

Qingdao Declaration

Why in news?



SCO summit adopts declaration calling for 3-year plan to combat terrorism.

Qingdao declaration:

- Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) leaders taking part in a summit in China's Qingdao have signed the Qingdao Declaration.
- The signing ceremony involved the leaders of China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan.
- The declaration calls for implementing the three-year plan to combat terrorism, separatism and extremism.
- It also calls for implementation of the treaty on long-term good neighbourliness, friendship and co-operation.
- The leaders adopted a total of 17 documents at the summit, which include:
 - documents endorsing the 2018-2022 Action Plan to implement the Treaty for Long-term Good-Neighborly Relations, Friendship and Cooperation between the SCO states
 - 2019-2020 Program for Cooperation in countering terrorism, separatism and extremism
 - decision to approve the 2018-2023 Anti-Drug Strategy and an Action Plan to implement it.
 - an information statement
- India refused to endorse China's ambitious One Belt, One Road (OBOR) project as part of Qingdao Declaration at the 18th SCO summit.
- At the restricted session of the SCO Summit, Indian Prime Minister Modi floated concept of SECURE: 'S' for security for citizens, 'E' for economic development, 'C' for connectivity in the region, 'U' for unity, 'R' for respect of sovereignty and integrity, and 'E' for environment protection.

SCO:

- The Declaration on the Establishment of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization was signed in China's Shanghai in June 2001 by six founding states – Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- India and Pakistan were granted SCO membership on June 9, 2017.

- Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran and Mongolia currently enjoy observer status, while Sri Lanka, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Cambodia and Nepal are dialogue partners.
- The Shanghai Spirit is the main principle and founding values of the SCO, defining that all member states are equal and committed to forging good neighbourliness and sincere partnership with each other.
- It features mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for cultural diversity and pursuit of common development.
- All decisions of the SCO are made through discussions and dialogues.
- On June 10, 2018, the 18th SCO Summit urged implementation of Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action on the Iranian nuclear program through joint statement was issued at the end of 18th Meeting of the Council of Heads of Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.
- Deeper cooperation in numerous areas was also emphasized by members of the organization.