

# Singapore's Role in Emerging Global Governance Structures: Arctic Engagement and the Trans-Pacific Partnership

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## Abstract

This paper examines Singapore's strategic foreign policy approach within the context of contemporary global integration processes. A notable example of Singapore's forward-looking strategy is its application for observer status in the Arctic Council, reflecting its multidimensional national interests. Singapore seeks to contribute to mitigating climate change effects, particularly glacial melting, by applying its experience in carbon emission reduction and environmental governance. At the same time, the country demonstrates interest in the Arctic's natural resources and the growing strategic importance of the Northern Sea Route. The expansion of this route, which reduces shipping time compared to the Suez Canal and the Strait of Malacca, may significantly affect global trade flows and Singapore's position as a major maritime hub. The study further analyzes Singapore's modernization process in the second half of the twentieth century to explain its capacity to address twenty-first-century challenges. The close interconnection between domestic development and foreign policy priorities has enabled Singapore to maintain sustainable and dynamic growth while safeguarding its strategic interests. Special attention is devoted to Singapore's participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). As a large-scale trade initiative covering 40 percent of global trade, the TPP provides Singapore with opportunities to diversify its economy, expand market access—particularly to Canada and Mexico—and strengthen its specialization in intellectual property and high-value industries. The paper concludes that Singapore's engagement in such initiatives enhances its regional influence and reinforces its position within the evolving global economic order.

**Key words:** Singapore; TTP; strategy; policy; global