

SCO Bishkek Declaration 2026

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Environment & Ecology

Why in News?

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

- **Formation** - A permanent intergovernmental international organisation founded in **June 2001** in Shanghai, China.
- **Genesis** - Evolved from the '**Shanghai Five**' mechanism (China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan) that was established in 1996 for border demilitarization and security.
- **Charter** - The SCO Charter was signed in June 2002 and entered into force in September 2003.

Key Highlights of the Bishkek Declaration 2026

- **Regional Security and Counter-Terrorism**
 - **Combating the 'Three Evils'** - The declaration reaffirmed the uncompromising commitment to jointly fight Terrorism, Separatism, and Extremism.
 - **SCO-RATS Enhancement** - Member states emphasized strengthening the **Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (SCO-RATS)** as a pivotal mechanism for intelligence sharing and unified operations.
 - **Stability in Afghanistan**- SCO called for the establishment of an inclusive government in Afghanistan as vital for regional security, emphasizing the territory should not become a sanctuary for terror outfits.
 - **Drug Trafficking and Cybercrime** - Identified the illicit drug trade (originating from the Golden Crescent) and misuse of information technologies for radicalization as priority security challenges requiring immediate collaborative action.
- **Economic Connectivity and Development**
 - **Multilateral Trade Facilitation**- Focus on deepening economic cooperation, reducing non-tariff barriers, and utilizing national currencies for trade settlements to mitigate dependency on the US Dollar.
 - **Transport and Energy Corridors** - Prioritized the development of robust regional transport networks, infrastructure (like the International North-South Transport Corridor), and energy grids to foster integration.
- **Multilateralism and UN Reform**
 - **Upholding International Law**- Championed a multipolar world order based on the principles of the UN Charter, sovereignty, and non-interference in internal affairs.
 - **Rejecting Unilateralism** - Firmly opposed unilateral economic sanctions that violate international law and disrupt global supply chains.
 - **Reforming the UN**- Emphasized the comprehensive reform of the United Nations, including the Security Council, to ensure it reflects contemporary realities.

India's Stance and Contribution at the Summit

- **Focus on 'SECURE' Concept** - PM reiterated India's visionary 'SECURE' formula: Security, Economic development, Connectivity, Unity, Respect for sovereignty, and Environmental protection.
- **Connectivity with Sovereignty** - India, while supporting regional connectivity, maintained its consistent refusal to endorse China's **Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)** due to violations of Indian territorial integrity and sovereignty.
- **Focus on DPI and Tech** - Highlighted India's leadership in developing scalable, low-cost Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) to foster financial inclusion in other SCO states.
- **Tackling Pakistan and China on Terror-** Strongly reiterated India's demand to cease state-sponsored cross-border terrorism and oppose 'double standards' in labeling terrorists.



SCO BISHKEK DECLARATION 2026

Towards a Secure, Sustainable & Prosperous SCO Region

Adopted at the 25th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of State Meeting
Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic | 16 June 2026

VISION

Building a SCO Community with a Shared Future

Committed to multilateralism, mutual trust, equality, dialogue and respect for diversity of civilizations



SCO – STRONGER TOGETHER
ЕДИНСТВО В ДЕЙСТВИИ | 团结协作 | एकता में शक्ति

KEY PRINCIPLES REAFFIRMED

- ✓ Sovereign equality of states
- ✓ Non-alignment & non-interference
- ✓ Peaceful settlement of disputes
- ✓ Respect for territorial integrity
- ✓ Common, comprehensive, cooperative & sustainable security

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BISHKEK DECLARATION 2026

SECURITY & STABILITY

Joint action against terrorism, separatism, extremism & drug trafficking.
Strengthening regional security architecture.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Deepening trade, investment & connectivity.
Expanding use of national currencies.
Support for sustainable development & green economy.

CONNECTIVITY & INFRASTRUCTURE

Accelerating projects under the SCO Connectivity Strategy.
Enhancing transport, energy & digital connectivity.

CULTURAL & PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE TIES

Promoting cultural exchange, education, tourism & youth engagement.
Strengthening civilizational dialogue.

GLOBAL GOVERNANCE & MULTILATERALISM

Advocating a fair, just & multipolar world order.
Reforming global governance institutions to be more inclusive & representative.

CLIMATE ACTION & ENVIRONMENT

Reaffirming commitment to the Paris Agreement.
Cooperation on climate resilience, biodiversity conservation & water management.

MEMBERSHIP

India	Kazakhstan
China	Kyrgyz Republic
Russia	Pakistan
Uzbekistan	Tajikistan
Iran	Belarus

Observer States

- Afghanistan • Mongolia

Dialogue Partners

- Azerbaijan • Armenia • Cambodia
- Nepal • Türkiye • Sri Lanka
- Egypt • Qatar • Saudi Arabia
- UAE • Bahrain • Maldives • Kuwait

SPECIAL MENTION

SUPPORT FOR PEACE
The SCO remains committed to promoting peace & stability in Afghanistan and supporting its reconstruction.

CYBERSECURITY
Cooperation to counter cyber threats, ensure data security & promote safe digital ecosystems.

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION
Strengthening cooperation on disaster prevention, early warning & emergency response.

“ The Bishkek Declaration 2026 charts the path for a stronger, more united and resilient SCO, working together for the well-being of our peoples and a better future for generations to come. ”

WAY FORWARD
Implementation through the SCO 2035 Strategy and practical cooperation in all priority areas.

SCO 2035
Together Towards Tomorrow

Reference

[Indian Express | What does the Bishkek Declaration say?](#)