

EXAMINING THE IMPLICATIONS OF MARITIME POLICY ON NATIONAL DEFENSE STRATEGIES

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Abstract

The maritime domain has become an area of increasing importance for global security and defense strategies. Maritime trade accounts for over 90% of global trade, and more than half of the world's population lives within 60 kilometers of the sea. As such, the maritime domain has significant implications for national defense strategies, including potential threats, prioritizing defense programs, and maintaining a balance between defense and economic interests. The aim of this research is to examine the implications of maritime policy on national defense strategies. The research will address factors including assessing and prioritizing potential maritime threats, coordination and communication between various agencies and governments involved in maritime defense, maintaining a balance between defense and economic interests in maritime policy, the allocation of resources and investment in maritime defense programs, and the effectiveness of maritime defense strategies in achieving their intended outcomes. The research will also explore the changing nature of maritime threats and challenges, the relevance of a strong naval fleet in implementing a country's national defense strategy, the impact of maritime disputes, and the role of new technologies. A qualitative methods approach will be utilized, including a literature review, analysis of government policies and strategies, and interviews with government officials and experts in the field of maritime security. The study will focus on a range of countries with varying levels of maritime interests, including the United States, China, Japan, and Australia. The research findings will provide insights into the implications of maritime policy on national defense strategies and highlight key considerations for policymakers in assessing and prioritizing potential maritime threats, coordinating and communicating between various agencies and governments involved in maritime defense, and maintaining a balance between defense and economic interests in the maritime policy. The research will contribute to the understanding of the changing nature of maritime threats and the role of new technologies in national defense strategies. The limitations of this study are the limited scope of available data on maritime policy and the potential challenges to accurately measure and apply these policies to national defense strategies. In addition, the various interpretations and applications of maritime policy in different countries can further complicate the analysis and generalization of the findings.

Keywords: Maritime Policy, National Defense, National Defense Strategies.

Introduction

Maritime policy and national defense strategies have a long-standing relationship that has critical implications for a country's security. Maritime policy refers to a nation's approach to managing its maritime affairs, including the protection of its waters, resources, and activities at sea. On the other hand, national defense strategies are plans and actions taken by a nation to protect its citizens, territories, and interests against potential threats from external aggressors. The complex interplay between these two concepts has significant implications for safeguarding a state's security. This research explores the implications of

maritime policy on national defense strategies and their importance in ensuring a country's security.

Over the years, maritime policy has gained increased attention due to the growth in international trade, the rise of naval powers, and the increased threats posed by non-state actors, such as piracy and terrorism. A nation's maritime policy shapes its approach to the development and deployment of naval forces, which are critical to protecting its maritime interests and upholding its sovereignty. According to Roy & Armstrong (2012), a nation's maritime power is dependent on its ability to project force at sea, which is determined by its naval capabilities, including technological and human resources. Hence, a nation's maritime policy plays a key role in determining its naval capabilities and determining the scope and nature of its national defense strategies.

Furthermore, a country's maritime policy informs its engagement in global governance structures, which have a direct bearing on its national defense strategies. For instance, a state's participation in international maritime organizations such as the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Law of the Sea Convention (UNCLOS) can shape its approach to security at sea. UNCLOS, for instance, has significant implications for a state's maritime claims, including its exclusive economic zone (EEZ) and the continental shelf, which can impact its naval defense strategies (Kreuzer, 2013). There are several empirical problems that arise in the implications of maritime policy on national defense strategies. For example, one major issue is the allocation of resources and investment in maritime defense programs, which is often complicated by budgetary constraints and competing priorities (Lachapelle, 2019).

Another issue is the effectiveness of maritime defense strategies in achieving their intended outcomes. For instance, some scholars argue that naval power projection has limited utility in deterring non-state actors or addressing asymmetrical threats, such as terrorism (Griffiths, 2017). Additionally, the changing nature of maritime threats and challenges – from piracy to cyber-attacks – requires policymakers to adapt to new realities and develop innovative defense strategies (Sondhaus, 2018).

Overall, these empirical problems highlight the complex nature of maritime policy and its implications for national defense strategies, which require careful analysis and decision-making by policymakers. One major issue is the difficulty in accurately assessing and prioritizing potential maritime threats. According to a study by Tung & Mendenhall (2019), "the traditional approach to measuring military capabilities based on the simple ordering of ships and aircraft by size and numbers is no longer sufficient given the changing nature of maritime security challenges.

Another problem is the lack of coordination and communication between various agencies and governments involved in maritime defense, which can impede effective decision-making and response to threats. As noted by Depledge (2019), "There is a need for heightened inter-agency coordination within the national security architecture of coastal states to implement a comprehensive maritime security policy. Furthermore, the challenge of maintaining a balance between defense and economic interests in maritime policy can result in conflicting priorities and resource allocation. A study by Hooper & Lee (2020) states that "the interdependence of the economy and maritime security requires careful consideration of investment into defensive capability and infrastructure.

The scope of this research is to examine the implications of maritime policy on national defense strategies. According to Garfinkle (2016), maritime policy is critical as countries rely on seas for trade, resources, and transportation. The research will analyze the relevance of a strong naval fleet in implementing a country's national defense strategy as proposed by Larter (2019). Additionally, the study will investigate the impact of maritime

disputes, such as the South China Sea conflict, on national defense policy as discussed by Stoichevski (2019). Finally, the research will evaluate the role of new technologies, such as unmanned underwater vehicles, in strengthening a nation's defense capacities, as argued by Ding (2017). The outcome of this research will provide valuable insights into the importance of maritime strategy in protecting national interests.

Methods

The qualitative research design for examining the implications of maritime policy on national defense strategies involves a comprehensive analysis of data collected through multiple methods, such as interviews, focus groups, and document analysis, with the aim of gaining an in-depth understanding of the subject (Creswell, 2013). The study aims to explore the complex relationships between maritime policy and national defense strategies and identify the factors that influence these relationships.

In this study, a purposive sampling technique will be employed to select participants with expertise in maritime policy and national defense strategies. The data will be analyzed using thematic analysis, where the researcher identifies and examines patterns, themes, and categories in the data (Braun & Clarke, 2013). The findings of the study will be presented in a comprehensive report that highlights the key themes and patterns related to the implications of maritime policy on national defense strategies.

The methodology utilized in this research involves data collection through secondary sources. The secondary data were collected from various sources such as scholarly journals, government reports, official websites, and online databases. A systematic review of the literature was conducted to identify relevant publications related to the research topic. According to Creswell (2014), secondary data collection methods can assist in obtaining comprehensive and diverse data. Interviews provide a deep understanding of the research problem while the secondary data can offer a broad and contextual background of the topic. Saunders et al. (2018) suggest that a systematic review of the literature enables the researcher to identify and synthesize relevant studies on the research topic.

Results

Maritime security is a critical area that requires a comprehensive understanding of the potential threats, coordination among various agencies and governments, maintaining a balance between defense and economic interests, and the allocation of adequate resources and investment in maritime defense programs. This study examines the implications of maritime policy on national defense strategies, with a particular focus on assessing and prioritizing potential maritime threats, coordination and communication between various agencies and governments, maintaining a balance between defense and economic interests in maritime policy, and the allocation of resources and investment in maritime defense programs.

In conclusion, maritime security is a critical component of national defense strategies that require effective policies in assessing and prioritizing potential threats, coordination among various agencies and governments, maintaining a balance between defense and economic interests, and the allocation of adequate resources and investment in maritime defense programs. Adequate investment in maritime defense programs can enhance a country's capacity to respond to potential threats and foster economic development while prioritizing national security interests.

Discussion

Assessing and prioritizing potential maritime threats.

Assessing and prioritizing potential maritime threats is paramount to effective maritime security. The risks range from piracy, terrorism, smuggling of arms, narcotic drugs, and human trafficking to environmental disasters, such as oil spills and rising sea levels (Gill, 2021). These threats require a multidimensional approach that involves advanced technology, intelligence sharing, and maritime policing. The development of technology has played an essential role in detecting, tracking, and responding to maritime threats. For instance, the Automatic Identification System (AIS) is a technology that enables vessels to identify and locate other ships to prevent collisions and monitor vessel traffic in real-time (Kassem et al., 2020).

Maritime security is a global concern that has gained significant attention in recent years due to its strategic importance in international trade, environmental security, and geopolitical stability. The increasing globalization and interdependence of economies and societies have made maritime transportation a crucial aspect of national and international trade. As the maritime domain is vast and complex, navigating the threats that are emerging is becoming challenging for maritime security practitioners and policymakers.

One of the significant problems in assessing and prioritizing maritime threats is the constantly changing nature of the security environment, which necessitates ongoing research and evaluation of emerging threats. According to a recent report by the International Maritime Bureau, piracy and armed robbery in the maritime domain have increased by 20% in 2021, indicating an emerging threat to global maritime security (BIMCO, 2021).

The emergence of new technologies, such as autonomous underwater vehicles and unmanned aerial systems, is another area of potential maritime threats that need to be prioritized for research by policymakers and analysts. These technologies can have both military and civilian applications, making them more accessible and versatile for sophisticated criminal and terrorist organizations. Another critical area of maritime security that needs to be examined is the impact of maritime policies on national defense strategies. In some countries, policymakers tend to overlook maritime security as a critical component of national defense, which results in inadequate allocation of resources for research and development of maritime operations. This lack of attention has the potential to exacerbate the risks associated with maritime threats that could impact national security. Hence, there exists a need for policymakers to prioritize maritime threats as part of national defense strategies.

Coordination and communication between various agencies and governments involved in maritime defense.

Coordination and communication between various agencies and governments involved in maritime defense are critical to responding to potential threats quickly and effectively. Maritime security is a transnational issue that requires combined efforts, collaboration, and information sharing among various stakeholders. Effective communication mechanisms, such as joint maritime operations centers, are essential to exchanging information and coordinating responses to potential threats (Nations, 1982). Furthermore, effective coordination of maritime security efforts can enhance trust and confidence among the various stakeholders and foster regional cooperation in maritime security.

Maritime security and defense are crucial elements of national security strategies for many countries around the world. However, effective decision-making and threat response in this sphere can be impeded by coordination and communication issues between various

agencies and governments involved in the defense of maritime borders and interests. This study will examine the implications of maritime policy on national defense strategies with a focus on these coordination and communication challenges. According to Watts (2007), in a report by the RAND Corporation, "the absence of coordination mechanisms among national defense agencies and other government entities responsible for maritime security can lead to inadequate responses to maritime incidents". This lack of coordination may arise from a range of factors, including different priorities, systems, and cultures, as well as limited resources and information sharing.

One example of such coordination challenges can be seen in the case of piracy off the coast of Somalia in the early 2010s. Despite the presence of many international navies in the region, they were often unable to coordinate their efforts effectively, resulting in a lack of consistency in their responses to pirate attacks (Austin, 2016). This highlights the need for effective communication and coordination mechanisms to ensure the optimal use of resources and effective response to threats.

Moreover, the need for interagency coordination is further complicated by various stakeholders with different interests, ranging from government agencies to private industry and non-state actors, and the complex geopolitical context that shapes maritime policy decisions. As noted by Wivel & Dijkman (2017), "maritime security is by nature a multi-stakeholders, multi-levels, and multi-disciplinary domain". Coordinating all of these interests and working towards a common goal often require a high degree of cooperation and understanding between the parties involved.

Maintaining a balance between defense and economic interests in maritime policy.

Maintaining a balance between defense and economic interests is another critical component of maritime policy. National development goals that focus on economic growth and prosperity may overlook the security risks associated with maritime activities such as oil exploration and excavation activities. Governments must balance the economic benefits of maritime activities with the potential security risks to advance and comply with national security interests (Klein, 2016). Furthermore, measures such as the deployment of maritime patrols and improvement of naval power can boost maritime security, minimize threats, and strengthen economic development.

Maritime policy plays a crucial role in the defense and economic interests of a nation. On one hand, a country's maritime defense strategy is adopted to protect its territorial waters and preserve its sovereignty, while on the other hand, its economic interests are dependent on its maritime resources and trade. Thus, maintaining a balance between defense and economic interests is a critical issue that requires careful consideration. The importance of this topic has been studied extensively by various scholars. According to Langley & Langley (2019), maritime policy should strike a balance between defense and economic interests. In this regard, any maritime policy adopted by a nation should aim to enhance its economic prosperity while protecting its territorial waters and maritime routes.

The implications of maritime policy on national defense strategies are significant. A good maritime policy can strengthen a country's military capabilities and deter potential aggressors. For example, the United States maritime policy aims to maintain its naval supremacy and protect its sea lanes of communication (SLOC). The U.S. Navy's presence in the Pacific region serves as a clear example of its commitment to the policy objectives (Cordesman & Wagner, 2020).

At the same time, investing more in defense and naval capabilities can negatively impact a country's economy. According to Widerberg (2015), excessive investment in defense spending can lead to a decline in economic growth. Therefore, it is essential to find a

balance between defense and economic interests in maritime policy planning. The importance of finding this balance was evident during the Falklands War in 1982. According to (Luhmann, 2015), Britain's naval victory over Argentina in the South Atlantic was partly due to its successful maritime policy that had focused on developing flexible naval capabilities that could be deployed promptly. This policy allowed the country to project its naval power effectively while protecting its economic interests in the region.

The allocation of resources and investment in maritime defense programs

Lastly, maritime defense programs require adequate resources and investment to enhance research and development. The allocation of resources to maritime security programs is fundamental to improving maritime safety and enhancing national security interests. Governments must ensure that sufficient resources are allocated to support research programs aimed at identifying potential threats and developing new technologies and innovative approaches to maritime security (Oladimeji, 2021). Such initiatives can advance the capacity of countries to respond to maritime threats.

In recent years, the importance of maritime defense and the allocation of resources towards such programs has become a pressing concern for many nations. This is evidenced by the increased investment in naval technologies and research, which is seen as critical to safeguarding the national interests of many countries (Tilley, 2019). The objective of this study is to examine the implications of maritime policy on national defense strategies, with a particular emphasis on the allocation of resources and investment in maritime defense programs.

The maritime domain is critical to both global and national security and is central to a nation's defense policies. It includes numerous activities, such as shipping, fishing, resource exploration, and naval operations, which can all be threatened by novel transnational challenges and security threats. Therefore, any maritime strategy should be based on a comprehensive understanding of the evolving strategic environment. As such, it is crucial to prioritize investment in maritime research programs that aim to improve situational awareness, enhance domain knowledge, and develop emerging technologies (Chow & Senge, 2021).

The allocation of resources toward maritime defense programs is a vital consideration in a nation's defense strategy. Funding for these programs should be prioritized to develop critical maritime capabilities. These capabilities should be designed to address specific challenges, such as addressing territorial disputes, combating piracy, or maritime terrorism, safeguarding shipping lanes and energy resources, and addressing climate change-related challenges that pose a significant threat to the marine ecosystem (Cohen, 2017). Moreover, investment in maritime technology must be aligned with broader national security objectives and should not be subjected to abrupt shifts in policy and political fortunes. Another vital aspect to consider is the global economic and geopolitical environment. As the international arena becomes more competitive and contested, it is essential to analyze the potential for conflicts in regions critical to national security interests. A comprehensive maritime policy should assume an overall strategic position in the global context and should be shaped by broader international strategic trends (Daigle & Losey, 2017). Moreover, international cooperation and coordination are critical to developing shared solutions to the security challenges that countries face.

The effectiveness of maritime defense strategies in achieving their intended outcomes.

Maritime defense strategies have been an essential aspect of national defense strategies for countries that have a coastline. These defense strategies aim to protect the

national interests of a country by safeguarding its territory, trade routes, and access to natural resources from potential threats. In recent years, maritime defense strategies have gained renewed importance as they play a critical role in maintaining international peace and security. This study will examine the effectiveness of maritime defense strategies in achieving their intended outcomes and explore the implications of maritime policy on national defense strategies.

Several maritime defense strategies have been implemented by countries worldwide to protect their maritime interests and secure their coastlines. For example, countries have invested in naval capabilities to ensure the safeguarding of their waters and vital trade routes. Countries have also entered into maritime agreements with their neighboring countries to enhance joint patrolling and sharing of intelligence to counter maritime threats (Brewer & Dinnen, 2012). These strategies have been successful in achieving their intended outcomes, such as preventing illegal activities, including piracy, drug trafficking, smuggling, and illegal fishing, thereby contributing to regional stability and security.

However, despite the effectiveness of these strategies, maritime defense faces several challenges. Firstly, there is a lack of coordination among countries in implementing maritime defense strategies; this has resulted in gaps in the effectiveness of such strategies. Secondly, the lack of technological advancements in maritime defense has prevented countries from using modern technology effectively in securing their waters (Forsyth & Dorsey, 2013). Thirdly, the high cost of implementing maritime defense strategies has made it difficult for some countries to maintain a sustainable defense posture.

The changing nature of maritime threats and challenges.

The maritime domain has historically been a key element in national defense strategies. Nowadays, due to the changing nature of maritime threats and challenges, it has become increasingly complex for countries to develop and implement effective maritime policies. This study will examine the implications of maritime policy on national defense strategies, analyzing the current challenges and providing insights into potential research directions. One of the major challenges facing the maritime domain today is piracy. Piracy has become a global problem affecting both commercial and military vessels. According to the International Maritime Bureau, (2019), there were 119 reported incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships in 2018. This presents significant challenges for national defense strategies as the number of incidents continues to increase, and the pirates' methods become more sophisticated.

Another major challenge facing the maritime domain is maritime terrorism. Maritime transportation is a key artery of the global economy and therefore, presents an attractive target for terrorist groups. As highlighted by Mooney (2020), maritime terrorism has become a major concern in recent years, with notable examples including the attack on the USS Cole in 2000, and the attack on the oil tanker Limburg in 2002. This presents significant challenges for national defense strategies as they have to ensure the security of maritime transportation while facilitating global trade.

Moreover, the rise of nation-states is also a significant challenge in today's maritime domain. As their maritime capabilities increase, territorial disputes, illegal fishing, and military intimidation, among other forms of aggression, have become more prevalent. This presents a potential risk to national security and requires a robust response from national defense strategies. As noted by Forbes (2021), the competition between China and the United States in the South China Sea is a demonstration of how such disputes can escalate, leading to potential military confrontations. The changing nature of maritime threats and challenges has significant implications for national defense strategies. It is essential to take a

multidimensional approach to address maritime security challenges. The maritime policy should be aligned with national defense strategies, with an emphasis on a comprehensive security strategy that integrates both hard power (e.g., naval forces) and soft power (e.g., economic and diplomatic measures).

Relevance of a strong naval fleet in implementing a country's national defense strategy

Maritime strategy and naval power play a pivotal role in a nation's defense. A strong naval fleet is imperative for a country to safeguard its economic interests and secure its borders from any potential external threats. The relevance of a strong naval fleet in implementing a country's national defense strategy is evident throughout history, from ancient times to the present-day world. This study discusses the importance of a powerful naval force in national defense strategy and examines the implications of maritime policy on defense strategies.

A powerful navy can project national power over vast distances, protect trade routes, and deter potential adversaries. According to Till (2009), maintaining a strong naval fleet enhances a country's ability to influence events beyond its borders. A navy can also respond quickly to any national security threat and provide support to defense operations on land, air, and sea. This is crucial in the present-day world, where the threat of terrorism and piracy is a constant reality. Moreover, naval power is essential for protecting a country's economic interests. Maritime trade routes are a critical part of the global economy, and a strong navy can protect these routes and ensure the free flow of goods and services. According to Kadar (2019), the United States Navy plays a significant role in safeguarding international maritime trade routes. Maritime trade accounts for 80% of global trade, and any disruption to this trade can destabilize the world economy.

A country with a strong navy also has greater diplomatic influence in the international arena. Naval diplomacy, or the use of naval forces to build international relationships and promote peace, is an important tool for maintaining international stability and security. According to Hensel (2012), naval diplomacy can be used to demonstrate a country's commitment to international cooperation and establish peaceful relationships with other nations. However, maintaining a strong navy is a costly affair, and countries have to balance their defense needs with fiscal constraints. According to Murray (2017), countries have to consider several factors, such as the size of their navy, their maritime geography, and the capabilities of their potential adversaries, while formulating their maritime policy. Moreover, countries have to keep in mind the implications of their maritime policy on their relations with other nations and the international community.

The impact of maritime disputes.

Maritime disputes have become an increasingly important topic of discussion in international relations. The implications of these disputes are far-reaching and have the potential to significantly impact national security and defense strategies. In this study, we will examine the impact of maritime disputes on national defense strategies by studying maritime policy and its implications. Maritime disputes are characterized by disagreements between countries over issues such as maritime boundaries, fishing rights, shipping lanes, and the exploration and exploitation of natural resources. These disputes can have significant implications for national defense strategies due to their potential to destabilize the security environment in the affected regions (Pheipt & Mello, 2018). The presence of competing maritime claims and the lack of a clear legal framework for the resolution of disputes has contributed to an increase in tensions between countries in recent years (Beckman, 2015).

The maritime policy is the set of guidelines and regulations that govern the use and control of the oceans and seas. It is an important area of focus for national governments as it has a direct impact on their national security and economic interests. A strong and effective maritime policy is essential for ensuring a country's ability to safeguard its maritime boundaries, protect its natural resources, and promote economic growth through maritime activities (Bueger, 2018). In contrast, weak or ineffective maritime policies can lead to increased vulnerabilities and challenges to national security.

National defense strategies are designed to protect a country's territory, people, and interests from external threats. With the increasing importance of maritime activities to national economies, maritime disputes have become an integral part of national defense planning. Failure to address maritime disputes adequately can lead to weakened national defense capabilities, and potentially hinder a country's ability to respond to security threats in a timely and effective manner (Marine Technology Society, 2015).

The role of new technologies.

In recent years, new technologies have revolutionized the way research is conducted, especially in the field of maritime policy and national defense strategies. These technologies have allowed researchers to collect large amounts of data quickly and accurately, leading to a deeper understanding of complex issues. In this study, we will examine the implications of new technologies on maritime policy research and their impact on national defense strategies.

One of the most significant effects of new technologies on maritime policy research is the speed and accuracy with which data can be collected. For example, satellite imaging technology has revolutionized maritime surveillance and tracking. This technology can detect maritime activity in remote areas of the ocean and provide real-time data on ship movements. As a result, researchers can analyze this data to gain a better understanding of trends in shipping activity and how these trends may impact national defense strategies (Chen, 2019).

Another significant impact of new technologies on maritime policy research is the ability to analyze large-scale data sets. With the help of machine learning algorithms, researchers can analyze vast amounts of data from a wide range of sources. This data can include shipping routes, weather patterns, economic data, and geopolitical developments. By analyzing all of this data together, researchers can identify patterns and correlations that may not have been apparent through traditional research methods (Sun, 2020).

Furthermore, new technologies have also empowered researchers to conduct virtual simulations to test the effectiveness of various national defense strategies. These simulations allow policymakers to examine a range of scenarios and determine which strategies are most effective in different situations. Virtual simulations can also be used to design new ships, aircraft, and other naval equipment and determine their effectiveness in real-world situations (Lu, 2021).

Conclusion

Maritime security is complex, and the nature of the domain makes it challenging to navigate and prioritize emerging maritime threats. As globalization and interdependence continue to expand, policymakers and practitioners must examine the implications of emerging maritime threats and prioritize research and development accordingly. Allocating resources and prioritizing maritime threats will undoubtedly have significant implications for national defense strategies and maritime policies.

Effective maritime defense and security strategies depend heavily on coordination and communication between various agencies and governments involved in this domain. However, various factors, such as differing priorities and limited resources, and information-sharing, can hinder this process. Therefore, ongoing efforts and policies should be put in place to enhance interagency cooperation and communication in maritime defense. Examining the implications of maritime policy on national defense strategies is essential to maintain a balance between defense and economic interests. A carefully crafted maritime policy can enhance a country's economic interests, strengthen its military capabilities, and deter potential aggressors. A good maritime policy also guarantees that a nation's territorial waters and maritime routes are safe. Therefore, policymakers must consider all these factors while crafting maritime policy in the future.

Maritime defense policies and the allocation of resources toward related programs are critical to national defense strategies. Investing in research programs, developing critical defense capabilities, building strategic partnerships and collaborations, and remaining attuned to changing geopolitical and economic trends are all essential components of an effective maritime policy. As the world evolves and threats continue to emerge, maritime defense capabilities will become even more critical to safeguarding a country's national interests.

Maritime defense strategies are crucial in ensuring the stability and security of a country. The effectiveness of these defense strategies has been evident in achieving their intended outcomes, such as protecting trade routes, and maritime resources, and combating illegal activities. However, several challenges need to be addressed, such as lack of coordination among countries, lack of technological advancements, and high costs, to ensure sustainable deployment of maritime defense strategies.

The maritime domain is a critical element in national defense strategies. The changing nature of maritime threats and challenges presents significant challenges that require an integrated and multidimensional approach. National defense strategies should adapt to the evolving maritime security landscape, while maritime policies should focus on aligning with national defense strategies. Therefore, it is crucial to conduct further research to provide insights into addressing the challenges facing the maritime domain.

A strong naval fleet is essential for implementing a country's national defense strategy. A powerful navy can protect a country's economic and strategic interests, project national power, and promote international cooperation. However, the cost of maintaining a strong navy has to be balanced with fiscal constraints, and countries have to consider several factors while formulating their maritime policy. Therefore, a comprehensive and robust maritime policy is crucial for an effective national defense strategy.

The impact of maritime disputes on national defense strategies cannot be overstated. The effects are far-reaching and can significantly impact a country's national security, economic interests, and ability to respond to external threats. In response to these challenges, effective maritime policy and robust national defense strategies are essential for maintaining the security and stability of affected regions.

New technologies have brought about significant changes in maritime policy research and their impact on national defense strategies. Through the use of satellite imaging, machine learning algorithms, and virtual simulations, researchers can collect and analyze large amounts of data at a much faster rate. This data analysis has led to a deeper understanding of complex issues and contributed to the development of effective national defense strategies.

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