

Brandt Line

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In the **1980s**, economists developed the '**Brandt Line**', a **curve** that more accurately **divided** the world into the **economic North** and **South**.



[ref-research gate]

About the Brandt Line:

- The Brandt Line is a visual depiction of the **North-South divide** between their economies, based on **GDP (Gross Domestic Product) per capita**.
- It encircles the world at a **latitude of 30° N**, passing between **North and Central America**, north of **Africa**, the **Middle East** and most of East Asia, but **lowered** towards the **south** to include **Japan**, **Australia**, and **New Zealand** above the line.

About the Global South:

- Global South is an '**informal grouping**', that refers to the **developing**, often **deprived**, **former colonised** nations around the world.
- Such countries are largely concentrated in **Africa**, **Latin America**, **Asia**, and **Oceania**.
 - **Australia** even when lying in the **Southern Hemisphere**, belongs to the Global North.
- In **1969**, American anti-war activist **Carl Oglesby** campaigned against the oppression by 'the North' (the US, Europe, Russia, etc.) of the '**Global South**', which led to the origination of the term.
- The **UN Office for South-South Cooperation** (UNOSSC) was set up by the UN General Assembly in 1974, to coordinate **South-South** (amongst the **Global South**) and **triangular cooperation** (with Developed countries or agencies), working along with the **G-77**.

The Group of 77 (G-77) countries:

- In **1964**, the **Group of 77** (G-77) **countries** became signatories to a '**Joint Declaration**' at the **first** session of the **UNCTAD** (UN Conference on Trade and Development) in Geneva, becoming the largest **intergovernmental organisation** of developing countries.
- The '**Joint Declaration**' mandated to "**articulate** and **promote** their collective **economic** interests and enhance their **joint negotiating capacity** on all major **international** economic issues within the UN system".
- The **G-77** in current time has retained its name, despite its expansion to **134 countries**.
- It is also referred to as '**G-77+China**' in most multilateral fora as **China doesn't** belong to the grouping.