

Global Diplomacy Flashpoints: Key International Relations and Cross-Border

World Diplomacy · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. As of June 2026, which two African nations have publicly accused each other of supporting rival groups, leading Sudan to recall its ambassador from Addis Ababa?

- A) Ethiopia and Sudan**
- B) Kenya and Somalia
- C) Nigeria and Cameroon
- D) Egypt and Libya

2. In May 2026, the United States sanctioned the Persian Gulf Strait Authority (PGSA) as part of its 'Economic Fury' campaign. This designation is linked to which country's alleged actions to impose tolls and control commercial traffic in a vital waterway?

- A) Iraq
- B) Iran**
- C) Saudi Arabia
- D) Oman

3. The Philippines and Vietnam, both claimants in the South China Sea, recently renewed a key defense cooperation agreement. What fundamental principle did they declare as 'non-negotiable' regarding this disputed sea?

- A) Joint resource extraction
- B) Military alliances against China
- C) Peace, stability, and freedom of navigation**
- D) Exclusive fishing rights for both nations

4. In early June 2026, China's Director-General of the Department of Latin American and Caribbean Affairs stated that China's growing ties with the region are not directed against any third party. What is the primary basis he cited for these relations?

- A) Geopolitical dominance
- B) Military expansion
- C) Mutual benefit and win-win outcomes**
- D) Conditional aid and loans

5. The European Union and Kenya announced deepening their strategic partnership in June 2026. Which of the following areas was NOT explicitly mentioned as a focus for this reinforced cooperation?

- A) Trade and digital transformation
- B) Sustainable investment
- C) Space exploration**
- D) Technological innovation

6. As of June 2026, the United States imposed new sanctions targeting Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel and other individuals and entities. What is a primary justification cited by the U.S. for these sanctions?

- A) Cuba's nuclear program
- B) Subversive anti-American activities and support for 'radical left-wing violence'**
- C) Cuba's involvement in regional trade disputes
- D) Cuba's human rights record regarding animal welfare

7. Australia and New Zealand are increasing cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region. Which of the following countries' relations is also a converging point for their discussions, alongside defense and China?

- A) Fiji
- B) Papua New Guinea
- C) Solomon Islands**
- D) Vanuatu

8. In early June 2026, the United States State Department designated five entities and five individuals as part of a push to end Cuba's 'campaign of political, ideological, and institutional warfare against the United States.' These designations were made under which Executive Order?

- A) Executive Order 14008
- B) Executive Order 13959
- C) Executive Order 14404**
- D) Executive Order 13848

9. The EU-Mercosur Partnership Agreement, which provisionally applied on May 1, 2026, aims to reduce import duties and increase quotas. Which of the following is a stated benefit of this agreement for the EU?

- A) Increased reliance on US agricultural imports
- B) Securing sustainable access to critical raw materials**
- C) Diversifying trade away from Asian markets exclusively
- D) Eliminating all environmental regulations on trade

10. As of June 2026, Russia and Belarus are reportedly preparing for potential escalation. According to Ukrainian intelligence, what is a credible scenario being developed regarding operations from Belarusian territory?

- A) A joint naval exercise in the Black Sea
- B) An attempt to establish a buffer zone in Ukraine's Chernihiv oblast**
- C) A cyber-attack targeting NATO's central command
- D) The deployment of peacekeeping forces in Eastern Europe

11. In May 2026, the European Union suspended imports of several Brazilian animal products, including beef and poultry. What was the stated reason for this suspension?

- A) Lack of adherence to EU environmental standards
- B) Failure to comply with EU antimicrobial standards**
- C) Concerns over unfair trade practices
- D) Insufficient safety testing for new animal breeds

12. As of June 2026, Japan and the Philippines are enhancing their bilateral partnership through military technology transfers and the resolution of maritime boundary disputes. What is a primary stated outcome of this enhanced cooperation?

- A) To challenge China's naval dominance exclusively
- B) To strengthen both nations' ability to withstand PRC coercive activities**
- C) To establish a joint space exploration program
- D) To promote tourism between the two countries