International Relations · GS - II

Examine the implications of rising cross-strait tensions for maritime security, international trade and regional stability in the Indo-Pacific.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 01/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Taiwan Strait; maritime security; freedom of navigation; strategic competition; global supply chains; regional stability

Model Answer

Introduction:

The Taiwan Strait is a strategically important maritime corridor in East Asia. Tensions between China and Taiwan have wider implications because the region is connected to international shipping, advanced manufacturing and Indo-Pacific security.

Major implications

- **Maritime security:** Increased naval and coast guard activity can heighten the risk of miscalculation and accidental confrontation.
- **International trade:** Prolonged disruption around Taiwan could delay shipping, increase freight costs and affect regional commerce.
- **Semiconductor supply chains:** Taiwan’s importance in advanced semiconductor manufacturing makes instability a concern for global technology industries.
- **Regional geopolitics:** Cross-strait tensions influence the security calculations of the United States, Japan and other Indo-Pacific countries.

- **International law:** Disputes over maritime activity highlight the importance of applicable international law and peaceful dispute resolution.

Way Forward

Dialogue, crisis communication mechanisms and transparent maritime conduct can reduce escalation risks. Regional countries should support peaceful dispute resolution while maintaining resilient supply chains and respecting international law.

Conclusion

Stability across the Taiwan Strait is important for Indo-Pacific peace and global economic security. Sustained diplomacy and effective crisis management are essential to prevent local tensions from escalating into a wider conflict.

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