

SCO

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Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Founding Members (2001): **Recent Members:** Belarus *Minsk (2024) Russia Kyrgyzstan Uzbekistan Tajikistan Pakistan *Islamabad (2017)

Key Facts:

- Established: 2001, in Shanghai, China
- Charter Signed: 2002; came into force on 19th September 2003
- Goals:
 - Strengthen regional peace, stability, & cooperation
 - Combat terrorism, separatism, & extremism
 - Foster economic, political, & cultural collaboration
- Structure
 - Supreme Decision-making Body Council of Heads of State
 - Permanent Bodies Secretariat (Beijing) & Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (Tashkent)

- Official Languages: Russian & Chinese
- Headquarters: Beijing, China
- **SCO & India:** Varanasi has been nominated as the first ever SCO Tourism and Cultural Capital at the SCO summit in Samarkand, 2022





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