential elections (BBC News, 2023a). Muizzu's campaign had explicitly embraced the "India Out" narrative, and his initial months in office were marked by increasingly anti-India rhetoric from government officials, culminating in derogatory remarks that triggered widespread public backlash in India and threatened to permanently damage bilateral relationships (BBC News, 2023b).

The economic dimensions of the crisis became apparent when Indian tourists, who represented the largest segment of visitors to the Maldives, began canceling their trips in large numbers, resulting in a devastating 42% drop in Indian tourist arrivals that immediately impacted the country's foreign exchange earnings and economic stability (Atoll Times, 2024). The social media hashtag "#BoycottMaldives" gained massive traction among Indian users, reflecting genuine public anger at the perceived disrespect shown toward India and its contributions to Maldivian development and security (BBC News, 2024).

During this critical period, India's response demonstrated remarkable diplomatic discipline and strategic thinking. Rather than escalating tensions through official statements or retaliatory measures, Indian officials maintained diplomatic channels while allowing public sentiment to express itself through market mechanisms and social media campaigns. This approach created economic pressure on the Maldivian government while maintaining the moral high ground and preserving opportunities for future reconciliation when political conditions changed.

The third phase of India's response, spanning from mid-2024 to 2025, witnessed a dramatic transformation as economic realities forced a comprehensive recalibration in Maldivian policy toward India (The Diplomat, 2024). The Maldives faced a severe economic crisis characterized by falling foreign reserves, credit rating downgrades, and the substantial loss of tourism revenue from the Indian market, creating immediate pressure for policy changes that could restore economic stability and investor confidence.

President Muizzu's public statements during External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's August 2024 visit marked a complete reversal from his earlier anti-India stance, as he publicly described India as the country's "closest ally" and "invaluable partner," effectively abandoning the "India Out" rhetoric that had brought him to power (NDTV, 2024). This dramatic policy shift reflected the practical recognition that the economic costs of alienating India far outweighed any perceived political benefits from maintaining an anti-India posture.

India's response to this opening was both generous and strategically astute, offering immediate economic relief while establishing frameworks for long-term cooperation that would make future policy reversals more difficult and costly. The approach demonstrated India's capacity for magnanimous diplomacy while ensuring that the reset would be comprehensive and durable rather than merely cosmetic or temporary.

4. The July 2025 State Visit: A Diplomatic Transformation

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to the Maldives from July 25-26, 2025, represented the culmination of India's diplomatic strategy and marked a complete transformation in bilateral relations from their lowest point to a new high water mark of cooperation and partnership (Press Information Bureau, 2025). The visit's timing, coinciding with the 60th anniversary of Maldivian independence, provided symbolic significance that emphasized India's respect for Maldivian sovereignty while simultaneously celebrating the deep historical ties between the two nations.

The visit's significance extended far beyond ceremonial importance, as it established comprehensive frameworks for cooperation across multiple sectors and created institutional mechanisms for sustaining the bilateral partnership regardless of future political changes in either country. The agreements and initiatives announced during the visit demonstrated India's commitment to supporting Maldivian development priorities while advancing its own strategic interests in the Indian Ocean region through mutually beneficial cooperation rather than dependency relationships (Ministry of External Affairs, 2025a).

The economic dimensions of the agreements announced during the visit reflected India's understanding that sustainable partnerships must be based on mutual benefit and shared prosperity rather than one-sided dependency. The substantial line of credit of ₹4,850 crore provided the Maldivian government with immediate resources for infrastructure development while creating opportunities for Indian companies and

expertise to contribute to these projects, establishing a virtuous cycle of economic cooperation that benefits both countries (The Economic Times, 2025a).

The debt relief initiative, which reduced the Maldives' annual debt repayment to India by 40%, from \$51 million to \$29 million, demonstrated India's willingness to make significant financial sacrifices to support its neighbor's economic recovery while building long-term goodwill and trust (The Hindu, 2025). This gesture was particularly important given the Maldives' precarious financial situation and its need for fiscal space to implement development programs and maintain social stability.

Agreement/Initiative	Details	Strategic Impact
Line of Credit	₹4,850 crore (~\$550 million) for infrastructure development	Enhanced economic cooperation and developmental partnership (The Economic Times, 2025a)
Debt Relief	40% reduction in annual debt repayment (from \$51M to \$29M)	Immediate economic relief, strengthening bilateral goodwill (The Hindu, 2025)
Free Trade Agreement	Launch of comprehensive FTA and BIT negotiations	Long-term economic integration (The New Indian Express, 2025)
Digital Integration	UPI and RuPay payment systems implementation	Deepening technological and financial linkages (CoinGeek, 2025)
Infrastructure Projects	3,300 social housing units, community development projects	Visible developmental impact (India Foundation, 2025)
Defense Cooperation	Transfer of 72 vehicles and equipment to Maldivian forces	Security partnership reinforcement (Ministry of External Affairs, 2025b)

The launch of negotiations for a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement and Bilateral Investment Treaty represented perhaps the most significant long-term development, as these frameworks would create institutional mechanisms for deepening economic integration while providing legal protections and dispute resolution mechanisms that would encourage increased trade and investment flows between the two countries (The New Indian Express, 2025). The digital integration initiatives, particularly the implementation of India's UPI and RuPay payment systems in the Maldives, demonstrated how technological cooperation could create practical benefits for ordinary citizens while strengthening the foundations of the bilateral relationship (CoinGeek, 2025).

The infrastructure and social development components of the cooperation framework addressed immediate needs while creating visible symbols of Indian partnership with the Maldivian people. The handover of 3,300 social housing units provided tangible benefits to Maldivian families while demonstrating India's commitment to supporting human development and improving living standards (India Foundation, 2025). The community development projects and infrastructure improvements in Addu City created immediate economic opportunities while establishing a foundation for long-term growth and prosperity.

The defense cooperation agreements, including the transfer of 72 vehicles and equipment to Maldivian security forces, reinforced the strategic dimensions of the partnership while addressing Maldivian concerns about sovereignty and independence by strengthening rather than replacing national capabilities (Ministry of External Affairs, 2025b). The inauguration of a new Ministry of Defence building constructed with Indian assistance provided a permanent symbol of defense cooperation while respecting Maldivian institutional independence (Ministry of External Affairs, 2025b).

5. Economic Dimensions and Strategic Implications

The economic aspects of India's response to the "India Out" campaign revealed the sophisticated understanding of how economic interdependence could serve as both a diplomatic tool and a foundation for long-term strategic partnership. The analysis of tourism impacts, trade relationships, and development cooperation demonstrates how India leveraged its position as the Maldives' largest economic partner to create both incentives for cooperation and costs for confrontation, while simultaneously offering genuine benefits that improved living standards and development prospects for ordinary Maldivians.

Period	Indian Tourist Arrivals	Economic Impact	Policy Response
Pre-2023	Steady growth (largest market segment)	Positive contribution to GDP	Stable bilateral relations (Ministry of Tourism, India, 2023)
Early 2024	42% decline	Severe revenue loss	Diplomatic recalibration (Atoll Times, 2024)
Post-Reset 2024-25	Recovery initiatives launched	Renewed growth prospects	Strategic partnership restoration (East Asia Forum, 2025)

The tourism sector's role in the bilateral relationship highlighted the vulnerability of the Maldivian economy to disruptions in the Indian relationship while simultaneously demonstrating the power of people-to-people connections in shaping diplomatic outcomes. The 42% decline in Indian tourist arrivals during early 2024 created immediate economic pressure that contributed to the policy recalibration, but more importantly, it demonstrated to Maldivian policymakers the practical costs of pursuing confrontational policies toward their largest source of foreign exchange earnings and economic growth (Atoll Times, 2024).

The recovery initiatives launched following the diplomatic reset included comprehensive marketing campaigns targeting Indian tourists, the introduction of direct flight connections, and the development of specialized tourism products designed to appeal to Indian cultural preferences and traditions (Corporate Maldives, 2024). These initiatives reflected a recognition that sustainable tourism cooperation required attention to cultural sensitivities and the development of products that created positive experiences for visitors while generating maximum economic benefits for local communities.

The infrastructure and development cooperation framework established during the July 2025 visit created multiple channels for economic engagement that went far beyond traditional aid relationships to establish genuine partnerships in areas such as renewable energy, digital technology, healthcare, education, and maritime security (High Commission of India, Malé, 2025). The housing projects, representing one of the most visible aspects of Indian development assistance, provided immediate benefits to Maldivian families while demonstrating India's commitment to supporting human development and social progress.

The healthcare cooperation initiatives, including the provision of Aarogya Maitri medical cubes capable of supporting emergency medical care for up to 200 casualties, addressed critical needs while building institutional capacity for crisis response and emergency management. These initiatives reflected India's understanding that effective development cooperation must address both immediate needs and long-term capacity building requirements to create sustainable improvements in living standards and quality of life (Ministry of External Affairs, 2025b).

The digital cooperation frameworks, particularly the integration of Indian payment systems and digital governance platforms, represented a new dimension of bilateral cooperation that created practical benefits for citizens while establishing technological linkages that would be difficult to reverse or replace (CoinGeek, 2025). These initiatives demonstrated how modern diplomatic partnerships must encompass technological cooperation and digital integration to remain relevant and effective in an increasingly connected world.

6. Geopolitical Context and Regional Implications

India's response to the "India Out" campaign must be understood within the broader context of geopolitical competition in the Indian Ocean region, where traditional partnerships face unprecedented challenges from both domestic political dynamics and external influences seeking to reshape regional power balances (Observer Research Foundation, 2023). The emergence of China as a major development partner and source of investment for smaller South Asian nations has created alternative options for countries like the Maldives while simultaneously intensifying competition for influence and strategic partnerships in the region (Council on Foreign Relations, 2024).

The timing of the "India Out" campaign coincided with China's expanding Belt and Road Initiative presence in South Asia and the Indian Ocean, creating concerns in New Delhi that the movement might be exploited by external actors seeking to diminish Indian influence and create openings for alternative partnerships (Al Jazeera, 2024). However, India's response demonstrated strategic confidence and sophisticated understanding of how to compete effectively in this new environment through the provision of superior value propositions rather than attempting to restrict Maldivian choices or options.

The campaign's evolution and ultimate resolution provided important insights into the dynamics of small state behavior in the contemporary international system, particularly the challenges faced by nations seeking to balance relationships with major powers while maintaining independence and sovereignty (Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, 2024). The Maldives' experience demonstrated both the opportunities and risks associated with attempts to diversify international partnerships, as the economic costs of confronting major partners can quickly outweigh the perceived benefits of asserting independence or pursuing alternative relationships.

India's successful navigation of this challenge established important precedents for managing neighborhood diplomacy in an era of great power competition, demonstrating that economic cooperation, development assistance, and soft power projection often prove more effective than traditional diplomatic pressure or coercive measures in maintaining and strengthening strategic partnerships (High Commission of India, Malé, 2025). The approach also showed how patient engagement and strategic restraint can create opportunities for relationship improvement even after periods of significant tension and confrontation.

The regional implications of the India-Maldives reset extend beyond bilateral relations to influence perceptions and expectations throughout South Asia and the Indian Ocean region. Other small nations observing this diplomatic drama learned important lessons about the costs and benefits of different approaches to major power relationships, while regional and global powers took note of India's demonstrated capacity for effective diplomatic crisis management and relationship restoration (Press Information Bureau, 2025).

7. Lessons Learned and Strategic Assessment

The comprehensive analysis of India's response to the "India Out" campaign reveals several crucial lessons about effective diplomacy in the contemporary international system, particularly regarding how major regional powers can maintain and strengthen relationships with smaller neighbors despite domestic political challenges and external competitive pressures. The success of India's approach validates several key

principles of modern diplomatic practice while providing a template for similar challenges that may arise in other regional contexts.

The effectiveness of economic diplomacy emerged as perhaps the most significant lesson from this episode, demonstrating how economic interdependence can serve as both a stabilizing force in bilateral relationships and a source of leverage during periods of political tension. India's position as the Maldives' largest tourism market and key development partner created natural incentives for cooperation while providing mechanisms for expressing dissatisfaction with hostile policies without resorting to formal diplomatic protests or sanctions (East Asia Forum, 2025).

The importance of soft power and people-to-people connections proved equally significant, as India's sustained emphasis on development assistance, humanitarian aid, and cultural ties created reservoirs of goodwill that survived political turbulence and provided foundations for relationship restoration when political conditions changed. The contrast between India's constructive engagement and the opposition's purely critical rhetoric ultimately helped discredit the "India Out" narrative and contributed to its political defeat.

Strategic patience emerged as another crucial factor in India's success, as the decision to avoid escalatory responses to provocations while maintaining channels for future engagement created opportunities for relationship improvement that might have been foreclosed by more confrontational approaches. The ability to distinguish between temporary political challenges and long-term strategic interests allowed Indian policymakers to maintain focus on fundamental objectives while avoiding the trap of responding to every provocation or criticism (Atoll Times, 2024).

The comprehensive nature of the eventual reset demonstrated the importance of addressing multiple dimensions of bilateral relationships simultaneously rather than focusing narrowly on specific areas of disagreement or tension. The agreements announced during the July 2025 visit encompassed economic cooperation, security partnership, technological integration, and people-to-people connections, creating a web of interdependence that makes future disruptions more difficult and costly (Insights IAS, 2025).

Timeline of Diplomatic Evolution

Year	Event	India's Response	Outcome
2020	"India Out" campaign launch	Strategic restraint, diplomatic clarification	Maintained bilateral framework (Observer Research Foundation, 2020)
2021	Campaign intensification	Public outreach, development emphasis	Continued cooperation (East Asia Forum, 2024)
2022	Maldivian government bans campaign	Quiet support, economic assistance	Temporary stabilization (Lowy Institute, 2022)
2023	Muizzu election victory	Diplomatic continuity despite tensions	Relationship strain (BBC News, 2023a)
Early 2024	Anti-India rhetoric peak	Economic consequences, public backlash	Policy recalibration pressure (BBC News, 2024)
Mid-2024	Diplomatic reset initiation	Proactive engagement	Relationship improvement (The Diplomat, 2024)
July 2025	PM Modi state visit	Comprehensive partnership restoration	Strategic triumph (Press Information Bureau, 2025)

The chronological progression of events reveals how diplomatic crises can evolve through predictable phases while requiring adaptive responses that match changing circumstances and opportunities. The initial phase of strategic restraint provided time for the campaign's contradictions and limitations to become apparent while preserving options for future engagement. The middle phase of economic pressure created

incentives for policy reconsideration without crossing lines that might have made reconciliation impossible. The final phase of comprehensive reset established new foundations for cooperation that addressed the underlying concerns while strengthening the overall relationship (News on AIR, 2025).

8. Conclusion

India's response to the "India Out" campaign represents neither pure strategic silence nor simple diplomatic outreach, but rather a sophisticated synthesis of both approaches that demonstrates the evolution of diplomatic practice in the contemporary international system (Ministry of External Affairs, 2022). The strategy successfully combined initial restraint with sustained engagement, economic leverage with soft power projection, and strategic patience with decisive action when opportunities arose, creating a template for effective neighborhood diplomacy that other regional powers might profitably study and adapt.

The transformation of bilateral relations from their lowest point in early 2024 to the comprehensive partnership unveiled during the July 2025 state visit validates India's multifaceted approach while demonstrating that economic interdependence, development cooperation, and people-centric initiatives often prove more effective than traditional diplomatic protests or retaliatory measures in resolving complex political challenges (High Commission of India, Malé, 2025). The case illustrates how patient, principled engagement can ultimately triumph over confrontational rhetoric and political opportunism.

The success factors identified in this analysis - economic indispensability, soft power resilience, strategic patience, and comprehensive engagement - provide a framework for understanding how major regional powers can maintain and strengthen relationships with smaller neighbors despite domestic political challenges and external competitive pressures (Press Information Bureau, 2025). India's demonstration of its capacity to serve as an indispensable partner in economic development, security cooperation, and crisis response created compelling reasons for policy recalibration even among initially hostile political actors.

The broader implications of this diplomatic success extend beyond bilateral relations to influence regional dynamics and global perceptions of India's diplomatic capabilities and strategic wisdom. The episode demonstrated India's maturity as a regional power capable of managing complex challenges through sophisticated approaches that prioritize long-term partnership over short-term political gains, setting important precedents for future diplomatic challenges in South Asia and the Indian Ocean region (Ministry of External Affairs, 2025b).

The India-Maldives reset ultimately serves as a compelling case study of how sustained engagement, economic cooperation, and mutual benefit can overcome significant political challenges, providing a model for managing neighborhood diplomacy in an era of complex geopolitical competition where traditional approaches may prove inadequate to address the multifaceted nature of contemporary diplomatic challenges (News on AIR, 2025). The success of this approach suggests that the future of regional diplomacy lies not in zero-sum competition but in the creation of positive-sum partnerships that benefit all parties while advancing broader objectives of peace, stability, and prosperity.

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