



INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS  
CONFERENCE  
2021

**COMPETITION,  
CONVERGENCE AND  
MULTI ALIGNMENT:  
SHAPING INDIA'S  
FOREIGN POLICY FOR  
THE NEXT DECADE**

29-30 APRIL 2021

**ORGANIZED BY**  
SYMBIOSIS INTERNATIONAL (DEEMED UNIVERSITY)  
& SYMBIOSIS SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES



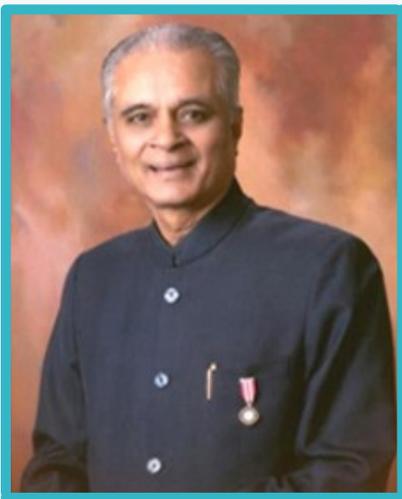
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# MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR'S DESK



Symbiosis was established in 1971 as a 'home away from home' for foreign students. Our endeavour of establishing 'international relations' through our personal concern for the welfare of these foreign students has indeed come a full circle with the establishment of the Symbiosis School of International Studies (SSIS) and the annual International Relations Conference (IRC).

The first six editions of the IRC titled 'India and Development Partnerships in Asia and Africa: Towards New Paradigm' in 2013, 'India's Look East-Act East Policy: A Bridge to the Asian Neighbourhood' in 2014, 'Link West: India and the Gulf' in 2015, 'India and the Indian Ocean: Sustainability, Security and Development' in 2016, 'India-EU: Enhancing Strategic Partnerships' in 2017 and Shaping a new Strategic Culture for India in 2018, were well attended and well-received by high-level policy-makers, business leaders, members of academia and media from India and abroad.

It gives me great pleasure to see that Symbiosis, true to its motto - Vasudhaiva Kutumbkam, is progressing well on the path to contributing to the country's endeavours of fostering good international relations.

This year, the IRC is titled 'Competition, Convergence and Multi-alignment: Shaping India's Foreign Policy for the Next Decade'. The deliberations flowing from the conference will contribute to the evolving contours of India's foreign policy.

**Dr. S.B. Mujumdar**

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRO CHANCELLOR'S DESK



It is indeed a matter of great pride and pleasure to announce that the Symbiosis School of International Studies (SSIS) is hosting its seventh International Relations Conference (IRC). Symbiosis International (Deemed University) has set up innovative and need-based academic institutions, SSIS being one of them.

Over a span of four years, the Institute has been instrumental in creating an impact by developing a dynamic and focused academic curriculum and organizing symposia and conferences. The annual International Relations Conference is a case in point.

It is our endeavour, through the IRC, to provide a platform for deliberations on topics relevant to the discipline of International Relations- security and defence, culture and identity, trade and investment and climate change mitigation amongst others. I am happy to share that the IRCs were well attended and well received by a large number of stakeholders, which included policy-makers, bureaucrats, corporate leaders, media professionals, NGOs, academics, faculty and students.

The seventh edition of the IRC titled 'Competition, Convergence and Multi-alignment: Shaping India's Foreign Policy for the Next Decade' will bring together experts from India and abroad to discuss and recommend steps for the reorganization of India's foreign policy in a transforming world order. I wish the conference all the success.

**Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar**

# MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR'S DESK



The success of the first six editions of the International Relations Conference (IRC) which were held between 2013 to 2018 is a reflection of the Symbiosis International (Deemed University)'s endeavour to engage with various stakeholders across the globe.

The IRC 2021 titled 'Competition, Convergence and Multi-alignment: Shaping India's Foreign Policy for the next decade' will receive high-level participation from India and abroad.

The conference will discuss core areas of diplomatic engagement for India and its international partners in the area of security, trade and management of the global commons and recommend the future course of action with regard to India's foreign relations. This exercise will also help in creating future prospects for research collaborations as well as provide an excellent platform to network and build relationships that will take the University's objective of internationalization forward.

**Dr. Rajani Gupte**



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## ABOUT SYMBIOSIS INTERNATIONAL (DEEMED UNIVERSITY)

Symbiosis is a family of 48 academic Institutions across campuses located in Pune, Nasik, Bengaluru, NOIDA and Hyderabad imparting quality education for over 50 years. Dr. S B Mujumdar established Symbiosis on the principles of Vedic thought of "World as One Family" and is resplendent of the activities and students of several countries. The University was established under Section 3 of UGC Act, 1956 and offers over a hundred programmes at Diploma, Undergraduate, Postgraduate and Doctoral levels under the faculties of Law, Management, Computer Studies, Health and Biomedical Sciences, Media, Communication and Design, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Engineering. The Symbiosis International University was given "Deemed to be University" status by the Ministry of Human Resource Development in 2002.

The University has a vibrant, multi-ethnic, multi-cultural environment and state-of-the-art infrastructure that attracts students from all states of India and over 85 countries. It also has MOUs with several renowned universities of the world and encourages students & faculty to participate in its programmes. With collaborative networks with several universities from different parts of the world, SIU provides a very conducive, interactive and inspiring environment to create true global citizens.



## ABOUT SYMBIOSIS SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (SSIS)

In the contemporary scenario, India's interest in the world, as well as the world's interest in India, is visibly at its highest. Therefore, it becomes imperative that Indian scholarship on global issues should respond to the opportunities that this presents. To this end, the Symbiosis School of International Studies (SSIS) endeavours to provide a platform for teaching and research in international relations, with an emphasis on India and its role in global affairs. Set up in consonance with the broader vision of Symbiosis Society, which is "to integrate with the world", SSIS strives to constantly engage in scholarly pursuits in an environment of intellectual fellowship, aimed at the academic enrichment of the entire community.

The M.A. (International Studies) programme offered by SSIS seeks to equip students with knowledge and skills pertinent to address the 21st-century global challenges. The holistic nature of courses offered under the M.A. (International Studies) programme provides students with the lens to critically examine, analyse and understand contemporary issues based on a multi-disciplinary approach.

The specialization offered under the course on Area Studies fosters scholarship of the region informed by a deeper understanding of an interconnected and interdependent world. The choice of regions offered includes - Europe/North America and Asia. The students are also offered a choice of foreign language as part of the Area Studies course (Arabic/ French/ Spanish/ Chinese).

The curriculum includes mandatory internship in the third semester that prepares students for careers with CSOs, NGOs, international organizations, think tanks, civil services, media, academia, consultancies and financial institutions.

Our faculty members are a good blend of prominent academicians, active researchers and practitioners, attesting to the belief that the best pedagogy comes from a mix of theory and praxis. The students benefit from the contributions of different types of practitioners of international relations, whether they are from diplomacy, the corporates, think-tanks or international organisations. The diverse background of both the faculty and the postgraduate students makes for a cosmopolitan and enriching environment.



# **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CONFERENCE 2021**

**CONCEPT NOTE**

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## Rationale

The world is evolving at a fast pace, the old ceding space to the new. The first two decades of this century had prepared the ground for the emergence of a new global order, one that would impact the economic, social, political as well as cultural spheres of societies across the world. However, the unexpected and sudden outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, since early 2020, has affected every aspect of domestic and international affairs and continues to remain a major challenge, even for major powers like the United States (US) and the United Kingdom (UK), to control and reverse the spread of the disease. India, which has also been hit by this infectious disease, has shown resilience under difficult circumstances and is on a steady path of recovery- health-wise and economically. During these trying times, the country has made unrelenting efforts to turn the challenges posed by the pandemic into opportunities. India's new foreign policy initiative, famously called 'vaccine diplomacy', has earned global recognition, particularly from the neighbouring countries as well as those in West Asia, Africa and Latin America. As aptly stated by India's External Affairs Minister (EAM), Dr. S. Jaishankar, "the Covid19 pandemic has brought out the importance of international cooperation... We are at the heart of international cooperation."

As India continues to play an important role in world affairs, even in the midst of the pandemic, it is imperative that it prepares itself to handle the opportunities and challenges that this emerging world order will present. Speaking at the fourth Ramnath Goenka Lecture in November 2019, the EAM had emphasized that "a nation that has the aspiration to become a leading power someday cannot continue with unsettled borders, an unintegrated region and under-exploited opportunities. Above all, it cannot be dogmatic in approaching a visibly changing global order".

Picking up on this thought, the Symbiosis School of International Studies is organizing the 7th edition of the International Relations Conference titled: Competition, Convergence and Multi alignment: Shaping India's Foreign Policy for the Next Decade. It will take place in the virtual mode on 29-30 April 2021. The five sessions will provide a platform for deliberations on issues that will impact India's foreign policy in the years to come.

## **SESSION I**

# **THE POST PANDEMIC EMERGING GLOBAL LANDSCAPE**

The 2010s ushered in unprecedented changes in the world thereby engendering the emergence of a new global landscape. The financial crisis, which began towards the end of the last decade, brought with it widespread economic downturns and subsequent international recession which resulted in austerity measures, inflation, job cuts and rise in unemployment in developed as well as developing countries. The Eurozone crisis unleashed a wave of Euroscepticism across countries of the European Union- the result was a significant rise in vote share for Eurosceptic parties. As a fallout from this phenomenon, several European countries witnessed the ascendance of populist discourse, right-wing ideology and identity politics. A combination of these factors proved to be important triggers for Britain's decision to leave the European Union (EU), popularly referred to as "Brexit".

The Arab Spring uprisings, which swept through much of West Asia and North Africa (WANA) from 2011 onwards, were a response to oppressive regimes, crony capitalism, rampant corruption, economic mismanagement and poor standards of living. The wave of unrest led to regime change in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and Yemen, civil conflicts in Libya, Yemen and Syria, and the emergence of a new transnational extremist movement, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), that for a while even set up a proto-state that straddled parts of Iraq and Syria. These contentions have claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands of people, destroyed normal civic life, have rendered millions of people homeless, and created severe humanitarian crises. These lethal conflicts offer no prospect of a resolution, largely due to the active involvement of regional and extra-regional powers in backing one side or the other with arms, training and political support.

While the US under the disruptive Donald Trump administration managed to hold a position of importance in the global geo-political and geo-economic spheres, it became increasingly inward looking with its "America First" policy. China, on the other hand, has launched ambitious initiatives like the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and has undertaken military reforms; it has also sought to assert its presence in the South China Sea and the broader Indo-Pacific region, while expanding its footprints in Central Asia, Africa and West Asia, with BRI being complemented by the Digital Silk Road and the Health Silk Road projects. Not surprisingly, the emergence of China as a major world power has exacerbated its competition with the US in diverse areas -- the trade war, particularly during the Trump presidency, is a case in point.

Russia's sphere of influence also grew significantly in the last decade. From the annexation of Crimea to being an active role player in the Syrian civil war, Russia has emerged as a significant player on the global scenario. Furthermore, China has cultivated closer economic ties as well as security and defence cooperation with Russia, setting up a formidable coalition that is intent on replacing the US-led global order with a multipolar set up that would see several other role-players seeking to influence decision-making on matters of global significance.

Besides big-power competitions, other issues of international importance have also emerged on the global landscape. Climate change, for instance, made its impact felt in the last decade through floods in many parts of the world, fires in the Amazon forest and in Australia, typhoons and tsunamis in the US and Japan, respectively, and the widespread melting of glaciers that have caused concerns relating to rising ocean levels that could threaten coastal domiciles across the world. Again, the impact of changes in economic, social and political life wrought by technological developments over the previous two decades have been significantly accelerated by the pandemic. Thus, the post-pandemic world will see a massive expansion in the use of digital technology in communications, health, logistics, manufacture, trade, etc. Propelled by artificial intelligence and robotics, the coming years will see extraordinary strides in frontier areas such as robotic surgery, gene editing, cloning, artificial intelligence and social media.

Tellingly, the Covid-19 pandemic has made the international community realize that spread of such disease, which can take numerous lives in a relatively short period of time, is a serious threat not only to global public health but also to global security. This phenomenon has reinforced the need to have a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of security - traditional and non-traditional.

It is against this background, which offers both opportunities as well as challenges, that India will have to navigate to shape its place and role in the emerging global order.



## **SESSION II**

# **THE UNITED STATES IN THE COMING DECADES: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR INDIA**

The last few years have seen the strengthening of the Indo-US relationship. The competition between India and China on one hand, and China and the US, on the other, has facilitated greater cooperation between India and the US since the Cold War.

In the security domain, the Indo-US nuclear deal has enhanced diplomatic dialogue between the two states, securing India a special waiver in the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG). While Afghanistan will likely remain another crucial area of convergence between the US and India, it will also largely depend on the emerging nature of ties between Islamabad and Washington under the newly elected Joe Biden administration. As understood, former President Trump's decision to withdraw troops from Afghanistan with the help of Pakistan, became a security concern for India. The success of the inaugural 2+2 India-US dialogue, initiated by the previous US administration, however, provides a valuable platform to both sides to discuss the potential for greater convergence to preserve their security and strategic interests, particularly with regard to the Indo-Pacific region. India's membership in the 'Quad' affirms the commitment of the two countries and their partners - Japan and Australia -- towards maintaining stability and inclusivity in and of the Indo-Pacific Region.

Considering Trump's West Asia policy, it will be worth discussing the likely trajectory of ties between Washington and some of the West Asian capitals, including Tehran, under the new US administration. Notwithstanding the recent normalisation of relations between Israel and a couple of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, the existing tensions between Israel, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the US may have implications not only on India's energy security but also on its socio-economic interests. Nevertheless, the realignment of relations in West Asia could open possibilities for joint collaboration between India, the US and some of the West Asian countries. Another area of concern for India is the new US law mandating sanctions against countries importing arms from Russia. It, therefore, remains to be seen how the Biden administration would look at the ongoing defence-related ties between New Delhi and Moscow.

On the economic side, the US-India bilateral trade relations have been growing over the last fifteen years in areas of blue economy, defence trade and technology transfer. The US' effort to restrain an ever-rising China has carved opportunities for India to emerge as an alternative market for the US in the Indo-Pacific.

In the years to come, the Indo-US partnership hinges on important factors like trade relations. Under the Modi administration, considerable progress has been achieved in opening the economy for foreign direct investments. Moreover, given India's growing demand for energy, which also coincides with the rising US oil and gas production, the bilateral energy ties could possibly be uplifted to a new level. However, with the US side lamenting the trade deficit with its partners, India would have to eventually bring in regulatory reforms to ensure the sustainability of this strategic partnership.



## **SESSION III**

# **CHINA AND RUSSIA IN THE EMERGING WORLD ORDER**

The rise of China, and its spectacular economic growth over the past four decades, is the single most important factor of change in geopolitics. Even as she has become the second-largest economy in the world, China finds it necessary to have a close relationship – almost but not quite an alliance – with Russia since they jointly have similar positions on many international issues which are in opposition to the West. Together, they punch well above their individual weights and are a significant pole in the emerging world order of the third decade of the 21st Century.

China and Russia have a growing trade and economic relationship based on oil and gas, armaments, technology transfers as well as investment in Russia by Chinese firms. They almost always have identical views in the United Nations Security Council where they are both permanent members. Hence, their voting patterns are similar. Both these countries are members of multilateral organizations such as BRICS and SCO. Taken together, China and Russia form an important side of global power politics.

In this scenario, India which has had a decades long strategic partnership with Russia encompassing the nuclear, defence, space and high technology fields but a much more contested and testy relationship with China, will need to steer carefully through these currents to ensure its own interests and objectives are met. The boundary question with China, which has become a major security challenge for India, and that nation's increasingly closer embrace of Pakistan are thorns in the side of our bilateral relationship. Increasingly, the US is viewing technology transfers from Russia, such as the S-400 missile system, as crossing their red lines.



## **SESSION IV**

# **FRANCE AND JAPAN SHAPE NEW ROLES IN WORLD AFFAIRS: ENHANCING STRATEGIC TIES WITH INDIA**

While India has shared good bilateral ties with Japan and France in the past, it is in the last few years that the relations have assumed even greater importance. It could be safely said that both, Indo Japanese and Indo-French ties are devoid of historical baggage and major disagreements. In fact, today, India shares a complementarity of strategic interests with both these countries with regard to China and the Indo-Pacific Region (IPR).

Against the backcloth of a pronounced global shift to Asia and the initiation of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007, the two countries have sought to enhance the existing ties and further their strategic interests. To counter China's exclusivist approach, the Japanese Premier called for "a free and open Indo-Pacific", a concept based on the principles of stability, inclusivity and multi-polarity, and one that has found resonance with India as well as with the United States.

Through the "2+2" strategic dialogue mechanism, India and Japan have sought to deepen defence cooperation through joint exercises of the different wings of their militaries- Dharma Guardian land exercise, the Shinyu Maitr air exercise, and the Japan-India Maritime Exercise-as well as through the Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA), which was signed in September 2020, will allow the two countries to use each other's military bases for logistical support. With the finalization of ACSA, the Indian Navy will likely get access to the Japanese base in Djibouti, a strategically located country in the Horn of Africa. With regard to defence trade, India is exploring the possibility of acquiring the ShinMaywa US-2 amphibious aircraft for the Indian Navy. The deal, when concluded, would enhance India's maritime capabilities as well as contribute to its defence manufacturing sector as Japan has committed to manufacture 30 per cent of the aircraft in India.

The two countries are also in discussion to cooperate on strategic infrastructure projects in India's North East region, except Arunachal Pradesh, as well as in third countries like Sri Lanka. It is timely and noteworthy that the Indian EAM not only highlighted the centrality of "development efforts" in strengthening the India-Japan partnership but also along with the Japanese Ambassador to India, in February 2021, they both "made a strong pitch for Assam to be a hub for connectivity and economic activities with Southeast Asia, with Japanese funding playing a key role in taking forward infrastructure and development projects." The relationship between the two countries, therefore, has the potential to become a special strategic partnership in the years to come.

The last few years have witnessed a concerted effort on both, the Indian and French sides to further enhance a traditionally good diplomatic relationship. The two countries which became strategic partners in 1998 have a number of areas of cooperation which include defence, space, maritime, security, environmental protection, climate, energy and sustainable development. Defence cooperation and trade have resulted in joint naval exercises-Shakti, Varuna and Garuda for the Army, Navy and Air Force respectively and the acquisition of 36 Rafale fighter jets (out of which eleven have been delivered to India).

With the rise in importance of the geopolitical construct of the Indo-Pacific region, the two countries see each other as natural partners. With territories in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, France is a resident power in the region and therefore, intends to develop a network of strategic partnerships in the Indo-Pacific with countries like India, Australia, Japan, amongst others. The importance accorded by both countries towards strengthening cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region was flagged during the annual India-France Strategic Dialogue held in January 2021.

Prior to this, in 2018, President Macron suggested collaboration between India, Australia and France to respond to the challenges of the IPR; trilateral cooperation between India, France and the UAE is also under consideration, with a likely trilateral military drill slated to be held in April 2021. India and France also spearhead the International Solar Alliance which has 74 signatories of which 52 countries have ratified the Framework Agreement of the ISA.

The Indo-French strategic partnership is, as Vice President Venkaiah Naidu described it, an important pillar of India's foreign policy.



## **SESSION V**

# **PURSUING MULTI-ALIGNMENT: INDIAN FOREIGN POLICY AMIDST CONTESTATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

In a multi-polar world, exertion of India's sphere of influence has an immediate causal relationship with its identification of international challenges and economic prospects, and its flexibility in responding to a variety of situations. India's determination to go beyond an inward-looking approach, to adoption of more outward multi-alignment based measures in security, management of the global commons, and trade is of paramount importance.

For India, "moving from past dogmatic approaches" in foreign policy, and "taking risks is inherent to the realization of ambitions" - S. Jaishankar (2019). With the demise of a unipolar world order and the emergence of multipolarity, India saw benefits in working with different nations on a variety of issues. This resulted in India's state of play positing the US and China as significant actors in the strategic and economic domain while holding Russia at a new vantage point considering its strategic presence in Eurasia.

India's recognition of issue-based arrangements in a converging international order resulted in its diplomatic engagements with the US on the US-India Nuclear deal, and its stance against the Taliban in Afghanistan. India renewed partnerships with Russia in the defence and trade sector while rebuilding BRICS into a major forum, and improved trade ties with China while endorsing climate change negotiations. Moreover, a departure from the traditional foreign policy dogmas has seen new diplomatic collaborations in the form of the Quad (Japan, Australia, India and the United States), the RIC (Russia-India-China) forum, and the JAI (Japan-America-India) groupings.

In the security domain, India is a major nuclear power, currently fostering a civil nuclear cooperation with the US, China and other countries of the NSG. The security policy under the India-EU-Agenda for Action 2020 also highlighted Indian commitment to counter-terrorism, cybersecurity and threats to maritime security. In this regard, harnessing the powerful Franco-British alignment in defence is an asset for India. During the virtual summit held in July 2020, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for "action-oriented" agenda and also promoted India-EU partnerships in "economic reconstruction and in building a human-centric globalization." Further, India's renewed foreign policy push in the Islamic world is viewed from its balance of three poles of power- Israel, Iran and Saudi Arabia.

India's outreach to fight terror in Saudi Arabia and UAE, fostering of defence and technological partnerships with Israel, protection of Chabahar investments in Tehran amidst the American pressure- reiterates India's focus on peace in West Asia.

Interlinked with security, India's commitment towards the management of global commons can be seen through its interests in the Indo-Pacific (IP), Indian Ocean Region (IOR), preservation of human rights, and in becoming an active member of the Paris Climate Change Agreement. India's maritime strategy and increased overseas investments and trade in the IP has seen maritime exchanges between the ASEAN countries and the Pacific Island Countries- striking a fair balance between its "Look West" and "Act East" policy. Further, in the IOR, New Delhi has spelt out its blue economy objectives in keeping with its Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) doctrine.

Finally, pursuing multi-alignment in the economic space is critical for India's growth, and it must look at alternative economic partnerships while stepping up its role with existing partners. India is the largest arms importer in the world with most of its defence equipment and weaponry coming from Russia, followed by cooperation in the hydrocarbons and energy sector. The relevance of the US and Europe in technology transfer and supply of high-tech-military equipment is also vital in India's defence trade. Further, Indian oil and energy demands have increased overseas investments in the Gulf- Iran, Saudi Arabia and the UAE, and in Latin America- Venezuela, Brazil and Panama. India's large-scale investments in national development and private sector trade in Africa, and increased support for trade and migration with the SAARC countries, explicates India's South-South cooperation objectives. From among the G20 countries, the UK is the largest investor in India. The post-Brexit scenario and its implications on mutual investments of the two countries therefore become an important element of introspection for India's foreign policy.

The future of Indian foreign policy, therefore, needs to look "globally" and act "locally", in order to assert itself as a regional and a global power, in a competing and converging world order.



# **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CONFERENCE 2021**

**VIRTUAL EVENT AGENDA**

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# VIRTUAL EVENT AGENDA

THURSDAY 29 APRIL 2021  
DAY I

## INAUGURAL SESSION

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

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## SESSION I

02:00 PM - 03:15 PM

**THE POST PANDEMIC EMERGING  
GLOBAL LANDSCAPE**

SECURITY SCENARIO

ECONOMIC SCENARIO

ASSERTIONS OF IDENTITY AND  
EMERGENCE OF POPULIST POLITICS

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## SESSION II

03:45 PM - 05:15 PM

**THE UNITED STATES IN THE COMING  
DECADES: OPPORTUNITIES AND  
CHALLENGES FOR INDIA**

BILATERAL & REGIONAL DEFENSE  
& SECURITY RELATIONS

ECONOMIC TIES

ASSERTIONS OF IDENTITY AND  
EMERGENCE OF POPULIST POLITICS

# VIRTUAL EVENT AGENDA

**FRIDAY 30 APRIL 2021  
DAY II**

## **SESSION III**

**10:00 AM - 11:30 AM**

### **CHINA AND RUSSIA IN THE EMERGING WORLD ORDER**

INDIA-RUSSIA RELATIONS

SINO-INDIA TIES

THE CHINA-RUSSIA ENTENTE AND  
IMPLICATIONS FOR INDIA

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## **BOOK DISCUSSION**

**11:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

TIANANMEN SQUARE:  
THE MAKING OF A PROTEST

BOOK BY MR. VIJAY GOKHALE

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## **SESSION IV**

**02:00 PM - 3:15 PM**

### **FRANCE AND JAPAN SHAPE NEW ROLES IN WORLD AFFAIRS: ENHANCING STRATEGIC TIES WITH INDIA**

INDO-FRENCH RELATIONS

INDIA-JAPAN RELATIONS

THE INDO-PACIFIC IN THE GLOBAL  
STRATEGIC SCENARIO

# VIRTUAL EVENT AGENDA

**FRIDAY 30 APRIL 2021  
DAY II**

**SESSION V**

**03:30 PM - 4: 30 PM**

**PURSUING MULTI-ALIGNMENT: INDIAN  
FOREIGN POLICY AMIDST  
CONTESTATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

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**WRAP - UP SESSION**

**04:30 PM - 5: 00 PM**

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# SYMBIOSIS

INTERNATIONAL (DEEMED UNIVERSITY)