



Appendix 1

Data extraction of the selected studies

No	Authors, year of publication, and country	Design	Setting	Intervention model	Duration	Results	Components of outcome
1	Ahmed A. Shahbaz & Allan Hassaniyan, (2025), UK	Neoclassical realist framework	Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states (Oman, Qatar, etc.)	Council (GCC) states (Oman, Qatar, etc.) Growing autonomy in foreign policy	Recent past to 2025 (Structural shifts)	GCC policies are evolving more autonomously due to internal divisions and changing leadership.	Shift from Saudi-led coordination to individual state interests
2	Saadia M. Pekkanen (2025), USA	Theoretical survey/essay	Outer space in Asian International Relations (Asia)	DCM Triumvirate: Democratization, Commercialization, Militarization	2020s (Current "new space race")	Space activities are shaping a new race where states align with US-led or China-led lunar programs.	National power advancement and security-enabled prosperity.
3	Li-Chen Sim & Farkhod Aminjonov (2022/2024), UAE	Qualitative analysis / Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA)	Central Asia and China relations	"Hedging" foreign policy approach	2022–2024	Central Asian states use hedging as statecraft, driven by domestic conditions, to manage asymmetrical relations.	Selective resistance to China and management of power asymmetry.
4	Ivan Zaccagnini & Antonio Calcara (2025), Italy & Belgium	Comparative case study	5G network rollout (UK and Italy)	"Wedging" and "binding" strategies	2019–2020	Target state response depends on internal cohesion; UK shifted to a ban due to US binding.	Phasing out high-risk vendors (Huawei) and market restrictions.
5	Li-Chen Sim (2022), UAE	Qualitative analysis, interviews, and quantitative data	Singapore-Gulf relations	"Asianization" and strategic engagement pathways	2000-2022	Engagement shifted from defensive to positive, driven by Singapore's "vulnerability".	Energy security, hydrogen investment, and maritime cooperation.
6	Otilija Jurakovaite & Asta Gaigaliene (2026), Lithuania	Quantitative Gravity Model analysis	Bilateral cross-border financial investment (Global)	Re-globalization and geopolitical distance	2009-2021	Investment flows decrease to less democratic countries; risk tolerance is declining.	Portfolio restructuring and "friend-shoring" to mitigate risk.

7	Laura Southgate (2023), UK	Qualitative balance of power analysis	Southeast Asia (UK-ASEAN relations)	"Global Britain" and ASEAN Dialogue Partnership	2021-2023	UK seeks deeper integration with ASEAN but faces challenges navigating US-China competition.	Maritime capacity-building, funding, and support for ASEAN centrality.
8	Jack D. Butcher (2024), Australia	International Security Studies (ISS) analysis	Asia-Pacific region	Strategic Partnerships	2014-2024	SPs allow states to hedge against China and US commitment shifts by networking alliances.	"De-centered" security dependency and increased strategic autonomy.
9	Clara Mang Sui Tang (2025), USA	Qualitative analysis utilizing interdependence theory to dissect multi-dimensional relations.	China-Myanmar relations in the wake of the 2021 military coup.	Shift toward high interdependence characterized by mutual reliance and influence.	2021-2025	The coup increased Myanmar's reliance on China due to international isolation; China provides military and economic support but lacks absolute control.	Increased military support, shielding in international forums, and expansion of economic investments under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) .
10	Muhammad Jahanzaib & Zahid Shahab Ahmed (2024), Pakistan, UAE, & Australia	Empirical study using in-depth analysis of archival data from primary and secondary sources.	Pakistan's foreign policy and its deepening partnership with China.	Pivot from traditional geopolitics to geo-economics focusing on trade and connectivity.	2015-2024	Pakistan increasingly embraces geo-economics to foster growth, though relations remain influenced by geostrategic rivalry with India.	Development of CPEC infrastructure (rail, road, energy), the Gwadar Port , and the first National Security Policy (NSP) .
11	Brandon J Kinne & Clint Peinhardt (2024), USA	Network analysis assessing cooperative spillover in defense and investment.	Post-Cold War international system and bilateral treaty networks.	Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) and Defense Cooperation Agreements (DCAs).	Not specified.	Positive spillover occurs when networks are structural complements; conflict between networks inhibits cooperation.	Spillover effects between economic and security cooperation domains.
12	Zibo Wei, Xuan Chen, Genli Tang, & Yishuai Xie (2025), Malaysia & China	Empirical study using panel multiple linear regression based on GDELT big data.	Southeast Asian countries and their relationship with China.	Impact of South China Sea issues (verbal and material events) on China's image.	2010-2024	Factual events and event scale significantly influence perceptions in countries with territorial disputes.	Recognition and evaluation of China's image in Southeast Asia.

13	Tran Xuan Hiep, Nguyen Tang Nghi, & Nguyen Cam Tu (2025), Vietnam	Qualitative research utilizing the Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA) framework.	Southeast Asia, with a focus on Vietnam.	China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).	2013-2025	BRI offers infrastructure opportunities but creates challenges regarding sovereignty and debt.	Regional development impact and Vietnam's strategic responses to BRI.
14	Alfred Gerstl (2020), Germany/ Czech Republic	Qualitative analysis using a re-conceptualized hedging concept.	Malaysia's foreign policy under the Mahathir Mohamad administration.	Hedging strategy (direct engagement, limited balancing, and bandwagoning).	2018-2020	Malaysia maintained a flexible, consistent hedging strategy despite BRI and South China Sea pressures.	Risk mitigation, opportunity maximization, and omnidirectional diplomatic relations.