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Between Scylla and Charybdis: Is there a Middle Path for Middle Powers in the
Indo-Pacific Region?
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Paper Title: Considering the Blue Pacific: The changing geopolitics of the Pacific Ocean

Synopsis: As maritime democracies in the Indian and Pacific Oceans look to balance a rising China, Pacific island states increasingly find themselves understood as a subset of a broader 'Indo-Pacific' region. However, Pacific island states have unique security concerns, particularly in relation to climate change, and are working together to tackle them as one ocean continent: the 'Blue Pacific'. This paper considers changing geopolitics in the Pacific islands. It suggests a closer engagement with the unique security concerns of island states may be key to alignment between the Indo-Pacific and the Blue Pacific.

Keywords: Indo-Pacific, Blue Pacific, climate change, regionalism, security