

THE CV OF THE WORLD'S SUPERPOWERS

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Abstract: We already know that not all states can become world superpowers. Compared to Romania, the United States of America is 90 times more economically powerful, the European Union 60 times, while India or China are each 70 times more populated and Russia is 70 times larger in area. These 5 heavyweights of the world compete, they are at war but also form alliances of mutual aid. Forming a matrix with 14 analysis criteria, advantages with plus points and weaknesses with minus points, numbered between 0 and +5 or -5 points, including forecasts for the years 2050 and 2100, the top for the year 2025 came out : 1 USA, 2 India, 3 China, 4 EU and 5 Russia, but with major changes to come by the end of the 21st century.

Key words: great powers, ranking, advantages, weaknesses, year 2050, year 2100

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INTRODUCTION

Mountains have always represented a stop, a natural barrier, but at the same time a place of refuge, a source of water, wood and hunting ground. The plane, however, represents the vital space for food production, the place of great civilizations, of the great cities of today, but it is also in the open fields that the greatest invasions, wars and conquests took place. Geography represents fate, the destiny of a nation.

Some of the newest and most developed works on geopolitics have appeared around it. Among them are: The Future of Geography (Marshall, 2024), The Revenge of Geography: What Maps Tell Us About Future Conflicts and the

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Fight Against Destiny (Kaplan, 2023), The Power of Geography: Ten Maps That Reveal the Future of the World (Marshall, 2024), The Ages of Globalization: Geography, Technology, and Institutions (Sachs, 2025), Prisoners of Geography (Marshall, 2025), Rivers of Power: How a Force of Nature Built Kingdoms, Destroyed Civilizations, and Shapes the World We Live in (Smith, 2023), The Conquest of the Rocky Mountains: How Geography Determines America's Role in the World (Kaplan, 2018), Naval Power or the Geopolitics of the Black Sea and the Pontic Space (Filip, 2013). In all of them it is demonstrated that relief, waters and climate have defined civilizations.

This field fascinates the world of geopolitics precisely because of the influence it has over the world. Geography does not change, climate does not change, but there are other aspects that can make all the difference. These are: religion, infrastructure, overpopulation and geopolitical friendship, resource trade or food security (Iacuone, Ferrari and Fuschi 2024; Kearns, 2010). Between the European Union and Russia there is a smooth space, a huge, fertile plain, perfectly functional in a geographical context that has supported a demographic flow in both sides for centuries, but currently blocked geopolitically by the war in Ukraine, on the other hand, the natural border between China and Pakistan is downright criminal, with mountains exceeding 8,000 meters, with steep valleys, landslides and streams without a meadow (Stupariu, 2023). A devastating natural border that leaves no room for good decisions. Including the war with India, the province of Kashmir being on the verge of nuclear conflagration. On the Pakistani side there is an overpopulated area, with multimillion cities: Rawalpindi-Islamabad 7 million inhabitants, Peshawar 5 million, Lahore-Faisalabad with 25 million or Multan with 5 million, all crammed into the immediate exit of the Indus from the mountains. This population is dense, Islamist, fierce and warlike. On the Chinese side, the mountains continue for another 200 km, followed by the Tarim desert depression for 900 km until you reach the first millionaire city, Urumqi 5 million, but from here to Shanghai there are another 4,000 km, yellow, Taoist, Confucian and Buddhist population, totally different from Pakistani Islam. The chance of making friends is almost zero, but that 1% is more than 0%. This small chance has led to the creation of a large highway and pipeline corridor, an economic axis that defies the impossible. Furthermore, Japan's rapprochement with China, or especially South Korea, should have led to customs unions, but no, just like in the case of the EU with the Russian Federation, where although there are smooth spaces or calm seas, geopolitical boundaries have been drawn with a harder role than the limit imposed by geography.

The proximity of the states is less important than the location of the population. The USA and Russia are separated by only 20 km on the mainland, or only 3 km on the nearest islands, but both the Russian part where Siberia is located and the US part where the state of Alaska extends, are the areas of exploitation, almost deserted, far from the big cities. The same is the proximity of China to India dominated by the frozen and steep deserts of the Himalayas.

Geography, religion, ideology, alliances, resources, proximity, industrialization, or diplomacy can be advantages or obstacles in the assertion of global power by great powers. But which countries are advantaged, which are favored for world domination according to these criteria, and how will events evolve by 2050, but also by 2100?

To get an idea, we developed a strategy of advantage: geographical, geopolitical, cultural, religious, demographic, but also future evolution, a kind of CV of the great powers.

Between 1 and 5 points are awarded for advantages, and between -1 and -5 points for disadvantages depending on their severity. The matrix includes 11 current criteria, a criterion of the greatest advantages but also vulnerabilities, as well as two criteria of future evolution, for the year 2050 and for the year 2100.

The CV of every major world power

USA, China, India, European Union and Russia (Figure 1).

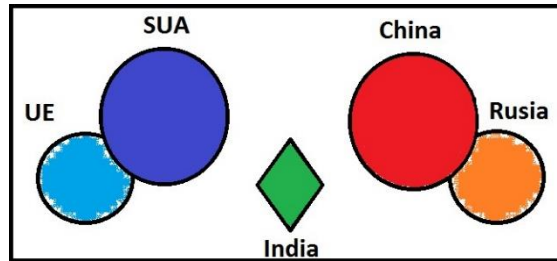


Figure 1. The world's superpowers

Source: processed by the authors

The economic growth of 5% per year in Asia and 3% in Africa, but also the demographic growth of over 80 million people per year globally, promises the emergence of several economic powers, with a number of states with significant influence such as: Japan, Brazil, Canada, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Mexico, Iran, Argentina, Australia or South Africa, but also states that promise a lot for the future such as: Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Egypt, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Philippines or Colombia. But in this article, the CV of the great economic powers such as the USA and the EU, commercial and demographic powers such as China, demographic colossus such as India and old power with abundant surface and resources such as Russia was made.

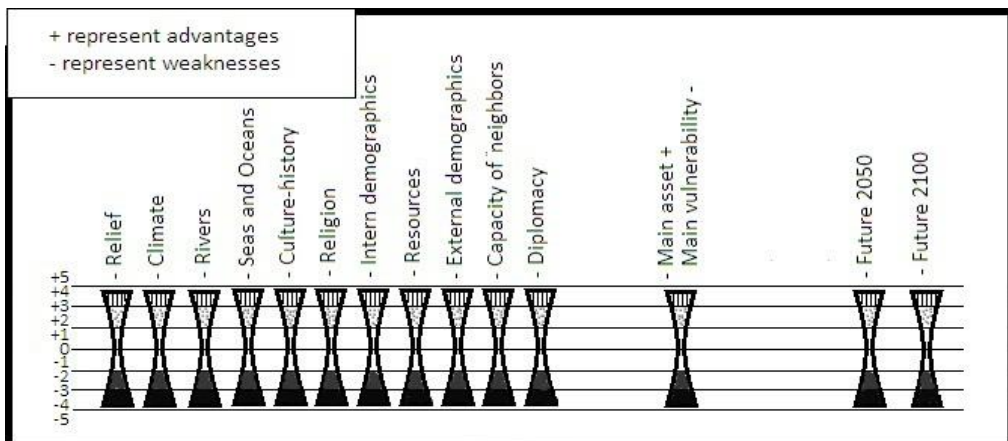


Figure 2. The matrix developed to calculate the advantages and weaknesses of great powers

Source: processed by the authors

14 indicators were added to the analysis, marked with + if they bring value and with – if they are an impediment, on a value scale from 0 to plus or minus 5, explaining each score with arguments that can be discussed at length, but which provide a first benchmark in the analysis of competitiveness between the great world powers.

1 USA

The world's leading economic power by nominal GDP, 50% more than the EU or China and 6 times more than Japan, the USA has continental dimensions (as large as the entire continent of Europe), being the greatest military power, with bases in over 80 countries, great decision-making power and financial power (over 80% of global trade is transacted in US dollars).

Table 1. United States of America

No.	Criteria:	Advantages:	Weaknesses:
1	Relief:	(+5) - Agricultural potential, Mississippi plain Agricultural land 1,700,000 km ²	(-1) - Mountainous areas in Alaska, Rocky Mountains and San Andreas Fault
2	Climate:	(+5) Temperate rainy and subtropical rainy in the southeast, Mediterranean on the Pacific coast	(-2) Subpolar cold in Alaska, dry-arid in the Wild West, hurricanes in the southeast: Florida
3	Rivers:	(+4) – Mississippi with its tributaries, smooth flow with low flooding, canalized for navigation, - Great Lakes navigable and connected to the sea through Canada: Saint Lawrence River - Mississippi-Great Lakes Canal, Great Lakes Canal – Hudson River – Atlantic Ocean - irrigation and diversions from Colorado River to California	(-2) - no navigable arteries in the western half of the US - St. Lawrence flows through Canada and the Mississippi have many meanders, flowing south
4	Seas and Oceans:	(+5) – access to the Ocean: Atlantic, Pacific, Arctic - extensive coastline to warm seas - dominates the North Atlantic, North Pacific through its islands, half of the Bering Strait, the Caribbean Sea and influence over the Panama Canal	(0) – possibility of a blockade in Panama, frozen seas in Bering, too great distances from dominant international routes
5	Culture-History:	(+4) – dominates the Western and English world (Canada, Europe-NATO, Australia and New Zealand, - influence on Latin Americans	(-1) – aggressive Westernism, intervened in the political decisions of many states, attracting numerous enemies
6	Religion:	(+5) Protestant Christian and Catholic Christian, like all of America, Europe across the	(-0) a slight conflict between Protestant and Catholic Christians

		North Atlantic, and the Philippines and South Korea across the North Pacific	
7	Internal Demographics:	(+3) – large population of 340 million (fourth after India, China and the EU), specialized and concentrated in large cities	(-4) – population 25% of the population of rivals China or India, with low density and labor force below requirements
8	Resources:	(+4) – abundant resources of 45 trillion dollars, ranking second in the world: coal, oil and gas, uranium, iron and bauxite, gold, forests, etc. - neighboring the state of Canada, where US companies dominate the 33 trillion-dollar mining market, ranking 4th in the world	(0) – slightly deficient in some resources or forest, in the context of continuous exploitation for over a century
9	External Demographics:	(+5) – 10 times more populous than Canada and twice as large as Mexico, making it the most populous state in America and the Western Hemisphere	(-3) – the Spanish population in the south, Mexico, the Caribbean or the northern part of South America is growing rapidly - large population overseas: Europe, East and Southeast Asia
10	Neighboring Capacity:	(+5) – Demographic, industrial, technological and military power far surpasses its neighbors	(-2) – Chinese alliances are infiltrating the Caribbean basin: Venezuela (continuation from Brazil), Cuba, Nicaragua with expansion into Panama or Mexico
11	Diplomacy:	(+5) Dominates America, the Atlantic coast (NATO) and the Pacific coast (QUAD) - the world's leading decision-making, monetary and military power (military bases in over half of the world's countries)	(-2) – has caused discontent in a series of regional powers that are aligning themselves behind China, the BRICS 10 and OPEC
12	Main asset +: / Main vulnerability -:	(+4) – large, stable area, with immense resources and workforce, loyal neighbors, global decision-making alliances dominating the oceans - great technological, military, decision-making and financial power (the US dollar represents over 80% of the currency used in global trade)	(-3) – sparsely populated compared to geopolitical adversaries, - tough alliances against it - far from overpopulated and increasingly powerful Eurasia
13	Future 2050	(+5) – population increases and economic and financial stability continues in the country - industrialized allies using US	(-2) – population and economy grow in the main US challengers and decline in allies like Japan and the EU

		weapons and currency	
14	Future 2100	(+2) – rich resources, quiet space and far from major global problems: overpopulation, water shortage, Islamic-Christian war and the space crisis that will spread to Africa and the southern half of Asia - among the only Western state that will ensure its demographic growth thanks to immigration	(-5) – is demographically surpassed by more and more states, US cities no longer occupy the top places in demographic top, ports, airports and financial centers. - 50% of the world's population is concentrated around the Indian Ocean, to which the US has no direct access - the development and removal of Mexico, a state whose 50% of its territory is currently in the US: California, Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, but also Spanish Florida, territories populated mostly by Spanish speakers even today
15	TOTAL	+61	-27

2 China

The second largest economic power in the world, equal to the EU in nominal GDP, but the first economic power in PPP GDP (purchasing power parity), surpassing the USA in 2014 and now reaching 25% above the North American economy, the first commercial power and workshop of the world, with an area as large as the continent of Europe or the state of the USA, but with a population as large as the entire continent of Africa or 4 times larger than the USA.

Table 2. China

No.	Criteria:	Advantages:	Weaknesses:
1	Relief:	(+3) – Extensive agricultural lands, with high productivity Agricultural land 1,400,000 km ²	(-3) – Gobi-Tarim Desert, Tibetan Plateau and Himalaya Mountains (almost 9,000 m altitude), Tian-Shan, Kun-lun and Altai, make half of the country unproductive
2	Climate:	(+3) – rich in precipitation in the east, temperate oceanic and humid subtropical climate	(-3) – Severe temperate continental climate-desert and mountainous in the west, frost in the north, typhoons in the east
3	Rivers:	(+4) – the longest river in Asia, the second in terms of flow, with navigation, fishing, the largest hydroelectric power plant in the world and a powerful irrigation system - The Grand Chinese Canal	(-3) – Rivers that cause catastrophic floods, extend only in the eastern half of the country - The Yellow River tends to dry up in the dry season and carries too much alluvium
4	Seas and	(+4) – has an extensive outlet to	(-4) – It has an outlet only to

	Oceans:	<p>warm seas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - numerous natural deep-sea ports - near the seas are shipping routes - dominates the South China Sea with the Paracel and Spratly Islands 	<p>the Pacific Ocean where a chain of islands owned by Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and the Philippines are massively armed by the USA, against China</p>
5	Culture-History:	<p>(+5) - state dominated by Han culture, with Buddhist influences in Indochina and similar populations in Siberia to the north</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - China does not have a history of invading the three main neighboring states (Russia, Japan, India) and has not territorially fallen to the USA 	<p>(-3) – Culturally different from its western and southern neighbors</p>
6	Religion:	<p>(+5) – religion that promotes peace, similar to the religion of the peoples of the east and southeast</p>	<p>(-2) – Islamist influence from the west and southwest, Hinduism from the southwest</p>
7	Internal Demographics:	<p>(+5) – very large population, like India, twice the size of Europe and equal to the population of all Western states and their allies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - diligence, loyalty and discipline 	<p>(-0) – the fact that the population has stagnated demographically in recent times is still an advantage</p>
8	Resources:	<p>(+2) - Rich coal resources, but also oil with a total value of 23 trillion dollars, and close to exporting states such as Russia or those in Central Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - half of the world's coal production 	<p>(-5) – resources with reserves and very low productivity compared to the country's population and industrialization</p>
9	External Demographics:	<p>(+5) - Thinly populated neighbors (Russia or Japan each representing 10% of China's population), and India, which has the same demographic capacity, is located behind the natural barrier of the Himalaya Mountains</p>	<p>(-1) – existence of India as a neighbor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - demographic stagnation
10	Neighbors' Capability:	<p>(+4) - after the last few decades, China has become a force in all of Asia</p>	<p>(-3) – Anti-Chinese alliances in the east (Japan, South Korea and Taiwan) and the risk of escalation in the south (India, South China Sea) keep China vulnerable</p>
11	Diplomacy:	<p>(+5) - New Silk Road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BRICS + - Shanghai Cooperation - most votes at the UN 	<p>(-2) – failed to attract Taiwan and Japan to its side</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - often provokes its most important neighbor: India

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - economic corridor with Pakistan - military attachment with Russia, Iran 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - failed to achieve equal status with the US within the European Union
12	Main asset +: / Main vulnerability -:	(+5) – large and productive population. - government involvement in accelerating industrialization. - diplomacy to create openness in the world - attractive states that have entered conflict with the USA	(-3) half of the territory is poorly productive. - isolation from the west and southwest. - open conflict with the US and its allies in the vicinity of the Chinese coast - scarce resources - demographic stagnation
13	Future 2050	(+5) – explosive economic growth dominating Asia and the entire world at the expense of the USA - loyal allies in Asia, Africa and Latin America - dominance of Western markets - large and specialized workforce	(-1) – the difficult breakthrough of the US naval barricade in the China Sea - the dominance of the US dollar to the detriment of the Chinese economy - the Western coalition to contain China - the slight demographic decline
14	Future 2100	(+3) – huge agricultural capacity in an overpopulated and food-scarce world - Developed infrastructure in a world with few resources to create it - high technological capacity and robotization	(-4) - sharp demographic decline: comparison 2023-2100: - China exceeds the population of the USA by four times - it will exceed by two times - China has 9 times more than Nigeria and equal to India - China will have 1.3 times more than Nigeria and 60% of India's population - China has 2.2 times more than Southeast Asia - it will have the same population - very aging population - emergence of other economic powers
15	TOTAL	+ 58	- 37

3 India

The most populous country in the world since 2023 when it surpassed China, probably the first demographic power until after 2150, with a small area as small as 35% of the USA or China, but productive land and access to the open seas, economically surpassing France or the United Kingdom and with a sharp annual growth, which announces the surpassing of Japan and Germany in the next 4 years, but the 4th economic power in the world by GDP PPP since 2009.

Table 3. India

No.	Criteria:	Advantages:	Weaknesses:
1	Relief:	(+5) - Productive arable land with 1,500,000 km ² of agricultural land - Flat plains and plateaus	(-1) - Small area, with the Himalaya Mountains/Wall to the north
2	Climate:	(+5) - Tropical climate with sufficient rainfall	(0) Heavy rainfall in the east (most in the world) and decreases towards the west where it causes the appearance of desert, but the entire territory is humanizable
3	Rivers:	(+5) - Rich in flow and navigable rivers, with the Ganges draining the entire north, being a navigable route	(0) - Although there are huge navigable projects underway, the country's rhombus shape, surrounded by seas, gives it full access to navigation
4	Seas and Oceans:	(+5) - Surrounded on two sides by warm waters and located on the world's dominant sea route between Africa, the Middle East and Europe on one side and East, Southeast Asia and Australia on the other	(-1) - Although it has extensive islands in the east (Andaman and Nicobar) and west (Laccadive), the island state of Sri Lanka and its alliance with other rival powers represent an impediment
5	Culture-History:	(+3) - Has always been peaceful, being a gentle power	(-4) - It is at war with nuclear power Pakistan for Kashmir and with the Chinese people in the north for Aksai Chi and Arunachal Pradesh
6	Religion:	(+4) - Hindu religion that manifests itself peacefully and attractively	(-2) - Slight Islamist disturbances on the border with Pakistan, Bangladesh and in the state of Hyderabad, India being the second state with the largest Islamist population in the world after Indonesia
7	Internal Demographics:	(+5) - The most populous country in the world with 1.45 billion people, surpassing China - Young population	(0) - Very dense population with 450 inhabitants/km ² (Russia 8 inhabitants/km ² , USA 35 inhabitants/km ² , European Union 100 inhabitants/km ²) and still not very specialized, but which is stabilized
8	Resources:	(0) - Ocean fishing potential and low energy resources	(-5) - Very low resource reserves compared to the huge population
9	External Demographics:	(+5) - Exceeds the population of any neighbor - Only China matches it globally	(-1) - Neighbor with the second megademographic state in the world: China - The population of the main rival Pakistan is growing rapidly
10	Capacity of	(+4) - Bordered by ocean waters	(-3) Chinese influence in

	Neighbors	on two sides - The only powerful neighbor (China) is located behind the Himalaya mountains, which have peaks of almost 9,000 m	Myanmar, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and the tough anti-Indian Pakistan-China alliance are putting India in difficulty
11	Diplomacy:	(+5) - India is in the Eastern Partnership, BRICS and Shanghai Cooperation, allied with Russia - Close to the West through the Commonwealth and QUAD with: USA, Japan, Australia and the United Kingdom - Represents the forefront of the Third World, the neutral world between East and West	(-2) - Fails to defuse conflict with Pakistan, keeping nuclear war a possibility - Often engages in military war against China
12	Main asset +: / Main vulnerability -:	(+4) - Population of 1.45 billion, young and growing - Located on the world's main sea routes - With productive territory, agricultural and climatic potential	(-2) - Lack of subsoil resources - High and growing population density - Isolation caused by rivalry with Pakistan, China and the natural barrier of the Himalaya Mountains
13	Future 2050	(+4) - Large and young workforce will attract foreign investment now dedicated to China - Dual East-West collaboration	(-2) - China's economic growth and infiltration into India's neighbors will be overwhelming
14	Future 2100	(+5) - 50% of the world's population will be concentrated around the Indian Ocean, where India dominates the waters - India's population will grow to 1.6-1.8 billion people while China's population will decline	(-1) - Demographic rivals emerge such as: Pakistan, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Egypt, E. D. Congo, Tanzania or Mozambique
15	TOTAL	+ 59	- 24

4 European Union

The third demographic power in the world and with 40% of the area of the USA or China, the second economic power by nominal GDP equal to the state of China, 5 times larger than India or the entire continent of Africa, equal to the USA by PPP GDP, this is the great soft economic power of the world, developing a union with its own sovereign laws and leadership, but with a single currency and abolished borders.

Tabel 4. Uniunea Europeană

No.	Criterie:	Advantages:	Weaknesses:
1	Relief:	(+5) - Flat surface, with high agricultural potential throughout - Agricultural land 1,700,000 km ²	(-2) - Small area of the Union
2	Climate:	(+5) - Mild, temperate climate,	(0) - Climatic extremes rarely

		warm in the south, slightly cold in the north, rainy in the west and moderate in the east	occur without significant damage
3	Rivers:	(+5) - High-flowing rivers, navigable and linked by a huge network of canals: Rhine-Danube, Rhine-Vistula, Rhine-Rhone, Garonne-Mediterranean, etc.	(0) - The canal network is reduced in the south, but compensated for by the continental seas
4	Seas and Oceans:	(+5) - The most landlocked power in the world, with continental maritime systems: Mediterranean-Black Sea and Baltic Sea, numerous islands and peninsulas: Scandinavian, Jutland, Iberian, Italic, Balkan	(-3) - Bordered by oceans, seas, straits and canals that it does not dominate: Arctic Ocean dominated by Russia and Norway, English Channel shared with the United Kingdom, Gibraltar shared with the UK and Morocco, Bosphorus dominated by Turkey, Suez Canal (to the Indian Ocean) owned by Egypt
5	Culture-History:	(+2) - The states of the union are united culturally and religiously, with a common history	(-4) - Many former rival states: France-Germany, Germans-Poland, Austria-Italy, Romania-Hungary, etc. - Dissensions between North-West and South-East Coalition of Anglo-Saxon states in the Atlantic (USA-Great Britain) and Islamist states in the Mediterranean (Turkey-Bosnia-Albania-Morocco- Islamist community in the big cities
6	Religion:	(+4) - Religiously united Christian states, dominated by peaceful teachings	(-3) - Promotion of atheism that endangers the existence of the Union - Expansion of Islam, more united and tough
7	Internal Demographics:	(+5) - Population of 450 million, numerous and specialized	(-3) - Population too linguistically differentiated, in demographic decline and aging
8	Resources:	(+2) - Fish resources in territorial waters, forests in mountainous areas and numerous subsoil resources	(-5) - Very few resources compared to the large population - Lack of energy resources, these being in non-EU states such as Norway or the United Kingdom, in northern Africa, Iran or Russia, where the Union has diplomatic dissensions
9	External Demographics:	(+5) - Population three times larger than Russia or more than the population of all	(-3) - The Islamist population is growing rapidly in the southern and eastern

		neighbors combined	Mediterranean, Turkey or Egypt surpassing the most populous state of the Union: Germany
10	Capacity of Neighbors:	- The Union has 20 trillion US dollars Nominal GDP and 29 trillion US dollars PPP GDP, while non-EU states around the Mediterranean and Black Sea (Russia, Turkey, Egypt, Israel, Algeria, Morocco etc.) together have 4.5 trillion Nominal and 12 trillion US dollars PPP GDP	(-4) - Fierce neighbors, with rich resources and Arctic and land sea routes (Russia) or Islamists with dominant sea or land routes (Turkey with the Bosphorus Strait and Egypt with the Suez Canal artery)
11	Diplomacy:	(+4) - Allied with the US and Canada in NATO - Allied states in the G7 - Monetary, commercial and decision-making power	(-4) - Does not have its own army - In conflict with hydrocarbon-rich neighbors (Russia, Algeria, Iran, Libya) - Isolated itself in the northeast and south, and in the west allowed total US influence in the United Kingdom
12	Main asset +: / Main vulnerability -:	(+3) - Rich and strong - A huge economic market - EURO currency - An island of stability and prosperity in an ocean of wars, poverty and political instability	(-5) - Fierce dissensions between states - Aging and stagnating population - Lacking vital energy resources - Isolated in the north, south and east and a vassal of the US in the west, through miscalculated diplomacy
13	Future 2050:	(+3) - Continues economic stability and development, being a haven of well-being in the Western Rimland region - Immigration helps maintain economic growth	(-3) - Isolation and wars in the east (Ukraine-Russia), southeast (Azerbaijan-Armenia, Turkey-Armenia, USA-Iran, Syria, Israel-Islam, Turkey-Greece-Cyprus) and south (Libya, Algeria, Morocco) affect trade, supplies, finances and bring in large numbers of migrants
14	Future 2100:	(+2) - Economic development and agricultural and climatic potential maintain prosperity	(-5) - Population declines and ages - Ethnic structure of population changes - Demographic growth is maintained in the states supplying emigrants from the Islamic World, Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia - Possible disintegration or diminution of the Union
15	TOTAL	+ 55	- 44

5 Russia

The world's territorial colossus, Russia is as large as the US and China combined, or 4.5 times larger than the EU, with a very small population, 10% of the population of China or India, but homogeneous and with huge agricultural areas, forests and subsoil resources over 3 times larger than China's, 1.8 times larger than the US or 70 times larger than India.

Tabel 5. Russia

No.	Criteria:	Advantages:	Weaknesses:
1	Relief:	(+5) - Area 17,000,000 km ² - Largest plain in Europe – East European Plain - and in Asia – West Siberian Plain - Smooth plateaus and low mountains: Urals, Altai Agricultural land 1,200,000 km ²	(-2) - Too large and difficult to manage area, almost as big as the USA and China combined or three times the size of the rest of Europe, excluding Russia
2	Climate:	(+5) - In 10,000,000 km ² the climate is temperate, favorable for humanization	(-2) - Large cold areas in the north, but little humanized
3	Rivers:	(+5) - Four of the largest Asian rivers (Obi, Yenisei, Lena, Amur) and the largest river in Europe (Volga) - Complete canal system: White Sea – Gulf of Finland – Volga – Caspian Sea – Don – Sea of Azov	(-2) - Asian rivers are not interconnected by canals and flow north, being frozen for a long time of the year
4	Seas and Oceans:	(+4) - Extensive direct outlet to the Arctic Ocean and Pacific Ocean and indirect outlet to the Atlantic Ocean through the Baltic Sea and Black Sea - Access to the Indian Ocean through Iran or through the Black Sea – Mediterranean Sea – Suez – Red Sea	(-2) - Frozen seas (Arctic Ocean, Baltic Sea, Sea of Okhotsk) - Seas blocked by straits in rival states: Bosphorus, Kattegat, Norwegian coast, Bering, Korea - 8,000 km distance between populated European Russia and the ports of the Pacific Ocean
5	Culture-History:	(+2) - Historical domination over neighbors, conquering territories in the past in: China, Korea, Japan, Central Asia – Iran, Ukraine, Poland, Finland, etc. - Cultural domination with Slavic-Orthodox states, Slavic or Russian communities: Ukraine, Poland, Belarus, Bulgaria, Serbia, Kazakhstan, etc.	(-4) Current enemies: Japan, Ukraine, Georgia, Poland, USA; potential enemies: Germany, Finland, Turkey and Islamist states, China
6	Religion:	(+5) - Peaceful and united Orthodox Christian	(-2) - Expansion of Islam in the south and tribal religions

			in Siberia
7	Internal Demographics:	(+2) - Stable and specialized Russian population	(-5) - Total population too small numerically, surpassed by Bangladesh or Nigeria and close to Japan, Ethiopia or the Philippines - The population is decreasing and is also very old - Increasingly Islamist population in southern Europe and Chinese in southern Asian Russia
8	Resources:	(+5) - Huge amounts of resources of 75 trillion US dollars, the largest resources in the world owned by a small population: oceanic fishing areas, the most extensive forests, subsoil resources	(0) Easy exploitation and proximity to major consumers such as East Asia and Europe
9	External Demographics:	(+3) - 145 million, populous compared to most of its neighbors: Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia and North Korea which together have 80 million, and Ukraine and Poland together now have under 80 million - Surrounded by the Pacific to the east and the Arctic to the north where there is no stable population	(-4) - Japan and Korea very populous (200 million together), China 10 times more populous (1.4 billion), population increases in Turkey and Iran (90 million each) and the European Union (450 million)
10	Neighbors' Capability:	(+4) - It borders weak states that do not have heavy weapons - In the north there are frozen wastelands and in the south desert wastelands - Dissension within the European Union and the non-integration of some states gives Russia the capacity to intervene	(-3) - European states are allied in NATO with the US and the European Union, having a great economic capacity - Turkey is making military and economic friends with Islamist states neighboring Russia - China is 6-10 times stronger economically (GDP PPP and Nominal GDP) - South Korea and Japan are economically strong
11	Diplomacy:	(+4) - Ally in BRICS - Integrated in the Shanghai Pact - Military coalition with Iran, Turkey, North Korea, China and former USSR states	(-5) - It has allied the most developed states against it (US, EU, Japan, etc.) - Attachment of states with risk factor: China, Turkey - War with states that are similar to it linguistically, religiously and culturally:

			Ukraine
12	Main Strength +: / Main Vulnerability -:	(+3) - Very large area with huge resources needed by Eurasia - Great military power and exporter of competitive and cheap weapons - Military and decision-making influence on neighbors and in many states of the world	(-3) - Reduced population compared to the contested states - Far from populated areas, having vulnerable routes: mountains, deserts, sea routes with straits - Many allies allied against it
13	Future 2050	(+4) - Rimland development and Russia's allies: China and India will bring it profit and investment for resources - BRICS expansion and development	(-2) - NATO and EU expansion into the European coast of Russia, the US-Japan alliance on the eastern seaboard and the return of Turkey to Central Asia
14	Future 2100	(+2) - Overpopulation and development of the world will thirst for the resources so abundant in Russia - Possible dissolution of the European Union in the west and demographic decline in the east: China, Japan	(-5) - Drastic population decline in Russia and the growth of world population - the growth of the Islamist population in the south and the influence of China on the Siberian peoples increase the risk of a split of the Russian Empire
15	TOTAL	+ 53	- 41

CONCLUSIONS

This topic can become the theme of a book and can be expanded to hundreds of pages. Although it represents only an opinion, scientifically analyzed, but which is based overwhelmingly on the decision and perception of the author. At the beginning of the study, it seemed that China would be at the top of the ranking of the most advantaged states, but the lack of resources, the risks of isolation and the demographic decline that is announced for the end of the 21st century, this state falls to third place after the USA, which is in a remarkable geographical situation, but also after India, which tends to even surpass the USA by 2100, based on its demographic power, maritime freedom and access to an ocean that will host half of the world's population, around its waters, by the end of the 21st century.

At the bottom of the ranking is the European Union in penultimate place, which is a gentle economic colossus and geographically advantageous, but the aging population and such diversified migration put great pressure on the change of this union, which in the constant stress of dismemberment, tends to fall to 5th place to the detriment of Russia, homogeneously populated and with agricultural, forestry and especially subsoil resources estimated at 75 trillion US dollars, similar at a global level to all the resources of Canada, Brazil and Australia combined. In the current global poverty, the world needs high technology and EU investments, but with the demographic explosion and the economic miracle in Asia and Africa, they will accentuate the need for natural resources, benefiting states with large areas but little population, such as Russia.

Table 6. Final ranking of superpowers between 2025 and 2100

No.	Mega-powers	Points Very 2025	Points Weaknesses	Points Very 2100	Points Weaknesses	Difference + and - 2025	Difference + and - 2100	Place occupied 2025	Place occupied 2100
1	India	+ 50	- 21	+ 59	- 24	+ 29	+ 35	2	1
2	USA	+ 54	- 20	+ 61	- 27	+ 34	+ 34	1	2
3	China	+ 50	- 32	+ 58	- 37	+ 18	+ 21	3	3
4	European Union	+ 50	- 36	+ 55	- 44	+ 14	+ 11	4	5
5	Russia	+ 47	- 34	+ 53	- 41	+ 13	+ 12	5	4

The interpretative nature of the study may attract many different opinions, with each inhabitant of the 5 powers probably emphasizing the advantages of the mother countries, geologists would be tempted to highlight the decisive role of relief in the development of a nation, climatologists could argue that desert or frozen land should not be considered an advantage, geopoliticians deservedly emphasizing diplomacy, and demographers showing how important a country with many millions of inhabitants can be, but this is precisely the role of the present work. The geography of nations is important, but so is the human factor, its cultural-religious manifestation, access to information and general mentality, position on the world stage, shared history with the neighborhood, or dominant trends until the 2050s or even 2100s. Analyzed together, they form the CV of a nation, and several CVs placed in the same ranking can anticipate the future of humanity.

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