



CALL FOR PAPERS

**Two-Day International Conference
on**

India's Foreign Policy under Modi 3.0: Challenges and Opportunities

09th-10th January 2025

Venue

Conference Hall, Gate No: 4
University of Delhi, North Campus, Delhi

Organised by

**Department of Political Science
University of Delhi**

In collaboration with

**Delhi School of Transnational Affairs
University of Delhi**

Co-sponsored by

Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi

About University of Delhi

Established in 1922, the University of Delhi is a premier university of the country with a venerable legacy and international acclaim for highest academic standards, diverse educational programmes, distinguished faculty, illustrious alumni, varied co-curricular activities and modern infrastructure. Beginning with three colleges and 750 students, it has grown as one of the largest universities in India with 16 faculties, over 80 academic departments, an equal number of colleges and over seven lakh students. Over the years of its existence, the University has sustained the highest global standards and best practices in higher education. Its long-term commitment to nation building and unflinching adherence to universal human values are reflected in its motto: 'Nishtha Dhriti Satyam' 'निष्ठा धृति सत्यम्' (Dedication, Steadfastness and Truth).

About the Department

The Department of Political Science, University of Delhi, which was established in 1952, enjoys an exceptional reputation in both teaching and research in the discipline. Extremely rich in academic potential, comprising a faculty known widely for their research and teaching abilities, it ranks among the best departments in the country.

Concept Note

India, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has taken a slew of initiatives over the last two decades to realise the objectives of *Viksit Bharat in 2047*. In so doing, while the economic reforms leading to the emergence of India as the fifth largest economy in the world have been a major centre of attraction, the transformation of India's foreign policy has equally attracted special domestic and global attention. This can be gauged from India's emergence as a major player in internal politics, its ties with neighbouring countries, and New Delhi's engagement with major powers and regional and global institutions. To be more precise, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's willingness, coupled with structural and ideational factors, has led to a tectonic shift in India's foreign policy.

Of course, to build close, cooperative and friendly ties with neighbouring countries of South Asia under the Neighbourhood First Policy, has been at the centre of Modi's foreign policy. Thus, Prime Minister Modi initiated the heads of some of the South Asian and the Indian Ocean countries to his swearing-in ceremony for the third term in June 2024. Modi's government has taken a special interest in addressing its neighbouring countries' concerns of being neglected by New Delhi. Thus, while a long-standing border issue was resolved with Bangladesh, India took a firm stand to defend Bhutan in 2016. At the same time, New Delhi has launched several initiatives to build strong ties with its South Asian neighbours in the fields of trade and commerce, energy, road, rail and air connectivity and others. Moreover, the Prime Minister has visited all the South Asian countries in the last two decades, infusing a new trust in its relations with the neighbours.

What has been another major shift in India's neighbourhood policy is Prime Minister Modi's ability to shift from a liberal to a realist approach in responding to the changing needs and circumstances in this regard. While dealing with Pakistan and China, for example, Modi extended an olive branch to those countries through several initiatives. But India also responded proportionately to Pakistan and China's unacceptable behaviour. Moreover, while the Modi government punctured Pakistan's nuclear bluff by carrying out surgical strikes and removing Article 370 in the erstwhile state of Jammu & Kashmir, among other punitive actions, India has shown unprecedented willingness and capabilities to counter China along the border and elsewhere.

With regard to global powers, India and the United States signed several critical security agreements, bringing bilateral ties out of the hesitation of history. India today holds more bilateral dialogues with the United States than any other country. New Delhi has also expanded its strategic partnership with France, Germany, the European Union and Japan. India has also continued to sustain ties with Russia, despite extreme pressure from the West. This has, in turn, also underlined India's uncompromised position on the issue of its strategic autonomy.

While India-Africa ties have improved significantly under Modi's ten guiding principles, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's approach towards West Asia has been viewed as balanced and successful in building ties

with all the sides in the region. More to the point, the formation of India, Israel, United Arab Emirates and the United States (I2U2) grouping, the honouring of Prime Minister Narendra Modi with their highest Civilian awards by several West Asian Countries, and the acceptability of India's decision to abrogate Article 370 among West Asian countries clearly underlined this profound shift in India's ties with the region. Similarly, while India's Act East Policy has enabled New Delhi to build security ties, apart from other engagements, with Southeast Asian countries, the Modi government has shown its readiness to work with regional and extra-regional powers to promote a free and open Indo-Pacific. In this context, the Modi government has backed the revival of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue and has joined the US, Japan and others in joint military exercises in the South China Sea. Unlike in the past, India under Modi has also focused on building engagement with the Pacific countries, which have huge geo-strategic and other significance for New Delhi.

Prime Minister Modi's interest in rebuilding a strong relationship between India and its diaspora has been another major shift in India's foreign policy. The successful conduct of the 18th G20 summit in New Delhi elevated India's standing in world politics, and India has also emerged as the major voice of the Global South. India's handling of the Covid-19 pandemic and its commitment to providing Covid-19 vaccine for free to other countries, despite its own economic challenges received applause from the world community. The Modi government has also shown its desire to contribute to addressing global challenges and conflicts, including climate change, the Ukraine war and other issues.

The above outline of the transformation of India's foreign policy under the Modi government is of course not free from challenges. While China's deepening presence in South Asia and the Indian Ocean has posed security concerns for India, the Ukraine-Russia War and Israel-Hamas conflict have also put New Delhi in a difficult situation to protect its national interests. For example, the US is disturbed by the fact that India has not criticised Russia's action against Ukraine. The turbulent world order can also pose challenges before India in sustaining its economic growth and realise its dream of a major global power. India is also concerned about the fact that no effective efforts have been taken to accommodate India as a permanent member of the

United Nations Security Council.

This, in turn, raises several critical questions regarding the transformation of India's foreign policy under the Modi government. To cite only a few: What are the elements of a tectonic shift in India's foreign policy? How and to what extent have India's ties with its neighbours improved under its neighbourhood policy? What is the nature of security threats emanating from China and Pakistan? How far has India succeeded in containing terrorism coming from across the border? What has been India's contribution in dealing with major global issues, challenges, conflicts and war? What is the level of cooperation between India and major global powers? How far has Indian Diaspora in the world contributed to India's success story? How far and to what extent is the Government moving towards serving India's national interests? What is the role of personality and structure of decision making in formulating India's foreign policy under the Modi government? What are the areas where the Government can do better and how? What policy recommendations can be made for improving India's ties with the world with a view to promoting national interests and larger causes of peace, security and development?

Indeed, during this period of rapid flux and change in the world order, there are both challenges and opportunities for New Delhi. India's track record over the last ten years underlines the hope that India will effectively face the challenges and take the advantage of the opportunities to advance and achieve its national interests under Modi 3.0.

The Department of Political Science, University of Delhi, therefore, proposes to bring together eminent academicians, diplomats, policy analysts and defence personnels for deliberating upon the below-mentioned and related issues.

Proposed Themes

1. A Paradigm shift in India's Foreign Policy in a Multipolar World Order: An Overview
2. Cultural and Philosophical Roots of India's Foreign Policy


3. India's Engagement with South Asian Neighbouring Countries: Roads Ahead
4. Emerging Balance of Power in Asia: Implications for India
5. Changing Contours of India's Act East Policy
6. India and the US: The Changing Nature of the Strategic Partnership
7. India-China Ties: Is A Rest Possible?
8. India as a Factor in China's Approach to the Indo-Pacific
9. India and Japan in Asian Balance of Power
10. India and Australia: Building Bridges of Friendship
11. Russia-India Co-operation in the 21st Century
12. India's Policy towards Myanmar
13. India's Relations with the Pacific Countries: Exploring Avenues for Cooperation
14. India-Taiwan Ties: The Way Forward
15. Modi's Policy towards West Asian Ties
16. India-South Korea Relations
17. North East India as a Gateway to East and South East Asia
18. India's Cultural Diplomacy in South and South East Asia
19. The Need for Reform of the Global Institutions
20. India's Foreign Economic Policy

Note: Authors/Presenters may opt other topics relevant to the seminar themes.

Abstract Submission

Academicians, scholars, policy experts, and other interested participants are encouraged to submit an abstract of around 250 words for this international conference. The abstract must contain a clear statement of the problem being addressed, the principal research questions guiding the research, the research objectives, and a summary of key findings.

Use following way to submit abstract

Scanning the QR code	Link	Email
	https://shorturl.at/1aXbL	seminarpolsciencedu@gmail.com

Note: *Only the shortlisted abstracts will be contacted to submit a full paper.*

Guidelines for Paper Submission

- Title and Author Details:** The title of the paper should be followed by the author's name, designation, organisation/university/institution, and email address.
- Email Requirement:** Including an email address is mandatory, as all future correspondence will be via email.
- Co-Author Information:** If there is a co-author, include their name and details.
- Formatting:** Papers should be in MS Word, using Times New Roman font, with headings in font size 14 and main text in font size 12. Line spacing should be set to 1.5.
- Originality:** Papers must be original and not previously published or under review elsewhere.
- Full Paper Submission:** Authors whose abstracts are selected must submit their complete work by the designated deadline.
- Notes and Citations:** Notes should be numbered consecutively, superscripted in the text, and listed at the end of the article.
- British Spelling:** Follow British English spelling conventions (e.g., use "colour" instead of "color").
- Quotations:** Place quotations in double quotation marks. Indent long quotations (over four lines) with single spacing.
- Italics:** Use italics for titles of books, newspapers, journals, and magazines, both in-text and in endnotes.

- Number and Percentage Usage:** Write out numbers below 100 in words (e.g., "twenty-eight"). Use "per cent" in text, but use "%" in tables.
- Language:** Submissions and presentations may be in either English or Hindi.
- Plagiarism Check:** Papers should be original, with a maximum plagiarism threshold of 10%. Use APA for citations and references.
- Length:** The complete paper should be between 5,000-7,000 words, including references.

Citing References (Sample)

Book

Sisson, R., & Rose, L. E. (1990). *War and secession: Pakistan, India, and the creation of Bangladesh*. University of California Press.

Chapter from an edited book

Appadorai, A. (1969). On Understanding Indian Foreign Policy. In K. P. Misra (Ed.), *Studies in Indian Foreign Policy* (pp. 113–117). chapter, Thomson Press (India) Limited.

Article from a Journal

Jha, N. K. (1994). Reviving U.S.-India Friendship in a Changing International Order. *Asian Survey*, 34(12), 1035–1046. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2645274>

Article from a Newspaper (Online)

Kumar, S. (2019, February 21). *AF: US Withdrawal, Its Implications*. Deccan Herald. <https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/af-us-withdrawal-its-719475.html>

Article from a Newspaper (Print)

Kumar, Sumit. (2019, February 21). *AF: US Withdrawal, Its Implications*. The Deccan Herald, p. 10.

REGISTRATION FEE

Student & Research Scholar	500 INR
Faculty/Professional/Diplomat	1500 INR
Foreign Delegate	150 USD

IMPORTANT DATES

Submission of Abstract	30th November 2024
Confirmation of Abstract Selection	2nd December 2024
Last date of Registration for Seminar	5th December 2024
Submission of Full Paper	25th December 2024

Conference Convenor

Dr. Sumit Kumar

Assistant Professor

Department of Political Science

OSD, DSTA, Institute of Eminence

University of Delhi

Contact Details for any query

Mr. Jitendra Kumar : +91 9873 40 2134

Mr. Animesh Mishra : +91 9773 96 0564
