

· vietnam, philippines,
taiwan, malaysia and
brunei



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· Possibility of a World War? Yes 1. Invention of use of nuclear weapons in North Korea South Korea, Japan and the United States have condemned North Korea for launching four ballistic missiles on the morning of 6th March 2017. Three of which, Japan said landed in its exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Japan's Prime Minister Mr Abe told reporters: "The latest launches of ballistic missiles clearly demonstrate evidence of a new threat from North Korea." South Korea's Acting President Hwang Kyo Ahn lambasted North Korea's missile launches in a national security meeting on Monday morning, commenting that "This is an act of outright defiance to the international society and a serious provocation," North Korea has already openly declared that its nuclear tests have given it the capability to create hydrogen bombs that can wipe out the whole territory of US all at once and have continued to make threats to the US ever since. Yet, despite such blatant attempts to scare their enemies, Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) continue to claim that "The test was neither to 'threaten' anyone, nor to 'provoke' someone for a certain purpose".

They added by explaining that the purpose of the test was to provide a "sure guarantee" that hostile outside forces would not attack the North. 2. South China Sea conflict The South China Sea conflict involves numerous countries, including China, Vietnam, Philippines, Taiwan, Malaysia and Brunei fighting for sovereignty over the ocean areas, Paracel Islands and Spratly Islands. These 2 islands are highly sought after due to the huge reserves of natural resources that surround them, while the sea is desired as the area is a major shipping route and is home to fishing grounds. While China continues to claim sovereignty over these areas, the UN Convention Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)

have decided that China's expansive claims to much of the SouthChina Sea were not valid under international law.

Of course, China rejected the verdict within hours of its publication, neither accepting nor recognising the report. No 1. Increasing effectiveness and use of Soft power Soft power is defined as a persuasive approach to international relations, the opposite of what is known as hard power.

It typically involves the use of economic or cultural influence to negotiate terms, instead of harshly forcing them. Soft power thus rests heavily on 3 resources – culture, political values and foreign policies. E. g. South Korea Hallyu Korean wave The K-wave engages with masses of young people to reduce anti-Korea sentiment through the entertainment industry. Their influence has proved to be effective and is spreading wider, originally concentrating around the Asian countries, but now moving further into the West as boy bands like “ BTS” invade the western pop culture.

This has become a legitimate tactic of expanding the Korean influence, to the extent that President Park Geun Hye has included attending Kpop music festivals as part of her state visits to foreign countries. With the uprising of K-wave, it seems that other countries are more likely to give South Korea support in terms of political solidarity, which could be a useful counter-balance vis-à-vis North Korea. Eg. KCON Paris 2016 was held during President Park's state visit to France to celebrate 130 years of diplomatic relationship between both countries.

Other countries more likely to give it support in terms of political solidarity; a useful counter-balance vis-à-vis (in relation to) North Korea 2. Regional <https://assignbuster.com/vietnam-philippines-taiwan-malaysia-and-brunei/>

diplomacy and international governing bodies International governing bodies give neighbouring countries within an area the right to step in and act as a mediator to prevent conflicts from escalating into a world war, as international organisations pledge to maintain peaceful relations with each other. E.

g. Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) comprises of 10 states in the Southeast Asian region, which signed the treaty of Amity and Cooperation at the First ASEAN Summit on 24 Feb 1976. Upon signing the treaty, all 10 states agreed on the settlement of differences and disputes peacefully, renunciation of threat or use of force and effective peaceful relations. E.

g. Intergovernmental organisations: UN The UN came into being in 1945, after the devastation of WWII. It was formed to handle peacekeeping and peace-building relations.