



# NEWSLETTER

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The 42<sup>nd</sup> Sapru House Lecture on 'Shared Values and Common Outlook - The Journey of Philippines-India Cooperation' by Hon. Enrique A. Manalo, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, The Republic of the Philippines was organized by ICWA on 28 June 2023.



On 11 April 2023, ICWA organized a talk by Ms. Emine Dzhaparova, First Deputy Foreign Minister of Ukraine on "Russia's War in Ukraine: Why the World Should Care", at Sapru House, New Delhi.



Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA led the ICWA delegation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> ICWA-ECSSR (UAE) Dialogue hosted by The Emirates Center for Strategic Studies & Research on 12 June 2023 in Abu Dhabi.



The ICWA delegation led by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA participated in the XVIII SCO Forum meeting held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan on 22-23 May 2023.



Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA chaired the Session on 'Dealing with Non-Traditional Security Challenges for a Peaceful & Sustainable Indo-Pacific' at the 6<sup>th</sup> IOC held on 12-13 May 2023 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.



The 8<sup>th</sup> ICWA-PSAIDS (Saudi Arabia) Dialogue was organized by ICWA on 26 April 2023 at Sapru House, New Delhi.

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## **Dr. Dmitrii P. Novikov, Leading Researcher, Institute of China and Contemporary Asia, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, SCO Resident Scholar, 3 April 2023**

Under India's Presidency of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) (2022–2023), ICWA hosted the SCO Resident Researchers Program in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs from December 2022 to June 2023. Over seven months, one nominated young researcher from each SCO member country (following the SCO practice of Russian alphabetical order: Kazakhstan – December 2022, China – January 2023, Kyrgyzstan – February 2023, Pakistan – March 2023, Russia – April 2023, Tajikistan – May 2023 and Uzbekistan – June 2023) resided with ICWA for a period of one month. The program included a week's module of the SCO scholar's visit to Bangalore, Chennai and Puducherry, coordinated by ICWA in collaboration with its MoU partner National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bangalore. In the month of April 2023, ICWA hosted a SCO scholar from Russia: Dr. Dmitrii P. Novikov, Leading Researcher, Institute of China and Contemporary Asia, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow. He held interactions with leading think tanks and academic institutions of India, including the JSIA, O. P. Jindal Global University, Sonapat & Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi and MP-IDSA, New Delhi.



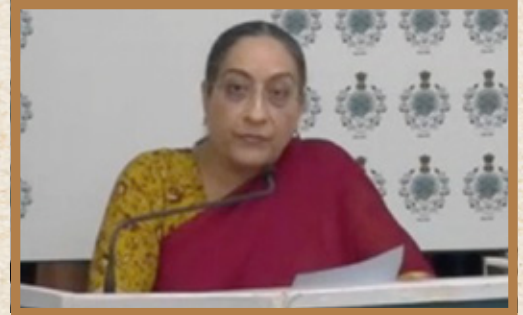
## **Ms. Cecile Fruman, Director, Regional Integration and Engagement, South Asia Region, World Bank met Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA, 3 April 2023**

Ms. Cecile Fruman, Director, Regional Integration and Engagement, South Asia Region, World Bank along with Ms. Mandakini Kaul, Regional Coordinator, World Bank South Asia met Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG ICWA on 03 April 2023 at Sapru House. The discussions covered economic connectivity in South Asian region and issues of mutual interest.



## ICWA-USI International Conference on ‘The Diplomatic Dimensions of Military History: Indian Armed Forces in France & Flanders during WWI & WWII’, 11 April 2023

India’s oldest military think-tank, the United Service Institution of India (USI) and Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), India’s oldest think-tank on International Relations and an institution of national importance, organised a Joint International Conference on “The Diplomatic Dimensions of Military History: Indian Armed Forces in France and Flanders during WWI and WWII”. It was held at the USI, New Delhi on 11 April 2023. The Conference was a significant step towards commemorating the role of India during the two World Wars. It recalled the bravery and professionalism of the Indian soldiers without whom the Allied victories would not have been possible.



The World Wars changed the dynamics between the colonies and the imperial powers irreversibly. They served as both a catalyst as well as a vehicle for social and political change all over the world. India’s role in the two World Wars established its presence in the global arena. India became a founder-member of the United Nations in June 1945. After World War II, India gained independence in 1947 and chose to follow an independent foreign policy that stood for struggle against colonial rule and global peace. India has been among the largest troop contributors for peacekeeping, and Indian troops continue to serve under the UN flag in far-off lands. The International Conference brought together scholars from India, France, Belgium, and the United Kingdom. Two scholars who are teaching school children in France about the contribution of the Indian soldiers for the freedom of their country- Mr Jérôme Janczukiewicz and Louis Teyssedou- also participated.

Mr. Jérôme Janczukiewicz currently works as a teacher in Lycée Arthur Varoquaux, Tomblaine (Eastern France). He and his students worked on a project that explored the role of the Indian Labour Corps in France in the winter of 1917-1918. As their presence was largely unknown to the locals, the students of the high school designed three plaques to commemorate the role played by the Indian Labour Corps and installed these upon the cemetery where the soldiers are buried.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> scholar Mr. Louis Teyssedou was a teacher at Edouard Gand High School at Amiens, France. This year, in partnership with the French Ministry of Armed Forces, he has organised an exhibition which documents, inter alia, the role of Indian soldiers during World War I. Mr. Teyssedou will be coming to India with twelve of his students to attend the International Conference on 11 April 2023. The Conference provided an opportunity for Mr. Janczukiewicz & Mr. Teyssedou to speak about their efforts to highlight the valour and sacrifice of the Indian soldiers in France during World War I. Overall, the Conference provided an opportunity to commemorate the military & diplomatic significance of the contributions of Indian soldiers in the World Wars & contributed to the strengthening of India’s relations with the countries concerned. It also enhanced India’s efforts for “reformed multilateralism”.



**Talk by Ms. Emine Dzhaparova, First Deputy Foreign Minister of Ukraine on "Russia's War in Ukraine: Why the World Should Care", 11 April 2023**



ICWA organised a talk on “Russia's War in Ukraine: Why the World Should Care” by Ms. Emine Dzhaparova, First Deputy Foreign Minister of Ukraine on 11 April 2023 at Sapru House. It was chaired by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA. The talk was followed by a Q&A session in which former diplomats, members of strategic community, media representatives and scholars participated. The opening remarks were made by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA who also Chaired the discussion. This was followed by a presentation from Ms. Emine Dzhaparova with Q&A session moderated by the chair.

In her opening remarks, Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA emphasised that the Ukraine crisis has impacted the entire world, especially the Global South. She said that the crisis has emerged as a point of inflection for the emerging world order and ICWA has been observing the Ukraine-related developments and their consequences closely. Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh underlined that Ukraine is an important partner for India with which it shared warm and friendly relations marked by multifaceted cooperation. She articulated India’s position that this is not an “era of war” and the urgency for “cessation of hostilities”, dialogue and diplomacy to resolve the conflict.

Ms. Emine Dzhaparova spoke about the current situation in Ukraine as well as its possible trajectory. She noted that Ukrainian President’s 10-point Peace Plan calling for nuclear safety, food and energy security, release of prisoners, withdrawal of troops, territorial integrity and prevention of genocide, etc. should be implemented to defuse the crisis. She also spoke about the scope of India-Ukraine bilateral ties and noted that India had a role to play to initiate the peace process through dialogue and diplomacy.

## ICWA concluded a Memorandum of Understanding with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, 12 April 2023

Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), India's premier and oldest think tank on foreign policy and international affairs and an institute of national importance under the ICWA Act, 2001; and Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce (FICCI), the apex chamber of commerce and industry in India, have agreed to collaborate, through a Memorandum of Understanding.

The objective of the MoU is to expand awareness and knowledge on international affairs and Indian foreign policy and their interface with trends in the industry and to promote an Indian narrative on such issues. This will be undertaken through ICWA – FICCI collaborations in activities that contribute to better understanding of international affairs, international economy and matters pertaining to Indian industry and economy. The MoU envisages joint organization of bilateral seminars, symposia and panel discussions on these subjects. Both sides will also facilitate each other's participation in their respective national and international outreach. The MoU was signed on 12th April 2023.



## ICWA-COMEXI (Mexico) Dialogue on “Multilateral Institutions: A Need for Reforms”, 13 April 2023

The Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) and its MoU partner, the Mexican Council on Foreign Relations (COMEXI), Mexico held their inaugural dialogue on the theme ‘Multilateral Institutions: A Need for Reforms’ on 13 April 2023. The dialogue was held online and saw the participation of diplomats, officials and scholars from both sides.

In her opening remarks, Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA stated that, in the past few years, there has been a conscious effort by both India and Mexico to strengthen bilateral ties, expand economic engagement and explore new areas of cooperation such as space, digital technology and fintech. In the backdrop of the current geopolitical shifts underway towards a new world order, multilateral institutions need to be responsive and effective to meet multiple challenges. India's Presidency of G20 also presents an opportunity for cooperation with Mexico, a member of the G20, on global crises including reformed multilateralism.







Prof. Celia Toro, Vice President, COMEXI, Amb. Pankaj Sharma, Ambassador of India, Mexico and Amb. Federico Salas, Ambassador of Mexico to India stated that both countries have underscored the need to reform the multilateral system and on building an inclusive multilateral order. The recent concerns before the international order including the US-China competition, the pandemic and the ongoing geopolitical crisis has challenged multilateralism. They highlighted the need to reform the multilateral organisations to reflect the present realities of the global order. There is a greater imperative today to bring change in the institutions of global governance – the UN, Bretton Woods Institutions, and WTO – to make these not only more representative but also effective and to enhance the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems.

The panel discussion on Multilateral Institutions: A Need for Reforms was chaired by Amb. Diego Gómez Pickering, Coordinator of the Nucleus of Study for International Systems, COMEXI. The speakers in the panel were Amb. T.S. Tirumurti, India’s Former Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Amb. Luis Alfonso de Alba, Ambassador of Mexico to the United Arab Emirates, Dr. Nisha Taneja, Professor Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, New Delhi and Amb. Maria Angelica Arce, Coordinator of the Unit of Study for the United Nations, COMEXI. The panellists pointed that multilateralism is facing a crisis today accentuated by the geopolitical shifts that the world is experiencing. The panellists recognised the urgent need for reforms of multilateral institutions, with the UN Security Council at the core, to address contemporary challenges. They elaborated upon their respective approaches on the issue and emphasised on the need to find convergences to advance the agenda of reformed multilateralism. As pioneers of the global south, India and Mexico can explore various vistas of cooperation in order to foster approaches towards multilateral reforms. It was noted that Mexico’s Presidency of CELAC and India’s G20 Presidency presented such opportunities.

## ICWA concluded a Memorandum of Understanding with Panjab University, Chandigarh, 17 April 2023



Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) and Panjab University (PU), Chandigarh have agreed to collaborate in pursuit of their goal of expanding awareness and knowledge on international affairs and Indian foreign policy. The major objective of the MoU will be to organise joint studies and seminars on agreed topics on international affairs and Indian foreign policy.

ICWA will consider offering internships to students of PU aimed at building their capacity/skills in international affairs and foreign policy. ICWA and PU will also jointly organise events where ICWA Representatives/Research Fellows will present the ICWA's foreign policy awareness programme to participants.

The MoU is expected to contribute to intellectual development of stakeholders in universities, academic institutions, industries, and other partners located in Punjab; joint publications; and awareness creation on Indian foreign policy and international relations. The MoU was signed on 17 April 2023.

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## **Prof. Nguyen Thi Lan Anh, DG, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam met Ms. Nutan Kapoor Mahawar, JS, ICWA, 17 April 2023**

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Prof. Nguyen Thi Lan Anh, Director General, East Sea Institute, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam met Ms. Nutan Kapoor Mahawar, Joint Secretary, ICWA on 17 April 2023. Discussions were held on recent developments in the South China Sea and its implications on Indo-Pacific security.



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## **First ICWA-CESICAM (Colombia) Dialogue on “The Evolving Geopolitics and Geo-Economics: Role of India and Colombia in the New Geography of Power”, 18 April 2023**

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The Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) and its MoU partner the Centre for Contemporary India and South Asia Studies Services (CESICAM), Faculty of Finance, Government and International Relations, Universidad Externado de Colombia (UEC) held their inaugural dialogue on the theme ‘The Evolving Geopolitics and Geo-Economics: Role of India and Colombia in the New Geography of Power’ on 18 April 2023. The dialogue was held online and saw the participation of diplomats, officials and scholars on both sides. The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Luis Felipe Quintero, Vice Minister of State of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Tourism, Colombia.

In her opening remarks, Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA highlighted several challenges currently facing the world amid the unprecedented geopolitical shifts and uncertainty. Elaborating on India's vision of the Indo-Pacific, she underscored the need to uphold the rules-based maritime order to ensure freedom of navigation and unimpeded flow of lawful commerce which is important for the prosperity of the Indo-Pacific region that included both India and Colombia. She noted that, for India, Colombia is as an important partner country having a vast coast along the Pacific Ocean.



In his address Mr. Luis Felipe Quintero, Vice Minister of State of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Tourism, Colombia presented the main elements of Colombia's new reindustrialisation policy, also described as Colombia's first official strategy towards Asia. He highlighted that the central objective of the policy is transitioning from an extraction-based economy to a knowledge-based, productive, and sustainable economy. Key focus areas of the policy include energy transition, agro-reindustrialisation and food sovereignty, health, defence, etc. He noted that Colombia was seeking investments in sustainable energy and was rebalancing its external economic relations in favour of Asia. He noted that the dialogue was taking place at an opportune time on the eve of the visit of the External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar to Colombia which would further provide an impetus to bilateral relations.



Mr. G. V. Srinivas, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India in his address shared the perspective on the growing partnership between India and Colombia. He emphasised that Colombia's move to a knowledge-based economy presented many opportunities for enhanced collaboration between the two countries in particular in the field of digital public goods and pharma. Business and industrial ties have emerged as an important pillar of India-Colombia bilateral ties. Dr. Gonzalo Ordoñez, Dean School of Finance, Government and International Relations, UEC, Bogota underscored that Colombia is improving its agenda of studies and research with Asian countries, where India plays an important role. Colombia was refocusing its trade policy away from its traditional partners such as the US and EU towards other countries of the global south and could learn from India's experiences in energy transition, food industry, space technology and digitisation, sectors which are playing a role in current geopolitics.

The panel discussion on 'The Evolving Geopolitics: Role of India and Colombia in the New Geography of Power' was chaired by Dr. Kelly Arevalo Franco, Research Professor, Faculty of Finance, Government, and International Relations, UEC, Bogota. The speakers in the panel were Dr. Soraya Caro, Director CESICAM and Advisor of Supreme Council of Trade, Colombia, Capt. Sarabjeet Parmar, Senior Fellow, National Maritime Foundation, New Delhi, Mr. Pranav Kumar, Former Head of International Trade and Policy, CII, New Delhi and Amb. Mariana Pacheco, Former Ambassador of Colombia to India. The panelists discussed the opportunities presented for collaboration between the two countries by India's initiatives such as the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative and the

Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure. The Indo-Pacific provides the opportunity to explore collaborations in maritime economy and maritime connectivity. Other areas that were identified for possible collaboration included environmental issues in the Amazon, building supply chain resilience by reducing risks and disruption, re-shoring, diversification and localisation, health and pharmaceutical sectors, and cooperation in agriculture sector to ensure food security.

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## H.E. Ms. Diana Mickeviciene, Ambassador of Lithuania to India met Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA, 19 April 2023

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H.E. Ms. Diana Mickevičienė, Ambassador of Lithuania to India met Ambassador Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA on 19 April 2023. Discussions were held on areas of academic collaboration, bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual interest.



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## Prof. Wongi Choe, KNDA interacted with ICWA Research Fellows Dr. Sanjeev Kumar & Dr. Tunchinmang Langel, 19 April 2023

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ICWA Research Faculty received Prof Wongi Choe, Head, Center for ASEAN-India Studies, Korea National Diplomatic Academy (KNDA) on 19 April 2023. He had an interaction with Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, SRF, ICWA and Dr. Tunchinmang Langel, RF, ICWA on India-South Korea bilateral relations and current dynamics in the Indo-Pacific.



## Hon. Barry O'Farrel AO, High Commissioner of Australia to India met Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA, 24 April 2023

Hon. Barry O'Farrell AO, High Commissioner of Australia to India met Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA on 24 April 2023. Discussions were held on areas of bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual interest.



## 8<sup>th</sup> ICWA-PSAIDS (Saudi Arabia) Dialogue, 26 April 2023

The Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), in collaboration with the Prince Saud Al Faisal Institute of Diplomatic Studies (PSAIDS), organised their 8<sup>th</sup> dialogue on 26 April 2023 at the Sapru House. The dialogue focused on the changing regional dynamics and opportunities and challenges for bilateral ties in the backdrop of global geopolitical flux and witnessed participation of scholars, academicians and diplomats.

In her opening remarks, Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA noted that India and Saudi

Arabia are traditional partners with active engagement. Under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi, the two countries have focused on further strengthening the partnership. India's Look West policy reflects its increased desire for engagement with its West Asia neighbours. And, as Saudi Arabia implements its Look East Policy, India looks forward to further intensifying this relationship.



Head of the Centre for Asian Studies, PSAIDS Dr. Ali Al Qarni, on behalf of the Director PSAIDS Dr. Adel Al Omrani, Ambassador of India to Saudi Arabia H.E. Dr. Suhel Ajaz Khan and Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to India, H. E. Mr. Saleh Eid Al Hussein also spoke in the Inaugural Session. They noted the growing trajectory of India-Saudi Arabia bilateral ties which were civilisational in character. The Vision 2030 of Saudi Arabia and the Amrit Kaal initiatives of India had complementarities and presented opportunities for further strengthening cooperation. Saudi Arabia and GCC are big markets for India while India is the largest market for GCC. This presents immense opportunity for enhanced economic engagement. Areas identified for cooperation included food security, energy security, and resilient value chains.

The first session of the dialogue focused on the bilateral relations between the two countries and was chaired by Amb. Sanjay Singh. The speakers were Dr. Ali Al Qarni (PSAIDS), Dr. Lakshmi Priya, Research Fellow ICWA, Dr. Raja Al Marzouqi, Professor of Economy at PSAIDS and Senior Economist for the Ministry of Economy and Mr. Manish Mohan, Senior Director, Confederation of Indian Industry, New Delhi. The participants noted with satisfaction that bilateral relations have been elevated to the level of strategic partnership and that there is regular political consultation at the highest level. Cooperation between the two countries during the time of COVID was exemplary. It was noted that defence cooperation as an area of cooperation needed to be explored further. The two countries needed to enhance cultural exchanges, people-to-people ties and build upon public diplomacy. Indian diaspora in Saudi Arabia is an economic asset. Maritime security and environmental protection need to be focused on as a regional confidence building measure.

The second session was chaired by Amb. Navdeep Suri and focused on the role of global actors in the region. The speakers in this session were Dr. Asaad Alshamlan, Head of the Centre for European Studies, PSAIDS and Prof. P R Kumaraswamy, Chairperson Centre for West Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. The third session was chaired by Dr. Asaad Alshamlan, Head of the Centre for European Studies, PSAIDS and focused on changing regional dynamics: perspectives from India and Saudi Arabia. The speakers in this session were Dr. F. R. Siddiqui, Senior Research Fellow, ICWA and Dr. Mansour Almarzoqi, Head of the Centre for Strategic Studies, PSAIDS. Discussions in the two sessions focused on the politics of partnerships, alliances and counter-alliances in the region and the world in the face of deepening geo-political fissures, intensifying US-China strategic rivalry and Ukraine conflict. The panellists positively assessed India's exercise of strategic autonomy and its growing role in the region and the world. It was stressed that both India and Saudi Arabia, including as members of G20, advocated effective multilateralism and that both India and Saudi Arabia are natural partners working for peace, security, stability and prosperity in the region.

ICWA and PSAIDS also renewed their bilateral MoU on the occasion of the 8th ICWA-PSAIDS (Saudi Arabia) Dialogue on 26 April 2023. The renewed MoU was signed by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA and Dr. Ali Al Qarni, Head of the Centre for Asian Studies, PSAIDS on behalf of Director, PSAIDS Dr. Adel Al Omrani.



## Sapru House Paper Discussion on “Changing Connectivity Dynamics in Central Asia and India's Growing Engagement” written by Dr. Punit Gaur, Research Fellow, ICWA, 27 April 2023

ICWA organised a Sapru House Paper Discussion on "Changing Connectivity Dynamics in Central Asia and India's Growing Engagement" chaired by Prof. Sanjay Pandey, Centre for Russian and Central Asian Studies, JNU on 27 April 2023. At the discussion, the Introductory Remarks were delivered by Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, SRF, ICWA. Dr. Punit Gaur presented the Sapru House Paper. Dr. Mahesh Ranjan Debata, Assistant Prof., Centre for Inner Asian Studies, JNU and Dr. Angira Sen Sarma, Assistant Prof., University of Allahabad were the discussants.



The primary objective of the Paper is to evaluate changing connectivity dynamics in Central Asia in light of geopolitical transformation and significant economic and political developments. It aims to analyse India's connectivity with Central Asian countries and India's growing engagement with the region.

## Presentation by Dr. Dmitrii Novikov, Deputy Head, School of International Relations, National Research University, Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia, SCO Resident Scholar at ICWA, on “Russia-SCO & Regional Dynamics” followed by Discussion, 27 April 2023

In collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs of India, ICWA hosted the SCO Resident Researchers Program from December 2022 to June 2023. Dr. Dmitrii Pavlovich Novikov, Deputy Head, School of International Relations, National Research University, Higher School of Economics, Moscow, and Leading Researcher, Institute of China and Contemporary Asia, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia, was hosted by the Council in the month of April 2023.

The SCO Study Centre of ICWA organised a Presentation by Dr. Dmitrii Novikov, SCO Resident Researcher from Russia, on “Russia-SCO & Regional Dynamics” on 27 April 2023 at Sapru House, New Delhi. Dr. Rajan Kumar, Associate Professor, Centre for Russian and Central Asian Studies, School of International Studies, JNU, New Delhi; and Dr. Himani Pant, Research Fellow, ICWA, were the two discussants of the programme. The presentation was followed by a Q&A session. The Speakers discussed various aspects of Russia-SCO engagement, the challenges the Organisation is facing, and its likely future trajectory amid evolving regional dynamics.



## Mr. Faridun Rahimov, Fellow Researcher, The Institute for the Study of European and Asian Problems, National Academy of Sciences, Tajikistan, SCO Resident Scholar, 1 May 2023

Under India's Presidency of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) (2022–2023), ICWA hosted the SCO Resident Researchers Program in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs from December 2022 to June 2023. In the month of May 2023, ICWA hosted a SCO scholar from Tajikistan: Mr. Faridun Rahimov, Fellow Researcher at the Institute for the Study of European and Asian Problems, National Academy of Sciences, Tajikistan. He held interactions with leading think tanks and academic institutions of India, including the JSIA, O. P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat; Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi and MP-IDSA, New Delhi. The program included a week's module of the SCO scholar's visit to Bangalore, Chennai and Puducherry, coordinated by ICWA in collaboration with its MoU partner National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bangalore.



## Sangwoo Lim, Minister & Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the Republic of Korea met Ms. Nutan Kapoor Mahawar, Joint Secretary, ICWA, 9 May 2023

Sangwoo Lim, Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the Republic of Korea met Ms. Nutan Kapoor Mahawar, Joint Secretary, ICWA on 9 May 2023 to discuss enhanced collaboration and other areas of mutual interest.





## Mr. Si Wei, Counsellor, Embassy of the People's Republic of China in New Delhi met Ms. Nutan Kapoor Mahawar, Joint Secretary, ICWA, 11 May 2023

Mr. Si Wei, Counsellor, Embassy of the People's Republic of China in New Delhi met Ms. Nutan Kapoor Mahawar, Joint Secretary, ICWA at Sapru House on 11 May 2023 to discuss think tank activities.



## Interaction with Mr. Tom Menadue, Assistant Secretary Global Partners, Department of Defence, Australia, 11 May 2023



ICWA organised an interaction with Mr. Tom Menadue, Assistant Secretary Global Partners, Department of Defence, Australia at Sapru House on 11 May 2023. The interaction was chaired by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA. Discussions were held on the recent Defence Strategic Review of Australia, Indo-Pacific strategic convergence and further strengthening of bilateral ties.

## Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA chaired the Session at the 6<sup>th</sup> Indian Ocean Conference, 12-13 May 2023

Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA chaired the Session on 'Dealing with Non-Traditional Security Challenges for a Peaceful and Sustainable Indo-Pacific' at the 6<sup>th</sup> Indian Ocean Conference held on 12-13 May 2023 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.



## Panel Discussion on “Evolving Situation in Pakistan & Afghanistan”, 17 May 2023

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ICWA organised a Panel Discussion on "Evolving Situation in Pakistan and Afghanistan" chaired by DG, ICWA Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh on 17 May 2023 at Sapru House. Prof. Ajay Darshan Behera, Jamia Millia Islamia University; Vishal Chandra, MP-IDSA; Prof. Amitabh Mattoo, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Anant Mishra, CENJOWS made presentations. Atul Aneja, Associate Editor, India Narrative was the discussant.



Discussions were held on the ongoing political problems within Pakistan augmented by the event of arrest of Imran Khan on 9 May 2023, that led to clear lines being drawn between institutions within the country, such as the military establishment, Federal Government and National Assembly on one side and the Pakistan Tehreek-e- Insaf (PTI) led by Imran Khan and the Judiciary on another side.

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## Interaction with Prof. Tomasz Stepniewski, Research Director, Institute of Central Europe, Lublin, Poland, 18 May 2023

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Prof. (Dr.) Tomasz Stępniewski, Research Director, Institute of Central Europe, Lublin and Patrycja Wozniak, Political Officer, Embassy of the Republic of Poland in New Delhi met Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA on 18 May 2023 and exchanged perspectives on the current international situation.



## XVIII SCO Forum Meeting, 22-23 May 2023

ICWA delegation participated in the XVIII SCO Forum meeting held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan on 22-23 May 2023. The Forum was hosted by the Center for Strategic Research under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan. The ICWA delegation was led by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA. Prof. Sanjay Kumar Pandey, Centre for Russian and Central Asian Studies, School of International Studies, JNU, New Delhi and Dr. Athar Zafar, SRF, ICWA were the members of the delegation.



The SCO Forum is a consortium of think tanks of SCO Member countries and it meets annually. India became a Member of the SCO in 2017, and ICWA was nominated as the representative think tank from India to the Forum. The XVIII Forum meeting was attended by representatives and experts of SCO research centres of Member States, Observers and Dialogue Partners. SCO Secretary General Zhang Ming addressed the Forum online.

Apart from the inaugural and concluding sessions, the Forum had four business sessions. The themes of sessions were: “The SCO in the new global realities: the current state, the potential of the ‘SCO family’, the prospects for the development of the organisation”; “Strategic guidelines of the SCO in the context of the formation of a multipolar world”; “SCO security policy in the face of changing forms, nature, geography and scale of traditional and non-traditional challenges and threats”; “New Trends in the Cooperation of the SCO States in the New World Order: Prospects for Inclusive Economic, Innovative, Technological & Humanitarian Development”.

The participants discussed SCO’s expansion with the inclusion of Iran and later Belarus as Members. They expressed concerns over the situation in Afghanistan & it was mentioned that SCO countries continue to face threats posed by international terrorist organisations. They urged greater cooperation in countering terrorism, separatism, extremism and drug trafficking. Furthering economic cooperation was emphasised, particularly in areas like development of ‘green’ economy & ‘green’ energy. Cooperation for environmental protection was also underscored. Cultural exchanges, humanitarian cooperation, cooperation in science & education were also discussed.

The Institute for Strategic and Interregional Studies under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan took over the Chairmanship of the Forum and it will host the XIX meeting in Uzbekistan in 2024.

## Dr. Nivedita Ray, Director Research, ICWA participated in Africa Day Roundtable Discussion on “India’s G20 Presidency: Furthering India-Africa Ties” organised by MP-IDSA, 23 May 2023

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Dr. Nivedita Ray, Director Research, ICWA participated in the Africa Day Roundtable Discussion on "India's G20 Presidency: Furthering India-Africa Ties" organised by MP-IDSA, India on 23 May 2023. She spoke on the significance of India's G20 Presidency for its Africa policy.



## Interaction with Students of the Indian Institute of Democratic Leadership, Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini, Maharashtra, 24 May 2023

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An interaction on Indian foreign policy was held on 24 May 2023 at Sapru House with the students of the Indian Institute of Democratic Leadership, Thane, Maharashtra. The students were also briefed about the activities of the ICWA.

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## **Mr. Naozad Hodiwala, Country Coordinator for India, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), Brussels, Belgium met Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA, 25 May 2023**

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Mr. Naozad Hodiwala, Country Coordinator for India, International Centre for Migration Policy Development, Brussels, Belgium met Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA on 25 May 2023 at Sapru House and discussed prospects for cooperation and collaboration between ICWA and ICMPD on issues related to international migration and mobility.



## **First Meeting of Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) Study Group on “Rules Based Order: Strengthening Consensus on the Rules and Principles Underpinning International Order”, 25-26 May 2023**

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The first in-person meeting of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) Study Group on Strengthening Consensus on the Rules and Principles Underpinning International Order (RPUIO) was held on 25- 26 May 2023, Hanoi, Vietnam.

Dr. Manimuthu Gandhi, Professor, Vice President, Indian Society of International Law, CSCAP India and Former Legal Advisor, MEA, participated in the meeting on behalf of CSCAP-India. Apart from India, representatives from member countries such as Australia, Canada, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, China, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand Vietnam and USA also participated in the meeting. The experts deliberated on the following sub-themes: Political/Security Order; Economic Order; and the Evolution of the International Order. The role of the Global South in shaping the order was discussed as well.

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## **Mr. Davlatov Kamronbek Sanjarbek o`g`li, Young Researcher, University of World Economy and Diplomacy under Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Uzbekistan (MFA), SCO Resident Scholar, 2 June 2023**

Under India's Presidency of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) (2022–2023), ICWA hosted the SCO Resident Researchers Program in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs from December 2022 to June 2023. In the month of June 2023, ICWA hosted a SCO scholar from Uzbekistan: Mr. Davlatov Kamronbek Sanjarbek o`g`li, Young Researcher at University of World Economy and Diplomacy under Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Uzbekistan (MFA). He held interactions with leading think tanks and academic institutions of India, including the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi and MP-IDSA, New Delhi. The program included a week's module of the SCO scholar's visit to Bangalore, Chennai and Puducherry, coordinated by ICWA in collaboration with its MoU partner National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bangalore.



## **H.E. Abel Aballe Despaigne, Cd'A, Cuba to India met Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA, 6 June 2023**

H.E. Abel Aballe Despaigne, Chargé d' Affaires, Embassy of India to Cuba met Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA on 6 June 2023. The two sides exchanged views on bilateral and regional issues of mutual interest.



## Round Table Discussion between Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) & Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore (MEI, NUS) on “Role of Regional and Global Actors in the Middle East: A View from India and Singapore”, 8 June 2023

Middle East Institute-National University of Singapore and ICWA held a closed door virtual Round Table Discussion on 8 June 2023. Topic of the Round Table Discussion was “Role of Regional and Global Actors in the Middle East: A View from India and Singapore”. The opening remarks were delivered by MEI Delegation Lead Ms. Michelle Teo, Executive Director, MEI and ICWA Delegation Lead Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA. Participants in the Round Table Discussion were Dr. Jean-Loup Samaan, SRF, MEI (The US, EU and NATO in the Middle East); Dr. Stuti Banerjee, SRF, ICWA (Role of US in the Middle East); Amb. Gyorgy Busztin, VRP, MEI (Russia and Central Asia in the Middle East); Dr. Himani Pant, RF, ICWA (Role of Russia in the Middle East); (Dr. Asif Shuja, SRF, MEI (Non-Arab Regional Powers of ME -Iran, Turkey and Israel); Dr. F. R. Siddiqui, SRF, ICWA (Role of China, Turkey and Israel in the Middle East); Dr. Clemens Chay, RF, MEI (Arab Regional Powers of ME-Saudi Arabia and the UAE); Dr. Lakshmi Priya, RF, ICWA (Role of Gulf Countries in the Middle East-Iran, Saudi Arabia and the UAE).



## ICWA-Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam MoU Signing Ceremony, 8 June 2023

ICWA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, Hanoi to establish institutional linkages and foster collaboration in research and publications in areas of mutual interest. The MoU was signed on 8 June 2023 by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA and Dr. Pham Lan Dung, Acting President DAV, Hanoi.



## Second ICWA- Emirates Centre for Strategic Studies and Research (UAE) Dialogue, 12 June 2023

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The Second ICWA-ECSSR (The Emirates Centre for Strategic Studies and Research, UAE) Dialogue was held on 12 June 2023 at Abu Dhabi and the dialogue had three sessions focussing on foreign policy of India and the UAE. The first session focussed on Changing Global and Regional Dynamics: Perspectives from India and the UAE; the second session focussed on Deepening Political and Security Cooperation: India-UAE and the third session focussed on Energy Transition and Prospects for Bilateral Cooperation.

The five-member ICWA delegation was led by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG ICWA and other members of the delegation were Amb. Anil Trigunayat; Dr. Bhupendra Singh, Principal Energy Security, CII; Dr. F R Siddiqui, SRF, ICWA and Dr. Lakshmi Priya, RF, ICWA. The ECSSR delegation was led by H.E. Dr. Sultan Mohammed al Nuaimi, Director General, ECSSR and other members that participated from ECSSR were Mr. Mohamemd Baharoon, Director General, Dubai Public Policy Research Center “B’huth”; Mr. Abdullah Al Shatri, Researcher, ECSSR; Mr. Abdulrahman Al Hadadi, Researcher, ECSSR; Dr. Khaled Fahmy, Advisor, ECSSR, and Dr. Mohamed Trabelsi, Advisor, ECSSR. The dialogue focused on changing global and regional dynamics in the backdrop of geopolitical fissures, political and security dynamics, and energy transition. Discussions were held on the growing India-UAE partnership based on mutual trust and respect and on India’s growing role in the West Asian region.

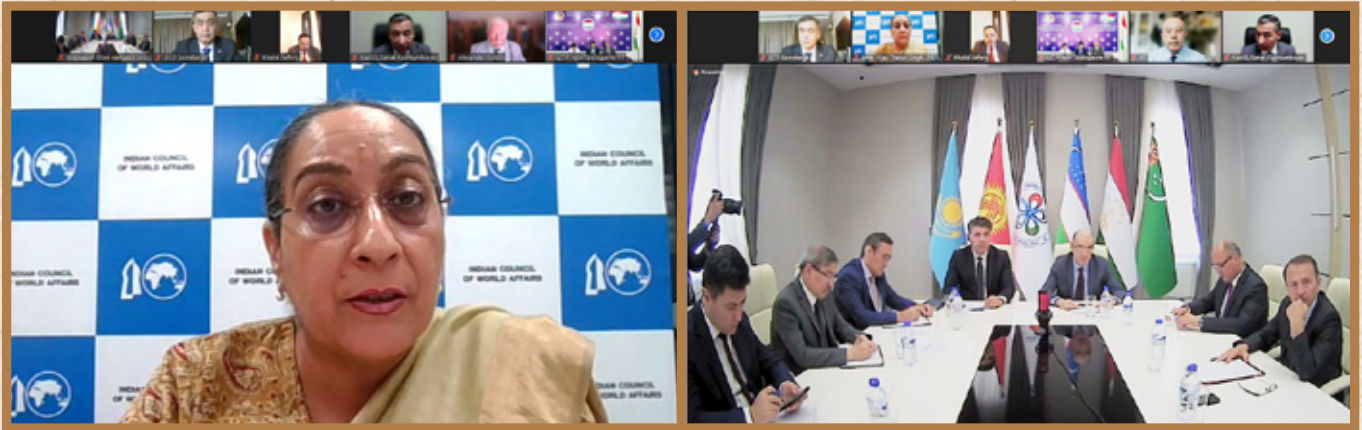
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## International Roundtable Conference on “Samarkand Process: Prospects for Modernisation of the SCO” organised by ISRS & IICA, Uzbekistan, 14 June 2023

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan in cooperation with the Institute for Strategic and Inter-Regional Studies under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (ISRS), Tashkent, and the International Institute for Central Asia (IICA), Tashkent, organised an International Round Table in virtual format on 14 June 2023. The Round Table was held on the theme of "Samarkand Process: Prospects for Modernization of the SCO".





Ambassador Vijay Thakur Singh, Director General, ICWA, addressed the Round Table in the Session titled "Adaptation of the SCO activities to the new: geopolitical and geo-economic realities". She said that SCO has emerged as a major platform of multilateral engagement, advocating political, security, economic and cultural cooperation among the states, economies, institutions and peoples in Eurasia. She emphasised on greater security and economic cooperation to deal with the challenges.

## Interaction with Students and Faculty of Rashtriya Raksha University, Gujarat, 20 June 2023

Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA interacted with a delegation of students from Rashtriya Raksha University, Gujarat led by Dr. L. Venkateswara, Director, School of International Cooperation, RRU on ICWA's role in policy making and Indian Foreign Policy on 20 June 2023.



## Sapru House Paper Discussion on “Changing Foreign Policy of Smaller Gulf States: A Case Study of the Qatar” written by Dr. Lakshmi Priya, Research Fellow, ICWA, 21 June 2023

Sapru House Paper Discussion on the paper titled “Changing Foreign Policy of Smaller Gulf States: A Case Study of Qatar” written by Dr. Lakshmi Priya, Research Fellow, Indian Council of World Affairs, was held on 21 June 2023. The discussion was chaired by Amb. Sanjay Singh, and the discussants for the paper were Prof. Gulshan Dietl, Former Director, Gulf Studies Programme, Centre for West Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi and Prof Mohammed Badrul Alam, Department of Political Science, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.



The discussion focused on the foreign policy behaviour of a small state like Qatar. India depends on Qatar to meet its growing energy needs as far as Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is concerned. Qatar is focusing on enhancing its soft power through mediating in the regional conflicts and promotion of the tourism sector. It is actively engaged in sports diplomacy as evident from hosting of FIFA World Cup 2022.

## Second India-Morocco Dialogue, 22 June 2023

ICWA organised the Second India-Morocco Dialogue on 22 June 2023 at Sapru House. Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA and Amb. Mohammed Belmahi, Head of the IRES delegation led the two delegations. H.E. Amb. Rajesh Vaishnav, Amb. of India to the Kingdom of Morocco, Rabat and H.E. Mr. Mohammed Maliki, Amb. of Kingdom of Morocco to India also delivered remarks at the Inaugural Session.



At the Dialogue, Session on 'Evolving Global and Regional Geopolitics - Perspectives for India and Morocco' was chaired by Amb. Gurjit Singh, Former Amb. of India to Ethiopia and India's representative to African Union. Dr. Mohammed Amine Bahou, Senior Researcher, IRES and Dr. Fazzur Rahman Siddiqui, SRF, ICWA were the speakers.



Amb. Gurjit Singh, Fmr Amb. of India to Ethiopia and India's representative to AU chaired the Session on "India-Morocco Engagement in Regional and Multilateral Framework". Prof. Abdellatif Khattabi, Senior Fellow, IRES; Dr. Ruchita Beri, Consultant, MP-IDSA and Prof. Jaâfar Heikel, Senior Fellow IRES were the speakers.

Session on "India-Morocco: Advancing Political, Economic and Cultural Ties" was chaired by Dr. Mohammed Amine Bahou, IRES. Amb. Kheya Bhattacharya, fmr Amb. of India to Kingdom of Morocco and Amb. Mohammed Belmahi, Senior Fellow, IRES were the speakers.

Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA and Amb. Mohammed Belmahi, Senior Fellow, IRES delivered remarks at the closing session of the Dialogue. Both sides recognised the importance of working together with renewed vigour to further strengthen bilateral ties.

## Closed-Door Interaction with Mr. Seyed Rasoul Mousavi, Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs & Director General of South Asia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Iran on 'Iran's Foreign Policy Towards Afghanistan', 23 June 2023

Indian Council of World Affairs organised a closed-door Interaction with Mr. Seyed Rasoul Mousavi, Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Director General for South Asia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran, on 23 June 2023 at Sapru House, New Delhi. The title of the Interaction was "Iran's Foreign



Policy Towards Afghanistan". Mr. Iraj Elahi, Iran's Ambassador to India also attended the programme. The event was chaired by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, Director General, ICWA, and participants included members of Indian diplomatic corps, including Amb. Vivek Katju, Amb. Sanjay Singh, Amb. Amar Sinha, members of think tanks, researchers and academics.

## Mr. Abedlerazeg M.A. Abujazer, Counsellor and CDA of the Embassy of the State of Palestine met Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA, 26 June 2023

Mr. Abedlerazeg M.A. Abujazer, Counsellor and CDA of the Embassy of the State of Palestine met Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA on 26 June 2023 and exchanged views on the current political developments in the West Asia region.



## 42<sup>nd</sup> Sapru House Lecture by H.E. Enrique A. Manalo, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, The Republic of the Philippines on “Shared Values and Common Outlook: The Journey of Philippines-India Cooperation”, 28 June 2023



ICWA organised the 42<sup>nd</sup> Sapru House Lecture on 'Shared Values and Common Outlook - The Journey of The Philippines-India Cooperation' by Hon. Enrique A. Manalo, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, The Republic of the Philippines at Sapru House on 28 June 2023. Secretary Manalo delved into the Philippines and India's historical connections, democratic values and evolving roles in a deeply interconnected world. He offered insights into bilateral cooperation and the potential for a transformative partnership that addresses global challenges. Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA delivered the opening remarks. Amb. Ma. Teresita C. Daza, DG, FSI and former Amb. of The Philippines to India and Nepal also delivered remarks.

In her opening remarks, Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh highlighted that both India and Philippines have commonalities that go back to their anti-colonial histories and their democratic policies. Formal bilateral relationship was established in November 1949. In the recent past, bilateral relations have resurged. High-level interactions and visits have taken place between the two countries. Secretary Manalo's visit complimented this trend in India-Philippines relations. The Philippines has become a key partner in India's Act East Policy. As regards the Indo-Pacific, both have vital stakes in upholding a rule-based order and free and open Indo-Pacific. India supports ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP) which has commonalities with India's Indo-Pacific Ocean Initiative (IPOI).

Amb. T. Daza highlighted that as a former Ambassador of The Philippines to India from 2015-2019, she had first-hand experience and understood that shared democratic principles and values have shaped India-Philippines relations. India and Philippines will celebrate 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of bilateral relations next year.

In his Sapru House Lecture, H.E. Enrique A. Manalo stated that both India and the Philippines have multi-cultural societies and diversities that are their strengths. This is reflected in the resilient diplomacy that recognizes diversity, a key in making multilateralism work and to build bridges and forge consensus within the larger Indo-Pacific framework. India's SAGAR initiative and the role of the Philippines in recognizing ASEAN Centrality is reflective of the common strategic vision of India and Philippines for their respective sub-regions. Both countries recognize the need for multilateralism to meet with current challenges. In this regard, the Philippines recognized India's efforts at reformed multilateral systems, that works for inclusive, transparent institutions. In this regard, it was important to bring the focus back on the interests of the people. Both countries have shown resilience in the face of obstacles and that they must look forward to further their bilateral relations. Many areas of cooperation can be identified in this context, from health security, to meeting needs of their expanding populations, to safeguarding the global commons. Areas such as cyber security, where common threats can be addressed, and application of fintech to local economies can be promoted for cooperation as also space exploration. Also, India and the Philippines have many common areas for cooperation that can be harnessed as maritime nations. Secretary Manalo emphasized that Philippines and India profess an unwavering faith in democracy, and its unique power to unite, inspire and transform.

## **H.E. Mr. Milinda Moragoda, H.C. Sri Lanka to India met Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA, 30 June 2023**

H. E. Mr. Milinda Moragoda, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to India, met Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA on 30 June 2023 at Sapru House. Discussions were held on topics of mutual interest related to India-Sri Lanka bilateral relations and prospects for joint collaboration.



## OUTREACH EVENTS

### Two-day International Conference on "Connecting the Indo-Pacific: Exploring the Opportunities for India", 28-29 April 2023

A two day International Conference on "Connecting the Indo-Pacific: Exploring the opportunities for India" was organised by Department of International Relations, Jadavpur Association of International Relations (JAIR), Kolkata in collaboration with ICWA on 28-29 April 2023.

Dr. Pragya Pandey, RF, ICWA delivered the Opening Remarks and also presented a paper on the theme of the conference.



### Special Lecture on 'Indo-Pacific as the New Strategic Narrative', 3 May 2023

Dr. Pragya Pandey, RF, ICWA delivered a Special Lecture on 'Indo-Pacific as the New Strategic Narrative' at the Department of International Relations, Central University of Jharkhand (CUJ), Ranchi under ICWA's University Outreach Programme on 3 May 2023.

### Three-day Conference on "Contemporary Socio-Cultural & Political Developments- India & Southeast Asia: One Indic Belt", 5 May 2023

Dr. Sripathi Narayanan, RF, ICWA and Dr. Temjenmeren Ao attended a three-day Conference on "Contemporary Socio-Cultural and Political Developments- India and Southeast Asia: One Indic Belt" was organised at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on 5 May 2023.

### Paper Presentation on 'Changing Security Dynamics in the Nordics amid Ukraine War' at an International Conference organised by SIS, JNU, 10-11 May 2023



Dr. Himani Pant, RF, ICWA presented a paper on 'Changing Security Dynamics in the Nordics amid Ukraine War' at an International Conference on "Current Global Developments and the Nordic" organised by the Centre for European Studies, School of International Studies, JNU as part of the Jean Monet Module 'Understanding European Integration through the Regional Lens' with the Nordic Centre in India on 10-11 May 2023.

## 9<sup>th</sup> Indian Ocean Dialogue (IOD), 22-23 May 2023

ICWA participated as the knowledge partner of MEA in the "Track 1.5 9<sup>th</sup> Indian Ocean Dialogue on Innovation in Blue Economy and its Role in GDP Contribution" held on 22 –23 May 2023 in Zanzibar Tanzania. At the Dialogue, Dr. Pragya Pandey, RF, ICWA participated as a panellist in Session 2 on 'Ocean Governance and Blue Economy'. 14 Member states and Dialogue partners of IORA participated.



### Research Interns at ICWA



During April-June 2023, Ms. Tarveen Kaur, Ms. Anjali Singh, Ms. Faareha Usmani, Ms. Varuna Shankar, Mr. Biswarup & Mr. Nikhil Guvvadi joined ICWA as full-time Research Interns.

Ms. Yashvi Barot, Mr. Rajan Sai Sukrut, Mr. Aditya Chauhan, Mr. Aditya Kumar, Ms. Alphy Joseph, Ms. Sowmiya V. pursuing MA from Department of Geopolitics and International Relations, Manipal Academy of Higher Education (DGIR, MAHE) as well as Ms. Navya Syam, Mr. Apoorv Devgiree, & Ms. Elina Ghosh students of MA, International Studies from Christ University also joined ICWA as Research Interns during June-July 2023. GIR, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal University & Christ University, Bangalore are ICWA's MoU Partners.

## ICWA Publications

### Issue Briefs

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1. Dr. Shrabana Barua, Why Balochistan Needs More Attention within Pakistan (11 April 2023)
2. Dr. Fazzur Rahman Siddiqui, A Year of Russia–Ukraine Conflict and Turkiye: A Reflection (18 April 2023)
3. Dr. Tunchinmang Langel, Japan-India-South Korea Trilateral for the Indo-Pacific (19 April 2023)
4. Tarveen Kaur, Diplomatic return of the US in the Solomon Islands after 30 years (21 April 2023)
5. Dr. Athar Zafar, A Year of President Serdar: Developments in Turkmenistan (28 April 2023)
6. Dr. Teshu Singh, Recent Developments in Cross-Strait Relations (28 April 2023)
7. Dr. Surabhi Singh, Exploring New Mobility Corridors- Case of Italy (1 May 2023)
8. Dr. Surabhi Singh, Overhauling Migration and Asylum in the EU- The Long Road Ahead (3 May 2023)
9. Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, China's Position Paper on Afghan Issue: A Review (10 May 2023)
10. Dr. Shrabana Barua, Arrest of Imran Khan: Gauging internal and external reactions (19 May 2023)
11. Dr. Tunchinmang Langel, Recapping the G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Summit 2023 (30 May 2023)
12. Dr. Arshad, Re-integration of Syria into Arab League: Aspects and Prospects (6 June 2023)
13. Dr. Pragya Pandey, FIPIC III: Enhancing India's Engagement with Pacific Islands (6 June 2023)
14. Dr. Stuti Banerjee, The United States' Debt Ceiling Negotiations and their Importance (15 June 2023)
15. Dr. Sripathi Narayanan, Decoding Thailand's 2023 General Elections (16 June 2023)
16. Biswarup Baidya, Challenges in Iran-Azerbaijan Relations: Implications for the region (16 June 2023)
17. Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, China's Shuttle Diplomacy on Ukraine (28 June 2023)

### Viewpoints

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1. Dr. Samatha Mallempati, The IMF Loan to Sri Lanka: Challenges at Present (6 April 2023)
2. Dr. Himani Pant, Russia's New Foreign Policy Concept (13 April 2023)
3. Anjali Singh, Saudi Arabia's Look East Policy (28 April 2023)
4. Dr. Anwesha Ghosh, UN Chief to Host an International Meeting on Afghanistan in Doha (28 April 2023)
5. Dr. Arshad, How is the Kurdish Factor Straining Turkiye-France Relations (9 May 2023)
6. Dr. Anwesha Ghosh, UN holds crucial Afghanistan talks without the Taliban (9 May 2023)
7. Dr. Fazzur Rahman Siddiqui, Sudan Again Slides into Chaos: An Assessment (17 May 2023)
8. Dr. Gauri Narain Mathur, Sudan Crisis: What is at Stake (18 May 2023)
9. Dr. Teshu Singh, Increasing Use of the Renminbi in Global Trade (22 May 2023)
10. Dr. Himani Pant, First India-EU Trade and Technology Council: Significant Milestone in India-EU Relations (22 May 2023)
11. Dr. Stuti Banerjee, The U.S. in Central Asia (29 May 2023)
12. Dr. Arnab Chakrabarty, Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the PRC and Honduras- Larger Implications (1 June 2023)
13. Varuna Shankar, Significance of Finland's Accession to NATO (7 June 2023)



14. Dr. Shrabana Barua, Nepal PM's India visit reiterates the importance of energy and connectivity infrastructure in their bilateral equation (12 June 2023)
15. Dr. Sripathi Narayanan, Jakarta's peace plan for Ukraine & Indonesia's ASEAN Centrality (14 June 2023)
16. Dr. Samatha Mallempati, The Upcoming 2023 Presidential Elections in Maldives: Rumbling within the MDP (14 June 2023)
17. Faareha Usmani, India-Africa's Deepening Defence Partnership and Avenues Ahead (23 June 2023)
18. Dr. Pragya Pandey, The US and Papua New Guinea Sign Crucial Agreements Amidst the Swift Geopolitical Changes in the South Pacific (28 June 2023)
19. Dr. Himani Pant, Germany's First National Security Strategy: Scope and Limitations (28 June 2023)

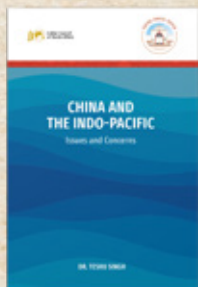
## ICWA Guest Columns

1. Sankalp Gurjar, Assistant Professor, Manipal Academy of Higher Education , 'The Changing Contours of Great Power Politics in West Africa' (10 April 2023)
2. Prof. Amonulla Mukhamedjanov, Tashkent State Law University, 'Uzbekistan on the Eve of the Referendum on the Constitution' (27 April 2023)
3. Amb. Lakshmi Puri, Former Assistant Secy General, UN & Founding Deputy Executive Director, UNWOMEN, 'Pushing the Frontiers of Women-led Development: India's G20 Presidency' (4 May 2023)
4. Dr. Ajai Chowdhry, Deepak Maheshwari, Avni Sablok, Prof. Sudhanshu Bhushan and Dr. Mayur Trivedi, 'Indian Diplomacy and GOI Flagship Programmes' (23 May 2023)
5. Gulden Kaskarbayeva, Zou Zhengxin, Karagulov Batyr-Mukhammad Azamatovich, Dmitrii Pavlovich Novikov, Rahimov Faridun, and Davlatov Kamronbek Sanjarbek Ugli , 'Towards a SECURE Shanghai Cooperation Organisation: Views of SCO Resident Researchers at ICWA', (15 June 2023)

## Special Report

1. Dr. Surabhi Singh & Dr. Gatha Nautiyal, The Gulf Cooperation Council Region: A Labour Market Analysis (7 June 2023)

## Sapru House Papers



### China and the Indo-Pacific: Issues and concerns

By Dr. Teshu Singh,  
(Indian Council of World  
Affairs 2023)



### India and Latin America Relations - Understanding the SICA

By Dr. Stuti Banerjee and  
Dr. Arnab Chakrabarty,  
(Indian Council of World Affairs 2023)



### Shinzo Abe and Japan-China Security Relations - Irritants and Legacies

By Dr. Sudeep Kumar,  
(Indian Council of World  
Affairs 2023)



### Ten Years of Turkiye-Egypt Relations - Confrontation and Reconciliation

By Dr. Arshad,  
(Indian Council of World Affairs 2023)

## Sapru House Papers



### Russia-China Relations and a Changing World Order

By Dr. Himani Pant,

(Indian Council of World Affairs 2023)

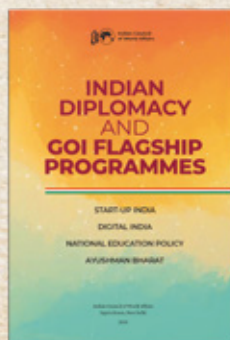
## Special Publications



### 'Pushing the Frontiers of Women-led Development: India's G20 Presidency'

By Amb. Lakshmi Puri, Former Assistant Secretary General, United Nations & Founding Deputy Executive Director, UNWOMEN,

(4 May 2023)



### 'Indian Diplomacy and GOI Flagship Programmes'

By Dr. Ajai Chowdhry, Deepak Maheshwari, Avni Sablok, Prof. Sudhanshu Bhushan, Dr. Mayur Trivedi

(23 May 2023)



### 'Towards a SECURE Shanghai Cooperation Organization: Views of SCO Resident Researchers at ICWA'

By Gulden Kaskarbayeva, Zou Zhengxin, Karagulov Batyr-Mukhammad Azamatovich, Dmitrii Pavlovich Novikov, Rahimov Faridun, and Davlatov Kamronbek Sanjarbek Ugli,

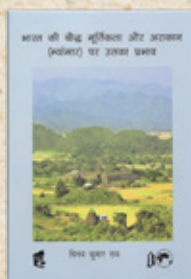
(15 June 2023)



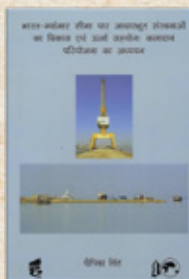
### 'Celebrating 75 Years of Indian Foreign Policy'

(21 June 2023)

## ICWA Books



भारत की बौद्ध मूर्तिकला और अराकान (म्यांमार) पर उसका प्रभाव  
विनय कुमार राव  
(भारतीय वैश्विक परिषद्;  
हिंदी बुक सेंटर, 2023)



भारत-म्यांमार सीमा पार आधारभूत संरचनाओं का विकास एवं उर्जा सहयोग: कलादान परियोजना का अध्ययन  
दीपिका सिंह  
(भारतीय वैश्विक परिषद्; हिंदी बुक सेंटर, 2023)



भारतीय वैश्विक परिषद् समीक्षा 2022  
दीपिका सिंह  
(भारतीय वैश्विक परिषद्;  
प्रभात प्रकाशन, 2023)

**India Quarterly** A Journal of International Affairs  
Volume 79, Issue 2, June 2023

**Editorial**

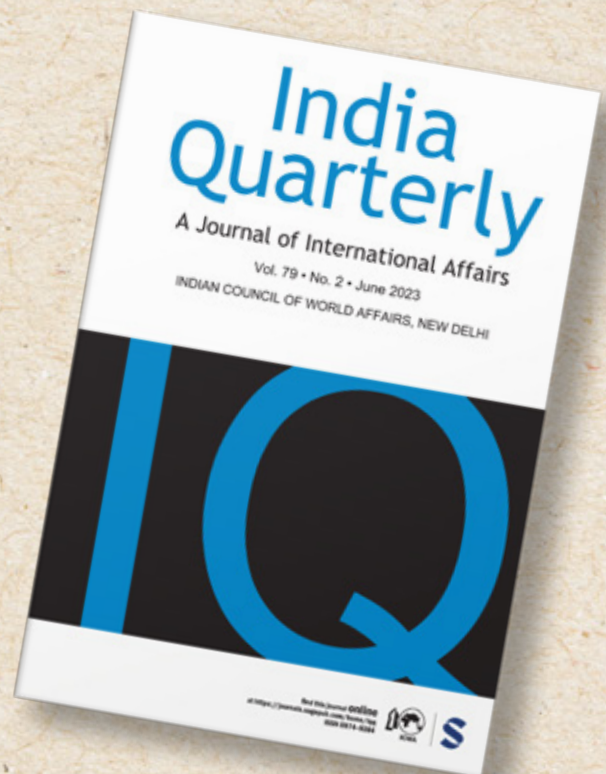
As this issue of the India Quarterly goes to press, there is much chatter about the big issues: the war in Ukraine, the severely strained relations between the United States and China, and the implications of both for existing global regimes. Yet, as often happens, it is the smaller, more granular but no less significant issues that sustain the warp and weft of transnational relations, as we see with the articles in this issue of the India Quarterly. A large part of what we consider transnational relations now rests on the actions of new actors and on a set of new activities, both of which are networked into state policy. For example, although states, global aid organisations and local actors respond when disasters strike humanity, diaspora organisations have become significant providers of aid and assistance. As one author notes, these organisations expand the context of humanitarian action and also ‘have notable secondary effects on other aid providers’. In other realms, while the state fashions policy, it is a host of new actors who take this forward. As other articles in this issue note, this is as true for China’s Belt and Road Initiative as it is for the spread of India’s soft power in South East Asia. Future trends for the BRI after COVID-19 indicate greater sectoral and geographic complexity. The focus on digital connectivity, innovation and smaller and smarter projects invites a range of players not active in the BRI so far. For India, encouraging assessments of the impact of its soft power in historically significant regions might spur greater engagement with those best suited to speak the language of culture.

Yet, states may not easily shrug off responsibility for the welfare and security of their citizens. The current crisis in Pakistan speaks to this abdication in a more immediate sense but, as one author in this issue notes, the crisis has been years in the making at ground level in Pakistan’s provinces. Public sector resource allocation has been skewed with bureaucratic elites either misappropriating budgets for personal benefits or to buy ‘political allegiance’,

creating severe social and economic imbalances. Faced with a combination of geopolitical competition from China’s infrastructure on its side of the border and economic and development deficits in its North East, India has instead chosen to implement a programme of border management and infrastructure development. In this context, railway infrastructure building on the border has become, as one author argues, ‘a tool kit of critical geopolitics’. Finally, a timely article looks at what India, as an emerging power, may do to address the conflict of interests with Small Island Developing States, many of which are neighbours in existential peril given global warming. The current situation, as the author notes, ‘presents a challenge as well as an opportunity’ for India ‘to take a leadership role in a reformed new world order’.

**Prof. Madhu Bhalla**

Editor, India Quarterly



## ABOUT ICWA

The Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) was established in 1943 by a group of eminent intellectuals led by Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and Dr. H.N. Kunzru. Its principal objective was to create an Indian perspective on international relations and act as a repository of knowledge and thinking on foreign policy issues. The Council today conducts policy research through an in-house faculty as well as through external experts. It regularly organizes an array of intellectual activities including conferences, seminars, round table discussions, lectures and brings out a range of publications. It has a well-stocked library, an active website, and publishes the journal 'India Quarterly'. ICWA has over 50 MoUs with international think tanks and research institutions to promote better understanding on international issues and develop areas of mutual cooperation. The Council also has partnerships with leading research institutions, think tanks and universities in India.



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