



Impact of US mid-term Elections

Why in news?

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The Democratic Party has got majority in the House of Representatives, while the Republican Party increased its majority in the Senate during the recently held mid-term elections in U.S.

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What are the likely outcomes of this result?

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- The polarisation between older, white males who are the supporters of Mr. Trump and the younger, multi-ethnic coalition backing Hillary Clinton would now be reflected in the American politics.

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- The new Democratic representatives are diverse and the House will be the first to have over 100 women.

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- Since the Republicans have strengthened their lead in the Senate, it would be more control over the foreign relations and domestic institutional oversight.

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How this result will affect foreign relations?

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- The White House and Senate have always been more impactful with respect to the foreign affairs.

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- And from the decisions taken in the past, Presidents who have lost mid-term elections have instead pursued their chosen policies with even greater determination.

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- Yet there would be a new cautiousness in the inward focused US actions as certain areas like Trade will have to face a vote in the Democratic House.
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- There is uncertainty whether the Democratic majority will unite around the anti-Beijing moves which has been one characteristic of Mr Trump's trade negotiators.
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- But there is now a check, even if a relatively small one against Mr. Trump's attempts to rewrite the post-War world order.
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- And the American capital focused on partisan wrangling will less likely devote energy to the rest of the world.
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Source: Business Standard

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