

Guidelines:

The articles below are intended to provide an introduction to China's economic relations with the other BRIC countries. We encourage you to delve deeper into the topic and the aspects that capture your interest. These discussions should be a fun and relatively stress-free way to learn about current issues regarding new opportunities and challenges for China in collaborating with other BRIC countries amid the global economic recession, but the quality of discussion depends on your efforts! Further research and exploration will allow you to contribute to discussions in a meaningful way.

Articles:

"BRICS Nations Plan New Bank to Bypass World Bank, IMF," *Bloomberg*, 21st March 2013

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-03-25/brics-nations-plan-new-bank-to-bypass-world-bank-imf.html>

"A 'BRICS' Bank? No Thanks, The IMF and World Bank Are Bad Enough,"

Forbes, 22 April 2013

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/laursonpieler/2013/04/22/a-brics-bank-no-thanks-the-imf-and-world-bank-are-bad-enough/>

"China and the BRICS: Unavoidable Hegemony?" *The Diplomat*, 29 March 2013

<http://thediplomat.com/china-power/china-and-the-brics-unavoidable-hegemony/>

"BRIC: China's Golden Opportunity," *Caixin Online*, 23rd April 2010

<http://english.caixin.com/2010-04-23/100138130.html>

Questions to Consider:

1. In your opinion, would a BRICS development bank signal an end to the unipolar world and challenge the western supremacy? What are opportunities and challenges that such a bank would present to China, the country that spearheaded the initiative?
2. Would China's growth alienate the other BRIC countries, or promote greater alliance among these emerging markets as they now have a representative balancing the United States?
3. How does political conflict such as China's border conflict with India and economic competition influence China's relations with the other BRIC countries? In your opinion, will trade ties and the need for a new global order prevail over social conflicts and cultural differences among these countries?