

# NEWSLETTER

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L-R: Hon'ble Dr. S. Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India, Lord Dean Godson, Director, Policy Exchange, Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, United Kingdom at the First India-U.K. Strategic Futures Forum, 31 March 2022

- On 10 March 2022, ICWA hosted the first Ambassador's Round Table Discussion on the theme 'Relations between India and the SICA Nations' with the participation of the Heads of Missions of Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Panama.



Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA, speaking at the SICA Ambassadors' Round Table, 10 March 2022

## Highlights

- The Third India-Uzbekistan Think Tanks Forum was held on 19 January 2022. The Opening Session was addressed by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA; Amb. Daniyar Kurbanov, Director, CIRS; Amb. of India to Uzbekistan Manish Prabhat.
- ICWA-RIAC Dialogue on "Strategic visions of India-Russia and changes in the World order" was held virtually on 28 January 2022. It commenced with an inaugural session where remarks were made by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA; Dr. Andrey Kortunov, DG, RIAC, Mr. Roman Babushkin, Deputy Chief of Mission, Russian Embassy in India; and Ms. Gina Uika, Deputy Chief of Mission, Indian Embassy in Russia.
- The Indian Council of World Affairs in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs; and Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, United Kingdom and Policy Exchange, UK organised the first edition of the India-UK Strategic Futures Forum (IUSFF) on 30-31 March 2022. The main highlight of IUSFF was 'Conversation with Dr. S. Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India and Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs and First Secretary of State, United Kingdom' on 31 March 2022.



Foreign Secretary Shri Harsh Vardhan Shringla, at the First India-U.K. Strategic Futures Forum, 31 Mar 2022



Deputy National Security Advisor Vikram Misri speaking at the First India-U.K. Strategic Futures Forum, 31 March 2022







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## Third India-Uzbekistan Think Tanks Forum, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022



ICWA, in association with the Centre for International Relations Studies (CIRS), Tashkent, hosted the Third India-Uzbekistan Think Tanks Forum in virtual mode on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Discussions were held under three themes (a) 'priority directions of the agenda of the bilateral strategic partnership - green development and digitalisation'; (b) 'prospects for the development of trade and economic relations'; and (c) 'building social ties'. Scholars and former diplomats participated in this dialogue representing think tanks, universities and industry chambers from both India and Uzbekistan.

The Opening Session was addressed by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA; Amb. Daniyar Kurbanov, Director, CIRS; Amb. Manish Prabhat, Amb. of India to Uzbekistan; remarks by Amb. Dilshod Akhatov, Amb. of Uzbekistan to India. Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh welcomed all the participants and said that the meeting is taking place at a time when India's engagement with the Central Asian states has reached the milestone of 30 years of diplomatic relations. She mentioned that the lack of any tangible constructive development in Afghanistan since August last year has been a cause of anxiety for both India and Central Asia. Amb. Kurbanov said that the development of political dialogue and the promotion of mutually beneficial ties with India have become an important priority of foreign policy and foreign economic activity of Uzbekistan. Amb. Prabhat stated that there is a clear direction from the leaders of both sides to develop this relationship further. Amb. Akhatov mentioned that the relationship between India and Uzbekistan has reached new heights over the past few years as a result of intensive political dialogue between the leaders of the two countries. This multifaceted partnership was also active during the pandemic.

The first session was moderated by Amb. Ashok Sajjanhar, President, Institute of Global Studies, and the panellists were: Dr. Bakhtiyor Mustafayev, Deputy Director, International Institute for Central Asia; Amb. Phunchok Stobdan, Senior Fellow, Delhi Policy Group; Mr. Timur Rakhimov, Head, Department of the International Institute for Central Asia; Prof. Ajay Patnaik, Former Dean & Professor School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Mr. Sarvarjon Kamolov, Chief Researcher, Institute for Strategic and Interregional Studies under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. In this session, discussion focussed on India's role in green development in Central Asia. Bilateral cooperation on IT and enhancing cooperation in the digital sector were also discussed.

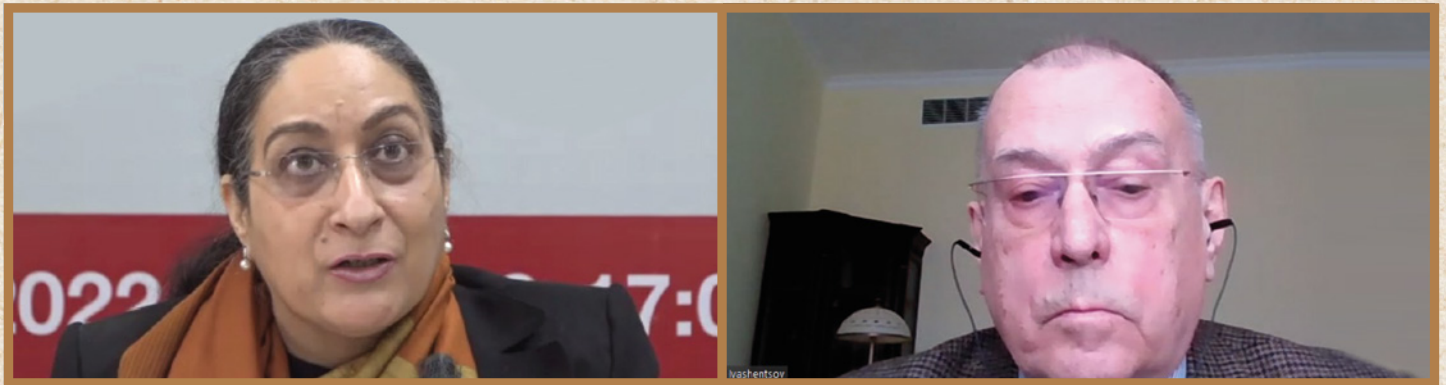
The second session was moderated by Dr. Umid Abidhadjaev, Director of the Institute of Forecasting and Macroeconomic Research, Uzbekistan. The panellists included, Amb. Skand Tayal, former Indian Ambassador to Uzbekistan; Dr. Eldor Tulyakov, Director, Development Strategy Center, Uzbekistan; Dr. Nodira Kurbanbayeva, Chief Researcher, Center for Economic Research and Reforms under the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan; Mr. Rohit Sharma, Director and Head-Europe and CIS, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry; and Amb. I. Mavlyanov, Ambassador, Professor at the University of World Economy and Diplomacy. It was highlighted that preferential trade agreements and bilateral investment treaties can further enhance economic ties and cooperation among start-ups, agriculture, pharma etc. Uzbekistan supports India's plan to develop Chabahar port and its linking to INSTC and supports developing transport and logistics cooperation between India, Iran and Uzbekistan.





The third Session was moderated by Amb. Skand Tayal, former Indian Ambassador to Uzbekistan and the panellists were: Mr. Farkhad Tolipov, Director of the non-governmental institution "Caravan of Knowledge"; Prof. Akhlaq Ahmad 'Ahan', School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Amb. Abdusamat Khaydarov, Professor at the Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies; Dr. Meena Singh Roy, Head, West & Central Asia Centre, Tillotoma Foundation; Former Head, West Asia Centre, MP-IDSA. It was noted that there is a very strong foundation, historical goodwill and friendship between the peoples of the two countries which needed to be built upon with fresh and innovative initiatives such as extending grants to scholars for focused research on Central Asian and South Asian regions.

## ICWA-RIAC Dialogue, 28th January 2022



ICWA in collaboration with the Russian International Affairs Council (RIAC) organised a virtual dialogue on "Strategic Visions of Russia-India Relations and Changes in the World Order" on 28th January 2022. The dialogue focused on global and regional strategic dynamics and bilateral priorities for India and Russia in the post-COVID world. It commenced with an inaugural session where remarks were made by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA; Dr. Andrey Kortunov, DG, RIAC, Mr. Roman Babushkin, Deputy Chief of Mission, Russian Embassy in India; and Ms. Gina Uika, Deputy Chief of Mission, Indian Embassy in Russia.

In the Inaugural Session, the speakers underscored the importance of the ICWA-RIAC Dialogue and commended that it brings together committed intellectuals working on India-Russia relations. The participants reiterated that India and Russia share a unique and reliable model of interstate friendship which is time tested and long standing. It was highlighted that amid the critical shifts in the world order and the ensuing global and regional challenges, India and Russia continue to engage in multifaceted cooperation, across various spheres, including political and strategic, economy, energy, defence and security, science and technology and culture.

The First Session of the Dialogue focused on "Global agenda: Russia's and India's shared and diverging interests". The panel was chaired by former National Security Advisory Board Chairman and former Ambassador to Russia, Amb. P.S. Raghavan. Remarks were made by Sergey Lunev, Professor at MGIMO University and Mr. Nandan Unnikrishnan, Distinguished Fellow at the Observer Research Foundation (ORF). It was stated that as both the countries deal with a changing global scenario and their individual issues in pursuit of national interests, they have maintained an independent foreign policy course. While this has resulted in some inevitable divergences, both sides do not act in a manner that is not in the interest of the other. There is an understanding and appreciation on both sides of each other's core concerns.





The Second Session delved on “India’s Indo-Pacific strategy and Russia’s vision”. Amb. Gleb Ivashentsov, Vice President at RIAC chaired the session. Padma Shri awardee Prof. Tatiana Shaumyan from the Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, Captain Sarabjeet S. Parmar, Executive Director at the National Maritime Foundation; Dr. Alexey Zakharov, Research Fellow at the RAS Institute of Oriental Studies; and Dr. Vivek Mishra, Fellow at the ORF shared their views. It was highlighted that the changing global political landscape has given a fresh impetus to the Indian Ocean region and has enhanced its political and economic significance. India’s vision of the Indo-Pacific is inclusive and sees Russia as an important maritime partner in the region, encouraging prospects of cooperation on the Chennai-Vladivostok maritime corridor, cooperation in the Russian Far East, and possible cooperation in areas such as maritime resources and maritime ecology.

The final session of the Dialogue focused on bilateral priorities for India-Russia in the Post-COVID world and was chaired by Prof. Anuradha M. Chenoy, former Dean at the School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. Panellists included Dr. Lydia Kulik from the SKOLKOVO Institute for Emerging Markets; Mr. Nitin Pai from the Takshashila Institution, Dr. Natalia Galistcheva, MGIMO University; Mr. Amit Bhandari from the Gateway House, Dr. Anna Kireeva, MGIMO University, Prof. D. Suba Chandran, Dean at National Institute of Advanced Studies. It was observed that the two sides need to focus on industries of the future, which includes new and emerging technologies to give a boost to the economic pillar of the partnership. The importance of collaboration in the Russian Far East & the Arctic was emphasised.

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## Meeting for Handing over of Chairmanship of Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG) to South Africa, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

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A virtual bilateral meeting between India and South Africa for handing over the IORAG Chair was held on 4th February 2022. ICWA presented a comprehensive report on India’s activities as IORAG Chair. Dr. Nivedita Ray, Director Research, ICWA made remarks at the meeting, where she mentioned that ICWA/India held the Chairmanship of Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG) from 2019-2021. With the end of the tenure, the Chairmanship was handed over to South Africa. ICWA during its chairmanship of IORAG conducted and held the 6th Indian Ocean Dialogue, the 25th Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG), IORA Capacity Building Workshop on the 1982 UNCLOS, the 26th Meeting of Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group or the IORAG, and the 8th Indian Ocean Dialogue 2021. ICWA also proposed the ways in which it could contribute to IORAG in the future.



## USI-ICWA Webinar on UN Peace Operations: Women, Peace and Security, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022

As part of the USI-ICWA series on UN Peacekeeping Operations, the 5th Webinar on 'Women, Peace and Security' was held on 9th February 2022. The webinar deliberated on United Nation Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 providing views from academics, practitioners and civilian peacekeepers. Maj. Gen. PK Goswami (Retd), Deputy Director, USI, in his welcome remarks stated how armed conflict affects men and women in different ways as the latter also face gender-based discrimination. He added that women peacekeepers serve as a powerful mentor and role model for women in the post-conflict setting in the host country. The Opening Address was delivered by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA, who stressed on the role of gender within the broader parameter of diplomacy and International Relations which required serious consideration and how women peacekeepers and their unique understanding, experiences as well as their capabilities are valuable for better peacekeeping. The webinar was moderated by Prof. Yashi Choedon, CIPOD, SIS, JNU.



The panellists in the webinar were Dr. Tasneem Meenai, Professor & former Director, Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace & Conflict Resolution, Jamia Millia Islamia, Lt. Col. Vanessa Hanrahan, Exec. Asst. to Canadian Forces Provost Marshal Officer Commanding, Canadian Afghan Uniform Police Task Force Provost Marshal, UN Mission, South Sudan, Comdt. Poonam Gupta, Commanding 232 (Mahila) Bn, CRPF and former Contingent Commander IFPU, Liberia, DIG Seema Dhundia, Contingent Commander, 1st All-Female Formed Police Unit to Liberia, Major Suman Gawani, Peacekeeper, UNMISS, and Dr. Sangya Malla SP, Nepal Police Force, UNPOL, Congo. The panellists deliberated on the protection of women in a conflict zone and the challenges towards the implementation of the UN agenda, which has both immediate and long-term impacts. While discussing the multiple challenges, the panellists also looked into the role of women in conflict and post-conflict reconstruction and highlighted their largely unacknowledged role as active agents of peace. The closing remarks were delivered by Maj. Gen. (retd.) BK Sharma, Director, USI, in which he stated that while women are worst affected during a conflict situation in terms of physical, emotional and economic terms, their participation is vital in peace building and conflict resolution initiatives.



## Sapru House Paper (SHP) discussion on “India-South Korea Strategic Partnership: Towards a New Horizon”, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

On 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022, ICWA organised an online discussion of the Sapru House Paper “India-South Korea Strategic Partnership: Towards a New Horizon”. Dr. Jojin V. John, Research Fellow, ICWA. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Vyjayathi Raghavan, Professor, Centre for Korean Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Following Dr. John’s presentation of the Sapru House Paper, Dr. Jagannath Panda, Research Fellow and Coordinator East Asian Centre, MP-IDSA, New Delhi and Dr. Cho Wondeuk, Research Professor, Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security, Korea National Diplomatic Academy, Republic of Korea discussed the paper.



During the webinar, the participants observed that India-South Korea relations have gone from strength to strength in the past two decades featuring comprehensive and multidimensional partnership. Significant milestones in the evolution of the relationship have been the signing of the Strategic Partnership Agreement in 2010 and the Special Strategic Partnership in 2015. Participants observed that the context of the bilateral relations have significantly changed in the post-COVID international context providing new opportunities and challenges. It was highlighted that transformation in international order with the emergence of the Indo-Pacific region offers significant opportunities for strengthening bilateral partnership. However, if perception and expectation gaps are not adequately addressed it could also undermine the dynamism of the relations.

## Orientation Lecture on ‘China’s BRI in Different Regions of the World’, 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022

Prof. Srikanth Kondapalli, Dean, SIS, JNU, New Delhi and Member, ICWA’s Governing Council delivered an Orientation Lecture on ‘China’s BRI in Different Regions of the World’ on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 in virtual format to ICWA faculty. This was part of ICWA’s ongoing project on the subject coordinated by Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, SRF, ICWA.

While introducing the project, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar emphasised that BRI is a Chinese project, a China-led project and a China-controlled project. It is not a multilateral project in the true sense. He noted that initially China maintained that BRI was an economic project, but of late its strategic aspects have become evident.



In his lecture Prof. Kondapalli highlighted the importance of (i) China’s domestic factors as drivers of BRI (ii) use of appropriate methodology and sources while collecting data (confusion between projects started before and after BRI, as



they have been clubbed together to show greater profits). (iii) Local opinions and concerns about BRI; (vi) conditionality involved with BRI must be studied; and (v) India's perspectives. His lecture was followed by a candid discussion on the subject. Dr. Nivedita Ray, Director (Research) proposed a vote of thanks.

## Third Indo-German Track 1.5 Dialogue, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022

ICWA in collaboration with Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi organised Third Indo-German Track 1.5 Dialogue with its German counterparts - German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA) and Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) on 24th February 2022. The welcome address was given by Prof. Dr. Amrita Narlikar, President, GIGA and Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA. Keynote addresses were delivered by Ms. Rachita Bhandari, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India, Berlin and Mr. Jasper Wieck, Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan and Deputy Director General of South Asia and Indo-Pacific Policy. Discussions were structured in two sessions on Foreign & Security Policy and; Sustainable Development and Trade. The dialogue was held following Chatham House Rules.



## Online Book Launch and Panel Discussion on “Arab World in Transition and the Quest for a New Regional Order” by Dr. Fazzur Rahman Siddiqui, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

The ICWA conducted an online book launch and panel discussion on Dr. Fazzur Rahman Siddiqui's (Senior Research Fellow, ICWA) latest book “Arab World in Transition and the Quest for a New Regional Order” at Sapru House, New Delhi on 2nd March 2022. The programme was chaired by Amb. Sanjay Singh, former Secretary – East, MEA with Dr. Waiel S.H. Awwad, Senior International Independent Journalist and Political Analyst, Dr. P.K. Pradhan Associate Fellow, MPIDSA and Dr. Priya Singh, Associate Director, Asia in Global Affairs, Calcutta as panellists.

While complementing the author for his book, the Chair, Amb. Singh, remarked that the whole world is primed for a paradigm shift and the Middle East is not an exception. He underscored that the book tells us about the new war for





regional hegemony; the interplay between Iran and Saudi Arabia; the role of Turkey and global powers; the dichotomy between forces of authoritarianism and democracy; the prospects for transition and conflict; the renewal of a new social contract, a new identity and evolution of political Islam in the region. It also talks about implications for India.

In his presentation, Dr. Siddiqui, emphasised that the book under discussion is an academic intervention in what is happening in the region for more than a decade. He averred that the book is also an attempt to see how the changing domestic political scenario of each nation has intertwined with the rise of a new array of factors thrusting an alteration in the status-quoist regional order. The study is also an endeavour to look into the role of new strategic and political urge, new alliance and counter alliance, and emergence of numerous non-state actors in enlarging the magnitude of sectarian politics in the region. Discussants spoke about the history of the Arab world along with the impact of the fall of the Ottoman Empire on the region. They also discussed the reasons behind the Arab spring in 2010 and role of various regional and global players in the region. They remarked that the social fault lines (both social and sectarian) within the Arab world had been brought out in the book.

## Call by Prof. Eghosa E Osaghae, DG, Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA), 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022



The Director-General of Nigerian Institute of International Affairs Prof. Eghosa E. Osaghae called on the DG of ICWA Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022. The discussion covered a wide range of issues including the crisis in Ukraine, COVID-19 pandemic, and evolving geopolitics.



## Ambassador's Round Table Discussion 'Relations between India and SICA Countries', 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022

The ICWA hosted the first Ambassador's Round Table Discussion on the theme 'Relations Between India and the SICA Nations' on 10th March 2022. The roundtable was attended by the Amb. Giovanni Castillo, Ambassador of Guatemala to India, Amb. Claudio Ansorena Montero, Ambassador of Costa Rica to India, Amb Yasiel Alines Burillo Rivera, Ambassador of Panama to India, Amb. David Puig, Ambassador of Dominican Republic to India and Ms. Ivonne Bonilla, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of El Salvador, India. The discussion was chaired by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA. The closed door event was held under Chatham House rules.





## India-UK Strategic Futures Forum, 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> March 2022



The Indian Council of World Affairs in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs; and Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, United Kingdom and Policy Exchange, UK organised India-UK Strategic Futures Forum (IUSFF) on 30-31 March 2022. The Track 1.5 dialogue was organised with an intention to create a forum of officials, industrialists, technologists, educationists, and policy makers, who are dedicated to further strengthening the India-UK strategic partnership. The inaugural address on 30 March 2022 was delivered by Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, DG, ICWA. The keynote address was delivered by Shri Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Foreign Secretary of India. On 31 March 2022, the opening address was given by Lord Dean Johnson, Director, Policy Exchange, UK and the keynote was delivered by Sir Philip Barton, Permanent Under-Secretary, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO). Discussions were structured on four themes - International Security and the Future of the Indo-Pacific; Investing in a Strategic Trade Partnership; The Future of Technology; and A Living Bridge between our Two Societies and Parliaments.



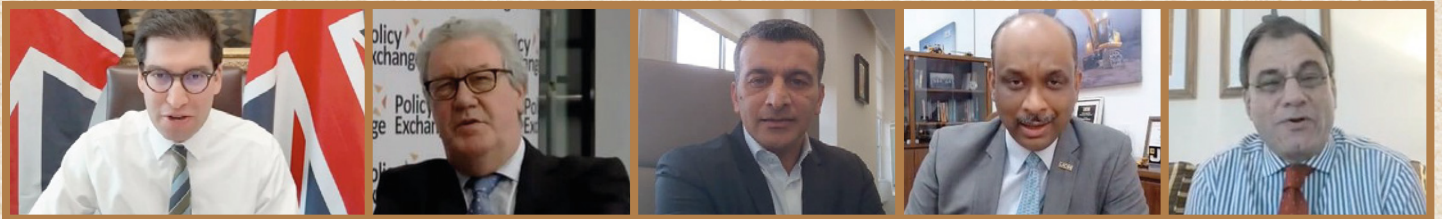
The main highlight of IUSFF was 'Conversation with Dr. S. Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India and Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs and First Secretary of State, United Kingdom' on 31 March 2022. Amb. Vijay Thakur Singh, in her welcome address said that the roadmap to 2030, unveiled in March 2021, has set the tone for India-UK relations for the next 10 years. In October 2021, EAM Dr. Jaishankar had announced the India-UK Strategic Futures Forum to generate ideas to take the relationship forward. During the Forum there was a broad exchange of views on regional and global developments in the dialogue and the political, economic and strategic implications of these developments were also discussed. India-UK relations are nurtured by shared values and extensive people-to-people ties. Being democracies and leading economies, both countries have resilience and strength to progress in the post-pandemic world.



Session 1 of the dialogue was titled International Security and the Future of the Indo-Pacific and was chaired by Professor Harsh Pant, Director, Studies & Head Strategic Studies Programme, Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi. The speakers of the sessions were Ms Jenny Bates, Director General, Indo Pacific, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO); Shri Vikram Misri, Deputy National Security Advisor, Government of India; Air Marshal Edward Stringer (Ret'd) CE, CBE, Former Director General, Defence Academy and Former Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff; and Dr Zorawar Daulet Singh, Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.



Session 2 was on the theme Investing in a Strategic Trade Partnership. The session was chaired by Hon Alexander Downer AC, Chairman, Policy Exchange and the speakers included Mr Deepak Shetty, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director JCB India and Chair, CII National Council committee on Capital Goods and Engineering; Lord Bilimoria, President, Confederation of British Industry and Founder, Cobra Beer Partnership; Mr Amit Kapur, Head of UK and Ireland, Tata Consultancy Services; and Mr. Ranil Jayawardena MP, Minister for International Trade, UK.



The closing session of the Day 1 was on India and UK: Roadmap for the Future and it was chaired by Dr Rudra Chaudhuri, Director, Carnegie India and the speakers were H.E Alex Ellis CMG, British High Commissioner to the Republic of India and H.E. Gaitri Issar Kumar, High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom.



For the Day 2 of the dialogue, the welcome remarks in the Opening Session were given by Lord Dean Godson, Director, Policy Exchange and the keynote address was delivered by Sir Philip Barton, KCMG OBE, Permanent Under-Secretary, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO).



Session 3 of the dialogue was titled The Future of Technology and was chaired by Mr Rajesh Bansal, CEO, Reserve Bank Innovation Hub. The speakers of the session were Mr. Sid Jajodia, Chief Banking Officer, Revolut; Professor K. Vijay Raghavan, Principal Scientific Adviser, Government of India; Mr. Rajeev Suri, CEO, Inmarsat; and Mr Bhavish Aggarwal, Founder and CEO, Ola.



Session 4 was on the theme A Living Bridge between our Two Societies and Parliaments. The session was chaired by Rt Hon Lord Johnson of Marylebone.



In his remarks, Dr. Jaishankar said that the full impact of Ukraine is still unfolding. Rebalancing and multi-polarity has been a trend. The US withdrawal from Afghanistan and the COVID-19 pandemic has been a shock. Ukraine is a new shock. The US-China relationship has its effects on other countries. In a more interconnected world, public sentiment expresses itself more strongly. Factors like proximity matter in the shaping of public opinion. The developments in Afghanistan have had an effect on the public opinion in India. Perhaps, it did not have as much impact in Europe. On the India-UK cooperation, he said that we have a certain logic of a relationship between us. The relationship is not directed against some other countries. We have tried to look at our relationship in a much more contemporary way despite major changes like Brexit. People-to-people exchanges, business and technology ties are deepening. Health and science are important areas of cooperation. Areas of cooperation in defence - India and UK have convergences. We have a history of defence relationships. Currently, in India, there is an emphasis on “Make in India”. We also do a lot of global sourcing. Interest in co-creating is very strong.



Rt. Hon Elizabeth Truss, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, UK, in her remarks said that the UK is committed to the Indo-Pacific and to India. The relationship with India is important because we are living in an insecure world. We need to think widely about the message that the war in Ukraine is sending out to the world. Sanctions are being imposed on Russia and weapons are being supplied to Ukraine. The implications of Ukraine are far-reaching on areas like food security and energy security. There is a need for like-minded nations to work together. With regards to relations with India, Rt. Hon Truss said that India was a tech powerhouse, and that

Artificial Intelligence is a promising area for cooperation. As a democracy, we can set norms in these domains. A strong India, a strong UK and a strong India-UK relationship is good for the world. India is a key partner for the UK because it trusts in India. We have to work with trusted friends.

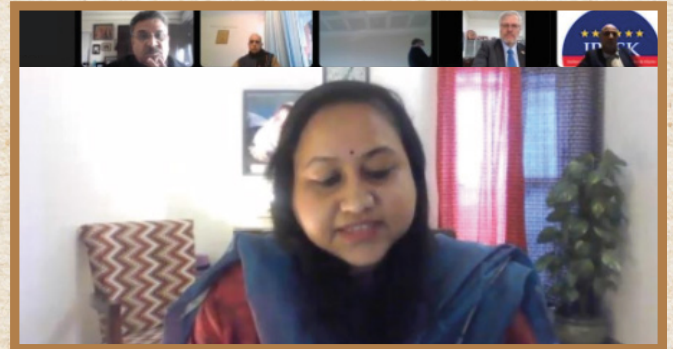




## OUTREACH EVENTS

### Three day International Conference (virtual and physical) on “Transnational Terrorism in 21<sup>st</sup> Century and Global Counter-terrorism Responses”, 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Usanas Foundation organized the Maharana Pratap Annual Security Dialogue from 10th to 12th January 2022 in collaboration with the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) on the theme “Transnational Terrorism in the 21st Century and Global Counterterrorism Response”. Dr. Anwesha Ghosh, Research Fellow, represented the Council at the event along with former diplomats, participants from the US, UAE, Israel and Afghanistan.



### India-China Relations: Challenges and Opportunities, 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> February 2022

The Buddh Vidhyapeeth Degree College, Siddharthnagar, Uttar Pradesh, organised a national seminar on India-China Relations: Challenges and Opportunities on 24-25 February 2022. Dr. Sudeep Kumar, Research Fellow ICWA, participated in the national seminar to deliver a brief introduction of the ICWA and its Outreach Programme and spoke about Indian foreign policy and China in the Modi Era.

While discussing various issues, it was stated that India and China need to use their civilisational wisdom to overcome the cycles of tumultuous relations for the betterment of common people in our respective countries. The roles of academia, media, think tanks, and cultural exchanges need to be encouraged in this regard. Forty-five delegates participated in physical and virtual modes from six Indian states apart from Uttar Pradesh, namely Mizoram, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Delhi, and Bihar.







## ICWA PUBLICATIONS

### Issue Briefs

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1. Akanksha Thakur, A lookback on Angela Merkel's 16 years as the German Chancellor (04 January 2022)
2. Dr. Sudeep Kumar, China-Mongolia-Russia Economic Corridor: An Assessment (05 January 2022)
3. Md. Mudassir Qamar, China-Philippines South China Sea Dispute, PCA Award and Post-Arbitral Relations (05 January 2022)
4. Dr. Himani Pant, Russia's Diplomacy in the India-US-China Triangle (06 January 2022)
5. Dr. Ankita Dutta, European Responses to the Ukraine Crisis (07 January 2022)
6. Dr. Anwesha Ghosh, Afghan civil society and Western officials held Talks with Taliban delegation in Oslo (05 February 2022)
7. Dr. Fazzur Rahman Siddiqui, Changing Dynamic of Turkey-Arab Relationship: An Overview (08 February 2022)
8. Dr. Temjenmeren Ao, The Upcoming Elections in the Philippines (09 February 2022)
9. Dr. Ankita Dutta, One Year of Brexit - Where do things Stand? (11 February 2022)
10. Dr. Arnab Chakrabarty, Towards a new Constitution in Chile-challenges for President elect Gabriel Boric (15 February 2022)
11. Dr. Stuti Banerjee, One Year of Biden Presidency (15 February 2022)
12. Dr. Samatha Mallempati, Sri Lanka's Post-War Reconciliation: Rising Concerns (16 February 2022)
13. Dr. Sripathi Narayanan, ASEAN's Myanmar Dilemma (16 February 2022)
14. Dr. Athar Zafar, India-Central Asia Summit: A Milestone in Engagement with the Region (17 February 2022)
15. Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, China's Central Asia Summit (17 February 2022)
16. Dr. Jojin V. John, North Korea: A Decade under Kim Jong-un (21 February 2022)
17. Dr. Rahul Nath Choudhury, What led to the economic crisis in Pakistan? (23 February 2022)
18. Akanksha Thakur, Resumption of the Iran Nuclear Deal Talks (JCPOA) - Assessment of the European Role (25 February 2022)
19. Dr. Anwesha Ghosh, Biden's Executive order to split Frozen Afghan Funds between relief and 9/11 victims (03 March 2022)
20. Dr. Himani Pant, Ukraine Crisis and its Implications (03 March 2022)
21. Dr. Jojin V. John, South Korean Presidential Election: Between Practical and Predictable Foreign Policy (07 March 2022)
22. Dr. Dhrubajyoti Bhattacharjee, Pakistan National Security Policy: An Assessment (08 March 2022)
23. Dr. Teshu Singh, US-China Relations under President Joe Biden (11 March 2022)
24. Dr. Lakshmi Priya, Gulf Responses to the Ukraine Crisis (21 March 2022)





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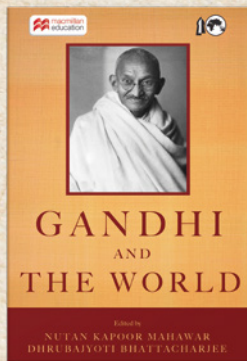




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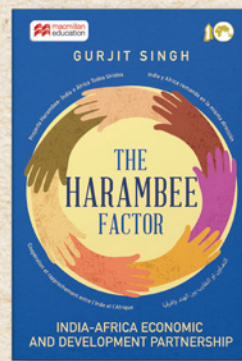
1. India in the UN Security Council: Monthly Recap for January 2022 Focus on Asia, Africa, Thematic Issues by Ambassador Asoke Kumar Mukerji, Former Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations
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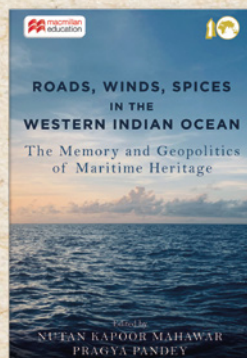
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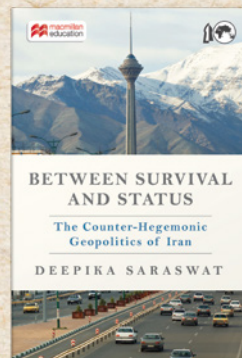
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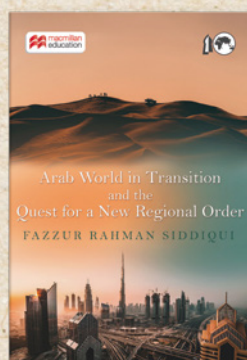
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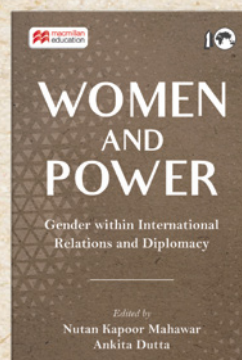
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## INDIA QUARTERLY

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January-March 2022

### Editorial

As the world emerges from the shambles of the COVID-19 pandemic, a few broad conclusions are now clear: that the pandemic was a truly global affair that gave rise to extreme and ugly forms of nationalism, and raised questions over current forms of governance. As the articles in this issue that discuss COVID-19 point out, competitive nationalism dealt a death blow to the globalisation that had been assiduously crafted over the last 30 years. From the outset, action came down to how each country dealt with the pandemic. China, the epicentre of the pandemic, was tardy in its warnings and reacted with 'wolf warrior diplomacy' to valid questions about the origin of the pandemic; the WHO's calls for a global response were widely disregarded; and states disregarded all humanitarian principles to fund and reserve life-saving vaccines for themselves, giving rise to a new phrase in the popular lexicon: vaccine nationalism. Worse, people across the world bore the brunt of governance deficits and which impacted the capacity to deal with the human cost of the pandemic—from shutdowns to the appalling absence of basic health facilities. Not all countries were impacted uniformly; clearly, the messier the domestic politics, the harder they were hit. In Africa, the continent worst hit by vaccine nationalism and the failure to strengthen a global response, the fall in commodity prices like that of oil only exacerbated the capacity of states to implement the WHO's health guidelines.

Yet, even as the pandemic tore through cities and communities, states also scrambled to learn from it, as some articles point out. In many Asian economies, state policy prevented the massive mortality witnessed elsewhere. Not surprisingly, new strategic formations like the QUAD in the Indo-Pacific are evolving 'strategic altruism' over the development and distribution of vaccines, and older global economic institutions are being held to account by emerging economies such as

India and South Africa to synchronise policy on patent rights with the WHO's objectives of access to medicine and medical equipment.

Moving away from discussions on COVID, other articles in this issue assess the history and objectives of India's policies in Sri Lanka and the growing presence of China in Kyrgyzstan through access to and control of its internal security and access to citizens' data through informal arrangements and military contractors, despite the Russian presence in the country, and indeed in Central Asia. A final article points to the debates of the future: the conundrum of state control and cryptocurrency. Is it possible, the author asks, to revive John Maynard Keynes' idea of a supra-national currency as a 'medium of exchange' and what would be a 'viable state policy' for its adoption and use?

Clearly, the articles on COVID-19, as well as the rest, reflect the tangled web of national interests and influence and calls for parity and for a restructuring of global institutions and mechanisms to reflect a diverse world.



**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, roundtable 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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