

## Philippines and Vietnam Cooperation in South China Sea

Recently, the Philippines and Vietnam have made significant strides in strengthening their **cooperation** in the <u>South China Sea</u>, despite opposition from **China, which also claims the region.** 

- The agreements between the two countries cover various aspects of their relationship, including maritime security, trade, and investment.
- The South China Sea is a marginal sea of the **Western Pacific Ocean**. It is bordered by Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and China.
  - It is connected by the Taiwan Strait with the East China Sea and by the Luzon Strait with the Philippine Sea (both marginal seas of the Pacific Ocean).
  - The South China Sea is a contested maritime area that is the subject of territorial disputes between six countries: China, Brunei, Taiwan, Vietnam, Malaysia, and the Philippines.



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